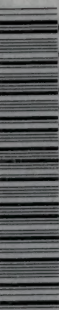
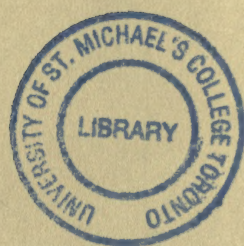


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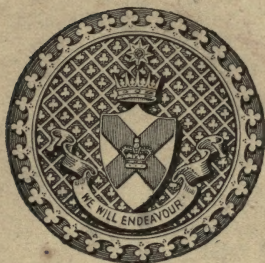
TODD LECTURE SERIES

VOLUME XI

EDWARD GWYNN

THE METRICAL DINDSHENCHAS

PART IV



DUBLIN

HODGES, FIGGIS, & CO., LTD.

LONDON : WILLIAMS & NORWORTHY

1924



PRINTED IN ENGLAND
AT THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
BY FREDERICK HALL

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P R E F A C E

THE publication of the present volume, which has been delayed by a series of hindrances and interruptions, completes the text of the *Metrical Dindshenchas*. The poems are arranged in the order followed by the Rennes MS. and the Book of Ballymote, to which almost all other copies in the main conform. But as no two manuscripts, of those that have been employed, present exactly the same list of legends, or observe exactly the same order, it has been necessary for the editor to settle according to his judgement the position which certain poems should occupy. One manuscript, Stowe D. II. 2, contains an appendix of some thirty legends, which are not found in any other copy. Most of these are in prose form only, and therefore fall outside the proper scope of this book: but as they were unknown to Stokes, and consequently are not included in his edition of the prose Dindshenchas, it seemed desirable to print them here (pp. 268-311).

The Dindshenchas in the Book of Leinster differs widely both in contents and in arrangement from the later recension. Such of the poems as are peculiar to the Book of Leinster are printed together at the end of this volume, excepting a few which have already been inserted in earlier parts of the work in order to bring them into juxtaposition with poems on the same places belonging to the later recension. I have however omitted several compositions which are introduced among the Dindshenchas legends in the Book of Leinster, but do not seem to belong by right to the Dindshenchas, regarded as a collection of legends designed to explain the origin of place-names. Such poems as those in LL 206 *b*-208 *a* do not come under this definition. The compiler seems at this point to have lost sight of his intention of collecting place-legends, and to have turned aside to put together a number of poems about

Finn and the Fianna. I feel the less scruple about omitting these and similar compositions which occur in this part of LL because they have all been published by other editors, with the exception of the poems *Ligi Guill* (LL 204) and *Bec innocht* (LL 208). The legend of Boand and the Dagda, which occupies most of LL 208-209, has more claims than any of these to be regarded as part of the Dindshenchas, and I regret that it was not included with the other legends of the Boyne in the third part of this work; it has however been well edited in Eriu VII 220.

As in the previous parts, the Book of Leinster has been taken as the basis of the text, wherever it was available. But the latter part of the collection, as we have it in RB and the allied manuscripts, is not represented in the Book of Leinster. It seemed therefore unjustifiable to adopt throughout this volume (as I had formerly tried to do) a standard of spelling and grammatical forms based on the general practice of that Book. I have been guided in these respects by the best manuscript authority at my disposal in each particular case. Even within the limits of a single poem I have not tried to follow any hard and fast rule. No Middle Irish manuscript is absolutely consistent in such matters, and it seemed better to admit a certain amount of variety than to insist on a uniformity which is not to be found in our sources. Such forms as *Érend*, *Érind*, which the scribe of LL prefers, are employed side by side with the 'correct' *Érenn*, *Érinn*. On the other hand, forms which mark the rhyme have been preferred, where it is obscured by the spelling of most manuscripts. I have followed Thurneysen's practice of distinguishing the diphthongs *ái*, *ói*, *uí* from the palatalized long vowels *áí*, *óí*, *úí*, because the position of the accent marks a difference in the sound, which affects the rhymes. Hence I write *mnaí* but *mnaíb*, *cóic* but *coíca*, and so on. Lenition has frequently been marked where it is omitted by the codices, but if there seemed to be any room for doubt, the manuscript readings are recorded. The usage as to lenition of the verb

after certain pretonic particles is unfixed both in LL and in later manuscripts. Here also some variation has been admitted. So, too, with some other points of grammar; for instance, the use of *for* and *ar*, as to which Middle Irish texts exhibit a state of confusion which only ended when *for* became obsolete as an independent preposition. The earlier distinction between the two could only have been maintained by correcting the text in countless instances against the consent of the manuscripts.

In the case of poems, or even single stanzas, for which a single manuscript is the only authority, I have reproduced that authority as accurately as I could, merely dividing and punctuating according to my judgement, and expanding silently contractions about which there could be no reasonable doubt. Italics are used only where some shade of uncertainty seemed possible.

In the final part of the *Metrical Dindshenchas* I intend to furnish a description of the manuscripts, an index of names, and a glossary, and perhaps to add some considerations as to the origins and development of the whole collection, and its relations to the general body of Irish literature; though, so far as the heroic legends of the Ulster cycle are concerned, these questions have recently been treated, far better than I could hope to handle them, by Professor Thurneysen, in his masterly work, *Die irische Helden- und Königsage, Teil I und II*.

The principal object of this present volume is to establish a sound text, based on a full collation of the manuscripts, and to interpret this to the best of my ability. In this endeavour I have received help which I desire to acknowledge with gratitude. I owe thanks to Dr. Plummer, for a collation of the poem on Ard Ruide, from a Bodleian manuscript, and for notes on several Irish saints; to Professor Georges Dottin, for information about the Rennes copy of the Dindshenchas; to Professor Carl Marstrand, for a collation of the poems on Carn Furbaide, Tuag Inbir, and Ailech III, from the Kilbride

manuscripts at Edinburgh; to Mr. R. Flower, for a collation of the two poems on Cnucha, from manuscripts in the British Museum; and to the Very Reverend Canon Corrigan, for assistance in identifying Cell Chorbain. My special thanks are due to Professor O. J. Bergin and to Miss Eleanor Knott, each of whom has read about half my text in proof. I owe much to their intimate knowledge of the Irish language and of Irish metrics. Most (but not all) of their corrections and suggestions are distinguished in my Notes by their names or initials. I have also enjoyed the advantage of free access to the materials collected for the Royal Irish Academy's Dictionary, in preparation under Professor Bergin's editorship.

More space has been given than in former volumes to discussions on place-names. On this subject every student must seek help first of all from the *Onomasticon Goedelicum*. In a work which contains such a multitude of references and conjectures, it is inevitable that there should be errors and doubtful assertions, and I could not avoid offering criticisms on a good many points of detail. I am the more anxious to acknowledge in express terms the great obligations which my book is under to Dr. Edmund Hogan's *magnum opus*.

EDWARD GWYNN.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

February 24, 1924.

LIST OF MANUSCRIPTS

Royal Irish Academy :

- B = Book of Ballymote
Lc = Book of Lecan.
M = Book of Ui Maine.
S = Stowe D. II. 2.
S₂ = Stowe B. II. 2.
S₃ = Stowe B. III. 1.
S₄ = Stowe D. IV. 2.
V = Reeves 832.
Lism. = Transcript of Book of Lismore.

Trinity College, Dublin :

- L = Book of Leinster.
H = H. 3. 3.
H₂ = H. 1. 15.
B₂ = H. 2. 4.

Bodleian Library :

- Ld = Laud 610.
Rl = Rawlinson B. 487.

British Museum :

- Hrl = Harleian 5280.
Eg. = Egerton 90 and Egerton 1781.

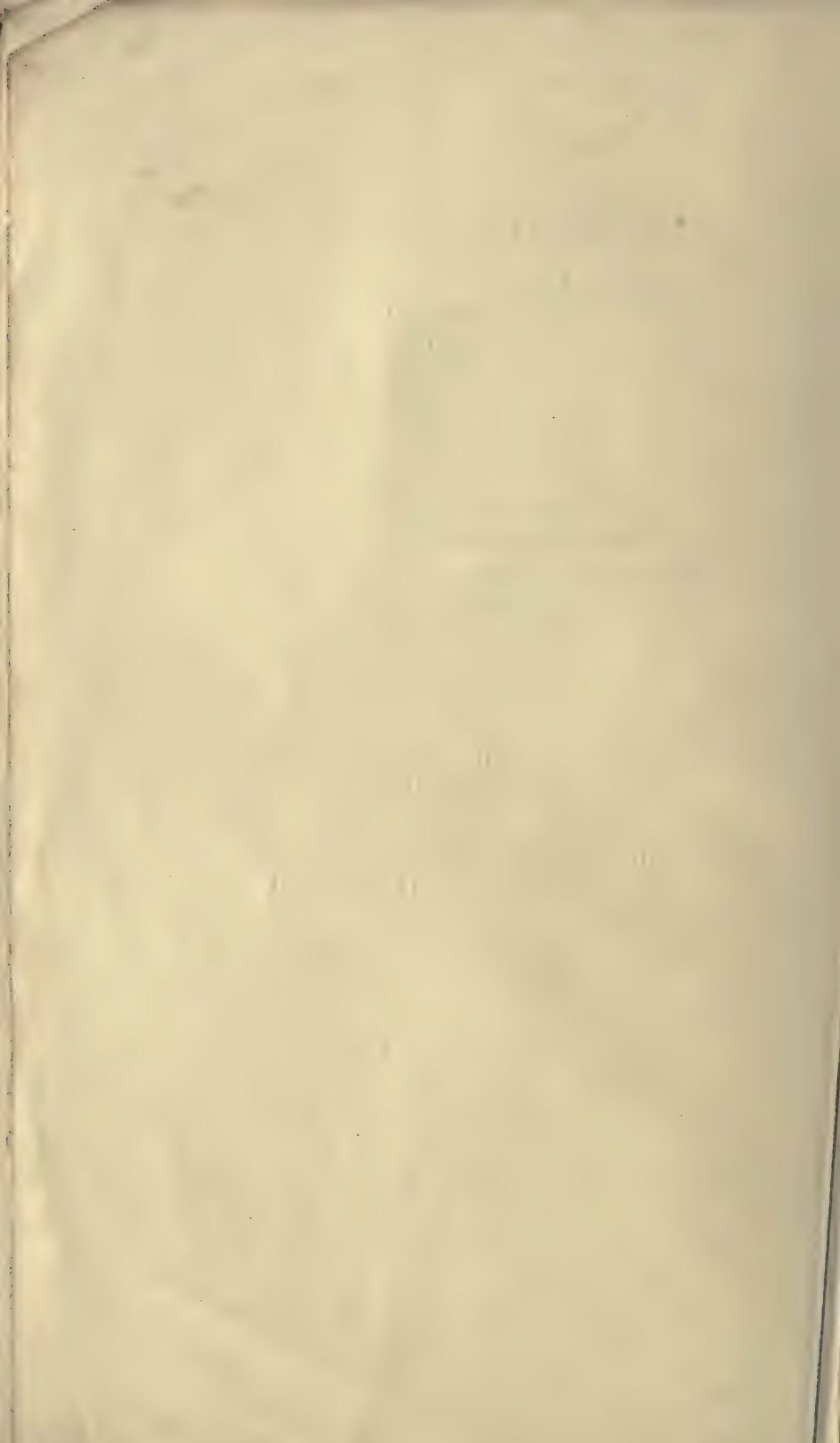
Advocates' Library, Edinburgh :

- K* = Kilbride V.
Ed = Kilbride XVI.

Other Libraries :

- R = The Irish MS. at Rennes.
Fr = Copy of Acallam na Senorach in the
Franciscan Library, Dublin : see
Irische Texte iv, p. xi.

* For the poem on Carn Furbaide, the symbol K has been wrongly used instead of Ed.



PART IV

ESS RUAID I

A tír dodechaid atúaid
co srethaib is co sáer-búaid,
innat léir co húair fessa
i sceól réid in rúad-essa?

Ess Rúaid, cía Rúad asa hess?
cía roching in cúan comdess?
in fer nó in ben co mbrig bailb
tuc for in síd in sáer-ainm?

Áed rúad mac Baduiri in bress,
úad cen ramuiri in rí-ess:
for a ur, ba gním guba,
fail a síd, a sáer-duma.

10

Ní chúala ar thír nó ar thuinn tig
do chlannaib Ír nó Ebir
rosessed co trían delba
for Áed fial na fí-Emna.

Rodúsig idu achar
Áed co ndúsib deg-athar,
dia ndechaid 'sin n-ess n-olor
dia mess is dia mudugod.

20

IS amlaid sin dochúaid dáil
éca fuair úa Argatmáir:
maraid a ainm ara ess
in dag-fir mairb cen mímess.

Iarum roclass issin chnucc
fertán Áeda fo óen-brutt,
conid é a síd sáerda sin
úas aigthib áebda áen-fir.

A.

ESS RUAID I

O thou that comest from the north, surrounded by troops in noble triumph! art thou attentive, till the hour for sleep, to the plain tale of the fierce rapids?

Ess Ruaid—what Ruaid owned its rapids? who visited the fair-formed haven? was it man or woman of forgotten power that gave the mound its noble name?

Aed *ruad*, Badurn's comely son—since his day the royal rapids have lost their vehemence: on their bank ('twas a dolorous event) stands his mound and his noble monument.

I have not heard, on land or lovely sea, of any of the children of Ír or Eber that could attain a third part of the beauty of generous Aed, lord even of Emain.

A bitter pang aroused Aed, rich with a good father's wealth, when he plunged into the . . . rapids, to his judgement and destruction.

Thus came Argatmar's grandson to the doom of chill death: his name abides on his rapids, the name of the brave dead man unblamed.

Then was dug on the hill the grave of Aed, covered by a single cloak: and there, above that one man's comely face, stands his honoured mound.

Ess Ruaid I. LBLcMSS ₃ H L is frequently illegible			1. <i>atúaid</i>]
fothuaid etc LcS	2. <i>sáer</i> -] sár S	3. <i>innat</i>] L indat MS ₃ H inad	
BLcS <i>léir</i>] reil LcS	<i>hiuir</i>] fuair Lc	4. <i>i sceól</i>] ascel SS ₃ H aseol Lc	
<i>riiad</i> -] L rig etc <i>cæt.</i>	5. <i>hess</i>] ess <i>facs. of L; illegible in ms.</i>	6. <i>cia</i>	
<i>roching</i>] cia rochin etc BM	co roichenn LcS	<i>in cúan</i>] a chúan L	ga cuan B
co cuan M	<i>comdess</i>] cadess L	7. <i>mbrig bailb</i>] mbrig mbailb etc BS ₃ H	
mbri mbailb LcS	8. <i>for in síd</i>] forsin síd Lc	for indsibh M	<i>in</i>] a
SS ₃ H	10. <i>cen</i>] co H	11. <i>ur</i>] hur BLcM	12. <i>fail</i>] L class etc <i>cæt.</i>
<i>síd</i>] S síd etc <i>cæt.</i>	a] sa LcSS ₃ H	<i>sáer</i> -] S	sir M saer etc <i>cæt.</i>
13. <i>nó</i>]	na LcMS	14. <i>nó</i>] na LcS	15. <i>rosessed</i>] rosoisead Lc
roiseas M	16. <i>for</i>] fri S ₃	<i>fir</i> -] fin B	find Lc finn S
17. <i>Rodúisig idu</i>]	rodussid idu etc BM	rodúiscidh idha S ₃	rodusdussaid Lc
rodusduisidh	dia S	<i>achar</i>] diacur LcS	car M
19. <i>dia</i>] co LcS	<i>n-olor</i>] ndolar S	20. <i>mudugod</i>] mugudh M	22. <i>éca fuair</i>] L
<i>éda ruaid</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	<i>úa</i>] úi S ₃ H	meic B	23. <i>ara ess</i>] araines B
araeis M	araneas S ₃	24. <i>mairb cen</i>	<i>mimess</i>] mín nimess (<i>blotted</i>) L
25. <i>roclass</i>] roelos B	<i>issin</i>] asin Lc	27. <i>sáerda</i>] sirda etc MSS ₃ H	28. <i>úas aigthib</i>] uassaigtib B
uasseithib Lc	uaseítibh S	<i>áen-fir</i>] a aenfir S	

Dorala sund iarsodain
 ingen Máine mil-scothaig: 30
 súan rodasomairn dia sil:
 Rúad a comainm 'ca cét-fir. A.

Cechaing céim fordail i fat
 ingen ordain adchanat,
 dia tue in mór-grád mada
 d'Áed srónmár mac Labrada.

A Maig Moeín co mét ága
 dolluid for sét sográda
 ingen Máine mér-seing múaid,
 a clé fri hÉrinn n-arm-rúaid. 40

Luid dar cech tuind dia tibed
 il-luing Abcáin ard-fíled
 co táraill in n-inber n-án
 ind ingen álaind innár.

Ní fitir Rúad cíarra-ba
 crích ná cúan co ndosrala,
 acht rochuindig, cruth nad meirb,
 co mbeth in sruth 'na sáer-šeilb.

Andsin dorochair 'na súan
 eter srothaib na sáeb-chúan: 50
 luid im-muduch fo méla
 fora curuch cóem-chréda.

Ní roacht coa lennán ind laith
 ingen na ngel-lám glé-maith:
 luid dar bord cen bríg mbluga
 fri dord síd na sam-guba.

Combad úadi, cen dailb ndét,
 ainm Essa Rúaid co romét:
 a haided, cen dúalus ndil,
 atchuadus duit, a dag-fir. A. 60

Hither chanced to come in after-days the daughter of Máine *mil-scothach*: a slumber lulled her in her turn: Ruad was her name, in her first husband's time.

She fared her way, wandering afar, the worshipful maiden they acclaim, when she gave that great love, in vain, to Aed *srónmár*, son of Labraid.

From Mag Móen, scene of mighty battles, the daughter of mighty Máine, the taper-fingered, came on a path of happy love, leaving on her left hand Erin of the red weapons.

She crossed the waves that laughed at her in the ship of Abcán the arch-poet till that fair and modest maiden happened upon the famous bay.

Ruad knew not whose was the country nor the harbour till she chanced on it, but she asked, in no uncertain wise, that the river should be her freehold.

Then she fell asleep among the streams of the eddying bays; she perished lamentably in her boat of fair bronze.

The maiden with the white hands, bright and good, never reached the hero her lover: she leapt overboard, not mastered by a spell, but at the doleful music from the fairy mounds.

So from her, without utterance of falsehood, comes the name of Ess Ruaid, with its greatness: her death, without dear claim of kinship, have I told to thee, good sir!

29. *sunā*] sunna S 31. *rodasomairn*] rodofohairn (?) L rosomairn etc
BS₃H rosmarn M cosomairnd Lc cosomhairn S *dia sil*] L dia sil sin B
sin dia sil LcMS sin dia seal S₃ sunn dia sel H 32. *Ruad*] aeda ruaidh
M 'ca *cét-fir*] S coa cétfir etc LBH coa cetfear etc MS₃ a cedfir Lc
35. *in*] a LcS 36. *d'*] cm. LcS *srónmár*] rónmar L mac] *mē mē* M *Labrada*]
Imchada L 37. *A Maig*] ainmaig LcS *Moein*] moen etc LLcS *aga*] uága
etc *codd*. 38. *for*] L fri *cæt*. 39. *mér-éing*] merseng etc BLe
40. *clé*] cele M 41. *dar cech tuinā*] in each luing Lc 42. *ard*] ár S
43. *táraitl*] toracht L 44. *innár*] L iomlán etc S₃H imslan *cæt*.
45. *ciaraba*] L diaraba etc LcS ciaraba etc *cæt*. 46. *co ndosrála*]
ciandusrála B rusdarála Lc condasrála M 49. *dorochair*] diarochair L
doluidsi Lc 50. *srothaib*] mothaib L *sáeb-*] sær Lc 51. *im-muduch*]
amúach Lc *fo*] ba L 52. *fora*] ina LcS 53. *Ni roacht*] L doriacht
LcS ni riacht etc *cæt*. *coa*] L co *cæt*. *ind laith*] ind laith L (*facs. is wrong*)
in flaith B in laith etc *cæt*. 54. *glé-*] L ngle- *cæt*. 55. *mbluga*]
mbuga Lc mbludha S 56. *dord*] cule Lc *sam-*] sain M *-guba*] dubha
S₃ 57.] combad uada gan deil ndet B

ESS RUAID I

M' anam acut for nim naib,
 a Choimdiu fáilid fír-baíd,
 a Rí na rend is na reb,
 at ferr iná cach óen-fer. A.

ESS RUAID II

Oclach thainic co hÆd ruad,
 mad ail do neoch a imluad,
 comlond cet san oclach cain,
 tuaristal ced roriaraid.

Cuid enfir do biud re lind,
 comlond ced re fuair n-imrind :
 oclach thanic co hÆd la,
 rob iad sin a chomada.

Ni suaithnig a senchus sunn,
 oclach meic buidnig Burnd :
 ce dorindi gnim can cleith,
 ni sochaidi rusfider.

10

'An afus is rodfia sin,
 a oclaich find re bliadain :
 naisc oraind each ni conaig,
 ocus comail a ngellaig.'

Cuindgis in t-oclach can on
 a cind bliadna a thuaristol :
 'Ni thibar' ar Aed 'co brach
 acht urdail re each n-oclach.'

20

Mar dabadar ime sin
 ænan la iarsin mbliadain,
 teit ri na leas is na tor
 isan eas da fothrucod.

Eirgis in t-oclach co garg
 re crandaib a sleag roard :
 greisis a churu na chend
 a fiadnaisi fer nErind.

Be my soul with thee in holy Heaven, O hospitable and loving Lord ! O King of stars and wonders, that art of higher birth than any man !

ESS RUAID II

There came a soldier to Aed *ruad*, if any care to hear tell of him ; a match for a hundred men was the goodly soldier, and the wage of a hundred men satisfied him.

To have one man's portion of meat and drink, to be match for a hundred in the hour of weapons, those were the soldier's terms that came one day to Aed.

Unfamiliar here is the story of the soldier of the troop-girt son of Badorn : though he did the deed openly, few there are that know of it.

'Stay with me for a year, and thou shalt have this, fair soldier : bind on us all thine asking, and perform all thy promise.'

At the year's end the blameless soldier demanded his wage : 'I will never give', quoth Aed, 'aught but the like wage as any soldier gets.'

While they were in quarrel thereabout, in the same way, after the year was done, the king of the strongholds and towers entered the rapids to bathe.

Up rose the soldier fiercely, holding his tall spear-shafts : he roused his sureties against Aed in presence of the men of Erin.

61-64.] *not in L* 61. *M' anam*] mairim BM *for*] ar LcS *naib*] næb B
 naemh etc MH naim etc LcSS₃ 62. *-baid*] bæd etc BM cháimh S₃
 chaom H 64.] corobam ann mar caích fear Lc
 Ess Ruaid II. Lc only 6. *fuair*] perhaps huair 10. *Burnd*] read
 Badurn 13. *afus*] vel b superscr. in Lc 15, 16.] read naise fornn cech
 ní condaigi, is comail a ngellaigi

'Ce cuirthear in muir am ceann,'
ar aird-ri æbda Ereann,
'nocho bera uaim co brach
acht urdail re cach n-oclach.'

30

Cuiris in muir ina cheann
a fiadnaisi fer nEreann,
cor'baidead Aed ruad 'con gaith,
a tuaristal in oclaich.

Eas Ruaid uirri osin ille
aran eas, is biaid chaidehe:
Eas nDuind e a hainm reme,
mac Dubain is mac Bile.

40

Is he cét-oclach can on
rogob cor na thuaristol,
Fiacha mac Nemid sech cach:
is do Laignib in t-oclach. O.

DRUIM CLÍAB

Sunda roboí Caurnán cass,
oc ergnum churchán comdass;
blíadain co leith, láthar n-án,
díamair im chreich in Caurnán.

Caurnán coss-dub, cen gné nglain,
mac Ré Doirche maic Dibaid,
fer co rogail ós each rainn,
dorigni togail túachail.

Trí coícait clíab, comol nglé,
sund i nDruim Chlíab coidlide,
d'argain Dúine Bárc bleidig,
tarclaim Caurnán, corr deibig.

10

Mac Leó Lám-fata cen locht,
Áinle aurdaire immétrocht,
fer tríath cen trácht im thogail,
flaith Dúine Bárc beó-choraig.

‘Though thou set the sea against me,’ said the comely high-king of Erin, ‘thou shalt never get from me aught but the same as any soldier.’

He set the sea against him in presence of the men of Erin, so that Aed Ruad was drowned by the water, for the sake of the soldier’s wage.

The name Ess Ruaid fixed from that day upon the rapid, and shall abide for ever: Ess Duind was formerly its name from Dond son of Dubán, son of Bile.

The first blameless soldier to receive hire or wage was Fiachu son of Nemed, before all: of the race of the Lagen was that soldier.

DRUIM CLIAB

Here dwelt sturdy Caurnan making ready well-fitted boats: a year and a half, a noble design, Caurnan worked in secret for a raid.

Caurnan black-foot, dark of hue, son of Ré Doirche, son of Dibad, a man of valour beyond all poetic praise, wrought a cunning foray.

Thrice fifty boat-frames—famous muster—here in Druim Cliab of the hides, to sack Dun Barc, haunt of whales, did Caurnan assemble, that fugleman of fight.

The blameless son of Leo *lam-fota* was Áinle the renowned, the glorious, a weakling without force for foray, prince of deadly-hurling Dun Barc.

42. *na*] *read nó*

Druim Cliab. LRBLeMSS₅H R has only st. 6-9 after a gap in ms.
 2. *comdass*] *chomdass* L 4. *diamair*] *dm L im*] *ar S₃ om. L in*] *im M ac*
Le Caurnán] *cureán S₃* 5. *cen gné*] L *congle M congne etc aet.* 6. *Ré*] *reo S*
 7. *rogaí*] *rodail M ós*] *as LLcS is M* 8. *dorigní*] *doringni L*
 9. *Trí*] *tuc L coicait*] *cháca Le cháoga S₃ comol*] *comull B comall Le*
 10. *sund*] *sum B i nDruim*] *adruim L ac druim Le codruim S coillide*] L
gan coidle etc BMS₅H can chaidle etc LcS 11. *bleidig*] *blighigh M*
bleidheach S₃ 12. *tarclaim*] *tarelann B. corr deibig*] *corrdebaid Le corus*
debid B cor deibig L 13-16. *Defectively written in M and incorrectly re-*
stored by later hand 15. *triath*] *vel tréith added in margin of L thriath S₃*

Áinle, nírbo glac im gail,
 mac forácaib Leó in lámaid,
 roboí fo dígail co dúr
 cona rígain 'na rodún.

20

'Maith cach dál dia tiagat fir'
 atbert Caurnán comdemin :
 'rogáet Áinle, lín a ban :
 atámne sír cen scarad.'

Caurnán roforbair ar úail
 d'orgain Dúine Báre bith-búain :
 roscar ri méla thiar thair
 scéla Dromma Clíab cobsaid.

IS desin atá in gairm glan,
 ainm Dromma Clíab na comram :
 is scél búan cen bél-gus mbla :
 dia slúag radelbus sunda. S.

30

Mo dá rogain dam, a Rí,
 a dúilim domain dath-bí,
 mo breith lat it rí-g-flaith trá
 iar mbeith co sír-maith sunda. S.

[Is desin ita Druim Clíab
 ara druim-sea don taib siar,
 ona cliabaib co lín nga
 dorinded co sír sunna.] S.

40

Áinle, who had no grip in battle, the son that Leo the Thrower left, suffered by a grim vengeance, with his consort, in the famous *dún*.

'Good is every tryst that men keep,' said downright Caurnan: 'Áinle is slain, he and his womankind, but we continue undivided.'

Caurnan grew in pride through the sack of ever-during Dun Barc: he cleared of reproach, from west to east, the story of steadfast Druim Cliab.

Hence comes the famous title, the name of Druim Cliab of the trophies: it is a lasting tale, without noisy tongue-valiance, that I have framed here for its folk.

Grant me my two wishes, O King, O Creator of the lively-coloured world! bring me to thee, into thy kingdom after long and happy life in this place.

[Hence comes the name, Druim Cliab, on the western slope of this ridge, even from the boat-frames with their load of spears, that were built at leisure here.]

- 17.] Aindle ar ghail gan oba S₃ nirbo] nirbru M robo LeS 18.] sic
ed. in mac foracaib lamaid L in mac forfagaib lamaid B mac rofacaib leo in
lamaid Le mac forfagaibh leó in lamhaigh S mac forfacaib lamfataid etc
MH mac leó laochdha lamhfoda S₃ 20. rodún] L (*retraced*) rígdún etc
cæt. 21-28. L has these stanzas in reverse order, with correcting marks in margin
21. tiagat] tiagait etc LeMSH 22. comdemin] cemdemin Le go deimhin
S₃ 23. rogáet] rogæ M lin a ban] linaib an etc LeS 24. sír] LeS
iar fir etc *cæt.* 25. roforbair] raforbair L rofarbair RB rofharbar M ar
uail] a huaill R ar nuail Le 27. rí] L ro R ra BMS₃H re LeS
29. in] *om.* Le 31. is] *om.* L a BMH in LeS á (*with s superscr.*) S₃
bél-gus] beilgus L belgus etc *cæt.* mbla] bla BLeS mblá L 32.] L
fofuair in senchus sunna etc RM fofuair i sencus sunna B fofuair a seanchus
sunna S₃ fofoar a sencas sunna H fuair in senchus sa sunna Le fouair in
senchus sunna S 33-36.] *om.* L 33. Mo dá] ma do RB mo da
LeH mada M madha SS₃ 34. domain] *om.* M dath-bí] conath bíth M
35. mo breith] fo bith Le bambrith S mobr H ú] dot etc BMS₃H 37-40.]
Le only

LOCH GILE

INGen Romra, Gili glan,
 bean darb aithnich each inber,
 a hainm arin loch lebar
 or moch maidm do minugad.

Teid an ingen, toise uabair,
farcur socht ar s  r-sluagaib,
 dia fothrucad sa snigi
 co glan-tobar ngainmidi.

Ca nigi don ingin feil
 asa lind-usqi lan-reid,
 dochi sa mag Omra ard,
 mar bad omna mear mor-garg.

10

Dogob nairi an ingen an
 ac faicsin chuici a lennan:
 tue a ceann fan tobar thall:
 baiter an ingen admall.

Tic a buime as cind a cuirp
 cor said thall isa tibraid:
 a cained Gili co han
 dobi ar miri mun macan.

20

Mar dasilsead na dera
 on ingin tre athmela,
 doluid tharrso in tobar teann,
 corob loch dreaman dileann.

Loch Gili on dail sin ana
 o Gili ingin Romra:
 douair Omra oiged ann
 o Romra romear rothenn.

Douair Romra in bas bunaig
 da cumaig sa ch  m-thulaig:
 is uaada Carn Romra ran,
 Carn Omra o Omra drech-nar.

30

LOCH GILE

Bright Gile, Romra's daughter, to whom every harbour was known, the broad lake bears her name to denote its outbreak of yore.

The maiden went, on an errand of pride that has hushed the noble hosts, to bathe in the spray by the clear sand-strewn spring.

While the modest maiden was washing in the unruffled water of the pool, she sees on the plain tall Omra as it were an oak, lusty and rude.

Seeing her lover draw near, the noble maid was stricken with shame : she plunged her head under the spring yonder : the nimble maid was drowned.

Her nurse came and bent over her body and sat her down yonder in the spring : as she keened for Gile vehemently, she fell in a frenzy for the girl.

As flowed the tears in sore grief for the maiden, the mighty spring rose over her, till it was a vast and stormy lake.

Loch Gile is named from that encounter after Gile, daughter of Romra : there Omra got his death from stout and lusty Romra.

Romra died outright of his sorrow on the fair hill-side : from him is lordly Carn Romra called, and Carn Omra from Omra, the shame-faced.

Loch Gile. *Lc only* 6. *read* rochuir socht 17. *read* ós chind
 19. *read* ac cáiniud 22. *on*] *read* 'mon 23. *read* tairsi

.

isa Loch Gili sea ana
 o Gili ingin Romra. INgen.

NEMTHEND

Dreco ingen Chalemail chrúaid,
 maic Cartain chail, maic Conúath,
 ander 'cambui cach bine,
 sech ba drui, ba deg-fíle.

IS lé conairnecht, scél ngúr,
 tria ainrecht is tria imthnúth,
 diambaí nith Bregrossa beirg,
 díth mac Fergossa leth-deirg.

Cethrur ar fíchit, ní gó,
 dá fer déc sin co ba dó,
 cethri seisir, garga a ngluind,
 romarbtha sin la Dreacuinn.

10

Conán, Canán, Máelán mál,
 Sarán, Sáerán, Sáebdercán,
 Uinnsiu, Aillsiu, ard a ngleó,
 Tuinnsiu, Tairrsiu, is Tromcheó,

Cuán, Cattán, Cáemán cass,
 Tnuán, Taebán temen-glass,
 Fuither, Fiacc, Failbe, is Flann,
 it iat sin a comanmann.

20

Tuc dóib nemain ocus neim
 in draic dremain, der demin,
 corusmarb i n-óen-fécht de
 tria sáeb-recht súain serb-dige.

Loch Gile here is named from Gile, Romra's daughter.

NEMTHEND

Dreco, daughter of grim Calcmael son of slender Cartan, son of Conuath, a maiden versed in all black arts, was a wizard and eke a poetess.

By her was wrought (a tale of woe)—by her fury and her jealousy—the slaughter of the sons of Fergus Lethderg, when the fight of Bregross, the robber's hold, was fought.

Four and twenty—no lie! even twice twelve men, four times six—fierce their deeds! these were slain by Dreco.

Conán, Canán, Maelán the chieftain, Sarán, Saerán, Sæbdercán, Uinnsiu, Aillsiu, high their prowess! Tuinnsiu, Tairrsiu and Tromcheó,

Cuán, Cattán, curly Caemán, Tnuán, dark-grey Taebán, Fuither, Fiacc, Failbe and Flann, these are their names.

The fierce woman-fiend, devil-begotten, brought against them murder and poison, and slew them all together by the sleep-bringing spell of a bitter drink.

Nemthend. LRBLcMSS₅H L is badly rubbed 2. Cartain] carttan? L
 carthain LcS₃ carthaind S *chail*] cael LM *Coníait*] huaith L 3. *ander*] ainden B *'cambui*] combúi R *vine*] binni L 6. *tria*] tre LcS *ainrecht*] inrect B aimrecht etc MS₅H aindrecht S *tria*] tre RLcS *imthnuth*] mith-nuth L 7. *diambai*] diamba LLeH *beirg*] S₃H berg LS bere Lc beirt RM bert B 8. *leth-deirg*] M lethderg LcS lethd_g cæt. 10. *déc sin*] sin deg RBH co ba] guma B coma LcS 11. *cethri seisir*] se ceatrair sin B *garga*] garc etc LcS calma B a *ngluind*] a cuing B 12. *romarbtha sin*] rodusmarbta B sed domarbtha Lc 13. *Maelán*] la maelan L *mál*] mall M 14. *Sarán*] sara Lc særan M *Sæván*] senan Lc saran M *Sæbdercán*] sædercán etc LLeS 15. *Uinnsiu*] uinsi etc LSH uindseo Lc uinnse S₃ *Aillsiu*] ail . . . L aillse etc LcSH *ard a ngleo*] Adhor agleo S₃ 16. *is*] om. (?) L *Tromcheo*] tromgleo S 17. *Cattán*] coattan M 18. *Tnuán*] tuan etc LcS . . uan L *temen-glass*] tendglass etc LB 19. *Fuither*] fuithen L (?) *Fiacc*] fiach LcS fiacht M *is*] om. R 21. *dóib*] dferaih B *nemain ocus neim*] nemain 7 neme M ingen chalcmail choir etc LcS 22.] do cloind fergusa firmoir etc LcS *der demin*] L dardemin B dairdeiminn etc MH dhaordeimhein S₃ conairdneim R 24. *tria*] tre LcS *serb*] sir L

Áit i mbáatar mairb co mend,
 is dó-sin is ainm Nemthend:
 dosfuc i n-inned ria n-aíl
 fíed rohindled oc Drecain. D.

Mo chorp, a Rí cháem na cros,
 rop sáer ar ole, ar elgnos,
 is m'anam, cen mímes maill,
 nírop díles do Drecainn. D.

30

DUBTHIR

Dubthir Gúaire, gním dia fail,
 a scél fír co fessabair,
 baí tan nárbo dubthar doss,
 acht crích cruth-glan chomsoloss.

Dá mac forácaib Dall dess,
 Gúaire gann, Dáire díless,
 imon crích, co nduilge de,
 níptar cuibde comrainne.

Fillis Gúaire, gním n-espach,
 for Dáire ndían ndub-chestach,
 co torchair leis Dáire in daig
 cen gné n-áile n-imthrócair.

10

Ón ló rogáet Dáire dron
 i n-Inis Dam cen díchron
 is fich co mbúaine mothair
 crích Gúaire don chomfochain.

The place where they lay dumb in death, its name is called Nemthend : the feast that was spread by Dreco brought them to sorrow and shame.

May my body, gentle King of Crosses, be saved from harm and peril ! and my soul, unblamed for sloth, let it not be delivered up to the Dragon !

DUBTHIR

Dubthir Guaire—that ye may know the cause whence springs its true story : there was a time when it was no thicket of bushes but a region brilliant and bright in beauty.

Two sons did Dall Dess leave, grasping Guaire and the rightful Dáire : they were not agreed in partnership as to the domain—thereof came dissension.

Guaire turned—a deed unprofitable—against keen Dáire, solver of dark riddles, and the warrior Dáire fell by his hand without show of quarter or mercy.

From the day that stout Dáire was slain in crime-stained Daminis, Guaire's domain for that cause has been a land of briars perpetually.

26. *dó-sin*] *dó* L 27. *dosfuc*] *dus* B 28. *oc*] *le* etc LcS 29-32.]
om. LLeS 31. *m'anam*] *mainim* S₃H *manmain* cæt. *mínes*] *mines* B
32. *nírop*] *narup* H *Dreacainn*] *dreacaind* R

Dubthir. LRBLcMSS₃H 1. *Gúaire*] *nguaire* RMS₃ *gnim*] *fath* (with
vel *gnim* superscr.) R 2. *a*] *is* Lc in S *fessabair*] *fedabair* B 3. *bai*
tan] *bætán* LM *bædan* R *bai sel* LcS *nárbo*] *diarbo* L *dubthar*] *duthor*
Lc *Dubhthir* S₃ 4. *acht*] *doriacht* L a R in LcS *cruth-glan*] *cruthach*
etc LcS *chomsoloss*] *rocharos* S 5. *forácaib*] *forfagaib* etc BLcMSH ag
macan (with .i. *guairi* superscr.) S₃ *Dall*] *conall* M *doill* S₃ 6. *gann*]
dall Lc *gall* S 7. *imon*] LcS *moa* LB *imo* RMS₃H *co nduilge*] *can*
duilgi etc LcSH 8. *níptar*] *nirptar* M *ropdar* L 10. *for*] *foran* Lc
ndian] om. Lc *nduaire* S₃ *ndub-chestach*] *ndubnertach* L 11. *co torchair*]
condrochair R *in daig*] *innáig* L 12. *cen*] con R *n-aile*] *ed. nale* L
naillich Lc *naílle* S *naile* cæt. *n-imthrócair*] *nimthoraich* Lc *nimthoirsigh* S
13. *Dáire*] *guairi* Lc 14. *i n-Inis*] *innis* L *Dam*] LLe *daim* cæt. *dichron*]
dichor BLcS 15. *fich*] *erich* L *mbúaine*] *mbuaire* L *mothair*] *dochair* L
16. *chomfochain*] *chomochain* Lc *comhfochair* M

Mairg dogní fingail co hom
gním dia ná tingair torud :
crích Gúaire, cen chosnam de,
fil 'na dos-mag dubthaire. D.

20

Nomásaer ar fill is ar ole
a Christ, rochind mo cháem-chorp,
a Rí subach na síne
nírbam dubach dub-thíre. D.

MAG SLECHT

Sund nobíd
idal ard, co n-immud fíeh,
diarbo chomainm in Cromm Crúaich :
tue in cach thúaithe beith cen síd.

Trúag in rúin,
nonadraitis Góedil guir :
úad nícochuingtis cen cháin
a ndíl im dáil domuin dúir.

Ba hé a ndía
in Cromm crín, co n-immud chía ;
in lucht rancreit, ós cach eúan
in flaithius búan nochosbía.

10

Dó cen búaid
marbtais a claind toisig trúaig
con-immud guil ocus gáid
a fuil do dáil 'mon Cromm Crúaich.

Woe to him that cruelly sheds kindly blood, a deed whereof he reaps no fruit! Guaire's domain, indisputably, is now a plain with thickets overgrown.

Preserve me from treachery and harm O Christ, that didst fashion my fair body! O joyous King of the firmament, let me not be downcast in a dark land!

MAG SLECHT

Here used to stand a lofty idol, that saw many a fight, whose name was the Cromm Cruaich; it caused every tribe to live without peace.

Alas for its secret power! the valiant Gaedil used to worship it: not without tribute did they ask of it to satisfy them with their share in the hard world.

He was their god, the wizened Cromm, hidden by many mists: as for the folk that believed in him, the eternal Kingdom beyond every haven shall not be theirs.

For him ingloriously they slew their hapless firstborn with much wailing and peril, to pour their blood round Cromm Cruaich.

17. *fingail*] LH *fingal cæt.* 18. *día ná*] *dana R dona cæt. timgair*] *timgar BLc* 20. *dos-mag*] *dosmar L dubthaire*] *dubtaire B dubthire etc cæt.* 21-24.] *om. L* 21. *Nomsáder*] *nomsæra Lc romsæra S* 23. *subach*] *na subach B* 24. *nirbam*] *narbam H nirba R dub thire*] *duibthire etc codd.*

- Mag Slecht.** LRBLCMSS₃H 1. *Sund*] *sunda etc LeS₃ nobid*] *robid S* 3. *in*] *om. L Crúaich*] *cruach Lc* 4. *tuc*] *om. B in*] *do Lc beith*] *bid B* *lúth (retraced) L cen*] *is L* 5. *Trúag in*] *Ba truag L* 6. *nonadrailis*] *noadraidis R noadratris etc S₃H doadraidis etc LeS* 7. *nicochungitis*] *ed. nocochungitis L noeuingidis etc BMS₃H roeuingidis etc RLeS* 8. *a ndil*] *andail Lc indíol S₃ andai (partly oblit.) L im dail*] *do dail L andil Lc andail S domuin*] *domulin M* 10. *crin*] *crieh Lc chia*] *arm L? cia cæt.* 11. *rancreit*] *ed. no. cruit (partly oblit.) L rocrraith R noerraith B rochreit MS₃ rocreit H rechreid Lc ós*] *as LeS₃H* 12. *in*] *a LeS nochosbia*] *nochosbia M nosbia B nochosluad (retraced) L* 13. *Dó cen*] *docheand Lc doceann M dochenn S docheann S₃ bíaid*] *mbuad etc LeS* 14. *claind*] *clann etc LcMSS₃ toisig*] *toirsech L tosach LeS toiseach S₃ tois H toisig etc RBM tríuig*] *truad etc LeSS₃ om. L* 15. *guil*] *gail B nguil Lc gáid*] *ngair Lc gaír S* 16. *a fuil*] *aéuil L (retraced) 'mon*] *immon L im etc SS₃H a R in BLcM Crúaich*] *cruach etc LeS*

Blicht is ith
 uaid nochuingitis for rith
 dar cend trín a sotha sláin:
 ba mór a gráin is a grith.

20

Is dó sain
 nosléchtaitis Gáedil glain:
 is dia adrad, ilar n-écht,
 atá Mag Slécht ar in maig.

Tánie and
 Tigernmas, tríath Temra thall,
 aídche Samna, lín a slóig:
 rosbaí damna bróin don bann.

Lúiset ole,
 buailset bassa, brúiset corp:
 ac coí ri demun rosdáer,
 fertais frossa, fáen a folc.

30

Marba fir
 sluaig na Banba cen bríg mbil
 im Thigernmas taglach thúaid
 d'adrad Chruimm Chrúaich, nímusein.

Uair itgén,
 acht cethraimthe Gaídel ngér,
 fer i mbethaid, búan in sás,
 ní dechaid cen bás 'na bél.

40

Im Chromm Crúaich
 and nosléchtaitis na slúaig:
 eía dosfuc fo mebail mairb,
 lenaid a n-ainm don maig múaid.

Milk and corn they asked of him speedily in return for a third part of all their progeny: great was the horror and outcry about him.

To him the bright Gaedil did obeisance: from his worship—many the crimes—the plain bears the name Mag Slecht.

Thither came Tigernmas, prince of distant Tara, one Samain eve, with all his host: the deed was a source of sorrow to them.

They stirred evil, they beat palms, they bruised bodies, wailing to the demon who held them thralls, they shed showers of tears, weeping prostrate.

Dead the men, void of sound strength the hosts of Banba, with land-wasting Tigernmas in the north, through the worship of Cromm Cruaich—hard their hap!

For well I know, save a fourth part of the eager Gaedil, not a man—lasting the snare—escaped alive, without death on his lips.

Round Cromm Cruaich there the hosts did obeisance: though it brought them under mortal shame, the name cleaves to the mighty plain.

18. *nochuingitis*] rochuindgidis etc LeS nacuingid is B 19. *trin a*] tria na M triain a S₃ tria H na tri B *sotha*] saotha R sotai H *sláin*] om. L 20. *a gráin*] L angrain LeS a gair RBH a gháir S₃ igair M a *grith*] angrith LeS a crith M 22. *nosléchtaitis*] LM noslechairis H noslechairis RB roslechairis Le roshlechairis S noadhradis S₃ *glain*] a fhir S 23. *diá*] di LeS *n-écht*] echt L ndrecht R 25. *aná*] om. Le S *adds con ilar sciath* 28. *rosbaí*] robai etc LeSS₃ *bann*] banna L 29. *Lúisét*] .uiset L luiset B luisit H laised Le laisid S luidhset R luidseat M luaidhsíot S₃ *olc*] oic *facs. of L (wrongly)* 30. *buailset*] buad lecht L (*retraced*) *bassa*] bernai L (*retraced*) *brúiset*] bruighset etc RLcMS 31. *ac coí*] L (*retraced*) ag cáí S₃ hi coí etc RBMH acái Le cáí S *ri*] L ro RM re *cæt. demun*] denon L (*blurred*) *rosdáer*] r.oesdéra L (*blurred and retraced*) nosdáera B rosdáor etc S₃H rosdaera etc *cæt.* 32. *fertais*] fersat etc BLcS *fíen a*] H *sæna* L(?) *fæna* etc *cæt.* 33. *fír*] a fir S *fír* (*with a superscr.*) S₃ 34. *na*] om. L *cen brig*] combrigh etc SS₃ combri Le 35. *in*] in M *taglach*] L (*retraced*) taglā R doglan LeS daglan M dagt H daghglan S₃ om. B *thúaid*] tuaith LeS tuaigh M 36. *nimuscín*] nimochin S 37. *úgén*] adgén etc LeSS₃H itgein M itgeí B 38. *cethraimthe*] cethramthi L cethrama R cethraime etc *cæt. Gaidel*] ngaidheal S₃ sluaig gaeiel R sluaig gaidel B sluaig L (*retraced*) *ngér*] ger M 39. *bíán*] truag etc LeS 40. *ná*] mu (?) L (*retraced*) 42. *nosléchtaitis*] ed. raslechairit L (*retraced*) roslechairit etc BM roslechairit etc *cæt.* 43. *cia*] cid B *dofusc*] dosfuair S *fo*] om. B *mebail*] melaib Le 44. *lenaí*] benaid B a *n-ainm*] a ainm RLcSS₃ in ainm H *múaid*] thuaid etc LeS

'Na srethaib
 trí hídail chloch fo chethair :
 fri sáebad serb inna slóg
 delb in Chruimm d'ór dodechaid.

Ó baí flaith
 Héremóin, ard-fir in raith, 50
 adrad robaí for elacha
 co techt Pátraic Macha maith.

Ord don Chrumm
 rogab ó bathis coa bunn :
 rodíchuir cen gallacht ngand
 in n-arracht fann robaí sund. S.

CRECHMAEL

A drem-sa, nach duaire ic dáil,
 ma thucsaid euairt i Crechmáil,
 cid dia fail, ós Brega blaid,
 ainm ind feda i tancabair ?

Diambaí 'ca cethrai chlethaig
 ingen Bethrai balc-brethaig,
 Sampait garg, cen gním núachair,
 sech ba bard, ba ban-búachail :

Dosfánic thuaid oca taig
 drúth Ennai chrúaid Chendselaig : 10
 is dó ri cach sogairm sáer
 ba comainm comnart Crechmáel.

Ranged in ranks stood idols of stone four times three ; to beguile the hosts grievously the figure of the Cromm was formed of gold.

Since the kingship of Heremon, bounteous chief, worship was paid to stones till the coming of noble Patrick of Ard Macha.

He plied upon the Cromm a sledge, from top to toe ; with no paltry prowess he ousted the strengthless goblin that stood here.

CRECHMAEL

O folk, that are not mirthless at your meeting, if ye have visited Crechmael, say whence derives the name, extolled above Breg, of the wood whereto ye are come ?

When the daughter of sound-judging Bethra was with her cattle in covert nook,—fierce Sampait, who scorned dalliance, who was herdswoman and bard to boot :—

There came upon her in her northern home stern Enna Cend-selach's buffoon, he that, along with every noble title, had the redoubtable name of Crechmael :

46. tri] tria LcM 47. serb inna] fa searb in LcS ba serb na M
48. dodechaid] nodhechaidh etc S₃H 49. Ó baí] Oba S₃H flaith] i flaith
Lc a flaith S 50. Héremóin] erimón S eiremon H ardífr] aird ffr R
aird ffr M ffr B ard fer etc cæt. 51] om. M robai] om. R for] L (nearly
illegible) arna S forna cæt. clacha] clachaib R 52. co techt] om. M
co tiacht etc RLcH go riacht S₃ 53.] almost illegible in L don] dom Lc
54. o] oa H bathis] baisis R coa] co RLcMS bunn] mbund M 55. cen]
can etc LcS con etc cæt. 56. in n-arracht] indarracht RH intairracht etc
LcS fann robai] robai ann Lc

Crechmael. LRBLcMSS₃S₄H 1. ic dáil] in dail etc LcS indal etc
MS₃H 2. ma] na MSS₃ thucsaíd] thucsad Lc tuesat etc RBMS₄ i] im
LcSH 3. blaid] bil Lc 4. i tancabair] in tancabair R atconcabair etc BS₄
itaair (with d above first a) Lc ithāmhair S 5. 'ca] coa etc LBMS₃H co
RS₄ cen Lc cethrai] cetraib R cheathra Lc chlethaig] cleachtaigh etc MS
6. Bethrai] bethraigh etc RBS₄ balc-brethaig] babebrethan L (retraced) 7.
cen gnim] congnim Lc miachair] L nuabair etc cæt. 9. Dosfánic] dusfarraid
H thuaid] dothuaidh S om. BS₄ oca taig] oca thaigh etc RH ocataid B
ocathaidh M ochathaid Lc oca athaig S₄ óthaigh S oathigh S₃ 10.
drith] druthsin S₄ chriaid] chaim Lc chæimh S om. BS₄ 11. is dó]
do sin LcS ri cach] L ro cach RMH re cach BLcSS₄ rogar (altered from
rochan ?) S₃ sogairm] fogairm M 12. ba] an S₃ Crechmáel] crecmaeth
(retraced) L

Rodusear in drúth iarsain :
 rongab lúth 'ma lán-aicsin :
 romífair dia thálgud túaid
 a sárgud ica sáer-búaib.

Roncúr, roncengail in ben :
 fo rengaib rún rocailled :
 a chend ní thúargaib din troit :
 rothend búaraig 'ma brágait.

20

IS desin ní senntar sund :
 derb ná celtar in comlund :
 atá Crechmáel arin chaill :
 ní senchas leth-máel labraim.

Cía beith i ndon cech mairb maill,
 robrog a gairm in glan-chaill :
 co derb rodelig messe
 scél demin na dreimme-se. A.

A Chríst rochés eroich corera,
 co ndernur grés glé-molta
 duit, a rí búan cach beinne,
 ar lúad cachá láech-dreimme.

30

A drem.

Then the buffoon was smitten with love, and lusted to sate his sight of her: to appease his desire, he devised to ravish her among her noble kine in the north.

The woman trussed him and tied him fast, in cords cunningly knotted he was destroyed: he raised not his head from the struggle; she tightened the spancel round his throat.

Hence comes the subject of this song: truly the combat is not hidden: Crechmael is the name of the wood: no pointless tale I tell!

Though he be even as one of the sluggish dead, his name has exalted the shining wood: faithfully have I discerned this folk's authentic story.

O Christ that sufferedst on crimson cross, let me raise a strain of loud adoration to thee, eternal King of every height, after telling of each heroic folk.

14. *rongab bith*] roba a luth Lc roghabh luth S *rongab bith* (*altered* ?) L 'ma] moa LBS₃H mo M imó S fo Lc *lán-aicsin*] lanascin L lanaiscin H lan faicsin RS₄ lan faiscin B lan faigsin S₃ lanais ceim M leanamain Lc lenmhain S 15. *thálgud*] thaltud Lc talgud *cæt.* 16. *sárgud*] sarud R ica] imma S *sáer-*] LLcS sír etc *cæt.* 17. *Roncúr*] *ed.* rochúr S₃ rochuir MS rocur *cæt.* *roncengail*] *ed.* rocengail etc *codd.* 18. *fo*] do S₃ *rengaib*] reng B reandaib etc LcSS₃ *rim*] ruin etc LcS rimh M 19. *ni*] nir Lc *din*] L (*retraced*) don RLeM do H a BS₄ on S go S₃ 20.] S₄ *ends with this line rothend*] gurthend S 'ma] moa LS₃H mo BS₄ fo LcM 22. *ná*] LR ni *cæt.* *in*] a RBS₃H 24. *leth-máel*] leath claon etc S₃H *labraim*] luaidim etc MH 25. *i ndon*] inon R mon B tredon Lc tria mhogh S 26. *robrog*] robrod Lc a] in M *gairm*] ainm LLc *in*] don Lc *glan-*] garb L 27. *co derb*] rodégh S₃ *rodelig*] do deilidh R 28. *demin*] debigh S *na dreimme-se*] re indisin Lc re indise etc MSS₃H 29-32.] *not in L* 30. *co ndernur*] condearnan Lc conernur M *glé-*] glan LcSS₃H 31. *cach beinne*] gach dreime B cen beinne M gombinne etc S₃H 32.] *co ndearnar luad læchdreime Lc hiad*] luagh M *dreimme*] reimhe M

LIA NOTHAIN

Atá sund fo choirthe chrúaid
ben co ndoirche is co ndimbúaid
cen gairm a sochair 'masech,
diarb ainm Nothain nert-buillech.

Ingen Chonmaír cen gním nguil,
inna gorm-dail gobul-duib:
furthain cét a cuit prainde,
i ndubthair dét deg-caille.

Cechaing Conmaér, céim co cend,
a Crích Bérre na mbémmenn
d'tis na mná, ba húathmar blad,
co Crích Crúachan na curad.

10

Tuc mór cémenn co ngairbe
ar fut Hérenn imaidble,
rocaith blíadain fo bine
oc íarair a ingine.

Co fuair in mnaí mothlaig móir
hi fidbaid chochlaig chleth-chóir:
dond fír diarb áil a décsin
ba lór gráin is garb-déstin.

20

Ed na haidche dóib cen gaí,
dond fír foirbthe, don deg-mnaí,
robátar a ndís 'malle
ar scís oca scél-baile.

LIA NOTHAIN

Here under a hard headstone lies a woman doomed to dark disastrous fate, without fame for happy fortune in return, whose name was Nothain the strong smiter.

She was daughter to Conmaer, doer of deeds unlamented, that blue-clad dark-forked terror: her portion of food was provender for a hundred men, woodland fare in the forest.

Conmaer fared, journeying to his goal, from Crích Berre of the combats, seeking the woman—forbidding was her fame—as far as Cruachan, home of warriors.

Many a step fiercely he strode throughout the vast breadth of Erin: a year he wasted in misery, searching for his daughter.

He found the woman tall and shaggy in a shrouded serried thicket: to the man who longed to see her she was a right horrid and hideous sight.

They passed the length of the night, 'tis truth, the faultless man and brave woman, the two of them together, forspent at their parleying.

- Lia Nothain.** LRBLcMSS₃H L is badly rubbed and in part illegible
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <i>chrúaid</i>] i cruaid B | 2. <i>doirche</i>] doirthé etc RH airchi Lc is co |
| <i>ndimbrúaid</i>] 7 combuaid Lc L seems to omit is con | 3. a sochair] . sochar L |
| a sochar etc LcH | 4. <i>diarb</i>] diarbo L Nothain] nothan LcS ₃ notair B |
| -buillech] chaillech LcS | 5. <i>Chonmair</i>] conmoir R chonmail Lc cen] etc |
| LB con cæt. <i>nguil</i>] guil BH ngail M | 6. <i>gorm-dail</i>] garmdail L (?) |
| gormdoil R gormdæl etc BM gorm dhuil S gormdhaol etc S ₃ H <i>gobul-</i> | |
| ngabul L dobhar M | 7. <i>furthain</i>] forthain SS ₃ |
| dubthar etc LcH an duibhlthear M <i>deg-caille</i>] deacoilli M deachoille S | 8. <i>indubthair</i>] in |
| 9. <i>Conmáer</i>] conmair LLcS conmoir R <i>céim</i>] cend L cend] tend R cheann | |
| Lc teann (altered to ceann) S ₃ | 10. <i>mbémmenn</i>] mbeim benn B |
| co] a S | 11. <i>Tuc mór</i>] tucam or R |
| ar bini M combine S | 12. <i>fo bine</i>] fo |
| | 13. <i>rocaith</i>] dachaith M |
| | 14. <i>iarair</i>] LR iarraid etc cæt. a] na L |
| 15. Co] eid <i>fac</i> s. of L wrongly do LcS da M | 16. <i>fidbaid</i>] bidbaid Lc |
| <i>chochlaig</i>] chochlaich L cochlaid etc RLe cochtlaigh M - <i>choir</i>] nóir L? | |
| 17. <i>dond fír</i>] anuair M <i>diarb</i>] lerb Lc rob M <i>décsin</i>] dechsain Lc | 18. <i>dond</i>] dob |
| <i>lór</i>] leor LBLcM <i>garb-</i>] garg L | 19. <i>haidche</i>] haitbi M |
| L(?) <i>don</i>] is don etc LcMS <i>deg-</i>] ard S | 20. <i>don</i>] ale M |
| ac S oca scél-baile] acomasaib (?) gaile L | 21. <i>ar</i>] |

IS é cét-ní roráid de
in ben cen báig mbúan-bréithre :
'indat bí, fri saíre son,
for ndaíne ocus for nderb-chrod ?

'Mo mumme, mo máthair múad,
mo siur, mo bráthair bith-rúad,
óg mo charat ac Druim Chaín,
in marat lat, a Chonmaír ?'

30

'Ina facca thíar 'cot tig,'
ar Conmáer cíar, 'dot chairdib,
ní mair díb i tresse treb
acht messe, a móir-ingen !'

Andsin atbert in ben búan
a hathesc mer co mílúad :
'Trúag in fochain, doría de
ná bía Nothain dia n-ése !

40

'Trí coícait blíadan, báigid,
ní hiarmar, ní himáirim,
atú fo dín each daire :
ní facca mín mór-maíge.

'Tíag-sa imbáarach latt immach
im-mag n-Árach n-ilehrothach,
ní fil m'áige ní bas sía,
co rosáide mo láech-lía.'

This was the first word she said, the woman who boasted not in flow of words: 'Are they alive, your folk and your own belongings noble of name?

'My nurse, my lady mother, my sister, my brother hot of mood, and all my friends at Druim Cain, are they still with thee, O Conmaer?'

'Of all thy friends,' said dark Conmaer, 'that thou sawest in thy western home, none is left in their strong habitations but myself, tall daughter mine!'

Then spake the virtuous lady her quick answer, ill-boding: 'Woe worth the cause! its issue shall be that Nothain shall not survive them.

'Thrice fifty years, tell it forth!—nothing short and nothing over—have I been sheltering from grove to grove, nor ever seen expanse of level land.

'Let me go with thee to-morrow to Mag nÁrach, variously beautiful,—my span of life lasts no longer—till thou set up my warrior-stone.'

25. *roraíd*] daraídh M *de*] LLeS *si cæt.* 26. *in*] *om.* L *cen báig*] combaid L(?) *cen baidh etc* RLeMS₃ *mbúan-*] mbuain RS₃ *beo Le mbéo S* *bréithre*] mbreithri RS₃ *brethe L(?) braite Le* 27. *indat*] R *indad(?) L* *anat M inad cæt. bi*] beo etc LeS *fri*] fria M 28. *ocus*] is L *na S nderb-* *chrod*] neaderod Le ndeacrodh S 29. *mumme*] buime etc LeMS₃H *máthair*] brathair S *míad*] buan LeS 30. *bráithair*] mathair S *bith-ríad*] bíd ruad L morluad Le munúar S 31. *óg*] sod Le so S *oic M charat*] carit R charaid S *ac*] an S 32. *in*] ni R *inad Le marat*] marait etc RS *lat*] laat L *om. Le Chonmair*] conmóir R 33. *Ina facca*] ar fhacais Le a facais S *'cot tig*] H *cotigh etc RM coatig B goattigh S* *acotig Le acod tigh S* 34. *ciar*] *cia facs. of L (may be ciar) dot*] do S 35. *ni mair dib*] in mairend B *ni mhairit M dibh ní mair S i*] B fr. L a *cæt.* 36. *acht*] R *oblit. in L acht ma B acht mad etc cæt. ingen*] rigan Le 38. *a hathesc*] aithesc etc RB *int aitheasc etc LeS co*] coa B re Le *míliad*] L(?) S₃H *imluadh R miluag B morsluag Le morluad M mfbuaidh S* 39. *fochain*] ochain Le *doria*] dia ría R da ría M 40. *ná*] RB *nac M oblit. in L ní cæt.* 41. *coicait*] chæga etc SS₃ *cæcai H bliadan*] bliadhain S₃ *báigíad*] baidhe R baidid LeMS buidti S₃ 42. *ni hiarmar*] M cid iarmar RB iniarmar L andiamraib Le andiamhair S *ciod diamhair etc S₃H ni himáirim*] ni himairem etc RH *mar imraidid Le intiomfuireach S₃ oblit. in L* 43. *atú*] atá RS₃ 44. *ni*] nac S 45. *Tiag-sa*] tiefa Le *latt*] laid *facs. of L seems latt in ms.* 46. *im-mag*] sa mag Le *n-Árach*] narach LB nadhach M naghach etc *cæt.* 47. *m'áige*] LS₃ *maigi etc RBSH moigi Le mhuighi M bas*] as L ba RM 48. *co roraíde*] corosaídea (?) L corasaighi M nocosaighe S corosaíde etc *cæt.*

Rosfuc bás, nír bét co mblaid,
don sceól adfét a hathair:
in ben co ndoirche, nár dúail,
atá fo choirthe chomechrúaid.

50

IS í sin fochain dia fil
Lia Nothain cen imbresain:
a hainm inar mbailib de
mairid, cid marb atá-se. Atá.

Nomsaer ar imned, ar ole,
a Rí fínd-gel fíir-étrocht!
nírbam trúag 'sin dáil tall trá
iar lúad cháich atá sunda. Atá. 60

CARN FURBAIDE

CUÁN ÚA LOTHCHÁN *cecinit*

Atá sund Carn uí Chathbath
fors'rimred arm imathlam,
lechtán láechda laích col-lí,
fertán fráechda Furbaidi.

Furbaide Fer Benn, ba brass,
mac do Chonchobar chomdass:
Ethne a máthair, moltait raind,
siur do Meidb is do Chlothrainn.

Luid Ethne sin cóiced cain
co mbáe hi fail Chonchobair:
dia mbátar and immalle
de dorónad Furbaide. 10

Death seized her—it was no deed of glory—through the tale her father told : the woman lies, in darkness undeserved, under a hard headstone.

This is the cause whereof comes the name 'Lia Nothain,' beyond dispute : hence in our dwellings her name endures, though she is dead.

Save me from sorrow and suffering, O King whitely fair, truly radiant ! let me not be sorrowful in yon session hereafter, when I have praised every one that is here !

CARN FURBAIDE

Here stands the Carn of Cathbad's grandson against whom a nimble weapon was wielded ; Furbaide's heath-clad grave, martial monument of a glorious soldier.

Huge was Furbaide, surnamed Fer Benn, son to comely Conchobar : Ethne, whom verses extol, was his mother, the sister of Medb and Clothru.

Ethne came to the pleasant province and made her home with Conchobar : when they lived together there Furbaide was begotten by him.

50. *adfét*] *adfeg facs. of L (but may be adfet) hathair*] athair LBH 51. *co ndoirche*] *condorthi R co toirthi M can doirche Le cen doirthi S₃H oblit. in L nár dúail*] *monuair M conuail S* 52.] *fochoirthi noirche ninuair Le* 53. *dia fil*] *da fuail M* 54. *imbresain*] *imairim Le* 55. *inar mbailib*] *innar (?) bailib L ana bailibh M inambailib etc BLcS* 56. *se*] *si S₃H* 57-60.] *om. LM* 57. *Nomsaer*] *romsær R nomsæra LeS imned*] *nimnead Le ar] sar R olc*] *cholt Le* 59. *trúag*] *tuadh S* 60. *luad*] *luag B cháich*] *caidh S₃*

Carn Furbaide. LRBLeM₁(147)M₂(161)KSS₃H *Attributed to Cuan .h.* *Lothcán in L only* 1. *uí*] *ua KH* 2. *fors³rimred*] *roimred B forimread etc LeS daimreadh M₁M₂ doimred K forarhimreadh S₃ arm*] *airm S imathlam*] *imathlaim etc BS athlamh S₃* 3. *laechda*] *laich ba M₂ laich*] *L laechda M₂ laech etc cat. col-lí*] *lí M₂* 4. *fertán*] *daltan B* 5. *Furbaide*] *furbaid L Benn*] *mbend LeK ba brass*] *comblaid BM₁K ba bres S* 6. *chomdass*] *cubaid etc BM₁K* 7. *moltait*] *moldais BM₁M₂K molaid S rind*] *rind M₁* 9. *sin*] *sa BM₁M₂KS₃H cain*] *choin Le* 10. *co mbás*] *L do beith etc RSS₃H da beith M₁M₂ dia beith BK diambeith Le hí fail*] *a fai Le a crich etc M₁K* 11.] *diambatar cach dibh malle S* 12. *dorónad*] *duronta etc BM₁K*

Iarsin mostic Ethne anair
 dia hassait i Cruachan-maig:
 dolluid Lugaid ara cend
 co bun síd-maige Silend.

Sáeb-écht doróni Lugaid
 for mnaí Conchobair chubaid:
 tue am-mac tria tóeb immach
 iarna bádud bale-thorrach.

20

[IS uaithi ainmnichther de
 ind abann dian ainm Eithne,
 ó mnaí, ní scél cleithe cruind,
 atá Eithne arin abaind.]

IS aire sin, sorchu dand,
 rolen Furbaide Fer Bend:
 dá beinn bátar fora chind
 Furbaide fossaid forfind.

Secht mbliadna deóc a áes,
 rosílaid Hériu ar gáes,
 robriss bern trí cét, cen chlith,
 issin chath oc Ilgáirich.

30

Dul do dígail a máthar
 romídair trí mór-láthar,
 co torchair leis, láechda in bedg,
 máthair Lugdach trí-riab-nderg.

Dolluid Lugaid, lúad ar chacht,
 aníar ina iarmoracht,
 co torchair leis Fer bláith Bend
 im-mulluch Sléibe Uillend.

40

Presently Ethne journeys from the east to be delivered in Mag Cruachan: Lugaid came to meet her at the fairyplain of Bun Silenn.

Lugaid committed a foul crime upon shapely Conchobar's wife: he drew her son forth from her side after drowning her in ripe pregnancy.

[From her is named thenceforth the river that is called Ethne; from the woman—'tis no grudging secret—the river bears the name of Ethne.]

Therefore the name Fer Bend clave to Furbaide—bright his hue: two horns grew on the head of staunch illustrious Furbaide.

Seventeen years was his age, the fame of his wisdom was spread through Erin: he broke a breach of three hundred (no hidden feat!) in the battle at Ilgáirech.

He planned in his proud heart to go and avenge his mother: and by his hand fell the mother of Lugaid Three-Stripes—martial the exploit.

Came Lugaid, a fasting journey, in pursuit from the west; and smooth-skinned Fer Bend fell by his hand on the crest of Sliab Ullenn.

13. *Iarsin*] *desin* B *motic*] *nostig* etc M_1M_2SK 14. *hassait*] *hasadain*
 Le *hasaídih* S *i*] *có* LeS *Cruachan-maig*] *cruachain* LeS 15. *Lugaid*
after *cend* L *ara*] *fora* LBK *ina* Le *cend*] *cind* S 16. *bun*] *mbún* L
sid-maige *Silend*] *silend* *sírchubaid* L *sidhmuighi* *saileand* M_1 *sidhmuighi*
saigleand M_2 *sigmaighi* *soiglead* K *sigmaine* *silenn* Le 17. *doróni*]
dorigne etc B LeM_1M_2K *doroinne* S_3 18. *for*] *ar* RBM_1M_2K 19.
ammac] L *a* *mac* $RBLcSS_3H$ *mac* M_1M_2K *tria*] *tre* B *re* Le *trena* M_2
tria a S_3 *rena* K *tóeb*] *lár* S 20. *balc-*] *tailc* S 21–24.] *in* M_1 and
 K *only* 25–32.] *om.* LeS 25. *sorcha*] *dorcha* B *dend*] *drenn* etc LB
 26. *rolen*] *lenais* B *roslen* S_3 27. *beinn*] *bend* K *bátar*] *batatar* M_1 *badair*
 M_2 *fora*] *fon* M_1M_2 *ara* S_3H *chind*] *cheand* etc M_2S_3H 28. *Furbaide*]
om. M_1 *furbaidhi* (*with* *forminn* (?) *superscr.*) K *fossaid*] *forsaide* L *firglan*
 B *om.* K *forfind*] *foireandh* M_2 *foirmenn* S_3 29. *deéc*] *ed.* *déc* etc *codd.*
a *áes*] L *ba* *he* *áos* R *ba* *hi* *ais* M_1 *ba* *hé* *a* *aois* etc S_3H *ba* *hi* *a* *ais* BM_2K
 30. *rosilad*] *ed.* *roílilad* L *rosilad* B *rosilaidh* RH *dosilad* K *dasiladh* M_2
dosiolaidh S_3 *dahilad* M_1 *Hérúu*] *heř* etc *codd.* *ar*] *ara* M_1 *gan* B 31. *bern*]
bn L *bñ* BS_3 *beirn* (? *e* *is* *superscr.*) R 32. *oc*] *in* L 33. *Dul*] *doluid*
(with *vel* *dul* *superscr.*) R *teid* LeS 34.] *furbaidi* *na* *fraech* *lathar* etc LeS
romidair] *midair* M_1 *tri*] *a* RBK 35. *co torchair*] *condrochair* etc $RLeM_1M_2$
 36. *Lugdach*] *luideach* etc M_1M_2K *tri-*] *da* BK *om.* LeM_1M_2S *riabnderg*
sriabnderg etc S_3H *riab* *roderg* etc LeM_1M_2S 37. *Doluid*] *luid* etc M_1K
liúd] *ba* *luad* etc M_1K *luth* S_3 *ar chacht*] *gan* *acht* S *iar* *ceacht* S_3 38.
ina iarmoracht] L *isinniarmoracht* etc RH *isin iarmoracht* etc SS_3
isaniarmoracht *cæt.* 39. *co torchair*] *condrochair* etc RM_1K *condoreair* M_2
 40. *Uillend*] *cuillend* R



Cloch each fir roraind in fadb,
 is de dorónad in carn :
 bás maic ind ríg tre chin mná,
 is é sin in gním diatá.

Rucad in cend selat sair
 dia breith co tech Conchobair,
 co torchair a glaice Lugaid
 in dét in maicc mór-phudair.

Uillend fáebur-derg fosfúair
 mac Find uí Baisene brat-rúaid :
 tánic di chéin cían im gail
 conid 'sin tsléib tathamair.

50

Rí nime doní cech ní
 uaisle é 'ná cech ard-rí,
 rí corric bráth, bressim nglé,
 is ós chách atá side. A.

A stone for every man that the axe clove—so was the carn built: the king's son died in revenge for a woman: that is the origin of the Carn.

The head was presently brought eastward to bear it to Conchobar's house: and there fell from Lugaid's fist the tooth of the much lamented youth.

Ullenn Red-blade found it, red-cloaked Find ua Baisene's son: he came from a far distance, bent on war, and on that mountain did expire.

Heaven's King, maker of all that is, nobler is he than all high kings: King, till doomsday come with loud acclaim, high over all is He!

41. *roraind*] L *duroind* B *daroinnd* M₁M₂K *doroind* S *doroinn* H *doroinde* R *dorindi* Le *doróini* S₃ *fadb*] *adb* K 43. *tre*] *tria* BLeM₂
 44. *is é*] *is de* R *in gnim*] *innf* etc RBLcM₂S *indi* M₁K 45. *setal*] *selad*
 etc BLeM₁ *setal* etc *cat*. 46. *dia*] *do* H *breith*] *beith* Le *bet* H *co tech*] *a fail* Le *attech* S₃ *atech* H 47. *co torchair*] *condrochair* RLeM₁K *condorchair* S *a glaicc*] *anglaic* RLeM₁ *Lugaid*] *lugad* L *luga* Le 48. *in déit in maice*] *etan in m̄* etc RK *agegan co* Le *diaghnidh in me* M₁ *aedangan* M₂ *aghedan gun* S *indétan con* etc S₃H *mór-phudair*] *morphudar* L *morthula* Le *morthulaigh* M₂SS₃H 49. *-dery*] *om. M₂ fosfúair*] *combuaid* etc RBM₁K *fouair* Le *mac find* S 50.] *ba mac dúa bhaisene bhuangrinn* S *Find*] *dfind* etc RBM₁K *dind* Le 51. *di chéin*] L *cen lén* R *om. B dochen* LeS *dacein* M₁ *docheín* etc M₂S₃ *docein* HK *cian im gail*] *cian in gail* Le *cia in gabail* M₂ *cian o thaigh* S *redg cen rubh* R *redhg gan on* M₁ *readg* K *cruaid icol* B 52.] *conasatledhb ata sun* R *conid isin tsléib thuaid* *ata son B 'sin*] *isin* LS *tathamair*] *adrochair* Le *adorechair* S *ata son* M₁K *tathamail* M₂ 53. *Rí*] *rai* M₁ 54. *é 'ná cech*] *ech each* Le *e ina cach* K *ard-rí*] *enri* etc LeM₁S 55. *rí corric*] *nocotí* etc RM₁K *rii conic* etc BM₂S₃H *co rigi* etc LeS *bráth*] *in brach* R *in mbrath* Le *an mbrath* S *in brath* M₁K *bressim*] *breissi* M₂ 56. *ós*] *o M₂ atá side*] *ata se* B *ata sige* M₁ *ata gach sige* M₂

ÁTH LÍAC FIND

*(First version)*MAELMURU *cecinit*

Áth Líac Find, eid diatá,
 eid nách sluinni nach sencha ?
 éissi díchumne roddall,
 dia fárgab Find ailig ann ?

Dia torchair, ba mór in cath,
 coíca la trichait nónbar
 im thrí maceu Círb co mbúaid
 lotar la sruth anairthúaid.

Dia torchratar issind áth
 cethri Conaill, dá Cholmán,
 cethri Suibní, dá mac Brice,
 cethri Dubthaig, dá Diarmait.

10

Dasuí Flathgus, gilla Find,
 a gnúis ri gáir n-écomlaind,
 docersat laiss, airm ir-ran,
 cethri cethrair, dá nónbar.

Da torpart dond áth atuaíth
 Fland mac Finde abrat-ruaíd :
 marbais coíca, comul ñgle,
 tri conchend na hergaile.

20

Dia n-éccid, foichne a scél,
 focéirt in sluag i trom-nél
 díth maic Connath di Maig Lir
 robí Find in maten sin.

Dia n-erbairt Setna iarsin
 a brethir co rath taith
 co mbriste fir fer co ñgail
 for mac Umaill di Laignib.

ATH LIAC FIND I

Ath Liac Find—whence comes it? wherefore does no shanachie declare? what forgetfulness has made it dim, since Find left the stone there?

When there fell—great was the fight—thirty nines and fifty fighting round the three doughty sons of Cerb, who came along the stream from the north-west:

When there fell in the ford four Conalls, two Colmans, four Suibnes, two sons of Brecc, four Dubthachs, two Diarmaits:

Flathgus, Find's henchman, turned his face toward the cry of one o'er-matched: there fell by his hand, where he stood at bay, four fours and two nines.

When Fland son of Eochaid Red-brows assailed the ford from the north he slew fifty—famous meeting—that strong wolf-head of conflict.

When he told the tale . . . the loss of the son of Conna from Mag Lir, whom Find slew that morn, cast the host into a stupor of dismay:

When Setna uttered thereafter his word . . . that the faith of fair fight should be broken against Umall's son of the Leinstermen:

Ath Liac Find I. LM(158) *Attributed to Máelmuir in L* The order of stanzas in M is 1, 8, 9, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; 5, 6, and 7 are omitted

1. <i>cid diatá</i>] inarata M	2.] amair sloindid na seancha M	3.] cisi cuimni
mar darall M	4. <i>fárgab</i>] foragaibh M Find] om. M	5. <i>Dia torchair</i>]
Rotuargaib M	6. <i>trichait</i>] tricha M	9.] Doorcradar asoin ath M
10. <i>dá</i>] do M	11. <i>dá</i>] do M	12. <i>dá</i>] do M
Flathgus] Flathgiūs L flaus M	14. <i>ri</i>] re M	<i>n-écomlaind</i>] ecomlaind L
negomlaid M	15. <i>airm ir-ran</i>] aiream ndron M	17-28.] om. M
20. <i>tri conchend</i>] read trén-chonchend		

Dia tánic Sinand iarsin,
ingen Mongáin as-sídib,
dobert líe co slabraid óir
do Find mac Umaill alt-móir.

30

Rigis Find a láim iarsin
don líe thrén tréochair
co tue a cend buí for muin
Guairi guill fothroelagair,

Ná melta riss, ruathor gargg,
acht gaí nó chlaídib nó chalg:
ba óen a gessa iar tain
comrac a thoib ri talmain.

40

Danarlaic iarsin sin n-áth,
tan donnánic a lond-bág,
Senach, Senchán agus Bran,
conid de darochratar.

Iarsin iarum rogab foss
issind lind lán lethan-glass,
conatorehratar for tráig
dia domnaig im thignáir.

Fagaib ingen maten de,
dianid comainm Bé Thuinne;
foceird a cois-sliasait cóir,
arind erdrolam dergg-óir.

50

Ré secht mblíadna iarsuidiu
co bruinniu lathi brátha:
ní frith buith immerthas:
issued senchas ind átha.

When Sinand came thereafter, Mongan's daughter, from the fairy dwellings, she gave a stone with a chain of gold to Find, son of long-limbed Umail.

Thereupon Find put out his hand for the strong triple-edged stone and pledged the head that was on the shoulders of Guaire Goll who carried it,

That he would not use aught but spear or sword or brand—fierce his onset: it was one of his *gessa* afterward that his side should touch the ground.

Then he hurled the stone into the ford when his battle-wrath came to him: so that there perished thereby Senach, Senchán and Bran.

So it found rest thereafter in the full wide grey pool, till it be cast upon the shore on a Sunday at the hour of matins.

A maiden will find it then at morn, whose name is Bé Thuinne: she will set her straight leg upon the hoop of red gold.

It is seven years' space from then till the brink of Judgement Day: never have I been found astray: that is the story of the ford.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 30. <i>Mongáin</i>] mogain M | 31. <i>dobert</i>] dorad M | 32. <i>dó</i>] d L <i>Umqill</i>] |
| cumail M <i>alt-móir</i>] ardmuir M | 33. <i>Rigis</i>] <i>ed.</i> rugais L raigis M | 34. <i>liice</i>] <i>ed.</i> líce L lig M <i>thrén</i>] trén L rotrén M |
| 35. <i>a cená</i>] in ceand M | 36. <i>guill</i>] guil L <i>om.</i> M <i>fothroelagair</i>] sic L foradrablangair M <i>read</i> fodroílagair | 37. <i>Ná mella</i>] L ní meaelta M <i>gargg</i>] ngarg M |
| 38. <i>ba óen a geisse iarsain</i> L ba hiad sin a gesa iardain M | 39. <i>thoib</i>] thóeb L taeb M <i>ri</i>] fria M | 40. <i>danarlaic</i>] danarlaig L dianarlaig M |
| 41. <i>riananaig</i> M <i>lond-bág</i>] londba M | 42. <i>donnanic</i>] L riananaig M | 43. <i>Senchán acus</i>] Sencha nachus L |
| 44. <i>seancha</i> 7 M <i>darochratar</i>] L rorocradar M | 45. <i>iarum</i>] iaraim M | 46. <i>foss</i>] fas M |
| 47. <i>conatorchratar</i>] L gonastorchar M <i>Read</i> conid-tochrathar <i>for</i>] L forsan M | 48. <i>im thignáir</i>] L iman tiub gair M | 49. <i>Fagaib</i>] fogaib M <i>de</i>] M moch L |
| 50. <i>dianid</i>] L diarba M | 51. <i>cóir</i>] M báin L | 52. <i>erin dergdrolam neargoir</i> M |
| 53. <i>ad bath ni feacus</i> M <i>Read</i> mo buith im-merthas | 54. <i>buith immerthas</i>] L | 55. <i>issed</i>] isse M |

ÁTH LIÁC FIND

(Second version)

Ath Liác Find, cía lía diatá,
finnat dúinn na senchada:
cía díchuimne rodondall,
tan forfácaib a líc and?

Imairec catha, céim nglé,
do mac Cumaill Almaine
fri mílid in lethe atúaid,
fri mac Ehdach abrat-rúaid.

Doluid Sideng sel iarsin,
ingen Mongáin saír sídig,
co tue líc co slabraid óir
d' Find mac Cumaill maic Thrénmóir.

10

And dorat Find a líc luind
'sin chath for muin Guairi guill,
co tairnic airmed a slóig,
ó thráth éirge co hiarnóin.

Gáiris asin leith atúaid
Fland mac Ehdach abrat-rúaid:
roríast a chruth, comul nglé,
trén-chonchend na hirgaile.

20

Sínid Find a láim iarsin
dia líc tréuill tréochair,
co tue in oind bai for muin
Guairi guill forróebalangair.

Adrochratar isin áth
cethri Conaill, dá Cholmán,
cethri Suibni, dá mac Brice,
cethri Dubthaig, dá Diarmait.

ATH LIAC FIND II

Ath Liac Find—from what stone comes the name? let the shanachies inquire for us! what forgetfulness has blinded us since the time when Find left his stone there?

There was an encounter—famous march—between Cumall of Almu's son and a warrior of the northern region, the son of Eochaid Red-brows.

Then came Sideng presently, the daughter of noble Mongan of the Aes Síde, and brought a stone with a chain of gold to Find son of Cumall son of Trénmór.

Then Find laid the fierce stone, in the fight, on the shoulders of Guaire Goll, till the ammunition of his host was exhausted between day-rise and afternoon.

Fland son of Eochaid Red-brows laughed loud from the northern side: he wried his shape—famous meeting—that strong wolf-head of conflict.

Then Find stretched out his hand to his thrice-great three-edged stone and seized the rock that was on the shoulders of Guaire Goll. . . .

There fell in the ford four Conalls, two Colmans, four Suibnes, two sons of Brece, four Dubthachs, two Diarmaits.

Ath Liac Find II. BLcM(162)SS₃H 2. *finnat*] findaid etc LcS na]
a LcS 3.] *ciasa cuimne rodusdall* LcS *cia dacuimnigh rodontall* M
4. *forfácaib*] rófaicibh S 7. *fri*] for Lc *fria* S *in léthe*] don leith LcS
8. *Echdach*] neathach M 9. *Sideng*] Seigeng Lc Sidhseang M Sinann S
10. *šair*] saer BM a S *šidig*] sidhoibh S 11. *co tuc*] dorot S 12. *a'*
Find] do LcS 13. *And dorat*] S arsin tug (*in litura*) S₃ air dorad etc
cæt. 14. *for*] fri M *guill*] gluinn etc LeM 15. *tairnic*] tainig M
airmed] S airdméa B airmid Lc tairdbedh S₃ tairdb- H a *šlóig*] in tslóig
etc LcS 17. *asin*] isin LcSS₃ *asin* dun B 18. *Echdach*] eatach M
19. *roriašt*] roriašt- S₃ co riacht S *chruth*] cl- H *comul*] B comhall *cæt.*
20. *trén-*] trein B tar S dreim M *chonchend*] coineind etc BLc comeinn M
comtrom S *concerd* (*retraced*) S₃ na *hirgaile*] an urlaidhe (*in litura*) S₃ na
hurlaidhe etc MH 21. *Sinid*] sínis S 22. *dia*] do LeM don S₃
tréuill] treuilligh S 23. *in oind*] an oind S in enn Lc imeenn M in
cend *cæt.* *muin*] bail Lc 24. *forróéblangair*] forrablangair B foreblongair
Lc forleblangair S 25-28.] *om.* BM 25. *Adrochratar*] atorchradar S
isin áth] S sin san ágh S₃ sin san ath etc *cæt.*

Tarlaic Find a lía 'sa n-áth
 ón uair tánic a lond-láth:
 Bran ocus Senach is Sen,
 is desin dorochratar.

30

Dorochair in lía 'sin lind,
 dia ndernad enech fial-Find:
 iarum nochonfagaib neeh,
 conách é in sét somainech?

Fongeib ingen, comul nglé,
 dianid comainm Bé Thuinde:
 focéird a coisslíasait cóir
 treana aurdrolam nderg-óir.

40

Co motarraing súas iarsin
 in lía sin cona drolaib,
 conidfargaib forsín tráig
 dia domnaig isin tiugnáir.

Secht mbliadna iarsin, sásad nglé,
 co tí lathe in mesraigthe,
 conid hé sin gním diatá
 dindsenchas in deg-átha. Áth.

DRUIM CRIAICH

CUAN ÚA LOTHCHÁIN *cecinit*

Druim Críach, céte cét cuan,
 ciasa díthrub, ní dimbúan:
 cid Druim Críach, ba Druim Cró,
 s Druim n-úar nAirthir i n-óen-ló.

Ágmar in t-áth, Áth Commair,
 asar'dáiled deog thonnaid
 dona trí Findaib Emna
 óa n-athair ar óen-berna.

Find hurled his stone into the ford what time his fury-fit came upon him: Bran and Senach and Sen perished by that cast.

The stone fell in the pool where generous Find's honour was achieved: none finds it thereafter—is not that the precious treasure?

A maiden will find it—famous chance! whose name is Be Thuinne: she will slip her shapely foot through its hoop of red gold.

Quickly then she will draw it up, that stone with its chain-links, and leave it on the shore on a Sunday at the hour of matins.

It is seven years thereafter—famous fulfilment—till comes the Day of Judgement; so that is the deed whence comes the story of the famous ford.

DRUIM CRIAICH

Druim Criaich, meeting-place of a hundred bands, desert though it is, the name perishes not: though it be now Druim Criaich, it was called Druim Cró and chill Druim nAirthir, once on a day.

War-beaten the ford, Ath Commair, whence a deadly draught was poured for the three Finns of Emain by their father, at one assault.

30. *ón*] an S *uair*] lo M *a lond-láth*] a lonnath S ann sech each Le
 31. *Senach*] senan LeS₃H *is*] na Le an S 32. *dorochratar*] adrochradar
 etc SS₃H 33. *in lia*] a lia M 34. *enech*] ænach Le 35. *nochon-*
fagaib] noconadaib Le nochafagaib etc MS₃H 36. *conách é*] conuane M
Perhaps conacca 37. *Fongeib*] fogeib LeS 38. *comainm*] ainm M
 39. *cois-*] cas Le 40. *aurdrolam*] hurdlomar Le 41. *motarraing*] LeS
motairgairgceann M motairrngenn etc *cæt.* 42. *conid-*] conin S₃ cona
 M *fargaib*] *read fácaib forsín*] fora B isin LeS ara M 44. *isin*] is B
tiugnáir] tiugdhail S tiughair M 45. *iarsín*] uad Le ósin S 46.
ti] tic BLcMH *mesraigthe*] mesraithe etc LeMS₃H 47. *hé sin*] iarsin M
gnim] ní S 48. *deg-átha*] athasa LeS

Druim Criaich. LBLcMSS₃H *Ascription in L only* 2. *ciasa*] cersa
 Le cen cop L 3. *cid*] cia S *ba*] as S 4. *'s*] is L *om. cæt. n-úar*]
 nuair LLc naig B nait S nanaig (i *expunct.*) M nard S₃ nart H
nAirthir] airther M *i n-bén-ló*] on aen ló etc LS 6. *asar'dailead*] asrodailead
 etc BMS₃H *thonnaid*] tondaig B tannaigh M 7. *tri*] tribh S₃ 8. *óa*
n-] can L on etc *cæt.*

Ard each n-écht dorochair and,
ard a slondud na sáer-chland, 10
ard in coseur, ard in cath,
doralá do ríg Themrach.

A thrí maic táncatar riss
ri Eochaid firén fid-liss:
gním dia tánic dóib díbad,
a ndeg-athair d'athrigad.

A hEmain éirgset na slúaig
dar Loch Febail, dar Ess Rúaid,
dar Duib, dar Drobais, dar Dall, 20
dar Slicech, dar sen-Chorann,

Dar Segais súas, im-Mag Luirg,
im-Mag nÁi erectais fuidb,
i clár na Crúachna cróda
na trí catha commóra:

Cath im Lothur, cath im Nár,
cath im Bress, fors' tardad sár:
trí trichait céet each catha
co n-arm-scíathaib il-datha.

Andsin dosfarraid Clothru;
(eía dub-dál, ropo dochlú,) 30
siur Breiss is Náir is Lothair,
ingen Echach il-chrothaig.

Co rosbrée dia póic pheeda
do saighthin a comleptha,
combad ole a fír catha
i n-agaid a n-ard-flatha.

Proud was every slaying that there befell, proud the name of the noble line, proud the spoil, proud the battle that fell to the lot of Temair's King.

His three sons came against him, against upright Eochaid of the forest-keep, to dethrone their good father—a deed that caused their own destruction.

From Emain set forth the hosts over Loch Febail, over Ess Ruaid, over Dub, over Drobais, over Dall, over Slicech, over old Corann,

Over Segais above, into Mag Luirg, into Mag nAi, that they strewed with spoils, into the plain of bloodstained Cruachain, marched the three armies in equal strength.

An army with Lothur, an army with Nár, an army with Bress, on whom a wrong was wrought: thrice thirty hundred to each army with many-coloured shields.

Then Clothru overtook them, the sister of Bress and Nár and Lothur, the daughter of well-graced Eochaid: though a darkling tryst, it was shamefully known.

She coaxed them with her sinful kiss to seek and share her bed, that their fair cause might be foul in battle against their High King.

-
9. *cach n-écht*] L intecht etc LeS *cach echt etc cæt.* *dorochair*] BS₃
darrochair L *adrochair* etc LeMH *doronadh* S 10. *ard*] *arda* B
slondud] *socair* BM *sochar* S₃ *sochair* H *slechtadh* S 12. *dorala*] *robrostadh* S *do rig*] *la ri* S 14. *ri*] L *re* BLc *fri cæt.* *firén*] *fidren* Le
fid-liss] *firdhis* S 15. *dibad*] *dibad* Le *dibdad* L *dígal* etc *cæt.* 16.] *anathair do athríghadh* S 17. *A hEmain*] *A emain* L *for emain etc cæt.*
éirgset] *erctais* etc BMSS₃H 18. *dar... dar*] L *for... tar* Le *for... for cæt.*
19. *dar... dar... dar*] L *for... for... for cæt.* 20. *dar... dar*] L *for... for cæt.* 21. *Dar*] L *for cæt.* *im-*] *for M i* BLc *a SS₃* 22. *im-*] *L is for LeS for cæt.* *nÁi*] *nan* L *erctais*] *eresat* L *ercadais* S₃H *fuidb*] *buirb* LLc 23. *i clár*] L *is for LeS i* mag etc *cæt.* *na Crúachna*] *mag cruachna* Le *magh Cruachan* S *cróda*] L *cora* etc *cæt.* 24. *na trí*] *na ttri* S₃ *catha*] *cathaib* etc MSS₃ (*perhaps rightly*) *commóra*] *comhroma* (*altered by original hand from comora*) S 26. *sár*] *far* B 27. *trí*] L *se cæt.* *trichait*] *tricha* etc LBS₃ *xxx ad M* *cét cach*] *gacha* S 28. *có*] *cona* S₃ *il-datha*] *illatha* M *ardlatha* Le *ardflatha* S 30. *cia*] *ciab* B *dub-* *díbh* etc SM *-dál*] *dam* etc LLc *dochlu*] *dochru* LLc *dochla* S₃ *dochlai* H 32. *Echack*] *ech* Le *fiachach* S *il-chrothaig*] *fial* *scothaigh* S *finn* *scothaigh* etc MS₃H 33. *dia póic*] *dá paic* L *phecca*] *feetha* B *pheacaigh* S 34. *dó*] *dia* S *saighthin*] L *rochtain* Le *riachtain* etc *cæt.* *a*] *na* S 35. *comba*] *conadh* S *comba* M *ole*] L *é* S *meidi* M *meisti* etc *cæt.* 36.] *roscoirp* Clothra a *cæmdata* etc BH *roscoirp* clothra *cæmdatha* etc MSS₃ a *n-*] in Le

Cingset assin Chrúachain chrúaid
 túathbel nÉrenn dar Áth Lúain:
 lotar ar fut Midi maiss
 dar Áth Féne, dar Findglaiss,

40

Dar Gort Tarsnu, dar Gort Druing,
 dar Glais nElta itir dá druimm;
 Druim nAirthir, imluaitis eich,
 ba hainm dó ria nDruim Crëich.

D.

Orru ria techt dar Druing tair
 cunchis ossud on athair
 co cend mís can chreich cen chath,
 ri telcud no ri giallad.

Ba gabáil etma don rí
 immar tharras ina thír:
 acht trí cert-trichait cét cain
 ní fúair tóir ná tessarcain.

50

Tricha cét airech n-arsaid,
 tricha cét do chomamsaig,
 tricha cét ó múr immach
 do cholomnaib na Temrach.

Fir na Temrach da leith chlí,
 's é féin ar medón in rí,
 a amais da leith for deis:
 ní thart ócu i n-éisleis.

60

Cechaing Eochaid don chath chass
 ósin co Commar Dá Glass:
 isin chnuc fri háth anair
 tarblaing flaith fíren Fabair.

Anais re troscud andsin
 rí Hérenn in n-aidehi sin:
 garit ó Chommur co Delt
 re tochell re techtairecht.

They marched from stony Cruachain left-hand-wise round Erin, over Ath Luain: they came through the breadth of pleasant Meath over Ath Féne, over Findglais,

Over Gort Tarsna, over Gort Druing, over Glais Elta between two ridges; Druim Airthir, where coursed the steeds, was its name, before it was called Druim Criaich.

Before they crossed Drong eastward their father asked of them an armistice for a month, without raid or battle, with hostages or with sureties.

It was a chance to attack the king where he was overtaken in his own land: save just thrice thirty hundreds fair he found no support nor succour.

Thirty hundred of veteran captains, thirty hundred of led soldiery, thirty hundred forth from the rampart, from the garrison of Temair.

The men of Temair on his left side, the king himself in the centre, his hired troops to his right hand: he did not slight the youthful warriors.

Eochaid marched to the serried battle, thence to Commar Da Glas: on the hill east of the ford dismounted the upright chief of Fobar.

There the King of Erin halted, fasting, that night; it is a little way from Commar to Delt for a journey or a message.

37. *Cingset*] cindsead Lc cinsid S *assin Chriúachain chriúaid*] as co cruachain cruaid S 39. *ar fut*] arud Lc 40. *Féne*] fine M féne is S 41. *Gort . . . Gort*] L glais . . . ath B glais . . . glais *cæt. Druing*] L cruind etc *cæt.* 42. *Glais*] g. L *nElta*] mellta Lc 43. *imluaitis*] roluaid dis Lc roluaidh-dís S imluaidhit S₃H 44. *ba hainm dó*] fa he hainm Lc ba hé a ainm sin S ba he a hainm M 45-48.] in L only 46. *on athair*] read a n-athair 49. *etma*] om. M fedhna S *don rig*] do ri Lc 50. *immar*] ima H *tharras*] L tarraid sair B tharistair Lc tarrasdair etc MS₃ tárrastar S tarrusair H *ina*] L na *cæt.* 51. *acht*] is LeM *trichait*] LH tricha etc *cæt. cain*] thair Lc 52.] ni uair ann da escain Lc *tóir*] tír L thair M ná] dia S 53-56.] All texts but L put 53, 54 after 56 53. *n-arsaid*] airrsaid etc LeSH 54. *chomamsaig*] L caemhamsaimh M caemamsaib etc *cæt.* 57-60.] in L only 61-64.] not in L 61. *don*] do S 62. *ósin*] asin etc LeS *Dá Glass*] dathghlas S₃ 65. *Anais*] ed. antais L fuapraid etc *cæt. re*] L iar B ar SS₃H ard LeM 67.] L im dail mis ba mor in mod etc BSS₃H im dail milis fa mor mod Lc an dail mis ba mor an mod M 68.] L rotinol na rotelgon B rotinol rorotealchon M re tinol no ré tealgodh etc SS₃ re tinol re timsogud Lc ratinol (n)o ra(t)éal . . . H

Rothreissetar a throscud
a thrí maic co míchostud:
ráidset friss, faichled in cath
isin matin imbárach.

70

Atbert in techtairi thair
ri ríg nHerenn, re Eochaid:
'A sein, chucaib na firu,
na bíd in far marb-ligu.

'Bress aness, immar atá,
do throit risna colomna,
Lothur chucut-su rosaig,
ocus Nar cussin n-amsaig.'

80

Nertmar atbert Eochaid and,
'Beti mar tát a n-anmann:
Bres, bid bres bréici, cid bras,
bid fadb lemm Lothur leth-glas.

'Bíd nél do Nár, ní ba nert,
tíachtain chucum-sa dar cert:
sech ní gébat ní ragat
in saithe seng sen-lenab.'

Lotar sair na slúraig aníar
co moch mar atracht in grían,
cor' chomraicset na catha
i fiadnaisi ind ard-flatha.

90

Dorat Eochaid, scíath ri scíath,
a thrichait cét fer find-líath
i cert-medón ind átha
ina thoraind tress-brátha.

They violated his fast, his three sons ill-disposed: they bade him look for battle on the morrow's morn.

Said the eastward scout to the King of Erin, even to Eochaid: 'Old man, the men draw toward you: lie not in your bed of death!

'Bress on the right, as he is posted to fight with the guards of Temair, Lothur makes toward thyself, and Nár toward the hirelings.'

Stoutly then answered Eochaid 'Let them be like their names! Bress shall be a lying noise, strong though he be, Lothur Half-grey shall be a spoil for me.

'It shall be a cloud over Nár, and not a deed of might, that he comes against me unrightfully: they shall not take me, nor go hence, this lithe swarm of grown children.'

Eastward came the hosts from the west, early, when the sun was risen, and the battle-ranks encountered in presence of the High King.

Eochaid set, shield to shield, his thirty hundreds of greybeards in the midmost of the ford, in the lists of deadly strife.

69. *Rothreissetar*] rothrecsetar B roleicsetar L rotresetar (?) H rotresidar etc LeM rotreisistar S atreisetar (*in titura*) S₃ *throscud*] thrascud L throscad B troscad etc *cæt*. 70. *co michostud*] co minchastad Le cambái in castud L go micoscdod M 71. *ráidset*] maidset L raid M *faichled*] faichlig etc LeSM faichle S₃ 72. *matin*] L matain sea etc *cæt*. 73-80.] in L only 81-92.] In L the order is: 85-88, 81-84, 89-92: in all other texts: 89-92, 81-84, 85-88 81. *Nertmar*] L fortrén etc *cæt*. 82. *Beti*] beit S₃ bet H *mar*] feib etc BMS₃H a] bar S 83.] L bid Bres brege leam bres bras etc *cæt*. 84. *leth-glas*] læb glas Le 85.] L Nár ni geba ni racha etc *cæt*. 86.] L bid nar ic tabairt catha etc BMS₃H oc tabairt in tren chatha Le ic tabhairt an ard chatha S 87.] L *sech* ni racat ni gebad etc BS₃ acht ní racat ni gebat H ni rachad is ni rachad Le ni rathad is ni gebad M ní rachad an dream a fad S 89. *Lotar*] L soiset etc *cæt*. 90. *atracht in*] atracht L datracht in Le *Perhass* ataracht 91. *cor*'*chomraicset*] cu rachomraicset L co comrancatar B cu comrancad M co rancadar etc LeS go comhrainic etc S₃H 93-96.] after 104 L 93. *sciath ri*] fri sciath B 94. *a thrichait cét*] a tricha cet L a trichaid cet etc BS₃ a *turch.c.* H a tri chæcaid etc LeMS 95. *ind átha*] a chatha S 96. *ina*] imar etc BLcMH *thoraind*] toraind etc BMS₃H *tress-brátha*] tren bratha LeS₃ *thromratha* S *illeg.* in H

Rofích Bress dar in sruth sáir:
 raléicset na colomain:
 ba d' imnegud maic in rí
 cuná romaítis mígním.

100

Maith dochúatar dar sruth síar
 amais Echach, diarbo mían,
 i cend in chatha imbaí Nár
 cor' chursetar a dergg-ár.

Soíset síar na slúraig uile
 mar atracht in deg-duine:
 rofácsat ocht míli mart
 ónd áth cosin n-áth-longphart.

Ní deochaid Eochaid dar ár:
 frith nech dia lenmain co lár:
 acht trí nónbair imma chlaind
 slaittea na slóig co Sinaind.

110

Nónbur díb dar Snám Dá Én,
 im-Mag Find, dar Áth Fir Fén,
 co Dún mBreiss, i torchair Bress,
 fri Loch nOrbbsen aníardess.

Nónbur aile dar Áth Líac
 sech Loch Dechet immatíat,
 cosin tráig ósin tur thrumm,
 co tír in Náir i nUmall.

120

Bress fought his way across the river eastward, the guards of Temair let him come: it was to spare the king's son, so that they might not boast of an ill deed.

Bravely advanced, westward across the river, Eochaid's hirelings, eager to fight, against the battalion where Nar was, and wrought red havoc among them.

All the hosts turned and fled westward when the brave one arose: they left eight thousand dead between the ford and the camp beside it.

Eochaid went not beyond the battle-field: enough were found to hunt them home: save for three bands of nine, guarding his sons, all the hosts were smitten as far as the Shannon.

One band of nine fled across Snám dá Én into Mag Find, over Áth Fir Féne, to Dun Breiss, where Bress fell, to the south-west of Loch Corrib.

Another nine fly over Áth Liac past Loch Dechet, round which they go, to the shore above the massy tower, to Tír in Náir in Umall.

97. *Roíich*] L *fidis* M *fichis* *cæt.* *dar in*] *dari* B *tara* LcM 98.] *ra-
léicset*] L *rolaigsead* Lc *roleicset* etc *cæt.* *na*] in B *colomain*] *colom* B
coimhlenmhain S 99. *ba*] *bad* B *d' innegad*] *dimnigad* L *denmnedaigh*
S₃ *dimnegaib* H *imned* B *maic*] *m̃c codd.* *in*] i Lc 100. *cuná romaitis*] L
na *ramaiditis* etc BLeM *ná romaighitís* S *coromaidhtis* a S₃ *illeg.* in H
102. *amais*] *amsach* BMS₃ *amsaigh* S *illeg.* in H *Echach*] *erend* Lc *each* M
103. *i cend*] L *co lár* etc *cæt.* 104. *cor' chursetar*] L *coralsatar* etc
BMS₃H *corolasad* etc LcS *a*] an LcMSS₃ *illeg.* in H 105-108.] *om.* B
105. *Soiset*] *soichsead* Lc 106. *mar atracht*] *ó trácht* L 107. *roíacsat*] L
L *marbthar dib* etc LcS₃H *domarbtha* S *domarbtha dib* M *mili*] *om.* M
108.] *dibh ósin costa* a *longpart.* S *óná ath*] L *osin* LcS₃H *ohoin* M
109. *Ní*] *nir* M *deochaid*] L *teghed* etc BSS₃H *theacaid* Lc *theichidh* M
110. *frith*] *fri* S *perhaps rightly* *lár*] *tar facs.* of L: *doubtful* 112. *slaittea*] L
rosiacht Lc *roslecht* etc *cæt.* *na slóig*] L *in slog* etc *cæt.* 113-120.] *so*
L: *in all other texts* 115-116 and 119-120 are transposed 113. *dib*] *daib* B
114. *im-Mag*] L *dar ath* etc *cæt.* *Áth Fir Fen*] L (?) *but fir is doubtful* *mag*
finden etc BS *mag finn féin* S₃ *mag finnen* Lc *magh finen* M *mag finn*
... H 115. *co*] *do* S₃H *mBreiss*] *mbreisi* S *briss* L *i torchair*] *andor-
chair* Lc 116. *fri*] *re* L *aniardess*] *anoirdeas* Lc 117-120.] *after*
124 in all texts but L 118. *sech*] L *co* B *do* *cæt.* *Dechet*] LLe *teithet* H
teched etc *cæt.* *immatiat*] *dú atiad* S *minathiat* M 119. *ósin*] *cosin* F
tu] *tes* S *tír* etc S₃H *om.* M *thrumm*] L *tall* etc *cæt.* 120. *in Náir*] L
inair etc BS *anair* LcMS₃ *indair* H

IN tres nónbur dar Ath Lúain,
ar fut Maige Ái úair,
dar Cera co Cléith na Cor:
rolensat na léith Lothor.

Dorochratar de na Find,
robenta díb a trí cind:
daruacht each cend díb fo leith
re n-aidechi co Druim Críeich. D.

Ar n-aicsin dó na trí cend
trén dorairngert rí Hérend 130
bríathar comailter co gnáth,
cía beith nech dianid ingnáth.

Nach gébad nech, gembad gar,
Temraig dar éis a athar
can rígad eturru neich
ón dáil sin Dromma Críeich. D.

Gním da gnímaib da gletin
Dromma Críeich iar cretim,
dar fasaiged Mide mall,
da roinnarbad Domnall. 140

Dorala buachail Banba,
ba mac rí, ba rig-damna,
ic comét na crích rochar
ar ndíth a da deg-brathar.

Ba dál ri dithrub ndemin,
ba hatod ri hoen-tenid,
ic comét Mide maic Flaind
do Maelsechnaill mac Domnaill.

Randílsigset a charait
acht Críst can nach cumtabairt, 150
cu nad ace rašir crech
u Dubán o Druim Dairbrech.

The third nine fled over Ath Luain across chill Mag Ái: past Cera to Cliath na Cor the greybeards followed Lothor.

So perished the three Finds: their three heads were struck off: each head came separately before nightfall to Druim Criaich.

When he saw the three heads, the king of Erin made a solemn vow—a word that is duly fulfilled, though there be some to whom it is unfamiliar:

That none, even for a little while, should possess Temair, in succession to his father, without another king reigning between them, after that encounter at Druim Criaich.

One of the events, in the warfare of Druim Criaich, since the Faith came, was when all Mide was laid waste, when Domnall was banished.

It happened that a herdsman of Banba, who was a king's son and a king's heir, was guarding the lands he loved after losing his two noble brothers.

It was verily an assembly in a desert, it was kindling fire from a single spark, for Malsechnaill son of Domnall to be guarding Mide, heritage of the son of Fland.

His friends forsook him (all but Christ, no doubt of it) so that he sought afar the spoil of Ua Dubán, from Druim Dairbrech.

121. *IN tres nónbur*] L nonbur aile etc *cæt.* 122. *ar*] dar etc BM *ful*] fat L ud Le *riair*] LB indúair *cæt.* 123. *dar*] L co LeS sech etc *cæt.* co] do BMSS₃H *Cléith*] chleith etc BMS Cor] con L (?) fer S 125.] L ro lenta anair na tri Finn S₃ ro lenta de na tri Find etc *cæt.* 126. *a*] na LeS 127. *daruacht*] L co toracht etc *cæt.* *dib*] L om. *cæt.* 128. *Criech*] criadh *ghre* S 129. *Ar n-aicsin*] ar nascin L iar fairesin S 130. *trén dorairngert*] cain rotharngir L ann dorairngert S trian dorangert M 131. *co gnáth*] co bráth S cia gnath M 132. *dianid*] L ris nach Le risbudh S risnad etc *cæt.* *ingnáth*] ingnad etc BMH 133. *Nach*] LLc ní S na *cæt.* *gébád*] gebha S *nech gembad gar*] L mac srethaib gal etc *cæt.* 134. *Temraig*] LB temair etc *cæt.* *dar éis*] indiaid etc BLcSS₃H 136. *ón dáil sin*] dun daim sin etc B(*with vel don dal in margin*)MS₃H ond aimsirsi S *Criech*] criaid Le *All texts but L end here*

Tanic i ndíaid a chrechi
 aníar ar slicht na srethi:
 ba comnart cuing dar Herind áin
 comrac in Guill is Gotáin.

Goll Temrach a thriúr ra thál,
 Gotán a nónbur, ba tár:
 baí triar i n-agid cech ċir
 do triur Maelsechnaill ard-mir.

160

Bái fer cechtar a da thóeb,
 Gotán 'ca guin, ba gním sáeb,
 imon Got, ciar chían ón chaill,
 darochair ra Maelsechnaill.

Ratheich cech oen robo beó,
 rofacbad Gotán don gleo:
 meraid co tí bráth don breith
 lecht Ui Duib i nDruim Chríeich.

D.

Fír nEchach Feidlig forúair
 nach gebtha riss comlund crúaid
 uair is do síl Echach uill
 do Maelsechnaill mac Domnuill.

170

Domnall mac Dondchada déin
 maic Flaind maic Melsechnaill feil
 maic Maelruanaid Ratha in Chraind
 maic Dondchada maic Domnaill.

Domnall ba mac maith re lá
 Murchada maic Diarmata:
 Dermait mac Airmedaig ain
 maic Conaill maic Subni maic Colmáin.

180

Colman mac Diarmata duind
 maic Fergus a maic Conuill
 maic Neill maic Echach na n-ech
 maic Muredaig maic Fiachach,

He came, seeking his spoil, from the west on the track of the convoy: the encounter of the Blind One and the Stammerer was an equal match, known throughout noble Erin.

The Blind One of Temair with his axe and his three men, the Stammerer with his nine—shame on them! there were three against each man of high-mettled Maelsechnaill's three.

There was a man on his either flank and the Stammerer stabbing him—the foul deed! as for the Stammerer, though it was far from the wood, he fell by Maelsechnaill's hand.

All the rest that were living fled; the Stammerer was left there after the tussle: till Doomsday shall endure the grave of Ua Duib on Druim Criaich.

Maelsechnaill found like fair play as Eochaid Feidlech—that none should face him in stern duel, for Maelsechnaill son of Domnall is of the seed of great Eochaid.

Domnall was son of keen Donnchad son of Fland son of generous Maelsechnaill son of Maelruanaid of Rath in Chraind, son of Donnchad son of Domnall.

Domnall was in his day the brave son of Murchad son of Diarmait; Diarmait was son of noble Airmedach son of Conall son of Suibne son of Colman.

Colman was son of lordly Diarmait son of Fergus son of Conall son of Niall son of Eochaid, lord of horses, son of Muiredach son of Fiachu,

155.] omit ba

180. Over Conaill is written .i. guthbind

Maic Carpri Liphechair luind
 maic Cormaic maic Airt maic Cuind
 maic Feidlimthe, ercad graig,
 maic Thuathail maic Fèradaig.

Feradach fechnach fer bend,
 darbo thuillmech tìr nHerend: 190
 nì geibtis Gædil nó Gaill
 ri mac Fiachach maic Crimtaind,

Maic Lugdech tri Find Emna
 maic Echach feidlig febda :
 Eocho feidlech rodosfeith,
 roderg dáim Dromma Críeich. D.

Tuatha Temra riss aness,
 ú Fhiachach re chalad-chness,
 Loch Lebind dond ara leith,
 is oibind de Druim Críeich. D. 200

Roías and óc-druth amra
 Lachtna mac Taidg hui Gadra
 is áibinniti fo deich
 Druim cáin cath-buadach Críeich. D.

Lonan ocus Fechin find
 Fechín is Lonan don lind
 dáib a ndís o dreich do dreich
 roerb Dia Druim Críeich. D.

Cuan ua Lothchan na lend
 eolach i ndeccraib Herend 210
 is é sloindes co suaire sein
 dind-sénchas Dromma Críeich. D.

Son of fierce Cairpre Lifechair son of Cormac son of Art son of Conn son of Fedlimid, who filled the stud, son of Tuathal son of Feradach.

Feradach the fortunate, the horned one, whom the land of Erin served for wages: neither Gaedel nor Gall could prevail against the son of Fiachu son of Crimthand

Son of Lugaid son of the three Find-Emna sons of wealthy Eochu Feidlech: Eochu Feidlech bided his time with them; he made red the gathering of Druim Criaich.

South of it dwell the tribes of Temair, the Ui Fiachach, tough of skin: on the other side is Loch Lebind, a glory to Druim Criaich.

There was bred a famous young libertine, Lachtna son of Tadg Ua Gadra: tenfold a glory is he to fair Druim Criaich, fortunate in war.

Lonan and noble Fechin, Fechin and Lonan of the lake, to those twain, from slope to slope, God entrusted Druim Criaich.

Cuán Ua Lothchan of the robes, versed in the wonders of Erin, he it is that sweetly tells the tale, the legend of Druim Criaich.

TUAG INBER

BARD MAILE *cecinit*

Túag Inber álaind, gáeth glass,
in eól dúib a dindsenchas?
in cualabair cen chaire
senchas Túaige tond-glaine?

Túag, ba taitnemach a dath,
ingen Chonaill Chollomrach:
rosalt asa ligi siúil
Conaire mac Etersciúil.

INmain leis a dalta dron
la rí nÉrenn, nírb úabor,
co tart hi Temraig na trét
slúag ingen dia himchomét.

10

Áes trí cóic mbliadna cen brath
roalt ingin a bráthar:
ní léictis fir duib ná find
chuici 'na gríanán glé-grind.

Ó rogabsat rí ríge
tochmarc Túaige tond-gile,
rochúala Manannán mass,
co roscar hi cét-šercas.

20

Cartais Manannán mac Lir
tehta úad dia hindsaigid
otá tech Manannáin múaid
fri Túaig Inbir anairthuaid.

Ainm in techtairi 'ca thig
ba Fer Fí mac Eogabail,
dalta do mac Lir na lann
druí de thúathaib Dé Danann.

TUAG INBER

Tuag Inber, lovely, grey-watered, know ye its legend? have ye heard aright the story of Tuag bright of skin?

Tuag (dazzling was her colour) was daughter to Conall of Collamair: Conaire son of Eterscéol reared her from her birth-bed.

Dear was his sturdy nursling to the king of Erin—not haughty was he: he set a company of maidens to tend her in Tara, rich in herds.

For the space of thrice five years, unharmed he reared his brother's daughter: no man, dark nor fair, had leave to approach her sun-bright bower.

When the wide-ruling kings began to woo Tuag, bright of skin, comely Manannan heard of it and loved her with his first love.

Manannan son of Ler despatched messengers to seek her from where mighty Manannan dwelt northeastward of Tuag Inber.

The messenger's name, in his home, was Fer Fí, son of Eogabal, fosterling to Mac Lir of the blades: he was a druid of the Tuatha Dé Danann.

Tuag Inber.	LBLeMSS ₃ HEdK	<i>Attributed in L to Bard Maile</i>	1.
<i>gaíelh</i>] a gaet B	3. <i>ín</i>] <i>n̄</i> B	<i>cualabair</i>] fetabair etc BEdK	<i>chaire</i>] mine
Ed bine K	4. <i>tond-glaine</i>]	toindgile EdK	toghaidhe S
5. <i>tailne-mach</i>]	hetrochtach etc LED	7. <i>rosalt</i>]	roalt LcEd
loighe H	laide M	luidhe S ₃	9-12.] after 16 K
LK	mor in modh Ed	can uabar Le	gan uamon etc <i>cæt.</i>
11. <i>co tairt</i>]	LK go taird Ed	dorad <i>cæt.</i> <i>hí</i>] co K	12. <i>himchomé</i>]
13. <i>Áes trí cóic</i>]	Áes trí chóic L	Re trí cuig Ed	Re trichat K
<i>cæt.</i> <i>mblíadna</i>]	bliadan K	cen brath]	co mblaid L
14.] ba	slan dingin a brathar etc BLeMS ₃ H	dingin Chonaill	chollamrach S
15. <i>ní leictis</i>]	nocho leigdís Ed	nir leged Lc	gan aighidh S
<i>ná</i>] no K	16. <i>chuici</i>]	dfaicsin S	glé-grind]
etc LcS ₃ H	17. <i>Ó rogabsat</i>]	marogabsat K	rocharsat S
ruigi Le	18. <i>tond-gile</i>]	tonnglone Lc	tæb ghile S
19. <i>rochúala</i>]	LK roscuala etc EdH	noscuala <i>cæt.</i>	20. <i>co roscar</i>]
corochar S	rocarsidhe K	nuscarand etc BS ₃ H	nosearcand Lc
<i>li</i>] i L	í Ed a LcS	ar S ₃ HK	ara M
21. <i>Cartais</i>]	L cuiridh Ed	<i>illeg. in M</i>	faidis etc <i>cæt.</i>
gusan inghin etc KS	gus inghin Ed	dia indsaigid etc LLe	23. <i>míaiá</i>]
mbuaidh etc EdK	24. <i>fri</i>]	re L	co etc BSEdK
<i>anairthuaid</i>]	aniartuaid M	26. <i>ba Fer Fí</i>]	ba fer hí K
fighail etc SS ₃ H	fer fingail M	27. <i>lann</i>]	lend etc LK
badrai Ed	Danann]	donand L	28. <i>drui</i>]

Atnaig in druí, mar rodlecht,
ir-richt óc-mná for imthecht,
cor-ránie in grianán nglan
i mbáatar ind ingenrad.

30

Anais in druí hi Temraig thind
teora aidehi oc Túaig théit-bind,
fo deilb mná dia muintir mais,
fo chórus chóir chomthanais.

'Sin chethramaid tráth, ba tróg,
canais bricht in druí dímór:
i n-aidehi lúain, col-lín mod,
tuc leis Túaig 'na trom-chotlod.

40

Dosrat fora muin, mét chless,
ocus roseind súan-traiges,
ó thaig Themra, cen taisse,
cor-rind Banba barr-glaisse.

Fosruirim 'na súan 'sin tráig:
luid d' iarrair ethair imláin:
dotháet in tond tuile tig,
báidis dia éis in n-ingin.

The druid, as beseemed him, turned himself into the shape of a wayfaring wench, and reached the bright bower where the girlish company abode.

The druid stayed in strong Temair three nights, with Tuag of the sweet strings, in form like one of her fair handmaidens, in fit order of fellowship.

At the fourth time, alas! the potent druid chanted a spell: on a Sunday night, with many an art, he bore off Tuag in heavy slumber.

He laid her on his shoulders—great his feats! and played a sleep-compelling strain: from the house of Temair he bore her, unflinching, to the point of green-topped Banba.

He laid her sleeping on the shore, and went to seek a well-built skiff: the fair flood-tide came and drowned the maiden, when he was gone.

29. *Atnaig*] L leices K doluid etc *cæt. mar rodlecht*] marba dlecht Le cengur dlecht K 30. *ir-richt*] arriecht K 31. *cor-ráinic*] guriacht (*supplied in later hand*) Ed *in*] gusin Ed 32. *i mbáitar*] áit irrabha Ed 33. *Anais*] fois B faidis etc LcSS₃ atnait K ... sig M *illeg. in* H 34. *théit-bind*] théithbind L theidbind etc LcMS₃ tétbind K taebseing etc EdB thaibhfhind S *illeg. in* H 35. *fo deilb*] irriecht etc EdK 36. *fo*] LEd i BM a LcSS₃H tre K *chorus*] LEd corus BS₃H corthair etc LcMS cairdes K *choir*] cóir etc S₃EdK cuir etc LBH a LcMS *chomthanas*] K comadhais Ed comthanas etc *cæt.* 37-40.] *illegible in* H 37. *Sin chethramaid*] L san cethramadh etc LcK isin cethramadh etc SS₃ in ceathramad B ... ceathramad M ceathramad Ed *tráth*] trá L adhaigh Ed *om.* MSS₃ *ba tróg*] gan clodh S truagh ceol Ed 38. *canais*] L canaid EdB imsauí K rochan etc *cæt.* 39. *i n-*] *om.* Ed *col-lin mod*] LS₃ colinand B rolin mod M mor in mod etc LcSK ba mor in modh Ed 40. *tuc*] L ruc etc *cæt.* 41-44.] *not in* Ed 41. *Dosrat*] dosriad B rogab K *fora*] ara LcMS *chless*] L ngles Lc cras K cles etc *cæt.* 42. *ocus roseind*] is roseafain etc MS₃H *súan-traiges*] suandargles Lc 43. *ó thaig*] áthaig L ota M *cen taisse*] gan tan taisi M 44. *cor-rind Banba*] L co bru Berba K go bun banda S co hor mb ... H co hor banna etc *cæt.* *barr-glaisse*] barraisi M 45. *Fosruirim*] forruirimh S₃ rosfuirim LcS fagaídh Ed fagbus K *'sin*] forsin LEd is Lc hí san K 46. *luid*] teit etc BEdK *iarrair*] LM iarraid etc *cæt. imldáin*] imslain etc LcEdK 47. *dotháet*] L doig Ed co tanie etc *cæt. in tond*] L tond in Ed tond etc *cæt. tig*] thigh BEd 48. *báidis dia éis*] gonosbaidh ulí Ed badhaigh dia eis K

Imthús in drúad, cen cor' dess,
 ó 'tehuala in droch-scél díless,
 rosmudaig Manannán mer
 úair nách ríacht leis ind ingen.

50

Inber nGlasgamna na ngním
 rop ed a ainm cen anfir
 co tánic díth mná meic Lir,
 conid de atá Túag Inbir. T.

Dodechaid Conaire cóir
 il-lurg a daltai dí móir:
 oirgis Elle is Lé malle
 i ndígail tiug-báis Tuaige. T.

60

Trí tonna hÉrenn uile,
 Tonn Chlidna, Tonn Rudraige,
 in Tonn robáid mnaí meic Lir
 tathig tráig ic Túaig Inbir. T.

Ba bec Banna, roboí tan,
 dia mbeth nech las' bad chuman:
 noslingtis mná is maic immach
 ria maidm lond locha Echach.

Eocho mac Maireda mais
 mac ríg Caisil chomadais
 roléic seirc dó 'na thír thend
 ard-ben a athar Eblend.

70

As for the druid quick Manannán slew him, though it was not right, when he heard his evil tidings, because the maiden came not with him.

Inber Glasgamna, famed for exploits, was its name, in verity, until the loss of Mac Lir's wife, whence it is called Tuag Inbir.

Upright Conaire came on the track of his mighty fosterling: he wasted both Elle and Lé, to avenge the fate of Tuag.

The three waves of all Erin: the Wave of Clidna, the Wave of Rudraige, the Wave that drowned Mac Lir's mate, that visits the shore by Tuag Inbir.

Small was the Banna, once on a time (if there were any that could remember): women and boys would overleap it, before the outburst of Loch Echach.

Echo, son of goodly Mairid, son of the shapely king of Cashel, on him in his strong country Eblend, his father's noble wife, cast her love.

- 49-52.] *om.* L 49.] K doluidh in drai nirbo deis Ed doluid in drai
 dia tes (thais S) etc BLCMSS_g *illeg. in M* 50. ó 'tchuala in] K adhe do Ed
 rodaluaid BS_gH rodoluid etc MS rodluaid in Le *diless*] dileis Ed dimes
 S_gH *illeg. in M* 51. *rosmudaig*] *ed.* romudaig K gorosmarbh
 Ed coromarbh Le rodusmarbh S nomarband etc BMH nonmarbhann S_g
 52. *úair nách*] o na B mar nach Le orna M arna S_gH *riacht*] K ríecht Ed
 ruacht B rue etc *cet.* *ingen*] ingen M 53-56.] *after* 60 K 53.
nGlasgamna] L nglais nglouna Le nglais nglanna M nglāa B ngalais
 nglonna Ed glais glonda K glais glonda H glais glanda S_g glais glenda S
ngnim] rígh K 54.] a hainm reime nír ainfir K *rop ed*] L robe Ed
 ba hed etc *cet.* *cen ainfir*] nochor ainfir Ed 55. *co tánic*] úair thanic L
 go toracht Ed *dith*] bás K 56. *conid de atá*] gurub de ata K dianadh
 comainm etc S_gH 57-60.] *after* 156 L *after* 52 K *after* 64 MS_gH *not in*
 BLcSed 57. *Dodechaid*] diandechaidh etc S_gH iarsin luigh K 58.
il-lurg] diarraig K *om* M 59.] ní caem cech ar imhaigh de K *oirgis*] L
 roairg etc MS_gH *Elle*] eile H *Lé*] leo M 60.] marēn re tidbas tuaighe K
 61-64.] *after* 160 LLc *after* 56 *cet.* 61. *uile*] aige L 62. *Chlidna*]
 tuaidhe S 63. *mnai*] ben Ed 64.] L tathaigid traig t. inbir B
 isin traig ig tuaig inbir Ed ocan traigh oc tuaigh inbir K conad di ita tuag
 inbir Le dianad comainm t. i. etc MSS_gH 65-*end.*] *om.* EdK 66.
las bad] resbad L risbod Le 67. *noslingtis*] rolingdis etc LeH *maic*] fir
 Le 68. *ria*] le B 69. *Echo*] Eochaid etc LeS 70. *chomadais*]
 cloidhimhglais S 71. *roléic*] dorad etc LeS *thend*] tind Le thinn S_g
 72. *ard-ben*] oicben S *Eblend*] aiblínd Le aibleand S

Eblend, ingen Guairi gil,
a Brug maic ind Óc adbail,
is uadl sin iar sine
atberar sláib nEblíne.

Eochu ocus Eblend ena
imgabsat maith Maireda,
élaít do lár Chassil Chaiss
co Brug maic ind Óc amnaiss.

80

Nirb úathad don dédiu díl
co n-almaib co n-indilib:
míle fer mór, maídít raínd,
seurset cen brón oc Bóínd.

Boí fer ara cind cen chess:
dlomais dóib da thír díless,
ocus marbais, mór ind neim,
a mbúar uile in n-aídchí sin.

Ansát dar ergaire ind fír
fescor d' adaig 'na tigib:
dotháet chuucu, foceírd úail,
marbais a n-eochu i n-óen-uair.

90

Iarsein atbert athesc n-ard
rí mac Maireda mór-garg:
'Mani díngbaid díim, chena,
mairfet-sa far muintera.'

'At móra th' uile rínd, a laích,
ar mac Maireda mór-gaith:
'ní rucam línd ar crod cain
iar ndíth ar ngrega glomraig.'

100

Co tart dóib Oengus cen fell
ech mór, mó d' echaib Érenn,
día n-idnacul ón Bóínd braiss
fa crud, cid cían noragtais.

Eblend, daughter of bright Guaire from the Brug of mighty Mac Ind Óc—from her, by old tradition, Sliab Eblinde has its name.

Eocho and . . . Eblend quitted Mairid's domain: they escaped from the soil of Cass's Caisel to the Brug of stern Mac Ind Óc.

Not alone went the loving pair, but with flocks and herds: a thousand tall men, verses proclaim, loosed their horses blithely, by Boand.

There met them a man glad of mien, who warned them off his lawful land, and slew all their cattle that night—sore the bane.

They tarried in spite of his warning all evening till nightfall in their houses: he comes to them, he utters a call, he slew their horses all at once.

Then he spoke a haughty word to Mairid's fierce son: 'Unless ye depart from me I will slay your folk as well.'

'Great harms hast thou done us, O warrior!' said Mairid's prudent son: 'we cannot carry our goodly chattels since we lost our bridle-horses.'

So Oengus gave them without treachery a horse, tallest of the horses of Erin, to escort them from broad Boand bearing their chattels, as far as they should go.

-
73. *Eblend*] Aebblend L Aibblend Lc *gil*] L glain *cæt.* 74. *a*] o BMSS,
maic ind Óc] Aengusa etc BS *om.* M 75. *iar sine*] ar sine L *iar sindi* B
iar saine S 76. *atberar*] adbar B 77. *Eocho*] Eochaid etc LcSS₃
eocho-BM *Eblend*] Aebblend L *ena*] nena L *enaigh* S₃ 78. *maith*]
iath B *mac* S 79. *éait*] etc LLc *lotar* etc *cæt.* *do lár*] LLc *di chlar*
etc cæt. 80. *amnaiss*] imtais B 81. *dón dédiu*] daneidiu Lc 82.]
cona almaib dinnilib L *cona nalmaib innilib* M 83. *míle*] L *im* B *in*
cæt. mór] *mor sin* LcS *maidit*] etc LB *moltais* etc *cæt. raind*] *rinn* M
85. *ara*] *fora* B *cind*] *cenn* S₃ 86. *da thír*] L *na tír* BM *o tír* S *a thír* S₃
a tír H *droch seel* Lc 87. *mór ind neim*] L *mor ineim* B *buan an ail* Lc
buan ind ail etc *cæt.* 88. *in n-aidchi sin*] anænmadain M 89. *Ansaí*] L
anaid etc *cæt. dar*] ar BLc *do MS ergaire*] *erngaire* B *aimhdheoin* S *ind*
fir] *om.* B 91. *dotháet*] *dotae* M *chuccu*] *anar* Lc *arar* M *an fer chucu*
S focéird] *focheirt* L *foët* H *focer*d S₃ *focheard* Lc *om.* S *úatú*] *arnuail*
S 92. *marbais*] *marbaid* etc BLcS₃H *marb*-M 93. *Iarsein atbert*] L
adrubairt etc BH *adubairt* etc *cæt. athesc*] L *a aithesc* etc BS₃H *do*
aitheasc Lc *tria aithisc* S *a heasc* M *n-ara*] *ard* L *naird* S 94. *ri*] *re* Lc
95. *dingbaid*] *dingba* LcM *dingmha* S *dím*] *dín* M *dínn* S *duin* S₃ *chena*]
tana M 97. *leich*] *laech* L 98. *-gaith*] *gáeth* LBM 99. *rucam*] *ruca*
etc MSS₃H 100. *iar náith*] *cán* L *glomraig*] *glomhrair* M 101. *Co tart*] *co*
tard L *dorat* etc *cæt. féil*] *ell* L *eill* M 102. *mór*] *ba* S *Read perhaps* *ech*
móu echaib Érenn 103. *idnacul*] *idlucad* Lc *iglucad* M *ón*] o MH *go* S₃
104. *f'a*] L *foa* HS₃ *fo cæt. crud*] *cradh* S *noragtais*] *nogabdaís* BLcMS

Atbert Óengus ilair ngal
 na roscurthea int ech ingnad
 noco lessed lige liuin
 i n-óen na n-iath-mag n-aníuil.

Atbert a chartad for cúl
 ind eich móir cosin mírún
 suil síled fúal, fechoir ngnás,
 arnach tísad a tiug-bás.

110

Dothiagat dia domnaig dil
 im-mís medóin fogamair:
 laigis int ech iar n-uide
 fescor lúain il-Líathmuine.

Ataig cách a chrod co cert,
 gatsat dind eoch i n-óen-fecht,
 ní thart nech díb, ba dál borb,
 agaid ind eich 'na athlorg.

120

Uair rofuirged and cen on
 int ech, dogní a immarchor:
 silis accu int ech angbaid
 corbo thipra is' trom-thalmain.

Dotháet Eecho, aille dremm,
 dogní tech inna thimchell,
 córaigis comlaid cen chol
 forin tiprait dia bádod.

Oengus of the many exploits bade that the wondrous horse should not be unharnessed till he should lie down forwearied in a meadow-land unvisited.

He bade them send back again the great horse of magic power, before he could shed his water in rude wise, lest sudden death should befall them.

They come there on a pleasant Sunday in the month of mid-harvest: the horse lay down after his journey at the hour of Sunday vespers in Liathmuine.

Each lays hold of his proper possession: they stripped the horse in a moment: but none of them turned the horse's head homeward—'twas a senseless business.

While the horse was halted there, harmlessly, it contrived to stray: the plaguey horse staled in spite of them so that it made a well deep in the ground.

Eochu, praise of troops, comes up and builds a house round the spot: he fixed a lid, without offence, over the well, to stifle it.

-
- 105-108.] in L only 109. *Atbert*] L adrubairt BH adubairt cæt.
a chartad] L a chur Le a cor etc cæt. for cúl] L ar cul etc cæt. 110.
ind eich] int ech Le móir] mor Le cosin mirín] conimad run Le sin gu
mirún S 111. *suil*] L siu cæt. síled] etc LeS₃ síled etc cæt. *fechoir*]
fethar MS₃ fetar H ngnás] ngnais LeM gnas BS₃H 112. *arnach tísad*]
L arna tísadh de S ar tísad de BS₃H ara tísad de M is na tísad de Le
113-116.] after 120 all codd. but L 113. *Dothiagat*] L atagad B atagat H
adaghad S₃ atad M adnadat Le adnadh S *dia domnaig díl*] L for conair
cain etc cæt. 114. *im-mis*] a mi Le mí S *medóin*] imédoin B *yogamair*]
fogmair LB in fhoghamhair S an foghmair etc MS₃H 115. *laigis*]
luidis S₃H *int ech*] aneich B 116. *fescor lúain*] isin luan M *il-Liath-*
muine] oc liathmuine etc BM 117. *Ataig cách a chrod*] ed. ataig cach cá
ord L adagad a crod etc BS₃ atagat a crodh H atadhad a crod M adadat
di a crod Le adragad di a crodh S 118. *gatsat*] L cadait Le gadaid
etc cæt. *dind eoch*] dia neoch etc MSS₃H dia neochu B 119. *dál*] L
bag B bad Le baid etc MS₃ baigh H béd S 120. *'na athlorg*] dia
rithlorg M na frithlorg etc SS₃H 121. *rofuirged*] L deillig etc cæt. and]
L andsin etc cæt. 122. *a immarchor*] imurechor etc BM animochar Le
a imaghor S 123. *silis*] silid etc LeS *accu*] seocco B (*perhaps rightly*)
fual S 124. *corbo*] gur S₃ is] LLc as H i B a MS. fo S₃ 125.
Dothaet] L adnaid etc cæt. *Eochu*] eachaidh etc S₃H dremm] a dremm etc LM
drend etc BS₃H 126. *dogní*] doní L *tech*] a teach M athech S₃
itech (?) H *inna*] na LS₃ 127. *chol*] chor Le 128. *forin*] forsan H
bádod] dibad B

Atnaig Eochu i cocud crúaid
ri claind Rudraige rorúaid :
rannais ri Muiredach menn
ard-rígi n-Ulad n-Érenn.

130

Airechas nEchach iarsin
sáegul nóidecdai i nEmain :
ataig col-láechraid Line
úair thánic dó a thairngire.

IN tipra thall ina thaig,
óen-ben and 'ca athigid :
fecht ná rosiad in ben búan
atracht Lindmuine lind-úar.

140

Ó rolín topor tuile
lergga lána Líathmuine
bádis Eocho cona chlaind,
acht mac dia ngairthea Conaing.

Conid ó Chonaing cen chess
rocinset in chland chomdess,
Dál sáer Selle, slúag cor-rath,
ocus Dál mBúan mbendachtach.

Bennacht for ordan maic Dé,
rolethnaig ler Líathmuine :
is desin atá in gáeth glan,
loch maic Maireda Muman.

150

Maidm locha Echach na n-ess
cét iar ngein do Día díless
dorat bríg don Bannai bil
dar cech tír co Túaig Inbir.

T.

Rop sen in flaith, fegait raind,
tairnec i nAiliuch oebind,
.Níall, rodnerta Dia de nim
don táib thíar do Thuaig Inbir.

T.

160

Eochu departs to stern strife with red-stained Clann Rudraige: he divided with Muredach Menn the overkingship of the Ulaid of Erin.

Eochu's chieftainship lasted thereafter nineteen years' space in Emain: he fared forth to the soldiery of Line, what time the prophecy was fulfilled for him.

The well being in his house yonder, with a woman there, watching it, one day that the worthy woman left it open, up swelled the cold depths of Lindmuine.

When the flooding fount had filled the brimming levels of Liathmuine, it drowned Eochu with his children all but the boy that was called Conaing.

So from Conaing, glad of cheer, sprang that seemly line, noble Dal Selle—a prosperous people, and Dal Buan, rich in blessings.

A blessing on the worshipful Son of God who spread abroad the sea of Liathmuine: hence comes the bright mere, the lake of Mairid's son from Mumu.

The outburst of Loch Neagh of the rapids, a hundred years after the true birth of God, gave force to the strong Bann to cross all lands as far as Tuag Inbir.

Long live the chieftain Niall—verses admire him—who has come to lovely Ailech! God send him strength from heaven, on the western shore of Tuag Inbir!

-
129. *Atnaig*] adnaid etc BLcMS adnaigh S₃ *Eochu*] eochaidh S₃ *i*] L a M om. cæt. 130. *ri*] re Lc *fria* S *rori*aid] rindehruaid Lc 131. *ran-nais*] reannais Lc *ri Muiredach*] mac muireadha S₃ 132. *n-Ulad*] ulad etc LBLcS *n-Érenn*] nirenn S₂ airmem etc LcS 133. *Airechas*] aithreochus etc LcMS *nEchach*] eochach etc BLcS 134. *sáegul*] cioghal S₃ *noidecdai*] naigecda Lc *naideacha* M *naoiteacdha* S 135. *ataig*] L oluid etc BMS₃H *doluid* etc LcS *Line*] lindi Lc 136. *úair thánic*] L co tanic etc cæt. *a thairngire*] i tairrngire H 137. *ina thaig*] L isin tig etc cæt. 138. *and 'ca*] and coa L *occa* etc cæt. *athigid*] tathaigid etc LcS *hathighi* M 139. *ná rosiad*] narsíad L *na rosia* B *na roiadh* S *in ben*] iben B 141. *topor*] tipra BM *tonna* S 143. *Eochu*] eochaid etc LcSS₃H 144. *acht mac*] L acht mad etc cæt. *día ngairthea*] L dairiu 7 BLc dairi 7 etc MS₃H airiu ocus S 145. *o*] on BMS₃H 146. *rocinset*] rocindset etc BS₃ *in chland*] i cland B 147. *Selle*] saille S₃ *cor-rath*] ga rat B 148. *mBúan*] mbuain etc LcS *mbendachtach*] mbennachtnach L *Mureadach* Lc 149. *ordan*] ordain Lc 151. *is desin*] L conid aire etc cæt. 153. *na n-ess*] na nech Lc om. S 154. *cét*] cet mblíadna L *iar ngein*] iarnaghen S *do Dia*] odia B *dúiless*] dúilech etc LcS 155.] doratadh in mbanna mbil S *dorut*] díř H *Bannai*] banba etc BMS₃H 157-160.] in L only

BENN BOGUINE

Fil dam aichne áige,
hi taithme treb Túaige,
cen bró-guine báire,
benn Bóguine búaine.

Fáth dia fúair in gairm-se
in each úair, ní hinsa,
lúaidfet im láid lebuir,
dáig is memuir lim-sa.

Fecht dia tánic sunda,
mar cach ngábit ngalla,
ón mnaí cen lúaig lumma
bó da búaiB dar Banna.

10

Flidais ainm na mná-sin
ingen Gairb maic Grésaig
ind fairenda fial-sin,
ben Ailella fésaig.

Co rothóed in bó-sin
dá lóeg ar in lúth-sin,
gnó garb, nárbu gnáth-sin,
bó ocus tarb don túr-sin.

20

Bátar didu denus
tria selus oc sílad,
dar cach fán nosfóelad
tucsat lán is línad.

Oen tarb ríabach rompu,
ba triallach fri tentu
oca mbáig ar búaraib
ar chúanaib ar chentu.

Mná blegoin nísbligtis,
fir dremuin nísbáigtis :
ciambad slúaig noslúitis
nísbrúitis nísbáitis.

30

BENN BOGUINE

In commemorating the homes of Tuag I take cognisance of a high place, a goal free from carnage, enduring Benn Bóguine.

The cause for which it got this name for all time I will declare in my long lay—'tis no hard task, for well I remember it.

Hither came, once on a time, as it were any foreign . . . straying from a woman, a beast of price, one of her cows, across the Bann.

Flidais was the woman's name, daughter of Garb son of Gréssach, that well-attended generous woman, wife of Ailell the Bearded.

That cow dropped two calves by reason of her haste (a sore business, and a strange one), a cow and a bull, in that travel.

Then for a certain season they multiplied by their . . . : throughout every slope that would support them they brought fullness and increase.

Before them went a brindled bull, forward to face danger for their sake against herds, against wolf-packs, against tame beasts.

No milk-maid milked them, no savage assailed them; though hosts came to hunt them, they quelled not nor quenched them.

Benn Boguine. LBLcMSS₃H *Much of L is illegible* 1. *dam*] damhna
 S₃ *aichne*] aichi Le *áige*] ágha S₃ *aige etc cæt.* 2. *hi taithme*] h . . . chme
 L *intaicme* B *ataicme* MS *ataithme* Le *itaithme* S₃ *i taichmea* H
 3. *cen*] cenn H *brí-guine*] breoguine LcS *báire*] *ed.* mbáire etc BSS₃H
 mbaigi Le mbaine M *illeg. in L* 4. *biaine*] uaine Le *om.* M 5.
Fáth] feacht S *dia*] fa M 6. *ni*] bus S 7. *luaidfet*] luaidfid etc BM
im] mo B *lebuir*] lebur L 8. *is*] ad Le *memuir*] memur L 10.
ngalla] ngilla Le 11. *mnai*] muig M *múaidh* S *luag*] luag etc LcMS
 15.] dobi sin re rogairm Le *fairenda*] aireala S 16. *fésaig*] ésecaidh S
 17. *Co rothóed*] S *corothæ etc* BLcMH *gorothaoth* S₃ *illeg. in L* 20. *bó*]
om. S 21. *didu*] dídhú S *dioghdha* S₃ *denus*] denais B 22. *oc*] cor Le
 co S 23. *fán*] san M *nosfoelad*] rosaelad (?) L *dosfælad* Le *nossæladh*
(in litura) M 24. *tucsat*] gabhsat S *linad*] lenad Le 26. *tentu*]
 tenntuib Le 27. *oca mbáig*] oca inbaid Le *oca mbaid* M *oga mbáidh* S₃
biaraib] bu . raig *(with 'vel b' superscr.)* L 28. *chentu*] centaib etc BS
 29. *nisbligtis*] niblidis Le 30. *dremuin*] demuin L *nisbaigtis*] nosbaigtis etc
 SH *nosraidis* Le *dospaigdis* M *oblit. in L* 31. *ciambad*] ciamba L(?)M
ciambaid B *slúag*] slúag LeM *noslúitis*] nosluidis LcMS₃ *no sluidhdís* S
nossluitis H *nosluigtis* B . . sluietís L 32.] in búar nísadbaidhdís S
 ni brudis ni baidis Le *-báitis*] baitis etc BS₃H *baidis* M *baigtís* L

In géimm garb nogéissed
 in tarb don beinn búain-sin,
 bó ní bíd 'sin tír-sin
 cen rísín in búair-sin.

Dešin batar marba
 búair Banba ba brogda
 dia chloisin cen aiscin,
 nírbo thaiscid torba.

40

Roboí ben 'sin bruig-sin
 co lín a treb taistil,
 Echtgal ingen Uatha,
 ben brúachda maic Baiscil.

Altrom íaram aicce
 ria ríarad cen ruicce,
 mac Néill co neim, agair,
 Fíach cadaíl is cruitte.

Dorat boin 'na beólu
 tresna seónu sóeba:
 Erce a hainm fri húara
 secht mbúada rosbróena.

50

Rogab bruth in bó-sa
 im guth in tairb thréin-si,
 corfácaib fo thiachra
 Fíachra mac ind Néill-si.

Roráid rissa muimme
 tria luinne co lonn-báig,
 'A Fíachra co n-il-búaid,
 notimlúaid fri tromm-dáil.

60

'Éirg hit rémimm rúathair,
 sir in nÉrinn n-áthaig,
 co tí in bó dia bó-threib,
 gnóthaig as mo gnáthaib.'

When the bull from that ancient hill belled forth his bellow there was no cow in that land but would wend to that herd.

Thereof did die the best of Banba's kine, by hearing, not seeing him: there was no saving of their increase.

There was a woman of that country, wandering from home to home, Echtgal, Uathach's daughter, Mac Baisgil's portly dame.

A nursling then she had who did her pleasure without shame, the son of doughty Niall, 'tis said, Fiach of the bag-pipe and harp.

He set a steer before her by his cheating charms: Erc was her name for times to come, seven blessings dropped from her.

This cow fell in heat at the voice of the mighty bull, and she left disconsolate Fiachra son of Niall.

Said his fosterer to him in wrath and in rage: 'O Fiachra of the many arts, bestir thyself to the encounter!

'Hie thee at headlong speed! search Erin with her fords, till the cow return to her stall, busy thyself with my wonted arts.'

33. *géimm*] gen (?) L *gem* Le *nogéissed*] nodgessid L nodgesed B 35.
bó ní bíd] ní bíd bo etc BMS₃ 'sin *tír-sin*] don buar sin Le 36. *risin*] LS
ruasin Le *risin* *cæt.* Probably *richtin* in *búair-sin*] an uairsin LeS₃ an uair
sin with b *superscr.* S and oair sin H in buar sin M 38. *búair*] buar
etc LeMSS₃H 39. *dia chloisin*] dia scaillsi Le *discaílsid* S *dia cloisi* M
dia claisín S₃ 41. 'sin *bruig-sin*] sa bruidin Le 43. *Echtgal*] L
echtach etc BMS₃H *ecda* Le *áine isi* S *Uatha*] uathaid Le *uath-* H
46. *ria*] ro LeM *lé S riarad*] riaraidh S *cen ruicce*] each recda etc LeS
47.] *Fíacho mē neill náraigh* etc LeS *co*] *cen* L (*hardly legible*) 48.] *fear*
in gabaid gresta etc LeS *Fiach*] *fiac* BH *fiaco* M *cadail*] *adail* M *cruite*]
cruichi M *cruice* H 50. *tresna*] *triana* (?) L *seónu*] *seodu* Le *sed na* M
sédo S *sóeba*] *særa* LeS 52. *secht*] *ocht* S *rosbréna*] *rosbrena* LB
nosbraena S 53. *bruth*] *brugh* M *bó-sa*] *bo-sain* etc LSS₃H 54. *im*]
re LeS *fo* H *thréin-si*] *tresse* B *treisi* M *trein sin* etc SS₃H 55. *cor-*
júcaib] L (?) Le *forfácaib* etc *cæt.* *fo*] *co* S 56. *Fiachra*] . . *acha* L
fiacha M *ind Néill*] *meil* B *ineill* Le *aneill* S₃ 59. *Fiachra*] B *fiacha*
etc LeMS *fiach-* etc S₃H *oblit. in* L 60. *notimluaid*] *gotiomluaidh* S₃ *fri*]
re S₃ *ra* H *ro* LeM *na* B *in* S *oblit. in* L 61. *Éirg hit rénim*] *eirg*
ad remind L *heirg id remhnim* (?) M *éiridh rémind* S *heirg hit erim* B
illeg. in L 62. *sir in*] *sir* *leat* LeS *sir im* S₃H *n-átharg*] *nathaig* etc LBH
athaid Le *uathaigh* M *fháthaigh* S *nfáthaigh* S₃ 63. *bó-threib*] *bóthaigh*
etc LeS 64. *gnóthaigh*] *gnotheich* L (?) *gnoteich* M *gnoteic* B *as mo*
gnáthaib] *as arngnathaidh* M *asmo gnathaig* Le *as mo gnathaid* (?) H *illeg.*
in L

Dochúaid iarma reime
 Fíachra, fer dar fuile,
 ón dreimm dó diaraile
 co beinn na mbó mbuide.

Ní bíd ní fo díchlith
 dia rusc ó brí brúachaig
 do sídaib nó šamlaib,
 d' almaib ocus d' úathaib.

70

Mar doríacht in mbeinn-si
 in caur cían cen choimse
 inna rith, réim roglach,
 ba toglach cen toirse.

Roslecht in rúad ruirech
 buidne na mbúar mbraineach,
 rosmarb dar cech mag-ar,
 ba calad a chlaideb.

80

IS din mart-gail móir-sin
 dorigni 'sind úair-sin
 ón bró-guine báin-sin
 Benn Bóguine in búair-sin.

Fíachu, fer na fuirec,
 eter triathu tairec,
 rostenn cen nach n-amarc:
 tá sund benn i faillet. Fil.

Thereupon he went his way, Fiachra, tried in bloodshed : from tribe to tribe he passed to the hill of tawny kine.

There was nothing hidden from his eye, gazing from the spacious knoll, of fairy-folk or fetches, of herds, or goblins.

When he reached this height, the peerless champion from afar, in his valorous career, he was untiring in slaughter.

The fierce captain smote throngs of the chiefest herds ; he slew them over every plough-land ; stout was his sword.

From the great cattle-killing that he wrought in that hour, from that bloodless butchery, is named Bend Boguine, from that herd.

Fiachu, he of the feastings and of banquets among princes, harried them, invisible : here is the hill where they lie.

65. *iarma*] *iarum* etc LeS *iarna* M *reime*] *reimib* M 66. *Fiachra*] *fiacha* etc LLcS *fer dar*] *fer is* Le *fearus* S: *perhaps* *ferais* 69. *Ni bid*] in mbi Le 70. *rusc ó brí*] *rusc o brig* B *ruscoise bri* Le *roscois brigh* M *rus coise brigh* S *ruse os brí* S₃ *ruse os brig* H . . *scob . . can be made out in* L: *rest of line obliterated* 72. *d' almaib*] *da linaib* B *do alinib* Le *do linaib* M *da . . . b L ocus d' uathaib*] *do thuathaib* Le *do uathaibh* S 73. *Mar*] ar LeS 75. *rith réim*] *rath rem* Le *rath reim* M *roth rem* S *raith reim* H *reimim* S₃ *roglach*] *roglan* BLcMS 76. *cen*] an S 79. *rosmarb*] *romarbh* etc S₃H *dar*] do Le 80.] *can anad can fuirech* Le 81. *marl-gail móir*] *monar mor* Le 82. *dorigni*] *doringni* L *dorindi* etc LeSS₃H *'sind uair-sin*] L *arna buaib-sin* etc *cæt.* 83.] *o brogaine in bá sí L bró-guine*] *bóbruighe* S 84. *in búair-sin*] LS *on buar sin* Le on uair sin *cæt.* 85. *Fiachu*] *fiachaidh* S₃ *fuirec*] *fuireach* etc LeM 86. *tairec*] L *taireat* etc BLcMH *tuiret* etc SS₃ 87.] *fostainten can achmore* Le *biaidh gan fell a fhoillís* S 88. *tá sund benn*] an aird treb Le *isin beind* S *fuil sunn benn* S₃H

SLIAB BETHA

Atchfú lecht deóraid do chéin,
fert fir threóraig fo thrúag-néim,
diarbo chomainm fo gnoí glain
Bith mac Noí co neim adbail.

Cethracha laithe ri lúad
doriacht in saithe snéd-búan
Érinn re ndílinn nduilig
'na ndírimm, 'na nderb-chuirib.

Ille doriacht Bith co mbáig
ina rith riana romnáib:
cóic mná fichet tria báig mbil
do mnáib ara muiridin.

10

Cid Bith, ní búan in balar,
rosfuc erith is congalar,
a mná fodéin claidset clud
isin tsléib dia adnacul.

Conid úad, ós retha rend,
fail Slíab Betha na mbúaball:
corp in danair, nárbo diu,
maraid fon charn adchí-siu.

A.

20

A Christ cen ehrith ós each eúan
nach arlaic Bith co bith-búan,
nirbam trúag hit treib thall trá
iar lúad each neich adchíu-sa.

A.

SLIAB BETHA

I behold the grave of a stranger from afar, the monument of a leader, crowned with sad splendour, whose name, bright in lustre, was Bith son of Noah, vast of vigour.

Forty days by tale before the doleful Deluge, to Erin came the shortlived swarm, a multitude, a numbered array.

Hither came Bith, skilled in battle, marching before his noble wives: five and twenty wives, by firm bond, made up his family.

As for Bith, the chieftain's time was short; shaking seized him and sore sickness: his own wives dug a grave on the mountain for his burial.

From him, high above the planets' path, is named Sliab Betha, the wild bulls' home; the body of the corsair, who lived not long, lies yet under the cairn thou seest.

O Christ, unshaken, above all coasts, that didst not abandon Bith eternally, be mine no sadness in thy dwelling yonder, when I have told of each thing I see!

- Sliab Betha.** BLcMSS₃H 1. *lecht*] sliab etc LeMS *deóraid*] *ed.*
 ndeoraig M ndeorad etc LeS deorad etc *cæt.* *do chéin*] icen Le aceín S
 2. *fo*] co LeS 3. *fo gnoi*] fo gne B congnaí S glain] nglain etc LeMS
 4. *adbail*] nadbail etc BLcS 5. *laithe*] lughe B l. agh (*a letter erased*) M
 6. *saithe*] snaithi Le saitei M *snéa-búan*] snebuan Le sneighbuan M sírbuan
 S 7. *Érinn*] eri Le re] iar M 8. *ndírimm*] ndirmaib Le -chuirib]
 BLc thuirib etc *cæt.* 9. *co mbáig*] combaid LeM 11. *báig*] baid etc
 LeMS 12. *muiridin*] cuiridin etc BMS₃H muídigin Le 13. *in*
balar] adbalar S 14. *rosfuc*] rofuc B rafuc M nosruc Le 15. *claidset*]
 claisett B claisid etc MS *clud*] cladh B(*m.s. above line*)S clod Le
 16. *isin*] isa B 17. *rend*] rand etc LeMS 18. *mbuaball*] mbuachall Le
 mbeimenn S₃H 19.] corp delbde in danfir dana Le in marb is a sam-
 hail so S cuirp inair narbu diu M diu] dú S₃ 20. *maraid*] is marb Le
adcht-siu] adchíu sa Le adchíu so S 21. *chrith*] crích etc LeS 22.
nach arlaic] naharlaic B nacharlac Le naharlaig M nacharleic S nartarlaic
 S₃ natarlaic H 23. *hit treib*] i treib BM a threb Le 24. *luad*] luag
 Le neich] neach Le

ÁTH NGRENCHA

Áth nGrencha, coímchlóifid ainm
do gním Chon, rúanaid rogairb :
fail sund gabuil cethri mbenn
do cheist for feraib Érenn.

Fail for dá mbeinn, mana n-áig,
cenn Fraích ocus cenn Fochnáim :
fail araile for dá mbeinn
cenn Eirr ocus cenn Innill.

Cethrur arad, érimm nglé,
maic Auraird maic Ainchinne,
aslúi a fuil fo lerga,
at ruamnaidi roderga.

10

Ogam fail sin gabuil glúair,
findat na druíde co húain :
is cía dorat innti in tsáin,
cía lín roscland hi talmain.

‘IN gabul gúr co lín gus
adchú sunda’, ar Fergus,
‘rothesc oen-fer, as mo chin,
do buille chrithir chlaidib.

20

‘Rosfuach is rosfuc ria aiss,
cid ed, nír b engnam imthaiss,
is dosfarlaic sí s iarsin
dia gait d’ fír úaib a talmain.’

ATH GRENCHA

Ath Grencha shall change its name through the deed of the Hound—that fierce warrior: here is the gibbet with the four points, a puzzle for the men of Erin.

On two arms, as token of battle, are the head of Fraech and the head of Fochnam: on two arms likewise are the head of Err and the head of Indell.

The four chariot-drivers—glorious career! the sons of Aurard son of Anchinn, their blood escapes across the fields; they are gory, encrimsoned.

The ogam that is on the shining gibbet, let the druids interpret perpetually! and tell who precisely set them thereon, and how many planted it in the ground.

‘The piercing gibbet, which cost many an effort, that I see here,’ said Fergus; ‘one man cut it, hail to him! at one flashing stroke of sword.

‘He sharpened it and bore it on his back: in sooth, ’twas no weakling’s feat; and then he pitched it in the soil for any man of you to pluck from the ground.’

Ath nGrencha. L(60)BLcMSS₃H 1. *nGrencha*] ngrena L ngabla
 LeS *coimchloífid*] claimchlaifid L clæmeloidfidh B clæchoigfid Le clæchoi-
 figh M cæmelofidh S caomheloidfidh etc S₃H 2 *gnim*] gnimuib B
 gnimrad M *Chon*] oh B *ruanaid*] ruaid ruaid M 4. *do cheist*] do theasec
 etc LeS do cest etc BH do ceast M *feraib*] flora S₃H 5. *for*] ara BS₃
 ar *cæt.* *dá mbeinn*] da bend LeS da beind B *mana n-aig*] mana aig etc
 MS₃ mbananaich S buan in daigh S 6. *Fochndám*] fochlaímh S₃
 7. *for dá mbeinn*] ar da mbeind L ara mbeind B for da beind Le for
 da bend S 8. *Eirr*] esre BS eisri M eirre L 9-12.] *om.* L
 11. *ashú*] asluid etc LeS 12. *at ruamnaidí*] etc BH ad ruam-
 naide etc MS₃ ad ruamannda Le na ruamandaibh S 13.] *Gá*
ogum sút ina taeb L *Ogam*] acom Le 14. *findat*] findaid etc LS
na druide] a druide L druidhe duin etc S₃H na heicis S *co húain*] co næb L
 cõmbuaid M ar nuair S 15. *is cia*] ca fer S *in tsain*] B intain Le
 iartain S innsin etc S₃H sain L sin M 16. *lin*] laim M *roscland*]
 rochland etc LeSM *hi*] fon B 17. *gúr*] út L gluair etc LeS *co lin gus*]
 co ngráin guiss L 18. *adchíu*] ita etc LeS atchisiu L *ar Fergus*] for F.
 BMS₃H bar F. LeS a Fherguis L 19. *rothesc*] rostesc L *as*] SS₃ ar
cæt. 20. *do buille*] daenbuilli B *chritíur*] crichid etc LS₃H 21.
Rosfuach] rostoc LeS *rosfuc*] rotuc Le rostue S 22. *cid*] gerb etc S₃H
om. B *nirb*] ni L *engnam*] airimh S 23.] *is dassarlaic síis arsain* L is
 rothease rosfarlaic sin Le 24. *gail*] beim S *d'íur*] fir Le *úaib*] uaibsi
 LM a] as L is Le

Aurard, romert isin maig
i carput Chruain is Chnámraid:
i Fán Chruáin forsín tslige
fofúair bás is bith-bíne.

Araid Orlaim, ardusefu,
i combuch i cróligiu
(mo chin rosmerta), m'fad ngann,
eter lechta is láem-anmann.

30

Aurard sund, cid mór a mag,
rolúaid brón in gabul glan,
forsa mbatar cind a macc:
robo thind int athchomarc.

Áth nGrencha a ainm, mad cose,
méraid la cách a chuimne:
bid Áth nGabla a ainm co bráth
ón gabuil adchí 'sin áth. A.

40

COIRE BRECCÁIN

Coire Breccáin, bail i fail
cen ettáil, cen imresain,
ní rís co m' éc ar mesca
in coire cét commesta.

Cethri mara fo míbal
cen bara fo bith-línad
as cech aird ecráit ille,
teclait isin sáeb-chuithe.

Anair anár, ní hettal,
muir n-Ore is muir n-úar-Brettan
condreacait im garg-blaid ngrinn
eter Albain is Érinn.

10

'Aurard he tricked on the plain in his chariot, drawn by Cruan and Cnamrad: at Fán Cruain, by the road side, he met death and destruction.

'Orlam's charioteers I espy, lying mangled in a bed of gore: hail to him who fooled them!—scant honour have they among monuments and beacon-names.

'Here is Aurard: great is his Plain, yet the shining gibbet stirred him to grief, whereon his sons' heads were set—sad was that greeting.

'Ath Grencha was the ford's name till now; its memory shall endure in all men's minds: but Ath Gabla shall its name be till doomsday, from the gibbet thou seest in the ford.'

COIRE BRECCÁIN

Breccan's Cauldron, where it lies, without . . ., without contention, may I never come till I die, drunkenly, to the Cauldron of a hundred measures.

Four seas, wrapt in gloom, ever in flood, unvexed, range hither from every quarter; they gather at the whirlpool.

From east and west—no passing gust—the sea of Orkney and the sea of the cold Britons meet for fierce eager fame betwixt Alba and Erin.

25-36. <i>om.</i> L	25. <i>romert</i>] romnert Le roneart etc S ₃ H	26. <i>i carput</i>] a charbad etc LeS
(edge cut) S	27. <i>forsin tslige</i>] forsin sligid Le isin tsli . .	
bith anim Le bith limhe M	28. <i>fofúair</i>] douair Le fouair S bás] bron Le bith-bine]	
BMH ardociú S ₃ andseo rochiu Le annso dochiu S	29. <i>Araid</i>] ard LeS ardusciú] ardosciu etc	
a chomoch Le i comuch M a comach S	30. <i>i combuch</i>] a	
rosmberta H dosmearta M rosmeartha S	31. <i>rosmerta</i>] rusmbertha Le	
<i>laem-anmann</i>] læchanam Le laechanmann etc SS ₃ H	32. <i>lechta</i>] lecht etc LeS ₃ H	
33. <i>a</i>] B in etc <i>cæt.</i>	33-36.] <i>om.</i> Le	
B	34. <i>glan</i>] gar M	36. <i>int athchomarc</i>] intotcomarc
37. <i>nGrencha</i>] ngrena L mad] ma S <i>om.</i> B	38. <i>a chuimne</i>] L	
a cuimne B ar chaimne Le ar cuimne etc <i>cæt.</i>	39. <i>a</i>] <i>om.</i> LeM	40.
<i>on</i>] din L adchi] dociu M adchiu S ₃		

Coire Breccáin. BLeMSS ₃ H	1. <i>bail i fail</i>] baile fail H	2. <i>cen</i>]
con S ettail] S ₃ edail B eatail LeS etail M ettail H	3. <i>ris</i>] sir Le	
šir S	4. <i>coire</i>] cair M cét] fo. c. B commesta] coimesta etc BMH	
comeasta etc LeS commeasga S ₃	5. <i>mibal</i>] bibal M	8. <i>teclait</i>]
tecaid Le teacraid M <i>illeg.</i> in S saeb-chuithe] saebcore etc LeMS	10.	
<i>n-úar-</i>] buan S	11. <i>condrecait</i>] congregaid Le im garg-blaid] in garbbad	
(?) M an garbhaidh S ₃	10-28.] <i>mainly illegible in H</i>	

Airm condreacait iar n-uide
na huisci, na hil-muire,
cuirít cor ndúaire, ce bé de,
cách díb im chúairt a chéile.

Fairsing in roth co rige,
adba troch fo thrúag-bine:
becc i n-óenfecht dia lánaib
slóg sáer-chert síl sen-Ádaím.

20

Ní fail ar bith, búan in t-ed,
óen-fer for rith rosroised
cúairt in choire, cor cen scís,
a hur co hor ri hóen-mís.

Cech flaith-fer fíal rofánie
ar cúlu ní comtánie
assa lár lecc-bán ille,
ó roching Breccán Bérre.

Breccán cen sam-thodáil sláin,
mac Partholáin in prím-faith,
rombáid a choícait long 'le
ílar tonn in tsáeb-choire. C.

30

Eól dam senechas na sruithe
for trebthas in trén-chuithe,
ó fil cech tráth ria thomus
in gairm gnáth, in glan-forus.

Atchúala Breccán mbladach
dianid lechtán lond-galach:
d' uíb Néill rothuill cech tellach
éim il-luing ri luath-chennach.

40

Breccán mac Maine, mét snúad,
rombáid in coire cith-rúad,
co fil fo thráig thruimm thuilltig
eter luing is láech-muintir.

Where meet after their journeying the waters of divers seas,
darkly they coil, howe'er it be, each of them about his fellow.

Wide spreads the circle, meet home for one doomed to wretched
fate: a small thing to fill it, all told, were the entire host of old
Adam's seed.

There lives not the man that would cover at speed—long the
space!—the Cauldron's circuit, from edge to edge, within a
month, a tireless task.

No generous chieftain that reached it ever returned hither
again from its white-paven floor, since Breccán of Bérré went
his way.

Breccán son of Partholan, that seer of old, drank no wholesome
draught: he was drowned here with his fifty ships by the crowd-
ing waves of the whirlpool.

I know the tale sages tell of the mighty whirlpool's home,
whence comes, to denote it perpetually, the familiar name and its
clear reason.

I have heard of famous Breccán, whose is the loud-roaring
grave—him that enriched every hearth of Uí Néill, busily plying
in his vessel a brisk trade.

Breccán son of Maine, rich in graces, the Cauldron drowned
with its red spray, and he lies under the heavy high-piled strand
with his ship and his valiant following.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 15. <i>ndúaire</i>] nuairc LcM | <i>ce bé</i>] cidh be S ₃ | <i>ciphe</i> etc BMH | 16. <i>im</i> |
| <i>chúairt</i>] ma cuairt etc LcS | 19. <i>becc</i>] beo Lc | <i>leó</i> S | <i>bed</i> M |
| 21. <i>in t-ed</i>] an segh S | 22. <i>rosroised</i>] nosrisead etc LcS | <i>dosrained</i> M | |
| 24. <i>co hor</i>] chore Lc | <i>oile</i> S | <i>ri</i>] ra B | <i>re</i> LcMS ₃ |
| | | <i>ria</i> S | 25. <i>flaith-fer</i>] |
| <i>flaith fir</i> Lc | <i>flaith fir</i> S | <i>rofáinic</i>] nosranic Lc | <i>rosrainic</i> S |
| | | <i>cosanic</i> M | 28. |
| <i>ó rochíng</i>] o rochínn S | <i>orochind</i> S ₃ | <i>corola</i> Lc | 29. <i>cen</i>] go S ₃ |
| | | | <i>sam-thodáin</i>] |
| <i>samthodhail</i> S | <i>samthogail</i> etc cæt. | <i>sláin</i>] saim B | 30. <i>Partholáin</i>] |
| <i>párrtholáin</i> S | <i>in</i>] im B | <i>-fáith</i>] aigh etc BMH | <i>faid</i> Lc |
| | | <i>faigh</i> S | <i>faidh</i> S ₃ |
| 31. <i>rombáid</i>] rombaig B | <i>robaid</i> etc LcS | <i>a choicail</i>] cæca Lc | <i>long</i>] leng B |
| <i>'le</i>] ille Lc | 32. <i>ilar</i>] ar lár S ₃ | <i>in</i>] ón S | 34. <i>-chuithe</i>] chluithi Lc |
| <i>cuichi</i> M | 38. <i>lond-galach</i>] lonn-glanach M | 39. <i>d' uib</i>] dua LcS | 40. |
| <i>il-luing</i>] re luing etc LcS | <i>ri</i>] do LcS | <i>ra</i> M | <i>re</i> S ₃ |
| | | | 42. <i>rombáid</i>] robaid |
| LcM | | | |

Cia rofalaig Breccán mbúan,
 maraid a ainm ri imlúad,
 cona ethur fo aire,
 fo threthun in tsáeb-chaire. C.

Ruibne trí rand in domuin,
 a cur and 'na n-urchomuir 50
 in tslúraig rosilad cose
 súail do línad in choire. C.

Doriacht sunn oígi do chéin
 fer co noibi d' uíb niam-Néill:
 co rolom rochinge de
 Colum cáid Cille in coire.

Dia ndechaid star co Cluain cáid
 Colum dían ri dúain Ciaráin,
 búar, eich adair, ór engach,
 ní ragaib 'na rochennach. 60

Acht trí duirn a húir deirg déin,
 muirn díamair rúin i rochéin,
 ed rothúir fria serc-bla sláin
 d' úir ligi leptha Ciaráin.

Mar fuair Colum ón chill chain
 fíach ná romill a menmain
 doríacht ass ar cúlu aníar
 co Mag n-Úru, nírb imchían.

And fuair dreim ndedgair n-ittich 70
 do demnaib fo dímiccin,
 slúag teichthech iarna tuba,
 cúan bresleach fo brón-guba.

Though it has buried unforgotten Breccán, his name endures in story with his bark and its burthen that lie beneath the whirlpool's stormy water.

The hosts of the three parts of the world, were they set there, side by side with all people that have yet been born, it were too little to fill the Cauldron.

There came hither a stranger from afar, a holy man of bright Niall's line: empty-handed he departed thence from the Cauldron, even holy Columcille.

When eager Columcille came westward to holy Cluain, with Ciaran's hymn, neither kine, nor dun horses, nor chased gold did he accept in recompense:

But three handfuls of red potent clay, a secret power mysterious in a far land—this he sought, for his loved spot inviolate, from the bed of clay where Ciaran lies.

When Colum obtained from the fair church a boon that seduced not his spirit, he came away back from the west to Mag Ura—no long journey.

There he met a busy winged crowd of demons in pitiful plight, a cowering reprobate host, a treacherous brood, dismally wailing.

46. *a ainm*] int ainm etc LcS 48. *fo*] re Lc in *tádeab-chaire*] in
tromthuile Lc na tromthuile S 49-52.] after 24 in S₃ 49. *tri*] tré S
50. *'na n-urchomuir*] na urcomair etc LcSH for aonchonair S₃ 53-56.]
om. S 53. *sunn*] om. BM supplied above line in S₃ 54. *niam*-] nua B
naim Lc 55. *rolom*] B rolonn etc cæt. *rochinge*] rochindi Lc 58. *dian*]
cian B *ri*] ro BM re cæt. *Ciaráin*] ciaran B 59. *eich*] B no eich S₃
na eich H na each Lc ná hech S an eich M *adair*] ed. agair BH aghair
S₃ agar M om. LcS *ór*] na or Lc na hór S om. S₃H 60. *ní ragaib*]
S₃H ní ragaib etc BM ní roghab S nochorgab Lc 61. *deirg*] S₃ *dēc* H
dē cæt. *déin*] dein BMH den Lc 62. *diamair*] dia reilg S₃ *rúin*] rún
S₃ *i rochéin*] BM a rochéin etc S₃H is rochen Lc is rochén S 63.
rothúir] rothúir S rosuir H *fria*] S ra MH fri Lc ro B a S₃ *serc-bla*]
sreabla M 64. *Ciaráin*] ciaran BM 67. *doriacht*] doroiš M *ass*] om.
LcS *ar cúlú*] ara chula Lc 68. *Mag*] .c. mag M 69. *dreim*] drem
etc BLcS *ndegair*] ndegair B deagair Lc ndeghdhair S *n-ittich*] nitich M
ndithigh S nithic Lc 70. *fo*] ní Lc 71. *teichthech*] B techech etc
LcH telcech M teichmech etc SS₃ *tuba*] thuba Lc 72. *brín*-] mor Lc

COIRE BRECCÁIN

Mar atchondaire Colum cáid
in slúag roland cen rath-báig,
dorn úire dia soithib sunn
rochuir foithib dia tafunn.

IN dorn aile, ba gním cáid,
rochuir fo choire mBreccáin :
a gail co timm rothaisig,
co fil 'na linn lán-maisig.

80

IN tress dorn, cen gním ngalair,
(mochin dian fonn fir-fálaig,)
roscail co comláir mo Chía
i relic Odráin aird-Hía.

Rosáerad Mag nÚru de
tresna rúnu rodemne,
in cóire co mongáir múir,
is Mag nOdráin, don óen-úir.

Itge togaim ó Christ cháid
ar rath Choluim is Chíaráin
m' áit ar talmain na trét te
ri flaith raglain cét cuire.

90

Coire Br.

BENN FOIBNE

Eól dam co soirbi sercaig
Benn Foibni maie Thairceltair,
in fáth dia fail, gairm cen acht,
a hainm is a hiarmoracht.

Ba nía nochráided cuire,
ba dáilem, ba deogbaire,
Foibne, feochair in fethal,
oc Eochaid ard alt-lethan.

When holy Colum saw the raging host, barred from covenanted grace, he cast among them, to disperse them, a handful of clay, here among their swarms.

The second handful ('twas a holy deed) he cast into Breccán's Cauldron: he made feeble and faint its fury, so that it is now a pool right peaceful.

The third handful, no causer of sickness, (hail to him whose harbourage is this ground!) my Saint scattered quietly in the burial-place of Odrán of high Iona.

Thus was Mag Ura delivered by the unerring spells, the Cauldron, with its roaring wall of water, and Mag Odráin, by one and the same clay.

I choose a boon, O holy Christ, by favour of Colum and of Ciarán—to have my place, after earth of the warm flocks, with the radiant Chief of a hundred companies.

BENN FOIBNE

Well I know, in pleasure and prosperity, the peak of Foibne son of Taircheltar, and the cause whence comes its name and its lore, a title undisputed.

Foibne, fierce of feature, was a champion who would harry a host: he was a spencer and a cup-bearer, serving noble Eochaid *alt-lethan*.

73. <i>atchondaire</i>] daconnaire M	74. <i>cen</i>] co B <i>rath-báig</i>] rathbaid etc
LcMS ₃ robáigh S	75. <i>dia</i>] fo B tri M <i>soithib</i>] soithdhib M
76. <i>gnim</i>] cor S	77. <i>fo</i>] for MS ₃ H
78. <i>fo</i>] for MS ₃ H	79. <i>co timm</i>] rothimm S ₃ nar tim H
80. <i>ngalair</i>] ngair M	81. <i>dian</i>] dia LcM <i>fir-falaig</i>] fin falaig B fir
82. <i>alaigh</i> etc LcM	83. <i>co</i>] mo LeS
84. <i>i relic</i>] nirleic etc LeS	85. <i>aird-Hia</i>] a airdia Le o airdhía S ardhía etc S ₃ H
86. <i>BM monghaír</i> S ₃ mongair etc <i>cæt</i> .	87. <i>múir</i>] mbuirb M
88. <i>don æmhuir</i> M donnaomhúir S ₃	89. <i>o</i>] a SS ₃ H
90. <i>ar rath</i>] arath Le araith M arraith S	91. <i>m' áit</i>] ed. mait B maith S maith <i>cæt</i> .
92. <i>tréi</i>] treid M thréd S ₃ <i>te</i>] tte S ₃ de BLcM	93. <i>ria</i>] BMH re <i>cæt</i> .
94. <i>flaith</i>] sluag etc LcMS <i>raglain</i>] roghlain etc S ₃ H nadbal LeS <i>cét</i>] in Le	
95. <i>cuire</i>] S ₃ cauire H core Le coire <i>cæt</i> .	

Benn Foibne. BLcMSS ₃ H	1. <i>co</i>] BM fri <i>cæt</i> . <i>soirbi</i>] foirbi Le
<i>sercaig</i>] B searcbaid M sercaid etc <i>cæt</i> .	4. <i>hainm</i>] ainm LeS <i>isa</i>]
isin M <i>hiarmoracht</i>] iarmoracht LeS	5. <i>nochraided</i>] rochraided etc LeS
6. <i>deogbair</i>] deaduini M	8. <i>oc</i>] o B

Dorigni gním ndedgair ndúr,
romid 'na menmain mírún :
nír b imfann i Temraig thair,
diar' marb Illand mac nErclaim.

10

Fer láma rí g Themra thair
Illand ergna mac Erclaim :
Erclaim mac Doithre géir guirm,
flaith na soichle a sléib Moduirm.

Doluid reime ar fu t Breg mbale :
rolen cách dia thetarracht :
dar cach mbeinn fuair a feithim :
nír bo greimm in gnó-theichid.

20

Fergna, fer gaí lethain lán,
fer co srethaib, co sáer-báig,
rolen cen táth as cach thur
co ruc ós chách a choscur.

Rogab a eill co harnaid
co Beinn Foibni imadbail,
co torchair in dáilem diss
la Fergna n-áir-mer n-úair-chiss.

Fail a ainm cen doilgi ar daig
ar Beinn Foibni il-bladaig :
don gním roscáiles im sceól
cía romaides, is mór-eól. Eól.

30

A Ísu, sínes cech sín,
nímthí mímes ná mígním :
a choimsid fínd-baile na fras
tindlaice dom aíb is eólas. Eól.

He wrought a deed sudden and fell: he hatched in his heart an evil purpose: he was no weakling, when in Temair eastward he slew Illand son of Erclam.

Henchman to the king of Temair eastward was Illand, Erclam's famous son: Erclam son of keen blue-clad Dothre was chief of hospitality in Sliab Moduirn.

He went his way, the breadth of strong Brega: they followed, one and all, in pursuit: on every peak he found a watch set: unavailing was his active flight.

Fergna, wielder of a broad and weighty blade, leader of the ranks, proud in prowess, followed, not faltering through any fatigue, and won his spoil in front of all.

Ruthlessly he seized his vantage at vast Bend Foibne: and the wretched spencer fell by the hand of bloodthirsty barbarous Fergna.

His name remains, without sorrow for a warrior, on much-renowned Benn Foibne, from the deed I have published in my tale; though I boast of it, 'tis great knowledge.

O Jesu, that allayest every storm, let not dishonour nor disgrace reach me: O strong and noble Ruler of the rainclouds, bestow on me charm and knowledge!

-
- | | |
|--|---|
| 9. <i>ndedgair</i>] ndegair etc BLeMS | 10. <i>romid</i>] romaid etc LeS 'na] i B |
| 11. <i>imjann</i>] imand etc LeS | 12.] diaromarb Illand angbaid Le |
| <i>Themra</i>] erend M | 13. <i>Erclaim</i>] ercail Le |
| 14. <i>Erclaim</i>] ercail Le | 15. <i>Erclam</i>] ercail Le 7 M |
| 16. <i>flaith</i>] fer Le sleib M slat S a sléib Moduirn] sl- nad sirn M | 17. ar |
| <i>fut Breg</i>] ar sliab mbreg Le mbalc] om. S | 18.] is cách na dhiaidh ar |
| debedh S <i>dia thetarracht</i>] dia detarracht B | 19. iar natheomrac Le |
| <i>mbeinn</i>] mbend BLe a] ga S <i>feithim</i>] M feicheam Le fethem etc BSS ₃ H | |
| 20. <i>greimm</i>] grind S <i>gnó-theichid</i>] gnotheithidh M gnoteiched B gnotheithed | |
| Le gnáthteicheadh S gnotheicheamh S ₃ gnothetemh H | 21. <i>gai</i>] gnai B |
| <i>lethain</i>] leth H | 22. <i>táth</i>] tá BMH támh S ₃ as] is LeS <i>cach</i>] can Le gā S |
| 23. <i>táth</i>] tá BMH támh S ₃ as] is LeS <i>cach</i>] can Le gā S | |
| 24. <i>harnaid</i>] hadbal Le | 25. <i>Beinn</i>] benn S imadbail] findadhbail S |
| <i>diss</i>] des B | 26. <i>n-áir-mer</i>] lanmer Le narmmear M n-úair-chiss] |
| 27. nuairceas B ndflis etc LeS | 28. a] om. Le ar daig] araid Le |
| 29. a] om. Le ar daig] araid Le | 30. ar |
| <i>Beinn Foibni</i>] om. M il-bladaig] nellbladaich Le | 31. im] don M |
| <i>nimthi</i>] nimhi M ná] no BS ₃ na cat. | 32. is] ith M |

ARD FOTHÁID

Ard Fothaid, in fetabair
 in flaith fial diarbo ferann?
 Fothaid airgthech etamain
 rotecht co cían, ní celam.

Mór n-úathbas, mór n-etarnad
 foa tudehaid gleic in gart-nia
 fuair Fothaid, rofetammar,
 mac do Lugdaig mac Macenia.

Mí co leith 'na láech-lige
 roboí sund cen gním nguinech
 Fothaid fo breith báeth-bine
 i n-ingnais ríg is ruirech.

10

IS fria ceól rochotail-sium
 ceirce Boirche na mbúad-arg:
 dia thig ní rothocair-sium
 in Fothaid soirche slúag-ard.

Flaithem súaire secht síd-nime
 rí robladach na rind-arg
 nímthuca i súan sír-lige
 in flaith forbarach find-ard.

Ard.

20

MAG N-ÍTHA

IN mag itám sund 'nar socht,
 Mag n-ard n-Ítha na n-úar-phort,
 ba Mag mBolg, co nítha nirt,
 co bás Ítha imairdire.

Íth mac Breogain, buidnib bann,
 doluid ria ruibnib rochlann:
 co fúair Érinn, immud fell,
 nír scuir dia rémimm rothenn.

ARD FOTHAID

Ard Fothaid—know ye the chieftain whose land it was? the gentle Fothaid Airtthech long possessed it—we hide it not.

Many a horror, many a hidden snare wherewith the generous hero contended did Fothaid meet, we know,—Fothaid son of Lugaid, son of Macnia.

A month and a half on his soldier's bed he lay here, without deed of blood, under an infliction that robbed his senses, unvisited of kings and princes.

He fell asleep at the song of the hen of Boirché, lord of champions; bright Fothaid, the host-leader, returned not to his home.

May the radiant Ruler of the seven tranquil spheres, the glorious King of the spear-men, the high noble and puissant King, not cast me into the slumber of an endless trance!

MAG ITHA

The plain where we are met in silence, high Mag Itha of the chilly banks, was called Mag Bolg mighty in battle till the death of illustrious Ith.

Ith son of Breogan, numerous in exploits, came leading the bands of his noble kin: till he found Erin, abounding in hidden peril, he rested not in his resolute career.

Ard Fothaid. RBLcMSS ₃ H		3. <i>etamain</i>] edarglan Le d'fedamair S
4. <i>cealam</i>] cealaim S ₃	5. <i>etarnad</i>] etarnaigh S ₃ H eadarnaid B	6. <i>foa</i>
<i>tudchaid</i>] fotudcaid B fodúcaidh R fothad caid etc LeS fotad caid M in]		
im LeS	7. <i>rofetammar</i>] nach fesamair S	8. <i>Lugdaig</i>] lugaid Le
lugach M lūg etc BSS ₃	10. <i>cen</i>] con Le	11. <i>fo breith</i>] fa breth S
fo breth H <i>báeth-</i>] maeth M	12. <i>i n-ingnais</i>] an egmais etc LeS	13.
<i>fria</i>] fri LeM	14. <i>mbúad-arg</i>] mbuadgarg etc BLeMSS ₃	15. <i>rothocair</i>]
rothorair M rothogair S ₃	17. <i>Flaithem</i>] flaith S <i>secht</i>] na secht S <i>sid-</i>	
<i>nime</i>] saer-nime etc LeS siduimi M	18. <i>-arg</i>] garg LeCMS ₃	19.
<i>-thuca</i>] tucta B i] <i>om.</i> Le <i>sir-</i>] saer B	20. <i>flaith</i>] sl- M	
Mag nItha. RBLcMSS ₃ H		1. <i>itám</i>] atam etc SS ₃ H
nar Le nár S na] <i>om.</i> R <i>n-uár-</i>] nur etc LeMS	3. <i>ba</i>] <i>om.</i> LeS <i>Mag</i>]	
ma (<i>with d superscr.</i>) R <i>mBoig</i>] H mboc R mboge B mboigi LeM mbloighi		
S mbolga S ₃ <i>nitha</i>] nithe etc S ₃ H nith M <i>nirt</i>] M nert BLeS n̄t H neirt		
RS ₃	4. <i>bás</i>] hoighe S <i>imairdir</i>] oirrdire S	5. <i>bann</i>] clann LeM
<i>ria</i>] iar R	7. <i>Érinn</i>] eiriud M <i>immud</i>] inad S ₃ <i>feil</i>] feill M fill SS ₃ clann	
Le	8. <i>nir</i>] ni RB <i>día</i>] de B <i>réimim</i>] remeand Le <i>rothenn</i>] rothinn MSS ₃	

Rosíacht co hAilech in ail,
co híath na n-airech n-arsaid,
co rígaib Fótla fata,
co trí maccaib Cermata.

10

Co n-epirt co saidbri iarsain:
'Dénaid caibni is chomáentaí!
maith indse itáid, clú nad cress,
imda a híasc is a hilmess.

'Coimsech a húacht is a tess
mochin rígu dian' ruidless!
ní tíarus féin, fri sním snúad,
ferann ná crích a comluag.'

20

Cechaing úadib, ord nárb ole,
co ríacht Mag mBolg na mbúar-cholt:
luid slúag roglan cen robud
dia marbad, dia mudugud.

Íth mac Breogain, búan a blad,
and rodíth is rodamnad
ím-Maig Bolg búasaig, cía bé;
nirb ord úasail óen-maige. IN.

AILECH I

Decid Ailech n-Imchill n-úaib
sosad slúraig sir-thenn síl Néil
fert fo dáenai Banbai mbáin
Aida áin meic Dagda déin.

Dagda daith, ba deog de neim,
flaith for fleid fodla co fuin:
maraid assíd . . . céin mair
is fair rogníd issin Bruig.

Ba rí hErend ilair gíall,
ba flaith fial forseing, ba fáel;
deg-meicc hi toebnius ria thoéb
Cermait cáem, Oengus, iss Áed.

10

He reached Ailech of the Rock, that ancient land of nobles with its kings of broad Fórla and the three sons of Cermait.

Then said he, in fluent speech: 'Dwell ye together in kinship and unity! goodly is the island where ye are—no paltry renown!—plentiful its fish and its various fruitage!

'Temperate its heat and cold: happy the kings that own it of right! never found I land nor territory to match its mingled colours.'

He journeyed from thence (it was no mean array) till he reached Mag Bolg of the cow-pastures: a glittering host came without warning to slay and to destroy him.

Ith son of Breogan—lasting his fame—was killed and conquered there, even in Mag Bolg of the cattle-lord, whoever he be: he ranked as chief of many a plain.

AILECH I

Behold Ailech of Imchell before you, the enduring home of the host of Niall's race, known among Banba's fair folk as the grave of noble Aed, son of the mighty Dagda.

The swift Dagda was deadly as a poison draught, a just-dealing lord over the feast till even; his mound remains, long may it remain! over him was it made in the Brugh.

He was king of Erin with hosts of hostages; he was a prince, noble, slender; he was a warrior: good sons were attendant at his side, Cermait the comely, Oengus, and Aed.

-
- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 9. <i>in</i>] inn H | 12. <i>tri</i>] trib MH | 13. <i>Co n-epirt</i>] coneabairt R |
| conderbairt B conearbhairt etc S ₃ H debairt Le condebairt S conearbailt M <i>saidbri</i>] saibrí etc LeM | 15. <i>indag</i>] anindsi etc LeS <i>itáid</i>] atat R | |
| atait LeH itáith S ₃ atái S <i>chí nad</i>] cen etc LeS <i>cross</i>] cheas etc LeS ces S ₃ H | 16. <i>is a</i>] LeS a <i>cæt. híl</i>] LeS huil R huili etc BMH huile (<i>in litura</i>) S ₃ | 18. <i>mochin</i>] mochean etc S ₃ H |
| 17. <i>hiacht</i>] B fuacht <i>cæt.</i> | 19. <i>fiarus</i>] fuaris Le <i>fri</i>] re | |
| <i>rigu</i>] righa S righi M righe S ₃ rige H | 20. <i>ná crich</i>] no crich etc BMS ₃ nach budh Le | |
| LeS <i>snim</i>] nim M | 22. <i>na mbíar</i>]-] nambuan RLeS nar fuar M | |
| <i>comluag</i>] comluadh etc RBS | 28. <i>uasail</i>] uasal M | |
| 23. <i>luid shiag roglan</i>] buaidh sluaigh raglain M | | |

Ailech I. L only

Aed robíth i mBend Báin Báith
 `tre neim ind laich col-láim luaith,
 nodforglem, fo indnu áith ;
 ba bidba cáich Corrgend Crúaich.

Corrgend fo chairib don chin
 i fid na maigib na muir
 connach fúair port fo gréin gil
 cen chorp ind fír for a muin.

20

Mathi hErend imma rí
 as cach thír tren-seíng co tráig ;
 niptar tlaithenaíd a thúir
 ó dún meic Fathemain Fáil.

Fríth Corrgend co crídi crao ;
 ba bráu borb-leñg inna bíu ;
 dobert ainech ris tre thnú
 dú ita Ailech indiu.

Dia do glan-fert glan rogníth,
 fich inid fadere do chach,
 don Dagdo díl foluig líach
 i n-iath bíl Banba co bráth.

30

Ninbói síd na slán ind uile
 cen ehrad a chuirp co níth nert
 on Dagdea, do díth a maic,
 cen marb-lia mairt forsin fert.

Fuair lia linne os loch
 fo thinniu throch trait atbath ;
 robriss a blaid iss a bruth :
 assbert guth, ba 'hail' co n-'ach'.

40

Ailech cen Chorrcend fo chlói
 ní toirm-thend in graigeach glé ;
 bóí fer tuachill fora thí
 ropo rí do thuathaib Dé. D.

Aed was slain on Benn Bain Baith, by the fury of the hero swift of hand, with a keen weapon, we aver : Corrgend of Cruach was every man's foe.

Corrgend lay under blame for the crime : in wood nor fields nor sea found he never refuge under the white sun, nor riddance from the man's body on his back.

Around their king came the chiefs of Erin strong and lithe from every land to the shore ; they were no marauders pursuing him from the fort of the son of Fatheman of Fál.

Corrgend was found stained with heart's blood ; he was a wild-whirling mill-stone in his lifetime : he gained him honour through his jealousy, in the spot where Ailech stands to-day.

A goodly shining grave was built in the town wherein it is seen of all ; it hides a sorrow for the kindly Dagda in the good meadow-land of Banba for ever.

There was no peace for him nor healing of the harm to be had from the Dagda for the loss of his son, save by torture of his body strong in fight, and a grave-stone laid on the tomb.

He found a stone of the sea beside the lough ; in pangs of suffering suddenly he died : his fame was broken and his rage ; he uttered a cry, it was 'ail' with an 'ach' !

Ailech, that bright home of horses, would not be strong in fame without storm-beaten Corrgend ; there was a subtle man on his track who was king over the Tuatha de Danann.

Ailech nImchill os cech áit
 dia do báire bir-chinn fri ét
 la tuatha De dremuin dúaire,
 cuaird i mbái Nemain is Nét.

Imchéll casleóir Dagdaí dúir
 in múir mas-móir magdaí muaid;
 Coblán ua Gairb gacla gráid
 rodfaig im fert Aeda úaig.

50

Atbath Corrcend co crúais chuirp:
 húais n-uile nad ordnenn a serce:
 rodechraig fón ail co hairce,
 ind ailt rodechlaid in fert.

Cia nosfallsige cech súi
 teora amsera mollé
 o na trenaib dian treb thoí
 cen góí co ngénair mac Dé? D.

60

Ailech Frigrend cid dia mbóí?
 dia n-innlend aí, úais a lí,
 Frigriu cerd Cruthmaige Cé
 i ré Fubthaire ó Hí.

Ubthaire dind Albain óig
 tue toir Truchmaige o thír,
 co fúair flaith glacc-neme geir
 Fiachraig réil Roptene in rí.

Rogníth tech 'mo ingin n-áin
 la Frigrind Fáil, ferr cech dín;
 sneid rosamig dar da sál
 leir for lar Ailig na rí.

70

Rosfue Eochu Domlén dían
 gorm-nél na ngíal, ngel a gruad;
 ní saiched siblig dar sál:
 aithed n-án d'a ingin uad.

Ailech Imchell was above every place a right sharp-crested stronghold, all-envied, among the Folk of Danu wild and grim, the precinct where dwelt Nemain and Neit.

Imchell was the castle-builder of the stern Dagda, of the fair great vast and noble wall; Gablan, grandson of Garb, from a high-born kin, reared it round the tomb of faultless Aed.

Corrcend died with travail of body (height of evil is his whom his love degrades;) bearing the stone he marked out with toil and dug the young prince's grave.

Wherefore does every scholar set forth three periods in all, not falsely, from the strong ones who dwell in silence to the birth of the son of God?

Ailech Frigrenn, whence was it called? when poetry adorns it, noble its splendour. Frigriu was a wright of Cé in Pictland in the time of Fubthaire from Iona.

Fubthaire then from the whole of Scotland led the pursuit from the Pietish land till he met a prince venom-handed, keen, illustrious Fiachu Sroptine, the king.

A house was built round the noble maiden by Frigriu of Fál, better than any guard; swiftly he planted it, conspicuous across two waters, in the midst of Ailech of the kings.

Mighty Eochu Domlén carried off a pale cloud of hostages (white their cheek); Fubthaire did not overtake the fugitive across the sea: a famous flight his daughter had from him.

66. *Truchmaige*] read *Cruthmaige*

69. *'mo ingin*] read *'mon ingin*

74. *ngel a gruað*] read *gel a ngruað*

Helech der Fubthaire find
 dar lind Luchraide cen luíng,
 mathair moíngda, mó cech mainn,
 na tri Conla do chlaind Chuind.

80

Cid airtaire in tairbirt trén,
 tre garg-nert nger glethe slúaig
 ind ríg rothrén ocon rám,
 arsain oc snam aichde n-úar.

Is é sin senchas cech sin
 in gais gil, ní grenchas ngair,
 in grin-gen graigech co ngail
 dia fail Ailech Frigrend fair.

In fáth fácbait fri cech rím,
 Patric dia tír tic iar céin,
 co toracht cen altu áig
 ina ndáil co maccu Neil.

90

Eogan dia n-amraib ronecht
 etir anmain ocus chorp,
 fuair ellach ar nóebe nirt:
 in Britt robennach in port.

Patric, ní triamain a tlí,
 dia mbat riarraig i cech ré,
 tellach nEogain os cech clói
 rosbennach a deonaib Dé. D.

100

Fuil buaid clérig co ngrád glán
 for gruaid Ailig, án a mod,
 flaith co fáthaib fogaib mid,
 mo brathair cen chin cen chol.

Colum Cille do chlaind Néill,
 glan-oll gleir glinne co n-áib,
 sech is áire do Albain óig,
 mind n-óir Daire Chalgaig cáim.

Ailech, daughter of fair-haired Fubthaire, crossed the water of Luchraide without ship; the long-haired mother (greatest of gifts) of the three Collas from the race of Conn.

Though that mighty pregnancy was plain to see, thro' keen fierce strength an end was made of the king's mighty host, a-rowing and thereafter a-swimming in the cold night.

That is the tale every elder tells (no passing jest) of the fair scion, the comely youth, valiant lord of horses, from whom Ailech Frigrenn gets its name.

Patrick, that theme of song men leave with every company, came long after from his home, and came, with limbs unapt for war, to meet the sons of Niall.

Eogan of their famous men whom he cleansed both soul and body, gained possession by force of sanctity; the Briton blessed the abode.

Patrick (not weary his strength), whom men shall obey in all times, blessed by the will of God the home of Eogan, above all oppression.

There is a chief of clerics with pure orders, on the brow of Ailech—high his honour! a prince honoured in poetry receives respect: my brother is without sin, without stain.

Colum Cille of the race of Niall, a surety all-sufficient, bright in beauty, is both a shelter for all Scotland and a golden diadem of fair Daire Calgach.

84. *Read* aidchi n-úair

101. *glán*] *read* glán

107. *áire*] *read* aire

Colum co seolaib in súi
 Conaill is Eogain mollé, 110
 óa ríg Codail congaib Hí,
 tí dom chobair at-taig De. D.

AILECH II

FLAND MANISTRECH *cecinit*

Cía triallaid nech aisneis senchais Ailig eltaig
 d'éis Echdach áin, is gait claidib al-láim Ercail.

Ermór neich roiarfaig uli úa Maelcholuim
 Eochaid iar cund rosluind ria sund do druing Dobuill.

Derb mar roiarfaig vía sóer doróni Ailech,
 ní cheil Eochaid arm-slán airech: Garbán graigeeth.

Cía robuí ar cáe 'ca dénam? Imchell fin-fer,
 is Garbán sóer úa Gairb ó gáel fáel nofiged.

Fég vía lasa ndernad iarum in gním 'glanda?
 in fer las' tucad a damna i ndeil Dagda. 10

Dia n-iarfaigther cíasu fochond ar a ndernad?
 a maic im lecht cundail roíecht in fert feb-glan.

Fégthar cid dia n-apar Ailech airtaire etir?
 dond ail túargaib Corrgend cicuil torgenn gletin.

Geguín Corrgend mac Flathemain ó Chruaich, cluinid,
 Áed ard amra ropo mac don Dagda duilig,

Ailech II. LRBLeMSS₃H *Attribution in L only (rewritten)* 2. *is gait*] is gait a LR tuc a Le *claidib*] claidhem etc RLe *al-láim*] alaind B illaim Le *Ercail*] Hectoír L 3. *Ermór*] Ce mór S *neich*] nech Le 4. *rosluind*] rosslúinn S₃ *ria*] iar RBS₃H 5. *mar roiarfaig*] B maro iarfaig L rofiarfaig R mardofiarfaigh M mar fhiarfaid etc LeS madofiarfaidh S₃ marofiarfaidh H *via*] L cuich e an S cíaso etc *cæt. doróni*] L dongni S₃ dorine H dorigni etc *cæt.* 6. *arm-slán*] armlán etc SS₃H *Garbán*] Garban is L Gablan RBS₃H Gabran M 7. *ar cáe*] aice L aco LeS *fin-fer*] *ed. finer* LM *finer* RH *findfer* B *finner* S₃ *innfear* Le *infir* S

The seer Colum with the array of Conall and Eogan together the grandson of the king of Codal, he who keeps Iona, may he come to my help from the house of God !

AILECH II

Whoever attempts the telling of the story of Ailech of the herds after the noble Eochaid, it is robbing the sword from the hand of Hercules.

The more part of all that O'Maelcholuim demanded Eochaid heretofore expounded intelligibly for the men of the Doball.

Surely, when he asked, what mason built Ailech ? Eochaid the arm-proof noble did not conceal that it was Garban of the horses.

Who was present at the building ? His tribesman Imchell and Garban the mason, grandson of Garb, from a warlike kin, who built it.

Look, who was he by whom was wrought thereafter the shining work ? The man by whom was brought its makings, as requital for the Dagda's scion.

If it be asked, what was the cause why it was made ? Round his son's seemingly grave he raised the tomb nobly-bright.

Let it be seen wherefore Ailech the illustrious is called so at all ? From the stone lifted up by Corrgend . . . who waged battle.

Corrgend, son of Flatheman, from Cruach (hearken !) smote Aed, high-born, famous, who was son to the hard Dagda,

8. *Garbán*] Gablan RBS₃H cālan M ó gáel] o ghail S a gháel S₃ fáel] LLcS saer etc cæt. *nofiged*] rofiged etc LcS 9. *Fég*] L fegthar fos etc LcS om. cæt. *iarum*] om. LcS *glanda*] L glannnda S glandam Lc glanba R glanhhdha etc S₃H gribda glanhda B gribda glanfídba M 10.] Lc omits all from tue to line 12, lecht *las tucad*] lasa tucad B leis tue Lc lasa tucad etc MS₃H *i ndeíl*] in del LS₃ in dael S in delb ni deíl B 11. *ciasu*] cia L 12. *a*] an L *im lecht*] milect M *cundail*] condailt L connail M is fair LcS *roíecht*] rotheacht Lc *feb-glan*] faglan Lc feadhbghlan (*with d superscript*) S₃ fedbghlan H 13. *dia n-apar*] dianab S 14. *dond ail*] dadail R dodail B diagail M *cicuíl*] cithil Lc *torgenn*] toirrteann S₃ torrted B toirted R torged L tortenn H *gletín*] grethuín M 15. *Flathemain*] flatheman L faithemain etc LcSH *cluínid*] chluínich Lc 16. *ropo*] om. B doba M in tres LcS *dón*] in Lc

Dia ndecheid Áed co mnaí Corrgind ina lepaid,
ba hóc opair, úair nách fer cotaig rochetaig.

Cechaing Corrgend iarna chrád for lár a thige;
co romarb Áed iar n-óeth aire, ba bóeth bine.

20

Bátar óic Érenn 'ca iarair, amra in lucht-sin,
co ná fúaratar dond fecht-sin iarsind ulc-sin.

'Oirrgther,' or cách, 'na hanagar dáig na nderna.'
'Nítha a dith,' ol in Dagda, 'fo bith Temra;

'Acht tócbaid in marb romudaig fora muin-seom,
is ferr dún trá trell dia thoil-seom andá a guin-seom.

'Co raib fo méla fon marb-sin, cen nach cáemna,
co fagba líce bas bert búada for lecht n-Áeda.'

Arigis líe ós loch Fébail, ba feidm fénedd,
co tórgab súas co crúas chórad, úais int én-fer.

30

Ed asbert oc breith ind eire dar sreith slige,
'Ach ach do ail! is dešin domaid mo chride.'

'Cóir cid Ailech doraga ris,' ol in Dagda;
corop ed a ainm in dindgna, airm i tarla.

Techtaid Néit mac Induí Ailech, bráthair athar,
ocus Nemain a ben brethach na ened cathach,

19. chrád] LSH thoerádh (with the superser.) S₃ crád etc cwt. for lár] collar
(with 'vel for' superser.) H a] erased S₃ 20. co romarb] cormarb LeM 'iar
n-óeth] iarngaeth Le iarna naeth M aire] aile L aeri Le naire M 21.
óic] oc RBM Érenn] eir M 'ca] co L oca BM ar R iarair] iarraid etc LeMS
22. co ná] noco Le co S dond] he don S iarsind ulc] LeS isind lue etc cwt.
23. na hanagar] L nochan angar etc RBMS₃ is na haincer Le is na
hainether S na nderna] an derna LeSS₃ 24. Nítha] L nintane etc RBS₃H
nintain M ni denta LeS a dith] om. B ol] L ar cwt. 25. tócbaid]

Because Aed came to Corrgend's wife into her bed; ill was the deed, since her partner allowed it not.

Corrgend strode forth, after murdering him in the midst of his house: so he slew Aed, though he was under oath; it was a foolish crime.

The youth of Erin were seeking him—famous that folk! but they found him not at that time after that crime.

'Let him be slain,' cried each man, 'let him not be spared for what he has done.' 'He shall not die,' said the Dagda, 'for Tara's sake,

'But lift ye up on his back the dead man he has destroyed; 'tis better for us to take a spell of his service than to smite him,

'And he shall be under the shameful burden of the dead man, without mercy, till he find a stone that shall be a trophy over Aed's grave.'

He marked a stone above loch Foyle (it was a soldier's task), and raised it up with a champion's strength; noble was the hero.

This is what he said as he bore the burden over road after road, 'Ach! ach! the stone! 'tis by it my heart is bursting!'

'Tis right that Ail-ach should cleave to it,' said the Dagda; so that was the name of the height, in the spot where this befell.

Neit, son of Indui, his mother's brother, possessed Ailech, with Nemain, his law-giver wife, of the wounds of war,

togbudh S toc̃ etc S₃H for̃] L ara c̃et.

26. is ferr̃] LcS ferr̃ c̃et.

tr̃a] trath S₃ trell̃] ní S om. B a] om. BLcMS

27. Co raib̃] corob Lc cen

nach̃] cendach BLcS ceannach M cid nach R

28. co fagba] co fag B

foda R adfag a M for̃] fri H

29. ba feidm fénned̃] feidm gan teimil S

30. co tórgab̃] ed. do farcaib S co tuargaib etc c̃et. co crúas̃] ba báss S

chórad̃] coraid Lc úais̃] uas LcSS₃ int̃ én-fer̃] ed. intemer LRB antemear S

int̃emer M int̃reiner H in tren fear etc LcS₃

31. Ed] Aed B Sead

Lc asbert̃] as mberta S₃ oc breith̃] fo brith RBM ind̃ eire] inndoire R dar̃]

iar etc RBMS₃H sreith̃] sleith Lc

32. do ail̃] a ail S is̃] erased S₃ desiñ]

dosom M dit so S domaid̃] romaid etc RBSS₃H mo] cru (superscr.) mo S₃

33. doraga] M doradha etc RLc doradh a S doradha (with a erased) S₃ do

rád L deradh H a rad B ris̃] risin S₃ om. RB ol̃] L ar c̃et.

34. a]

om. L sin (superscr.) S₃

35. Techtad̃] RBM techt LLc techtais S

teachtaidh etc S₃H aithar̃] L mathar c̃et.

36.] ocus nemand brethach

cathach co fis fáthach S a] in LcS₃ na oned̃] ained Lc

Corop Ailech Néit asberthar ó cech duine
gibis glaine, ór is leis ind inis uile.

Iarfais nech and cía dīne rogab in insi,
tan doringned in gnīm gland-sa ósind lind-si? 40

Lán-memor lim, it Túatha Dé Danann drongaig
cona ngáib cona sciathaib cona congaib.

Cía rí buí for Éirinn uile glé-binn glaine,
acht in Dagda druine? ní chluine nach n-amra n-aile.

A n-amm i ndernad in dindgna, demne dolaid,
toimsech trebaid, in tres amser toirsech domain.

Dorócht mór ndíne do Ailiuch i mbíd Imchell,
ailig airmenn co tánic in fairmenn Frigrenn.

Frigriu mac Rudi rúaid roglaig co n-úail ergnaid
tue la hór a hAlbain armaig óg a ernaig. 50

Ergnaid in cerdd diarbo hainder Ailech imgel,
cīarbo do Fubthaire fōnd-gel ropo hingen.

I n-athiud dosfue dar muir mac Rudi rathaig
iar cnis chlochair, rop fochaid cen fīs dia hathair.

Atracht Fubthaire dia iarair, cīarbo hindsa,
glice in band-sa, co toracht conici in dind-sa.

37. *Corop*] conid etc RBMS₃H *asberthar*] L *asberar* etc LeMS *atberar* etc RBS₃H *ó*] ac Le 38. *gibis*] cihis R *glaine*] nglaine Le *om. S* *ór is leis*] corob lais etc LeS *om. B* *ind inis*] indinis indis S in andiñ (*rewritten*) S₃ in inñsis M 39. *Iarfais*] L *iarfaid* B *iarfaidhe* R *iarfaid* MH *iarf* S₃ *fiarfaidis* etc LeS *and*] dam etc LeS *cía dīne*] cía dina (?) M *cía duine S* *rogab*] rothreb etc LeS *digab* M *in insi*] indsi R iinnsi M *anfīse* Le 40. *tan*] intan RS *doringned*] doringned L *dorinne* S₃ *gland-sa*] glansa B glondsa etc SS₃ *coimsi* M *lind-si*] rindsi etc RB *innsi* etc MS₃H 41. *it Túatha*] atuata R a t. M *i tuathaib* H *tuatha* LeS₃ *túath* S *Danann*] donann L donamm M *dinac* R *drongaig*] drongaib R *condrongaib* Le conandrongaibh S 42. *cona ngáib cona sciathaib*] L *im Néit* mac Indui in

That it may be called by all men Ailech Neit, the bright neck of land ; to him the whole island belonged.

Some one might ask then, what race held the island, when this mighty work was reared above this lough ?

Well I remember, it was the Tuatha De Danann in their hosts, with their darts, with their shields, with their war-harness.

Who was king over all Erin, sweet-sounding, radiant ? Who but the skilful Dagda ? You hear of none other so famous.

The time when the fortress was built, a spacious abode, was the third lamentable epoch of the world, a sorrowful certainty.

There arrived at Ailech, where Imchell was, many generations, before the famous Frigriu came to the far-seen rock.

Frigriu, son of fierce valiant Rude, proud and skilful, brought with gold from arm-clad Scotland, his implements complete.

Cunning was the craftsman whose wife was Ailech the white, though she was daughter to Fubthaire of the white soles.

In flight across the sea the son of prosperous Rude bore her over the surface of a causeway : it was a temptation unknown to her father.

Fubthaire arose to seek him, though it was a hard task (cunning was this deed), and he came unto this height.

allaid etc *cæt.* *cona congaib*] *conac congaib B cona chongaib Le* 43. *bui*] *robúi LLeS glé-binn*] *gebind etc BMS_s glaine*] *om. L* 44.] *in cluine* *acht in D.druine amra aile Le acht in*] *om. R acht S ní*] *in B ina M n-amra*] *amra BM n-aile*] *L aile cæt.* 45. *A n-amm*] *an amser L intan* *Le intam S in dindgna*] *nā dingna R* 46. *toimsech*] *torsech L taidhbhsech S_s trebaíd*] *trebaigh SH toirsech*] *torsech L doirsech etc cæt.* 47. *i mbíad*] *L immid B imid M imad etc LeS imind R um néid S_s* *umneitt H Imchell*] *L ningell R ingell etc cæt.* 48. *ailig*] *L alic RB allie H alíg S_s ailliig M failid Le failig S airmenn*] *armend etc RBMH feidm lonn etc LeS in*] *and S fairmenn*] *fairirmend B fairirmind H saerfer S ferghlond S_s* 49. *Frigriu*] *Frigrenn etc LeS Rudí*] *Ruba Le roglai*] *roglain LLeS* 50. *la hór*] *LS ba lar R la hor cæt.* *armaig*] *ergnaid L adbail etc LeS óg a*] *occa R oga MH an óg S_s fa hoc* *Le ba hogh S ernaig*] *ergnaig B eargnaid etc LeS arnaigh M* 51. *Ailech*] *elech B* 52. *fond-gel*] *dondmer etc RBMS_sH* 53. *I n-athiud*] *intaithed S_s dosfuc*] *dofuc L* 54. *cnis*] *seis Le cris M rop fochaid*] *rop fothaid R rop focaig M rothochair Le rosfothaigh S hathair*] *athair R* 55. *iarair*] *hiarair S_sH hiarraid LeS ciarbo*] *ciabad etc RB ciabu MH* 56. *conici*] *om. B dind-sa*] *innsa H*

Dešin bretha isin daingen co nglúair graigeach;
úair ba debech rucad úaid Ailech i nAilech.

And ba húamon ri Fubthaire Frigriu Fothart;
Fiacha Sroptine rodnanacht noco toracht.

60

Tech dorigned and 'ma mnaí la Frigrinn foglaid,
ropo ergnaid os roí rebraid ar a robloid.

Rogníth do derg-ibur druimnech iarna dlugu,
co ngarg-brut glór de arggut de ór de umu.

Rohecrad do gemmaib glainib, gním ronglen-ón;
ba samail trá adaig ocus lá 'na medón.

Madngiúil dísein Ailech Frigrenn, fégaíd find-chill,
Ailech Néit ní tréic tre thairthim Ailech Imchill.

Ní fil i crí rofessed cach ní acht Día,
ríagail réa roftir ó chánaib cía. C.

70

AILECH III

Ailech Frigrenn, faitheche na ríg ríгда in domain
dún cos' roichdis róit fo gregaib tre chóic clodaib.

Cnoc arar-chotail in Dagda, derg a scotha,
imda a thige, terc a chrecha, cert a chlocha.

-
57. *co nglúair*] nglúair L ingel S *graigeach*] ngraigeach etc LRLcMS₃H
58. *rucad úaid*] rofucad L rucad uadha S *Ailech*] eilech RB eineach S
i n*Ailech*] dia enech etc LcH eineach aileach S na ailech R 59. *ri*] L
ria S ra H re LcS₃ ro RBM *Fothart*] fothairt L fogart Lc fodhart S
60. *rodnanacht*] L conanac Lc conanacht S ronanacht cæt. 61.
dorigned] daringned L dorinidh R rognid BH rognig M rorondad Lc
doronadh S dognidh S₃ 'ma] L mo R moan etc BLcM immon etc S₃H
dia S la] sin S *Frigrinn*] frigrend etc LRBM frigriu LcH frigri S₃ *foglaid*]
S₃ foglaig etc LRBSH fodlaid Lc soghlaigh M 62. *roí*] rí S ro S₃
raidh R 63. *Rogníth*] rogníd L rogni LcM *dlugu*] dlughudh RM
64. *garg-brut*] gargbruth LcS glanbrad M *glór*] nglor etc RBLcS *de arggut*]

Thereupon she was carried into the keep, full of horses, clamorous; when battle was joined, Ailech was borne from him to Ailech.

Then Frigriu of the Fotharta was afraid before Fubthaire; Fiachu Sroptine protected him till he reached Ailech.

A house was built about his wife by the robber Frigriu; he was noted above the field of exercise for his great renown.

It was built of red yew tooled and arched, overlaid with pure unwrought silver, and gold, and bronze;

It was decked with bright gems, a work that held fast in it; alike were day and night in the midst of it.

Although the name Ailech Frigrenn clave to it thenceforth (behold the bright church!) Ailech Néit loses not through oblivion the name Ailech Imchill.

There is none alive that would know everything, but God only: He knoweth the ordering of times from of old, what it shall be.

AILECH III

Ailech Frigrenn, green-sward of the world's royal kings, fortress to which led roads horse-trodden, through five ramparts:

Hill where the Dagda slept, red are its flowers, many its houses, few its plunderings, plumb its stones.

dargad LeMS *de ór*] 7 *dór* etc LeMS *de umu*] is *duma* etc LeMS 65.
glainib] LRS *glaine* etc *cæt. ronglen-ón*] L *ronglemor* etc RBMS₃H
condeadshogh Le *congleadhshódh* S 67. *Madngiúil*] *mag nguil* etc RBM
mad ail Le *nodngiúl* S *disein*] *iarsin* Le *Frigrenn*] *frireim* B *fégaid*] *fegad*
 etc BMS₃H *fegat* R *fedraig* Le *find-chiúil*] *fiéhill* Le *finnicill* M 68.]
 is *aileach* *neit nairdire* fo *thairm* *nilach* *nincill* S *ní tréic*] *ni treit* etc
 RBM *nistreic* Le *ni treith* S₃H *tre thairthim*] L *tria tairthim* etc RS₃H
tria thairim B *tria hairim* *tinn* M fo *thairm* Le *Imchill*] L *inill* Le
nincill S *nimchill* *cæt.* 69. *i crí*] a *clí* S *rofessed*] *nech rosfidir* etc LcS
 70. *ó chianaib*] i *cianaib* Le *accfanaibh* S *cia*] *each* *cía* S *om.* M

Ailech III. LeMEDS₃HV *Ed is fragmentary and partly illegible* 1. *na*
rig] *righrad* etc S₃HV *rigda*] Le *riga* S₃ *righ* H *rí* V *tarraidh* MED
in] *om.* S₃ 2. *dún cus' roichdis*] *dun cus roithdis* etc S₃HV *duin a roichdis*
 MED *duna roitis* Le *clodaib*] *cladaib* LeEd *comhaibh* HV 3. *arar-*
chotail] *inrochodail* etc MEDV 4. *terc*] *ceart* Le *beacht* MED *chrecha*]
breatha MED *cert*] *terc* Le

Caislén airard Ailech Frigrenn, ráith in degfir,
dún ina scailtech ar scolaib, aíl-tech emir.

Inad aibind Ailech Gabráin, glas a chráeba,
fót 'ca fuair in Dagda dúana adba Áeda.

Innisim duib dindsenchas anai Ailig
nolesaigfed leth in domain tech dia thaigib. 10

Cach fáth óa frith ainm ar Ailech cona failgib
atá lim duib, ma's ed chuindgid, fer 'ca faigbid.

Eochaid Ollathair roindsaig Érinne uile:
robo lethiu ná leth maige drech in duine.

Trí maic in deg-duine Echach cen úair formait,
Óengus ocus Áed is Cermait na cáer comraic.

Corrgend mac Faithemain fénnid d'fēraib domain
óclach d' Eochaid rofuaig fedain cen úair n-omain,

Géc gillai móir a maig Cruachan co céib ór-glain
co n-aib aignig, co n-icht ánraid, co nirt nónbair. 20

Iarna rád riss do rí Érenn tre réim suirge
tánic Corrgenn ó Chrúaich Aigle co túaith Tuirbe.

Tethra bán-gel ba ben Chorrinn in chuirp séim-seing:
nocharb áille duine iar ndílinn uile i n-Érinne.

Dorat Tethra iar tocht hi Temraig hi tig fleide
áeb a haire ar Áed, cen co raibe reime.

5. Caislén] caisel M can al Ed 5-6.] after 2 in H om. S₃V 6. ina
scailtech] in scaoilteach H 7. Gabráin] nGabran Le nGabraín etc MED
8. fót] ba dun M dun Ed 'ca fuair] fosfuair S₃HV in Dagda] imdha M inda
Ed 9. Innisim] indisfead MED anai] H ana LcS₃ an with a superscr. M
ana (with a cancelled) Ed ána V Ailig] auiligh H 10. nolesaigfed] noch
loiscfed S₃V nachad loiscfedh H rolesechad Le in] a MED 11. óa]
fa M failgib] ailgib H failge (altered) Le huimribh etc MED 12. atá lim
duib] ita sund Le dogebthai sund etc MED ma's ed chuindgid] massed cuinge

A lofty keep is Ailech Frigrenn, the hero's rath, a fort that fosters schools, lime-white house of granite.

A lovely spot is Ailech Gabráin, green are its boughs, on its sod the Dagda, famed in song, found a dwelling for Aed.

I tell to you the legend of Ailech's treasures: one of its houses would feed half the world.

The reason why the name was found for Ailech with its stalls, if that is what ye seek, I know one with whom ye may find it.

Eochaid Ollathair marched through all Erin: broader was his countenance than half a plain.

The hero Eochaid's three sons, who knew no hour of jealousy, were Oengus, and Aed and Cermat of the battle squadrons.

Corrgend son of Faitheman, a warrior among mankind, was Eochaid's soldier, that knit the ranks and knew no fear,

A tall sprig of a lad from Mag Cruachan, with locks bright as gold, with agile grace, with a champion's temper, with the strength of nine.

When the king of Erin addressed him with inveigling words Corrgenn came from Crúach Aigle to Túath Tuirbe.

Tethra, whitely fair, was wife of Corrgenn slender of shape; there was none lovelier since the Flood in all Erin.

When Tethra came to the banquet-hall at Tara, she bestowed the charm of her regard on Aed, though he was not present.

etc HV misi (*altered to masedh later*) amlaid M nici sead amlaigh Ed
faigbid] faidbe etc LeHV fuighbhir M buighbir Ed 13. *Érinn*] eire
etc MEdH 15. *úair*] fuair LeEdM 17. *fénnaid*] fionnigh etc S₃HV
d'fearaib domain] fear go foghail etc MEd 18. *rofuiaig*] *ed.* rosfuaig etc
MEd do uair Le re huair S₃V ri huair H *fedain*] debaid Le ndebaid etc
S₃HV *cen úair nomain*] gach uair nomain V re fuair ndomain Le 19.
céib] gebh Ed *ór-glain*] norglain etc *codd.* 20. *aignig*] naignig etc
LeEd naenidh M aignedh S₃ aigñ S₃ aicēñ V icht] ucht Le *ánraid*] *anraid*
nanraid LeS₃H nanrad Ed 21. *tre réim*] roreim M roírem Ed rorem
Le 22. *tuath*] tuaigh S₃ *Tuirbe*] tuirme etc S₃HV duirmhe MEd
23. *chuirp*] fuilt S₃ *séim-seing*] *ed.* thseimeing M chaim seng Le caemeng
Ed caimhseing V caimseing (*with 'vel seimching' superscr.*) H ceibhfinn
S₃ 24. *nocharb*] nirbh M nochabh V *i n-*] ar Le 25. *hi Temraig*] ar
temraid Le a temraig etc *cæt.* *hi tig fleide*] a tigh fleidi etc LeS₃HV na
trebhe MEd 26. *áb a*] aedh a M aobda etc S₃HV *haire*] aire S₃V *cen*
co] ge go M

Dochúaid Corgenn d' fíis a fírainn, nírb olc léi-se :
dochar Tethra tre tháem ndruise Áed dia éise.

Dochúaid Aed co céile Corrginn, éarb ord ainseín,
do fíir Tethra na slúag soréid trúag a thaibéim.

30

IS andsin dorigne Corrgenn, in chleth fuilech,
guin in meic romill a enech ind cen fuirech.

Dochúaid Corrgenn d' éis ind éhta i n-farthar Connacht
iar ndíth Áeda, cen co frith cáemna ara chomole.

Dochúaid Eochaid d' iarraid Chorrinn i crích nUmail
coros-timaire tre dlúim ndodaing i cúil eumaing.

Gabthar Corrgenn ina chinaid, acht éar chalma,
robuí in trén-fer tre tháem ndogra dáer 'con Dagda.

Co n-epirt cách 'Crochthar Corrgenn, cenn na fénned,
ma dorinne úaill ná úabar a grúaid glé-gel.'

40

'Nocho dénaím' ar in Dagda, 'mar atberar,
aní nach dír is nach dlíged ní dím dlegar.

'Ní dlegar anim is enech i n-íc n-anma :
ní hed béras ó breith nemda dreich in Dagda.

'Acht bíd amáin ara muin in mac romudaig
nocho fagba cloich bas chubaid ina chomair.

'Cuirther in mac ar muin Chorrinn Chnuic na Taiden
d' airbrig íaram da phianad ri gairg-ríg nGaidel.'

Dohimecured Áed la hEochaid in áig adbail :
nocho rue rí reime a Temraig eire amlaid.

50

Corrgend went to visit his land—not sorry was Tethra: she gave her love in his absence, in a gust of desire, to Aed.

Aed went in to Corrgenn's wife, on an errand unblest: woe for the reproach to Tethra's mate, leader of lucky troops.

Then did Corrgenn, blood-stained chieftain, as requital, slay forthwith the boy that smirched his honour.

After the deed Corrgenn went his way to western Connacht, though he found no shelter for his guilt when Aed was slain.

Eochaid went seeking Corrgenn to Crích Umaill and with relentless pressure hemmed him in a narrow corner.

Corrgenn is taken in his guilt, for all his bravery: the strong man in a fit of anguish became the Dagda's bondman.

Then all cried 'Let us hang Corrgenn, chief of warriors, if his clear bright cheek has shown haughtiness or pride.'

'I will not do as ye say', said the Dagda: 'that which is not right and lawful may not be done by me.'

'Life and honour are not due as the price of a life: this shall not turn aside the Dagda's face from the divine decree.'

'Only he shall bear on his back the boy he killed till he find a stone of size to match him.'

'Let the boy be laid on the back of Corrgenn of Cnoc na Taiden to signify hereafter his punishment at the hands of the stern king of the Gaels.'

Aed was borne by Eochaid mighty in battle: no king before him bore to Tara such a load.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 27. <i>nirb</i>] s <i>nirb</i> MED <i>gerb</i> Lc | 28. <i>tre</i>] <i>ger</i> Lc <i>ndrúise</i>] <i>druise</i> |
| Lc 29-30.] <i>in</i> MED <i>only</i> | 29. <i>ciarb orá</i>] <i>gerbo</i> . . . Ed <i>ainséin</i>] <i>ed.</i> |
| <i>ainéin</i> M <i>illeg.</i> <i>in</i> Ed | 30. <i>soréid</i>] <i>doraing</i> ? Ed <i>thaibéim</i>] <i>tabeim</i> M |
| <i>taibem</i> Ed 31. <i>IS andsin</i>] Lc <i>is iarsin</i> MED <i>airesin</i> S ₃ HV 33-34.] | |
| <i>in</i> MED <i>only</i> : <i>nearly illeg.</i> <i>in</i> Ed 35-36.] <i>om.</i> V 36. <i>dluim</i>] <i>dluig</i> etc | |
| S ₃ H <i>ndodaing</i>] <i>noghaing</i> MED <i>nuaing</i> Lc 37-38.] <i>in</i> M <i>only</i> 37. | |
| <i>Corrgenn</i>] <i>creach</i> (<i>with</i> 'vel coirgeand' <i>superscr. m.s.</i>) M 38. <i>ndogra</i>] | |
| <i>noghra</i> M 41. <i>dénaim</i>] <i>denam</i> S ₃ HV <i>in</i>] a LcEdM 43. <i>n-anma</i>] | |
| <i>manma</i> Lc <i>anma</i> etc S ₃ HV 44. <i>béras</i>] <i>bheres</i> etc S ₃ V <i>beras</i> <i>cæt. nemda</i>] | |
| <i>naemdha</i> MED <i>in</i>] i MED 45-46.] <i>om.</i> S ₃ V 45. <i>muin in</i>] <i>muin sium</i> H | |
| <i>romudaig</i>] <i>romuaig</i> Lc 46. <i>fagba</i>] <i>badha</i> Ed <i>cloich</i>] H <i>clach</i> MED <i>cloch</i> | |
| Lc 48. <i>d' airbrig</i>] <i>darbrigh</i> MED <i>dairbrid</i> Lc <i>fairbrigh</i> S ₃ <i>ri</i>] <i>re</i> Lc | |
| <i>lá</i> S ₃ HV <i>gairg-rig</i>] Lc <i>gairgri</i> MED <i>hairdrig</i> S ₃ HV 49-52.] <i>om.</i> M | |
| 49. <i>Dohimcuired</i>] <i>dohimeaireadh</i> Ed <i>dohimairead</i> etc LcHV <i>dotiomairgedh</i> | |
| S ₃ <i>in dig adbail</i>] <i>in airm agmair</i> Lc <i>an cur arnaidh</i> S ₃ 50. <i>nocho</i>] <i>snoco</i> | |
| Ed <i>ruc ri</i>] H <i>ruc rig</i> etc LcEdV <i>rugadh</i> S ₃ <i>amlaid</i>] <i>saumhlaidh</i> H | |

Hi enuc Themra tuargbad in fer forsín fénnid :
rosuc leis co tech Néit náraig in ngéic nglé-gil.

Rogab Corrgenn dar clár medóin maige Senaig :
rosíacht co rind-moch in rogein find-loch Febail :

Febal mac Lotain, lám glé-gel, gúala roboc,
rolád ón loch dar in lenab cloch a chomfot.

Ó 'tchondaire Corrgenn cloich Febail, rosfég reime,
rosuc leis tre uinnem uile d' fuilled eire.

Roinnis co derb don Dagda cen deilb ndúabair
'Ac-so in clach amuig, a mílid ! ach ail úabair !' 60

Atrubairt bodéin in Dagda co ndreich idain,
(tairm 'na thigib) 'Bid ón ailig ainm ind inaid.'

'Bid Ailech bás ar in baile seo don Banba
sech cach cnoc mar chnoc tai Temra,' ar draí in Dagda.

Rotuit Corrgenn fon chloich buirb, robris a chríde ;
ní bo chaise a chur 'na laige do bun bile.

Desin gairther Ailech Áeda na n-ech side,
ocus Ailech Corrginn Chrúaiche borb-thinn bithe.

Iarsin tuctha na dá deg-fer ri dán crithir
Garbán is Imchell co hEochaid find-chenn frithir. 70

Co n-epert riu ráith do dénum 'mon dreim séim-seing
combad hí ráith na n-eng n-álaind bad ferr d' Érinne.

51. *tuargbad*] tuarguba LcEd doarc̄c H 52. *rosuc*] *ed.* nosruc Lc
rosrucc etc EdS₃HV *tech*] ráith Lc 53. *medóin*] medon Lc 54. *rosíacht*] doriacht Lc
rogein] raigend Lc raigheín Ed 55. *Lotain*] slodain M
56. *rolád*] daladh MEd *ón*] o H don Lc na MEd *dar in*] aran MEd *chomfot*] comat Lc
chomad MEd 57. *cloich*] loch M cloch cæt. 58. *rosuc*] *ed.* rosruc etc MEdHV rosrucc S₃ nosruc Lc *tre*] na Lc *uile*] uire Lc

On Tara's hill the dead man was lifted on the warrior's back: he bore with him to the house of noble Nét the bright-faced stripling.

Corrgenn took his way through the midst of Mag Senaig, and the brave wight reached at point of dawn the bright lough of Febal,

(Febal mac Lotain, white of hand, soft of shoulder: a stone was cast up by the lough of length to cover the child.)

When Corrgenn saw the stone of Febal, which he spied before him, he bore it with him by uttermost effort, an added burden.

He declared verily to the Dagda, not gloomy of mien, 'Here is the stone fetched forth, O warrior! ah stone of pride!'

Said the Dagda himself, pure of countenance: 'From the stone shall be the place's name' (a saying in its homes).

'Ailech shall this place be called throughout Banba, honoured above hills like the silent hill of Tara,' said the Dagda's druid.

Corrgenn fell under the rude stone's weight, his heart broke: the quicker was he laid in grave at foot of a tree.

Hence is named Ailech, after Aed of the wind-swift horses, and after rough strong mangled Corrgenn of Crúach Aigle.

Thereafter were brought two men of subtle art, Garbán and Imchell, to sorrowing fair-headed Eochaid.

He bade them build a rath round the smooth slender folk to be a rath of goodly devices, the best in Erin.

d' fuilled] M duilleadh Ed uilleadh HV uilleann S₃ tuilleam Lc 59.
deilb] MEd deilm etc *cæt.* ndiábair] *ed.* núabair *codd.* 60. *Ac-so*] sin Lc
 61. *Atrubairt*] adubairt *codd.* bodéin] co dearb Lc idain] H nidain etc
 MEdS₃V ndidain Lc 62. 'na] no M thigib] tigib etc *codd.* *Bid ón ailig*] is on oil fuil M is on oil . . . fial (?) Ed 63. *seo*] sin S₃HV 64.]
 seach gach [ninaidh don ca . . . gleighil (*erased*) gongruaid (*with nuaille*
superscr.)] ar drai etc (*the words in brackets expunct, and cnoc mar cnoc tai teamra*
written above) Ed 65. buirb] mbuirb HV mbuirb sin S₃ truim etc *cæt.*
 66. bo] badh EdS₃ 6 H chaise] chas S₃ cás V usa MEd a] *om.* MEd
 67. side] sighe Ed síthe S₃ 68. *borb-thinn*] boirbtin Ed boirbind M
 boirbthenn Lc 69. dán] dan Lc nā MEdH nach SV crithir] LcV
 grithir MEd crithidh S₃ crith H 70. Imchell] imchenn Lc find-chenn]
 findchell Lc 71. 'mon] fan S₃HV 72. *combad*] conadh S₃HV n-eng]
 Lc renn etc S₃HV rand MEd n-álaind] naibind etc MEd

Atrubairt riu Néit mac Induí in aienid doilig
nocha nderntais deg-ślóg domain ermór Ailig.

Rogab Garbán gnímach oc sairse is oc snaide,
rogab Imchell ara aire timchell taige.

Tarnic dénam daingin Ailig, cíarb ord sáethrach,
mullach tige na ngíall ngáibthech roíad áen-chlach.

Tánic Néit mac Induí in allaid, in airm lebair,
ocus ruc leis in mnaí mbuiliú robái i mBregaib : 80
nocho rucad i tech nAilig nech mar Nemain.

Ailech Néit ó Néit mac Induí ainm in baile,
sul tucad air in t-ainm aile, airm 'ca aire.

Ailech Frigrenn fuilled n-anma fúair 'na degaid :
nocho chuirther i cend Ailig tend acht Temair.

Doruacht Frigriu co flaith n-Alban in fuilte raglain :
ní chartad ór derg i ndag-meid cerd óg amlaid.

Ubthaire ainm aird-ríg Alban in eich dremain,
nochassad crann gáid i ngonaib dia láim lebair.

Ingen 'con rí g ruc do rí gnaib is do romnáib, 90
fofúair Frigriu tre aib n-anbail cáin a comráid.

Ailech ainm ingine Ubthair, ba ben chaím-íir
náirig nú-a-gil, co rosbúadir grád in Gaídl.

Co ndechaid leis do lár Chinn Tíre i erfch nUlad
rogreimm roban imma rolad comling curad.

73. *Atrubairt*] adubairt etc *codd.* in] *om.* S₃ *aicnid*] aigneadh S₃ aignigh
etc HED 74. *nocha nderntais*] nocho dearndais Le conderntais etc *cat.*
domain] nuíuach M a dhomhain S₃ andomain HV *illeg.* in Ed Ed ends
here 75.] Andsin rogab Garban guinech sairsi snaide etc S₃HV *gnímach*] *gnímhacht* M 76. *ara aire*] M ara sídhe S₃ ara fide etc HV tara aidi
Le *taige*] taidi Le 78. *ngáibthech*] ngnathach S₃HV *áen-chlach*] aelcloch
Le 79. *in allaid*] in allaigh M an Oilech Le ahail⁺ S₃H co hail⁺ V
80. *leis*] le Le in] a M 82. *Ailech Néit ó*] Robo oileach etc S₃HV 83.]
sul tugadh hi onóile (*with hi expunct and air ain superscr. in later hand*) airm ca
faire M *aire*] faire etc *codd.* 85. *Ailig*] naillich LeM *tend acht*] tendach

Néit son of Indui, surly of temper, told them that the world's brave host would not build the better part of Ailech.

Diligent Garbán was busy with masonry and carving, Imchell was busy keeping guard about the house.

The building of Ailech's keep was ended, though a toilsome work; a single stone closed the apex of the house of perilous hostages.

Néit son of Indui, the stranger, he of the long weapon, came and brought with him the winsome woman who dwelt in Brega: one like Nemain was never brought to the house of Ailech.

Ailech Néit, from Néit son of Indui, was the name of the place, before another name was given to it; it was guarded by weapons.

Ailech Frigrenn was a further name that it received afterward: no stronghold save Tara may be matched with Ailech.

Frigriu came to the king of Scotland, the bright-haired: no craftsman so perfect as he poured red gold in the balance.

Ubthaire of the unruly steed was the name of the high king of Scotland, whose long arm turned in wounds the deadly spear-shaft.

The king had a daughter surpassing queens and ladies: Frigriu by sweet looks overbold won the favour of her converse.

Ailech was the name of Ubthaire's daughter—she was wife of a noble, honourable and fresh of colour, till the Gael's love bewildered her.

She went with him from the midst of Cantire to the Ulaid's land—a feat of noble women, for whom a contest of warriors was fought.

Le dind acht M	86. <i>Frigriu</i>] frighrinn etc S ₃ HV	87. <i>ní chartad</i>] <i>ed.</i>
ni cardad S ₃ ni cañ HV	ni garad Le nocho tard M	<i>-meid</i>] <i>mēc</i> (<i>altered to mēg</i>) M
88. <i>Ubthaire</i>] Fubdairi Le Ubhthair S ₃ Uptair etc HV Uthair M ainm] Le ba hainm <i>cæt. aird-rig</i>] Le dairdrig etc <i>cæt. dremain</i>] raglain M	89. <i>nochassad</i>] dochasad Le dream nochosnadh M	90. <i>ruc do</i>] ruc o Le rugsaidh do S ₃ romndáib] rogmhnaibh M
91. <i>fofúair</i>] <i>ed.</i> fosfúair S ₃ douair LcH da fuair M do fhuair V	<i>Frigriu</i>] Frighrinn etc S ₃ HV cain a comráid] cain a chomraidh M cainiu chomraid Le áoibh a comhráidh etc S ₃ H	92. <i>Ubthair</i>] Uthair M ba ben] da lean Le
93. <i>náirig núa-gil</i>] narinuagen Le nar don uaibhrigh M	94. <i>do lár</i>] a S ₃ HV crich] H tír <i>cæt.</i>	95. <i>rogreimm</i>] roigrem Le rodrem V roban] remar
Le rolad] ral Le		

Rochuindig Ubthaire a ingin tre fáth ferda
nó roloiscfed leth na Banba 'mo thech Temra.

Atrubairt ris Eochaid Doimlén co ndreich raglain
nach bérad co bráth in ingin tre fáth amlaid.

Rogab in cerd comairei ind rí sin, ríg Themra: 100
rochuindig air dún in Dagda nó múr Medba.

'Cáemain, a rí', ar in rígrad rí ríg Femin,
'th' ainech, th' agaid, agus tabair Ailech d'Ailig'.

Iarsin tucad Ailech d' Ailig sech cach n-imdaid,
don chais glain-gil co ngrúaid roglain co n-úail ingnaid.

Desin gairther Ailech Frigrenn, frith a bunad,
d' Ailech in Dagda as cach dlíged, adba Ulad.

Flaithius Érenn, innister linn isna lebraib,
iar mbith i n-Ailiuch Néit nemnig rothréic Temraig.

Tánie rí Fáil co fúair Ailig i n-úair fólaig, 110
corb í máthair Cholla chridig Dromma in Domain.

Is é sinnser sáethar Érenn Ailech Frigrenn:
molad is mó iná fuilngenn dó ní dignemm.

Dá fichit bliadan acht bliadain, becht dorímed,
gním glac glé-mer dothéiged le síl mac Miled.

Néit mac Induí aird-rí thúaiscirt na túath ngraiagech
cét-fer colach 'car'tréiced Obach ar Ailech.

Noí ríga d' óen-ainm a hAilech d' fine Ádaim,
agus Eochaid ainm cech éin-fir ri gairm ngábaid.

96. *Ubthaire*] Ubaire Le Uthair M *ingin*] ingen LeMV in \bar{g} S₃H *fáth*] aith Le *fath* etc *cæt*. 97. *nó roloiscfed*] no roisgedh M 'mo] fo etc LeM
98. *Atrubairt*] adubairt etc *codd*. 99. *in*] a LeM *fáth*] ath M *amlaid*] samhlaidh etc S₃HV 100. *ríg Themra*] rí temra etc S₃HV 101. *air dún*] uthair a ingen ar dhun M 102. *a rí*] a rí LeM *in rígrad*] a rigraid M a rígu Le *ri ríg Femin*] gidh reir doiligh M 103. *tabair*] tobair Le
104. *n-imdaid*] ninaid M 105. *glain-gil*] S₃ glegil LeM gl-ghil HV

Ubthaire demanded his daughter by manly means or he would burn the house of Tara with half Banba to boot.

Eochaid Doimlén, bright of face, replied that never till the day of doom should he carry off the girl by such means.

The craftsman claimed protection from the king, even the king of Tara: he asked of him the Dagda's fort, or Medb's rampart.

'Guard, O king', said the princes to the king of Femen, 'thine honour and thy face, and give Ailech to Ailech.'

Then was Ailech rather than any home given to Ailech, to the curled pure-bright girl, bright-cheeked, passing proud.

Hence the name Ailech Frigrenn (its origin is found) is given by every right to Ailech of the Dagda, dwelling of the Ulaid.

The kingship of Erin, we tell in books, deserted Tara after it came to Ailech of dangerous Néit.

The king of Fál found Ailech in a secret hour, and she was mother of stout-hearted Colla, of Druim in Domain.

Oldest of the labours of Erin is Ailech Frigrenn: we will give it no greater praise than it deserves.

Forty years but one, closely reckoned, the work of nimble hands belonged to the seed of the sons of Míl.

Néit son of Indui, king of the north country, lord of horse-breeding peoples, was the first heathen by whom Obach was deserted for Ailech.

Nine kings of one name, of Adam's race, sprang from Ailech, and Eochaid was the name of each, famed in dangers:

roglain] raghil M ingnaid] ningnaid etc S₃HV inbraid Lc nidhain? (altered)
M 107. d' Ailech] ed. dailigh S₃ daligh H do lice V is doilech etc
LcM cach] om. M dliged] inad Lc 108-9.] om. M 108. Flaithius]
flaithe S₃HV isna] Lc inar S₃HV 109. nemnig] ningnad etc S₃HV
110. Yolaig] alaid Lc 111. corb é] dobi S₃HV chridig] eridi Lc erichich
M in] om. S₃ 112. saethar] saethair Lc saithir M 113. molad] acht
moludh M iná fuilngenn] H iná bhfuilgend V ina bhfuiglem S₃ nandear-
baim M ná molbam Lc dignemm] dingnem Lc dhingnam etc S₃HV
dighnum M 114. becht] Lc bes cæt. 115.] Lc gnim glac trenfear
roteigheadh re síl mac Miled etc cæt. 117. 'car'tréiced] gar tregidh M
Obach] eamhain etc S₃HV 118. d' óen-ainm] amaenainm M umenainm
S₃HV 119. rí] re LcS₃

Eochaid Ollathair in cét-fer rochoise dograing, 120
Eochaid Ét-gothach fúair ingraimm, ba crúaid comlainn,

Eochaid Opthach, Eochaid Feidlech, fer na claideb,
rí ruc a bethaid do bunad, Eochaid Airem,

Eochaid Búadach, Eochaid Mór nomarbad cethra,
Eochaid Doimlén, find-lúth fromtha, imdlúth debtha,

Eochaid Muigmedón mac aird-ríg inse Senaig
muir ar muirer, duine ar' nár'muid in debaid.

Mac don fír sin Níall ronert-gab domain dluigthech:
a máthair mór chaím-seng cairthech Caíreann Chruithnech.

Clanda ro-Néill rígrad Ailig na n-arm n-ágmar 130
gillai móra, maicne mér-gel, aicme ánrad.

Eogan mac Néill co nert míled ó méit lenaib,
drech dia ticed indeb enig, find-fer Febail.

Indecht find, ingen rí Monaid, máthair Eógain,
co n-aieniud rí, co rún trén-fír, co lúth leómain.

Cinél Eogain, úaisle indá fine Temra,
meóir foa ngabar áinne imda, áille a n-erla,

IS íat slúag as úaisle i n-Érinn, airecht Ailig,
is íat as ferr 'ma n-fad fedain tíar 'ea taigib.

Secht n-aird-ríg déc díb ar Érinn d' aicme Eógain, 140
nochoseontis cóir in tsáegail dóib a ndeóraid.

120. *rochoise*] *dochoise* Lc *rocleacht* M 121. *fúair*] *dofuair* Lc *uair*
M *ingraimm*] *ingreim* Lc *ninglain* M *imgloinn* S₃HV 123. *do*] *co*
etc LcM 124. *nomarbad*] *namarda* M *do marbad* LcHV *marbad* S₃
125. *find-lúth*] *finddluith* Lc *findluit* M *findlaith* etc S₃V *finn flaith* H
imdlúth] *imdluith* LcM *imdaith* etc S₃HV *debtha*] *ndebtha* etc *codd.* 126.
mac aird-ríg] *antairdri* etc S₃HV *Senaig*] Lc *henaigh* etc *cæt.* 127. *muir*
ar] *murar* Lc *muine* in M *duine*] *induíne* M *om.* Lc *muid*] Lc *muigh* M
luidh S₃HV *in debaid*] *aneabhaigh* M 128. *don*] Lc *in* etc *cæt.*

Eochaid Ollathair, first, who checked calamity; Eochaid Etgothach who met affliction—he was grim in combat;

Eochaid Opthach, Eochaid Feidlech, man of sword-blades, and the king who gained his life outright, Eochaid Airem;

Eochaid Buadach, Eochaid Mór, slayer of cattle, Eochaid Doimlén, noble temper well-proven, rallier of battle,

Eochaid Muigmedón, son of the high king of Inis Senaig, a sea for offspring, undefeated in battle.

Son to this man was Níall, who conquered the divided world: his fair slender loving mother was Cairenn the Pict.

Great Níall's progeny are the princes of Ailech, of martial weapons, tall youths, white-fingered lads, a line of warriors.

Eogan son of Níall, gifted from childhood with a soldier's strength, from whose countenance came increase of honour, fortunate lord of Febal:

Fair-haired Indecht, daughter of the king of Monach, was mother of Eogan—Eogan with kingly nature, with a hero's will, with a lion's spirit.

Cinel Eogain, nobler than the kindred of Tara, with fingers decked with many rings, with the beauty of their hair,

They are the noblest array in Erin, the assembly of Ailech; they are the best that a retinue surrounds in their homes in the west.

Seventeen High Kings from them, of the line of Eogan, ruled over Erin: their foreign levies would contend for their rights in the world.

ronert-gab] donert an Le roneart in M *dhuigthech*] dluitheach M 129. a] sa Le *mór*] nior Le *chaim-seng*] mineang (*in rasura*) Le coimfhionn S₃ *cairthech*] carthach M maifthech (*in rasura*) Le *Cairenn*] caereann M cairfhionn etc S₃ HV caireng Le 130. *rigrad*] rigraid LeMS₃ righr̄ etc HV 131. *mér-gel*] mergel etc *codd.* 133. *ticed indeb*] tic a hindem etc S₃ HV *enig*] oilich M 134. *Indecht*] Indai M *find*] fhid Le 135. *rún*] rus S₃ 136. *iaisle*] duaislibh S₃ *indá*] inda H ina M fhinda Le na V eir S₃ *fine*] dfine S₃ 137. *foa ngabar*] fo.ngabhata S₃ *dinne*] fainne etc *codd.* a *n-erla*] inerla Le nearla M andearlai H 138. *sluag*] sluag Le *iaisle*] ule M 139. *'ma n-iað*] HV maniagh S₃ faniad Le rooil M *fedain*] eg (*with a blank*) M *tiar*] thoir etc LeM *taigib*] toigidh M 140. *Secht n-aird-rig*] LeM sé airdríg *cæt. díb*] doib HV *d'*] om. H 141. *cóir*] cor M *in tsáegail*] a *saegail* Le *atsaeghail* M

IS dóib gabthar géill each thíre tara téigim,
is úatha atá duine dígainn uile i n-Érinn.

Cú Arad eólach roinnis do each fiadain
dinnsenchas Ailig in úabair doilig díamair.

Darsellus, drech dess ri debaid, tress 'na thaigib,
issé ba rí ar in domun, gním re graigib,
tan fríth ac loch adbul Febail adbar Ailig,

Sechtmoga ar sé cétaib blíadan, blad do chíana,
re ngein Críst a cathraig Iúda dath-glain diada. 150

Cethracha ar chét ar cóic míle ósna maigib,
sé mblíadna riu, rann 'na comair thall 'na taigib,
cor'gabhad ac mór-ślúag Monaig ór-dúan Ailig.

Ísu Crist, coimsid each thalman is each threthain,
rí dia ría ar ndáin-ne fria deg-thaig, áille fethail. Ail.

CARRAIC LETHDERG

Lethderg, taidbritis ar tuir,
ingen chadla Chonchobuir,
doreilie seirc, deilm nád gó,
do Fothaid i n-aislingeo.

Anmann na fer, fichtib gal,
bátar mar óen ri Fothad,
feochra in challait as each ceird,
rucsat don charraic Lethdeirg. L.

142. *dóib*] dib etc HV 143. *úatha*] dib LcM *duine*] an duine Lc *i n-*] ar Lc 144. *do*] M *da caet.* 146.] *After* drech Lc *inserts* derg, S₃HV *insert* derg ba *doiligh thaigib*] thigib Lc *toighibh* etc *caet.* 147. *ba rí ar in*] fa hairdri an Lc *ba rí* din in M *re graigib*] re groidhibh etc S₃HV *na graidib* Lc *na croidhibh* M 148. *tan*] an tan Lc *trath* M *ac*] ar S₃HV

By them are hostages taken from every land I traverse ; through them all men are thriving in Erin.

Cú Arad the learned has related to every auditor the legend difficult and dark of proud Ailech.

Dercilus—a face alert in battle, masterful in his halls—was king of the world, followed by troops of horses, when by mighty Loch Febail was found the occasion of Ailech's name,

Six hundred years and seventy, by ancient report, before the birth of Christ in a city of Juda, bright of hue, divine.

Five thousand one hundred and forty years above the plains, with six years added thereto, passed in their houses yonder, till the golden poem of Ailech was recited by the host of Monach.

Jesus Christ, Lord of every land and every sea, is the king to whom our song shall rise in his palace, an ornament of beauty.

CARRAIC LETHDERG

Lethderg, whom our princes used to dream of, lovely daughter of Conchobar, bestowed her love—true the tale—in a dream, on Fothad.

These are the names of the men (their deeds counted by scores) that were in company with Fothad (the fierceness of the cunning leader surpassed all prowess) and bore Lethderg to the Rock :

adbul] adhbhar H 149. *blad*] blogh M 150. *cathraig*] cathair S₃V 151.
Celhracha] caega M *cóic*] LeM *sé cæt.* 152. *sé*] LeM *secht cæt. riu*] om.
S₃H 'na] ina S₃H *comair*] gomhair M 'na *taigib*] na toighibh etc S₃HV am
toighibh M im thigib Le 153. *ac*] ó etc S₃HV *-dúan*] mor S₃V
155. *dia riu*] ed. *daría* etc *codd.* *ar ndáin-ne*] arnaní M *fria deg-thaig*] foa
degh-thoil H fa decchtoil V fria a dheghthoigh S₃ fo dathaib Le ní
duthain M *aílle*] aile M *fethail*] eathail Le eatail S₃ athoil (*with ade*
added above, m.s.) M atail H afhetail V

Carraic Lethderg. RBLcMSS₃H 1. *taidbritis*] taighbhrídhis M
taidbhríghis S taidbris (*with d superscr.*) H ar] in S 2. *chadla*]
cadhladh R 3. *doreilic*] doreile S 4. *Fothaid*] oth M *aislingeó*] S
aisling theó etc RB aislingthó etc LeM aislingó etc S₃H 6. *mar óen*]
araen Le *ri*] ro B ra H re *cæt.* 7. *challait*] collait B callaidh S
ceird] aird Le 8. *don*] do S

Fethlenn mac Fidrúí co feirg,
Lurgu mac Lúaithe lasar-deirg, 10
fer nárb imrullach dia sleig
Irnisech mac Inmaisig.

Corr Derce, dag-rí fri tress,
do Fothud dogní ard-less:
romúin eólas, eretha tuir,
co Tromda mac Calatruim.

Tromda in tráth ropo thrú:
ní gart cailech, ní gart cú,
tan ránic Fothad ri feirg
tuc cend in laích la Lethdeirg. L. 20

Briccem mac Tuinde, toirm nglan,
gliccem doruilli ethar
do Fothud fri fallait ferg
don charraic imboí Lethderg. L.

MAG COBA

Amra in mag imríadat fir
imboí Coba cath-chingid,
Coba na mberg co mbraine
ba cerd is ba eutheaire.

Érimón féin, fichtib sleg,
tuc do chéin Coba cas-mer:
d' airniul ar fiadaib, rofess,
ar fallaib én ba hairchess.

Dogní euthig, fo chrú cacht,
dáig ba trú, dia thetarracht: 10
dia fis in ba doith rosdell
tuc a chois 'na chomindell.

9. co] fri LcS 10. Lurgu] luga Le Lúaithe] om. M 11. imrullach]
imralach R 12. Irnisech] eirisnech S₃H iseirnisig Le 13. Corr
Derce] corusderga S dag-rí] ua daighri etc S₃H daid LcM dait S 14

Fethlenn son of Fidruí, man of wrath, Lurgu son of flame-red Luath, a man whose spear missed not its mark, Irnisech son of Inmasech.

Corr Derce, brave chief in battle, did Fothad notable service: he gave him guidance (thick came his captains) to the home of Tromda son of Calatrom.

Tromda was doomed at that hour: no cock crowed, no dog barked, when Fothad came in wrath and bore off Lethderg, with the warrior's head.

Briccem son of Tond—bright his name—right prudently manned a skiff for Fothad, with a crew of braves, to the Rock where Lethderg dwelt.

MAG COBA

Famous the plain men ride over where dwelt Coba, captain in battle: Coba, foremost in forays, was a tool-wright and a trapper.

Erimon himself, with scores of spearmen, brought from far brisk bold Coba: for trapping of beasts, 'twas known, and for bird-flocks, he was a very snare.

He fashions a pitfall, an imprisoning pen, to catch himself—for he was doomed to die: he put his foot in his own engine, to try whether he had set it ready in trim.

<i>ard-less</i>] a airdles LeS	<i>Read perhaps ard-mess : see Notes</i>	15. <i>ertha</i>]
ercda etc BLeM	earca S ₃ ercai H	17. <i>in</i>] om. S <i>ropo</i>] orobo S
19. <i>ránic</i>] tanic etc LeS	<i>Fothad</i>] aithedh S <i>ri</i>] ra RH ro B re SS ₃ lé etc LeM	20. <i>laich</i>] loich R
breitheam Le	<i>nglan</i>] glan LeS ₃ H	21. <i>Briccem</i>] biccem etc BM bricenn S ₃
dodruilli LeMH	dodruille SS ₃ <i>ethar</i>] a ethar S	22. <i>doruills</i>] B <i>doruille</i> R
fathad Le	24. <i>don</i>] do M <i>imboi</i>] ambith Le	23. <i>frí</i>] frith S ₃ <i>fallait</i>]
Mag Coba. RBLcMSS ₃ H	1. <i>imriadat</i>] imriaghaid etc BLeMSS ₃	
2. <i>cath-chingid</i>] cath-chuingidh S	cuthcaire (<i>with .i. cathqingid superscr.</i>) B	
3. <i>mberg</i>] mbreg R	4. <i>cuthchaire</i>] B euchaire <i>cæt.</i>	5. <i>féin</i>] fen BSH
om. Le <i>fichtib sleg</i>] fichtib gal (<i>with vel sleg superscr.</i>) M	fial in fer S	6.
<i>do cheín</i>] a céin S <i>cas mer</i>] coismer M	neisgel Le	7. <i>d' airniul</i>] dairneal
etc S ₃ H	dairmul R darmil B dairmeal M	dinneall Le dinnill S
8. <i>ar</i>] is ar S ara Le <i>én</i>] om. LeS	9. <i>cuthig</i>] cuithi Le	cuithe S ₃ <i>fo chri</i>
<i>cacht</i>] fo cru smacht B	fo eruaid cath Le	clú gan aocht S
11. <i>in ba</i>] in bat R	nibad B <i>doith</i>] RS ₃ doit BH	maith LeS dhodhith M
<i>rosdeU</i>] nosdeall S		

Tindlis a láim, a láraic,
 a chois is a chóel-brágait,
 co torchair Coba cadla
 'na chuthig maith mór-amra. A.

ARD MACHA

IN mag imríadat ar n-eich,
 do réir Fiadat co fir-breith,
 and roclass fo thacha thig
 in mass, Macha ben Nemid.

Nemed riana baile ar blaid
 dá sé maige romór-šlaid:
 ba díb in mag-sa, is maith lemm,
 dara rag-sa im réim rothenn.

Macha, robráena cach mbúaid,
 ingen ard Áeda arm-rúaid,
 sund roadnacht badb na mberg,
 dia rosmarb Rechtaid rig-derg. 10

Hí rochum, cen chúairt cobra,
 do maccaib dúaire Díthorba
 nír gním deólaid, co ndeilg de
 Eómain ós leirg in maige.

Dia coíniud, ba bunad bil,
 la slúag n-Ulad each n-aimsir,
 dognithe cen tacha thair
 óenach Macha 'sin mór-maig. IN. 20

IS cóir dam a rád i fus,
 dáig is dál co ndánatus,
 scél diamboí cless cen chobair,
 Ulaid hi cess chomgalair.

13. *Tindlis*] tendleis S tinmhís S₃ a *láraic*] a laairg Le nalariaig M
 15. *co torchair*] atorchair S *cadla*] cadladh R calma LeS 16. *chuthig*]
 chuidid Le cuithi etc MS₃

He caught his hand and ankle, his foot and slender neck: so comely Coba perished in his fine far-famed pitfall.

ARD MACHA

In the plain where our horsemen ride, there, by the will of the right-judging Lord, was buried in fair seclusion a lovely woman, Macha wife of Nemed.

Twice six plains did Nemed clear before his home, to win renown; of these was this plain, to my joy, across which I shall wend my steady way.

Macha, who diffused all excellences, the noble daughter of red-weaponed Aed, the raven of the raids, was buried here when Rechtaid Red-Wrist slew her.

She it was that, seeking no help, shaped with her brooch for grim Dithorba's sons—it was no mean feat—Emain, above the sloping plain.

To bewail her—it was a worthy beginning—was held by the Ulaid's host in full numbers yonder, to all time, the Assembly of Macha on the wide plain.

It is right that I should now tell (for it is a business needing boldness) the tale whereof it came that the Ulaid lay in pangs of general sickness—a spell past cure.

Ard Macha. RBLcMSS₃H 1. *mag*] magsa Lc 2. *Fiadat*] fiada
 Lc thiaghaid S 3. *thig*] thair H 4. *in mass*] imbas B an mais Lc
 5. *Nemed*] Oc neimhidh S *riana baile*] combaili Lc *combuili S ar*] om. S₃
 6. *romór-slaid*] domortlaig Lc *damorslaidh M* 7. *is*] om. LcSS₃ *maith*]
 leir S₃ 8. *im*] in R *réim*] rith S 9. *robráena*] doboræna Lc *cach*
mbríaid] combuaid LcS₃ 10. *arm-*] om. Lc 11. *mberg*] mbedhg S
 12. *dia rosmarb*] dianus M *Rechtaid*] rechtgi Lc *rig-derg*] riderg BLeSH
 15. *deólaid*] deolaig RLc *deolegh S condeilg*] ed. *coa deilg RBM* *co deilg H*
co teilg S *co deil Lc* *gan ceird S₃* 16. *Eómain*] eomuin BH *eómuin*
S₃ eomhain M *emoin R eamain LcS* *ós*] ar S₃H *in maige*] maige B
lamhraidhe S (*perhaps rightly*) 17. *coiniud*] eumaid etc BLeS *comuid M*
ba] la a S₃ *bunad*] buadar Lc *búanadh S bíl*] lib Lc 18. *slúag n-Ulad*]
sluagad Lc *cach n-aimsir*] *cache haimsir Lc* *cach aimser etc RSM* 20.
'sin mór-maig] *cach ninbaidh R* 21. *rád*] rag Lc 22. *is dál co ndánatus*]
as dal conatus M *as dal conataghus S* *asi a dhail condathghus Lc* *isí in*
dáil condathghus S

Laithe doríacht fo glóir glain
co hóenach cóir Conchobair
in fer trétach ón tuind tair,
Cruind cétach mac Agnomain.

And tucait, fri hérim nglain,
dá ech, nach fégaím samail,
i n-ech-thress curad, ná ceil,
fo ríg Ulad in úair-sein.

30

Cen co raib a samla sin
ar Maig dá Gabra d' echraid,
atbert Cruind, in mer mongach,
ba lúathiu a ben balc-thorrach.

'Fastaid acaib in flaith fir,'
ar Conchobar cath-chingid,
'co tí ben bán in balair
do rith rán rem rogabair.'

40

Etha óen-fer ara cend
ó rí na fóen-šleg fír-thend
co toirsed ó thuind triathaig
do chosnum Chruinn chrín-briathraig.

Doríacht in ben cen fuirech
óenach na reb roguinech:
a dá hainm thiar cen tacha
Grían gel ocus glan-Macha.

A hathair, nír thréith 'ca thig,
Midir Brig Léith meic Celtchair
ina treib thiar cen tuige
ba hí sin grían banchuire.

50

There came one day in bright glory to Conchobar's appointed Assembly, from the waters eastward, a man rich in herds, Cruinn son of Agnoman, lord of hundreds.

Then they bring, pacing proudly, two horses, whose like I see not, to the warriors' horse-race—hide it not!—held at that season by the king of Ulaid.

Though their like was not found among the horses of Mag Da Gabra, Cruind, eager and shaggy, said that his wife was swifter, though heavy with child.

'Arrest ye the chieftain!' said Conchobar, leader in battle, 'till the warrior's fair wife come to a noble race against my steeds.'

A messenger was sent to fetch her by the king of the stout levelled spears, to bid her come from the ocean waves to contend on behalf of idle-speaking Cruinn.

The woman came without delay to the assembly of perilous exploits: her two names, not seldom heard in the west, were bright Grian and pure Macha.

Her father, not without might in his home, was Midir of Brí Léith meic Celtchair; in her roofless dwelling in the west she was Grian, the sun of womankind.

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25. *glain*] nglain etc MSS₃ 29. *tucait*] R tuceaid B tucaid M tucad
etc LeSS₃ tucc H 30. *nach*] na MSS₃H 31. *ech-thress*] eachras Le
eachrad M *curað*] canrad etc LeMS 32. *fo*] fa M la S₃ 33. *raib*]
roibi etc BMSH 34. *dá*] do Le *Gabra*] gabla etc LeS *d' echraid*]
inuairsin dechraidh B deachraig M 35. *Cruind*] om. B 36. *liaithiu*]
luide H 38. *ar*] atbert H *Conchobar*] cobar M *cath-chingid*] caid cuingidh
S₃ 39. *ben*] a bhen S *bán in balair*] balair comblaid Le lé radh a
roghair S ban an ghalair S₃ 40. *rem*] LeS rom RB rám S₃ ram H
ron M *rogabair*] etc BS₃H rogabraib Le gabair M luathghabair S ramair
(with a over first r, and d over m) R 41. *Etha*] Etta RBM Etai H *awa*] ar
R tara M 42. *fir-thend*] bfoirthenn S₃ fortenn H 43. *toirsed*]
toirset R toirsig M toirsidh S toir̄ etc S₃H *triathaig*] diatigh M 44.
dó] da B *chosnum*] cuñ M *Chruinn*] om. M 46. *reb*] rab Le 47.
thiar] ther M 49. *A*] om. M 'ca] coa RB gaa H 51. *thiar*] shiar
Le cen] om. M *tuige*] ed. om. M tuidhe RB toighe S₃ taige H tuibi Le
duibhe S 52. *ba hí sin grían*] isi grian a M

Mar doríacht co ngairge im glóir
 rochuindig cairde a chétóir
 co slóg na clann ná claíte,
 ó dosrocht amm asaíte.

Tucsat Ulaid bréithir riss
 don mnaí théith-mir thúachail-chniss,
 ná faigbed rath ria rige
 ó chath chlaidbech cloth-Line. 60

Iarum rosnocht in mer mend
 roscaíl a folt 'ma fir-chend,
 doluid cen om-grith n-áine
 don chomrith den chomáine.

Tuetha na heich dia tóeb thair
 dia mbreith sech in saír samlaid:
 d' Ultaib in braga co búan
 robo clé mana in marc-slúag.

Ciaptar lúatha maire in máil
 eter thúatha fo thrén-dáil,
 lúaithe in ben cen gním ngainne,
 eich in ríg ba romaille. 70

Mar rosíacht cenn na céite,
 (ba sáer a gell glé-méite,)
 ruc díis cen athbach n-úaire
 fiad slúag cathrach Cróeb-rúaide.

Mac ocus ingen moalle,
 rosalt imned tria áine:
 emon ruc Grían cen gním ngann,
 Fír ocus Fíal a n-anmann. 80

When she arrived, fierce for glory, she prayed at once for respite to the host of undefeated clans, because her hour of travail was come.

The Ulaid made answer thereupon to the quick brisk dame, big with child, that she should find no grace before the contest from the sworded battalion of famous Line.

Then the nimble bright lady bared herself, and loosened the hair about her head: without fierce cry to urge her she came to the race, to the tourney.

The horses were brought close beside her, to drive them in this wise past the noble lady: for the Ulaid of that keep continually that array of steeds was an evil omen.

Swift though the prince's steeds were among the tribes, met in might, swifter was the woman, unsparing of effort: the king's horses were over-slow.

When she reached the end of the green—noble was her stake, great and famous—she bore twin babes, without respite, before the folk of the Red Branch fort.

A boy and a girl together—through her glorious deed sorrow was their nurse; Fir and Fial were the names of the twins that Grian bore, unsparing of effort.

-
53. *Mar*] amar Lc co *ngairge*] congairee H congaire M congloine S congoil Lc *im glóir*] RB nglóir etc *cæt*. 54. *rochuindig*] rochuinidh R
 55. *na clann*] om. M ná *claite*] fa claiti Lc na cloithi M nach eclaoite S₃ odosrocht S
 56.] am asáite bam torrach S ó *dosrocht*] corocht Lc ódriacht S *amm asáite*] ainm osóiti R ainm asoiti B am ahasaidi etc LcS₃ anmimsoithi M
 58. *théith-mir*] teitmir H treithmer R treithmhir S₃ threith nir Lc theith nar S *thúachail*] tuachal RBLcM *chniss*] mis Lc
 59. *ria*] tria S₃ *rige*] rígi R 60. *ó*] re S₃ *chlaidbech*] om. B *cloth-line*] chleitine Lc
 61. *rosnocht*] dosrocht B 62. *roscail*] corscail LcS 64. *don*] do LcS₃H gan S *don* (2)] do H can etc LcS 65. *dia*] re Lc laa S₃
 66. *sech*] seca etc BLcM *sair*] sær BLcMS 67. *braga*] brag Lc broga broga M co *búan*] combuaid Lc combuaigh S
 68. *clé mana in*] clemna an Lc cle an mana M cleith mana an S₃ *marc-shiag*] B marc sl' RSH mar sluagh M maresluaigh S₃ romarc sluaigh Lc
 70. *thiatha*] tuathaib Lc thua M *fó*] S₃H f' *cæt*. 71. *cen*] con S₃ 72. *ba*] bad Lc
 73. *rosiacht*] dosiacht M doriacht S₃ 74. *a*] om. R an Lc 75. *athbach*] etc S₃H athfach R afach BLc athach S fothach M
 76. *fíad*] fía R 78. *imned*] imne R an menn Lc *tria*] tre R 79. *emon*] emuin etc BS₃ *cen*] con S₃

Fácbaid bréithir co mbúaine
for cleithib na Cráeb-rúaide,
a mbeith fri tress fo thirbaid,
fo chess is fo chomidnaib.

IN briathar dorat andsin
don tslúag thríathach ba tirbaid:
roslen, nírbo gnó do gail,
cosin nómad nó n-arsaid.

Ó flaith Chonchobair Cherna
ós trom-thoraib túaid-Emna
rosbraith tria báig in bine
co flaith Máil meic Rochraide.

90

Andsin robo marb in ben
don galur garb, roglinned;
co roclass fo thacha thair
i n-Ard Macha mid-adbail.

Dia bás, dia bethaid co mblaid
eter srethaib síl Ádaim,
na mná cen bríg mbailb ós bla
rolen a hainm in mag-sa. IN.

100

Co h-Ard Macha, dáltait fir,
ó thuc Pátraic prim-chretim,
in túaim cen tacha rothag
is rúaim ratha, cid romag. IN.

A rí, thuc Emain co húar
iarna dedail ria deg-slúag,
m'anmain ní rop trúag it tig
iar salmaib súad hi sáer-maig. IN.

She leaves a word enduringly upon the pillars of the Red Branch, that in time of war they should be in distress, in anguish and labour-pangs.

The word she uttered then brought distress to the lordly host ; it clave to them—it was no occasion for valour—till the ninth of nine lives.

From the reign of Conchobar of Cerna over the strong troops of northern Emain, the ill deed by her imprecation wrought their ruin until the reign of Mal son of Rochraide.

Then the woman died of that sore sickness, 'twas certain, and was buried yonder in solitude in Ard Macha, rich in mead.

From the life, from the death of the woman, famous among the lines of Adam's seed, whose virtues were not left unsung over the spot, her name clave to this plain.

Since Patrick first brought the Faith to Ard Macha where men gather, the plenteous stead he chose is a favoured burial-place, even the great plain.

O King that broughtest Emain to desolation, after it was deserted by its brave host, let not my soul be sad in thine house, after singing psalms of poets in the noble plain.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 82. <i>for</i>] a LeS | 83. <i>thirbaid</i>] thidbaid Le | 84. <i>chomidnaib</i>] |
| choimdnaiab Le | 86. <i>bā</i>] fo BH <i>tirbaid</i>] trabaid M | 87. <i>gnó</i>] |
| gnomad S <i>do gail</i>] RB | don gail LcM diangoil S ₃ digail H gail S | 89. |
| <i>Cherna</i>] cernna B | 91. <i>rostraith</i>] rodasbraith MS ₃ H <i>tria</i>] tri M tre H | |
| <i>báig</i>] baidh etc RBLcM | <i>in bine</i>] mbine MS ₃ H | 94. <i>don</i>] du B <i>roglinned</i>] |
| doglinnidh Le | 95. <i>co roclass</i>] corachla Le clas a fert S <i>fo thacha</i>] fotha M | |
| 99. <i>cen brig</i>] combrigh H <i>mbailb</i>] mairb Le | 101. <i>dáltait</i>] S daltaid BLc | |
| daltait RH daldait S ₃ adtaltaid M | 103. <i>in ttiaim</i>] im thuaim LeS | |
| 104. <i>is</i>] a Le <i>romag</i>] romer Le | 105. <i>huair</i>] fuar B fuar Le huair S | |
| huain S ₃ | 106. <i>ria</i>] R fri LeS re cæt. | 107. <i>ni rop</i>] niro R nirbo |
| Le narab S ₃ <i>it tig</i>] itaig RB ittoigh S ₃ attaig H ataigh M na thigh Le | 108. <i>suað</i>] RBS sluag etc LeMS ₃ H <i>hí</i>] san S ₃ | |
| na tigh S | | |

LECHT ÓEN-FIR AÍFE

Lechtán sund óen-fir Aífe
 mac lánamna lán-baíthe:
 noco tart in talam tlacht
 dar mac bad dánu dóennacht.

Do maccán bec nírbo thimm,
 dia luid dar fairrgi find-linn,
 suide for brú díthraib Daill
 is chomrac fri Coineulaind.

Rafaíd a máthair anair
 ocus rombí a athair:
 ole dóib ar óen díb línaib
 bás a meic a mígnímaib.

10

Dia athair nírbo chíalla
 ferg fri mac noí cert-blíadna:
 nímbuí ní nandénad lond,
 dáig rofitir ba hécond.

Mad comáes nodecorad fris,
 dia ristais, immuserntais,
 ní bérad a oscur slán
 coscur laich isa lechtán.

L.

20

Trúag in guba rochachain
 Cúchulaind garg, rognáthaig:
 táncatar Ulaid 'na dáil
 oc caíniud a óen-maccáin.

Rosfue Cúchulaind iarsin
 co hóenach Airbi Rofir:
 Airbe Rofir, cid diatá
 acht a hairbe in lechtáin-sa?

L.

Lecht Óen-fir Aífe. RBLcMSS₃H 2. *lánamna*] *om.* M *lán*] fir R
 3. *in*] ar S₃ *talam*] tarim B *tain* Le *talmáin* S₃ 4.] *mac* a *cutroma*
 ar *crodhacht* S₃ *dar*] ar LeS *bad*] bu LeM *dánu*] danu B *dano* H *dana*
 RLeMS *dóennacht*] draidecht Le 5. *Do*] da M *maccán*] *macamh* etc

LECHT OEN-FIR AIFE

Here is the grave of 'Aife's only man', son of a right-wanton couple; never did earth throw her mantle over a boy bolder of nature.

The little lad was not afraid, when he crossed the bright sea-water, to sit by the lonely bank of Dall, and to encounter Cuchulaind.

His mother sent him from the east and his father slew him: ill for them both alike was their son's death through their misdeeds.

Senseless it was for his sire to be wroth with a boy of bare nine years; there was nothing that should make him furious, since he knew the lad was but a child.

Had it been his match in age who opposed him, if they came together and joined combat his visitor would not have won unscathed the spoil of the warrior whose grave is here.

Sad the lament that was raised by fierce Cuchulaind—it grew a custom: the Ulaid came in muster to bewail his only son.

Thereafter Cuchulaind bore him to the meeting-place of Airbe Rofir: Airbe Rofir—whence comes the name, but from the hewing of this grave-stone?

-
- LeSS₃ bec] bic MS 6. *día luid*] doluid LeS 7. *brú*] bri M *Daill*] guill Le 8.] is iomaireacc fri heccloinn S₃ *fri*] fria MH 9. *Rafaid*] rafaid Le rofæd RB rofæth M rofaidh SH faoidis S₃ 10. *rombi*] rombith Le 11. *olc dóib ar óen*] rob olc doibsiom S₃ *ar óen*] andís etc LeS 12. *a maic*] an maic LeS a] tre LeS na S₃H *mignimaib*] morgnimaib Le 13. *chialla*] cialldha etc SS₃ 14. *fri*] re LeMSS₃ *. noi cert-bliadna*] a nái mblíadna Le 15.] *niba maine in bine oll* etc LeS *ní*] ne M *nandénad*] nach denad S₃ 16. *daig*] om. B *roftir*] rosfidir M 17. *comdes*] cæmaes Le *nodcorad*] S₃H nocorad M nadechorad R nadeorad BLeS 18. *immuserntais*] simserndais R imusrechtdais Le minusferdis M imusferntais S 19. *bérad*] berdis M *oscar*] choscar S *slán*] slain Le 20. *laich*] an laoi S₃ *isa*] sa S₃ asa LeH *lechtán*] leathlaim Le 21.] truagh galgat is cumha chain S₃ *rochachain*] rognathaigh (*with vel cachain superscr.*) R rachathaigh Le rocátaigh S 22. *garg rognáthaigh*] dorognathaigh Le rod rognathaigh S cia rognathaigh S₃ 23. '*na*] a BMH 24. *oc cainiud*] oc cainiu R ocoiniud B docaoineadh S₃ documaid Le ocumaigh M acumaigh S a] om. BM mo Le an S *-maccáin*] macaim BH 25. *Rosfuc*] Rofuc RBH rafuc Le 26. *Airbi*] airbhri S 27. *Airbe*] airbhri S *Rofir*] om. M 28. *acht a hairbe*] ed. achta airbi Le acht madh airbri S acht ar bith *cæt. lechtáin*] lechta LeSS₃

Is imda écht ar bith bras
 iarna dénum tria thétnas :
 isat ili ar Banba báin
 a ligi ocus a lechtáin.

L.

30

CARN MÁIL

Óebind a tarla ar m' aire,
 nochon eólas óen-baile,
 mo menma oc soillsigud sair,
 ar díamairib in domain.

Cid daib ná hiarfaig nech úaib,
 diambad áil eólas d' immúaim,
 eid diatá in t-ainm thair nach tan
 ar Charn Máil im-maig Ulad ?

Lugaid mál, is mór romill,
 rohindarbad a Hérind :
 lucht secht long do mac ind rí
 a Hérind i n-Alban-tír.

10

Rochossain na tíre thair
 a cathaib 's a congalaib
 ó Letha co Lochlaind láin
 ó indsib Ore co Hespáin.

Mar rogab recht ríge rúaid
 tue leis na sochraite slúraig,
 corbat láin inbir Ulad
 do bárcuib na mborb-churad.

20

Fúacairther úad cath nó cháin
 ó Lugaid for firu Fáil
 dia mbreith leis i cend catha,
 la hadbur a n-ard-flatha.

Many a slaying has been wrought in the great world by his fury, and numerous in bright Banba are the graves and tombstones of those he slew.

CARN MÁIL

Pleasant is the theme that falls to my care, the lore not of one spot only, while my spirit sheds light eastward on the secret places of the world.

How is it that none of you demands, if he seek to weave the web of knowledge, whence came at any time the name of Carn Mail in the eastern Plain of Ulaid?

Lugaid Mal, great ruin he wrought, was exiled from Erin: with seven ship-loads sailed the prince from Erin to the land of Alba.

He contended for the eastern lands, in combat and conflict, from Brittany to teeming Norway, from the Orkney isles to Spain.

When he gained the right of proud kingship, he brought with him the hosts of his array till the harbours of Ulaid were filled with the grim warriors' barques.

A challenge comes from Lugaid to the men of Fal demanding battle or tribute, to carry them into battle with him who was to be their overlord.

30. <i>thétnas</i>] thetnas S ₃ tetnas BH tæthnas R tenas M degnass Le dhiumas S	31. <i>isat ili</i>] isad ili Le isidili M isadhile S <i>Banba</i>] ban M <i>úain</i>] bil LeS	32. <i>a ligi</i>] allide H <i>lechtáin</i>] leachtraidh etc LeS
Carn Máil. LRBLcMSS ₃ H	1. <i>a</i>] na LRH i B	3. <i>oc</i>] o R ar B
4. <i>ar</i>] fri L <i>diamairib</i>] LRB diamraib dana Le diamradaib etc MS ₃ H diamhrachaibh S <i>in</i>] arn S ₃	5. <i>Cid</i>] Ge LeS <i>daib</i>] L tait RMH taid BLcS táith S ₃ <i>ná</i>] ca Le ga S na cæt. <i>hiarfaig</i>] B iarfaig L	6. <i>diambad</i>] L mad etc cæt. <i>áil</i>] ail L
ail dail B ail daib etc cæt. <i>d' immiaim</i>] dimuaim etc LRS ₃ H dimmuaiB B dimluaid M imercuaid etc LeS	7. <i>nach tan</i>] om. L	8. <i>im-maig</i>] umhai M
9. <i>is</i>] ba S ₃ <i>romill</i>] rosmill S	10. <i>rohindarbad</i>] gor hionnarbadh S ₃ do hindarbad é Le	11. <i>secht</i>] tri M
12. <i>a cathaib</i>] iccathaibh S ₃ 's a] L i BS ₃ a cæt. <i>congalaib</i>] comlannaib Le	13. <i>ó Letha</i>] a lethain L o eadain Le ó étar S	14. <i>ó indsiB</i>] a hindsi L o indsi H
15. <i>recht rige</i>] recht is rige L rige B recht rigi rigi Le	16. <i>corbat</i>] cobrat B corbad LeS curba M <i>láin</i>] lana L lain S ₃ H lán etc cæt. <i>inbir</i>] indb R inb B	17. <i>do</i>] da M
18. <i>leis</i>] lei B <i>i cend catha</i>] a cenn chatha LeS a ceann cache M	19. <i>úad</i>] leis R om. H	20. <i>a</i> n-] in RBLc ind H

Iarsin tic anuas co lúath,
do chur chatha fo chomúath;
cloch cach óen-fir tue 'sin cath,
de doringned carn Lugdach.

IS and roboí Lugaid mál
isin charn chloch-throm chnes-bán,
cor-róemid in cath mór mend
for firu áille Hérend.

30

Rogab Lugaid il-Lius Breg
gíallu Gall ocus Gáedel:
rí ris' torgbad in carn cruind
fail ar maig Ulad óebind. Oe.

Secht-mac roboí ac Dáire dess,
Lugaid ainm cach meic ria mess:
daig na fáistine, ferr de,
rosirmais óen-ainm uile.

40

Lóeg doilbthe ic Dáire mar daig
ir-richt oss-gamna allaid:
tarlaic cethrur díb a cúain
rissin sen-Temraig síar-thúaid.

Doluid rempo in lóeg col-laind
cor-ríacht in sruth oc Sinaind,
ocus dorochair leó in lóeg,
a cethrur míadach maccóem.

Doringset crandchor can chess
meic Dáire ó dún na n-Éicess,
co fessed cách díb a mod
din lóeg doilbthe cen dochor.

50

Then down he comes with speed to offer battle, even-matched ; a stone for each fighter he brought to battle, with these was built Lugaid's Cairn.

There stood Lugaid Mal, on the massy white-sided cairn, till he brake the great and famous fight against the goodly men of Erin.

Lugaid received at Less Breg hostages from Gall and Gael : he was the king that reared the round cairn which stands above fair Mag Ulad.

Seven sons had comely Daire, Lugaid was the honoured name of each : because of the prophecy—better so ! one name served for all.

Daire, fiery warrior, owned an enchanted fawn, shaped like a wild deer : four of them loosed their hounds after it, from old Tara north-westward.

Swift fled the fawn before them as far as the stream by Sinann : the fawn fell a prey to the four noble striplings.

The sons of Daire from Dun na n-Eicess cast lots gleefully, that each might know his share of the enchanted fawn, without quarrel.

-
25. *Iarsin*] Arsain L co luath] om. L 26. *fo chomúath*] BM fa comuath
 R fo chomhfuath S₃ fo comfuath H ba conúath L na comtuath S co
 roluath Lc 27. *óen-fir*] L fir dib Lc fir S treinfir etc *cæt.* 'sin] isin
 S 28. *de doringned*] L conad uadha M de doromad etc *cæt.* 30.
isin] sin L isa Lc *chloch-throm*] chlothrom B comtrom LcS₃ 31. *cor-*
róemid] coremaid Lc coromaidh S *mend*] mind LcS 32. *fíru*] feraib L
 33. *il-Lius Breg*] alluss breg L alis breg R allius breg etc BM allis breg H
 illios breg S₃ alos a sleg Lc aille slegh S 34. *giallu*] rigi Lc 35.]
 L fer lasrulad earn rochind etc *cæt.* 36. *ar*] L i etc *cæt.* 37. *robai*]
 robatar L 38. *ria*] LR rea S₃H re *cæt.* 39. *ferr de*] male M
 40. *rosirmais*] rosuirmis M rosilad Lc rosgabhsat S roirmais H *óen-ainm*]
 ananmand L uile] eili Lc 41. *mar daig*] mar dardaid M fa doigh S₃
 42. *oss-*] fos etc BLc *allaid*] ell' R 43. *cethrur dib*] a cethrar Lc do
 cethrar S a *cuain*] an chúain S accuain S₃ a chuain RBLc 44. *rissin*
sen-] riss assin L risasen BH risasin S₃ risasten M *siar-thúaid*] siar-
 túaith L om. M sairthuaid etc *cæt.* 45. *Doluid*] Alluid L *rempo*]
 roime etc LcS *in lóeg*] om. R 46. *-riacht*] ruacht L 47.] om. M
 48.] om. M a] in R *miadach*] midach B *maccóem*] morchaem etc LcS
 morlæch L 49. *Doringset*] L dorigset R dorigniset B doronsad etc
 LcS dorinsed M rochuirset etc S₃H 50. *ó*] a L

Dorala do Lugaid Corbb
 coscrad in loíg, ciarbo borb,
 conid úad sluinter in ehland
 Dál Mess Corbb i crích Cúaland.

Céin roboí cách ara mod,
 Lugaid Cál ina chotlod,
 conid hé a chiniud cen chacht
 Cálraige cóicid Chonnacht.

60

Dorat Lugaid dig n-uisce,
 éarb álaínd nírb athbruiste,
 conid hé a síl-side arsin
 Corco Oirche i crích Caisil.

Lugaid mór-athair Maic Con,
 Hériu dó uile a óenor:
 conid ó Lugaid Lóeg 'le
 sluinter cland Corco Laígde.

Mar robátar isin tig
 na fir thall ocon tenid
 dosriacht caillech, gránda ind ail,
 is sí acgarb écosmail.

70

Airdiu ná cach seól-chrand súas,
 mó ná both leptha a leth-chlúas,
 duibe a delb iná cach dreeh,
 tromm ar cach eride in chaillech.

Mó a clár fíacail, cid bías de,
 iná fían-chlár fídhille:
 a srón fata úaide sair
 sía indás uarchécht arathair.

• 80

Mó ná elíab co cendaib dés
 cach dorn don mnaí com-míbés:
 mó ná ail borb ehloiche ar chlu
 cehtar a dá glún ngarb-dub.

To Lugaid Corb there fell the carving of the fawn, rough though he was; so from him is named the clan Dal Mess Corb in the region of Cualu.

While each was busy with his share, Lugaid Cal fell asleep; so his offspring unsubdued are the Calraige of Connacht.

Lugaid [Ore] brought a draught of water; fair he was yet not forspent: so his seed thenceforth is Corco Oirche in the confines of Cashel.

Lugaid, Mac Con's great father, all Erin belonged to him alone: so from Lugaid Loeg onwards the clan of Corco Laigde has its name.

When the men were in the house sitting over by the fireside, there entered a hag, a loathly offence; she was hideous, unsightly.

Taller was she than a mast upright, bigger than a sleeping-hut her ear, blacker than any visage her form, a weight on every heart was the hag.

Broader her row of teeth—what portends it?—than a board set with draughtsmen; her nose stood out far before her, it was longer than a ploughshare.

Bigger than a basket full of sheaves was each fist of the mis-natured woman: bigger than rough-hewn stone in rampart each of her black bony knees.

-
- 55.] *aliter alibi inuenitur* L (*marg.*) 56. *Dál Mess Corbb*] *dál mos corbb* L
dal' meas corb B 57. *Céin*] *an ccein* S₃ *roboi*] *rab* R *cách*] *each dib* Lc
ara] *rea* S₃ 58.] *baoi Lughaidh cáil na codladh* S₃ 59. *chacht*] *acht*
LeM 60. *cóicid*] *choicid* L *a crichaibh etc* LcS *i coiced etc* *cæt.*
Chonnacht] *conachtaib* Lc 62. *ciarb*] *diarb* H' *nirb athbruiste*] *nirbat*
breite B *nirbad bruisti* Lc *nirbat bruiste* H *uiruath bruiste* M 63.
conid] *combad* L *a*] *om.* RH *siú*] *chiniud* L *-side*] *sé* L' *sen* R *sin* Lc
somh S₃ *sam* H 64. *Corco Oirche*] *corca oirchi* R *corcoche* L *corco*
oirei Lc *corca oiche etc* S₃H *coreoirce etc* BM *corcorighe* S *crích*] *coerich*
etc RBLcMH 65. *mór*] *om.* R *Maic Con*] *ind fir* S 66.] *righ erend*
maceon cæmghil (vel dil superscr.) S *ba leis an laogh na aonor* S₃ *dó uile*]
uile do L *a*] *om.* M 67. *Lugaid*] *lug* S₃ *Lóeg*] *leog etc* BMH *leodh* S
laigi Lc *'le*] *lee* B *alé etc* RS₃ *alle* Lc 68. *cland*] *in ehland* L *Laigde*]
laidhe etc RMH *læge* B *laigi etc* LcS 70. *oon*] L *um* B *imon etc* *cæt.*
71. *dosriacht*] L *doriacht* LcS₃ *dosruacht etc* *cæt.* *gránda*] *granne* L
grainne H *grainde* B *ind ail*] *in ail etc* LcM *an oil* S₃ 72. *issi*] *si* R
osí S₃ *ishí* L 73. *ná*] *inda* R. *ina* S₃H 75. *iná*] *na* L *anda* M
drech] *dath* RBMH 78. *iná*] *anda* L *inda* M 80. *indás*] *andas* L
ina S₃ *no* B *na* *cæt.* 81. *co*] *do* RLcSS₃ *cendaib*] *dendaib* B *dés*] *días*
L 82. *com-*] L *ba* *cæt.* 83. *mó*] *is mo etc* LcS *ná*] *no* BM *ina*
S₃H *borb*] LR *om. cæt.* *ar*] i L 84. *cechtar*] *centar* B *a dá*] *ad* B *a* S

Bolg-medón impe, 's eól dam,
cen asna coa hachsalaib:
cend carrach enoce-remur cíar
fuirre mar cach n-aittenn-šliab.

Rosfuachtastar is' tech tend
imbáatar meic ríg Hérend:
trúag in gním, gránna in bloscad
doringni friu dia roscaib.

90

Rosoí ained na mac máeth
risin n-úath n-olair n-abbáeth:
rap ferr leó ná a silliud sain
a tabairt beó fon talmáin.

Roimpó a cíall is a cond,
ropo léim dar lán-chomlond:
rosdilsigset meic Dáire
dochum éca imnáire.

100

Atbert-si friu, aithese n-ole,
'Fóed nech úaib lemm innocht,
nó eter choin is duine ndron
roformíss uili m' óenor.'

Ó 'tchondaire in gábud nglé
atbert riu Lugaid Laígde:
'Faifet-se léi, is lese in cor:
lór duib m' esbaid-se m' óenor.'

Mar rodorchais in tene
roslá ir-richt n-ingnad n-aile:
fuair deilb col-lí molta immach,
is sí corera chorr-chíchech.

110

A paunchy belly she bore, I trow, without rib to the armpits: a scabby black crown with a crop of wens, like a furzy hillside, upon her.

She set upon them in the strong house where sat the King of Erin's sons; dire the dazzlement she cast upon them from her eyes—alas the deed!

A change fell on the nature of the tender youths before that obese lustful horror: sooner than look upon her they had chosen to be buried under earth alive.

Their spirit and senses turned, with a throb sorer than stark combat: the sons of Daire gave themselves over to a death of shame.

She addressed them with an evil saying: 'One of you must sleep with me to-night, or I will devour you all, unaided, hound and strong man alike.'

When he saw the danger plain, Lugaid Laigde spoke: 'I will sleep with her—unwelcome task: enough for you to lose me only.'

As the firelight fell dim, she changed to another wondrous shape: she took on a radiant form, beyond praise; rosy she grew, round-bosomed.

85. 's eol] L is eol etc *cæt.* 86. *coa hachsalaib]* co achsalab L co
 hochsalaib R co haesalab B coa oesalu H gan oscealaibh S₃ coa cosaib M
 can imscarad Le ica imscaradh S 88. *fuirre]* uirre etc LeS 89.
Rosfuachtastar] L dochuaid chuca etc *cæt.* is' tech] L sin tech etc *cæt.*
 91. *gnim]* greann S₃ *bloscad]* bloscad L broscad M bloscail S₃ 92.
doringni] L doroine etc RBSH dorigine Le doroinni M dorinne S₃ *friu]*
om. S₃ *dia]* ria L *roscaib]* roscad etc LeS rinn rosecaibh S₃ 93-96.] *om.*
 LeS 94. *n-uath]* mnae L *n-olair]* L nadhbhal M nolor etc *cæt.* *n-abbáeth]*
 nanbaoth etc S₃H 95. *rap]* L ba *cæt.* leó] le B ná] no B ina S₃ a]
 RS₃ *om. cæt.* 96. *fon]* fo RMH 97. *is a]* sa RLc 98. *rope]* ciarbo
 L *chomlond]* forlonn MS₃H 99. *rosdilsigset]* nodilsigset L rodilsiset
 R rodilsighedh S dodisligead Le rodilsigset S₃ 100. *imnáire]*
 imgranne L inmaire B 102. *Fóed]* foed L faoied S₃ foied etc RBM
 faoideadh H fotaeth Le fothæd S *lemm]* leamsa M 104. *roformiss]*
 rosíss L robharníos S₃ ronfoirneas Le m'] im etc BLcS₃H 105. *gábud]*
 gnimrad Le 106. *Laigde]* laidi Le laighe SH 107. *léi]* *om.* Le
is] *om.* LeSS₃H 108.] leor doib mesbaid amænor etc LeSS₃ 109.
in tene] *om.* M 111. *deilb col-lí]* lí condeilb L 112. *issi]* ishí L

Amlaid robátar a roise,
(nirbat berta brath-tecoise)
trí gaí gréine cehtar de,
baile a silled, ba soirche.

Roscuch in cúach corera cain
dia cíhib sís cen sentaid,
co mbenfaide frigde friss
'sin tig ar šoillsí a cóem-chniss.

120

Iarsin roiarfaig di in mac
'A ingen chóem, can tánac?
sluind do chenél, innis sund,
ráid rium, ná dícheil orumm!'

'Athér-sa fritt, a meic mín:
limm-sa fóit na haird-ríg:
is mé ind ingen seta seng,
flathius Alban is Hérend.

'Duit rotóebus cend innocht,
acht sain ní bia diar comrocc:
mac bías ocut, óebdu de,
issé mac las' fóim-se.

130

'Athér ainm do meic, maith mod;
Lugaid a ainm ri Mac Con:
aire a mét dechraim-se de,
bid druí, bid fáith, bid file.'

Fástine atbert friu Dáre,
ri Mac Con cen imnáre:
'Gébaid Mac Con Cnoce mBreg mbind,
Hérind is Albain óebind.' Óebind.

140

114. *nirbat*] L nipar H robtar S₃ niptar etc *cæ*t. *berta*] *bī*řta L *β*ta *cæ*t.
brath-tecoise] *braith*ecoise R *prath*ecoise M 115. *tri*] *om*. L .m. B in
M *cehtar*] *cantar* Lc *gantar* MS 116. *baile*] RB *bahé* L *bail* S₃H

Such were her eyes (they were no tricks of cheating craft)—three shafts of sunlight in each of them: where her glance fell all was bright.

Down slid the crimson mantle fair from her breasts untouched by age, till the flesh-worm might be crushed in the room by the light of her lovely body.

Then the young man asked her, 'Fair maiden, whence comest thou? name thy race, tell it now, speak to me, hide it not from me!'

'I will tell thee, gentle youth; with me sleep the High Kings: I, the tall slender maiden, am the Kingship of Alba and Erin.

'To thee have I revealed myself this night, yet nothing more shall come of our meeting: the son thou shalt have, he it is that I shall sleep with—happier fate.

'I will tell thee thy son's name, lucky his lot; Lugaid shall his name be and Mac Con thereto: of him therefore I pronounce thus much: he shall be seer and prophet and poet.'

Daire uttered a prophecy to them concerning Mac Con un-reproached: 'Mac Con shall win the ringing Hill of Brega, with Erin and pleasant Alba.'

- aille M uaib etc LeS a] om. L hi B soirche] soillse etc LeS 117.
 ciach] L fuan cæt. cain] cáin R 118. cen sentaid] a sentaid L (with cem
 in margin) gan senntaigh S con tsentuín (with vel gan tsentaídh in margin)
 S₃ go tsentain H cen sentain etc cæt. 119. frigde] frige etc RM
 frigid H 120. 'sin tig] istig L ar] le M a] om. R 121. roiarfaig]
 dofiar Le 122. do chenél] om. S₃ can tánac] cuin tanac H cartanach M
 cid atcomhnaic S₃ 123. do chenél] do gein etc RBM do gene S duind
 7 Le 125. Atbér] atbert B 126. fóit] fot L fóit R faoidhit etc
 S₃H fháided S foidid etc cæt. 127.] is me... dha seang M seta] tsegda etc
 LeS 130. acht sain] acht sin SS₃H sin s Le diar] L dom Le dar etc
 cæt. 132. mac] fer LeS₃H las'] la L lasa LeSS₃H fóim-se] fæmse Le
 faimisi M faidim se etc BS ffaoidhim se S₃ 133. Atbér] ad Le
 adbert S do maic] dot me S 134. a ainm] L mor mac M mor bid etc
 cæt. ri] ri SS₃ 135. aire a mét] L arus mo Le arai is mó S aire is
 mo etc cæt. dechraim-se] LRS₃ decraim se etc BMSH deachramar Le 136.
 drui] ri etc RMS 137. friu] fri S₃H 138. ri] re SS₃ Mac Con cen
 imnáre] ed. mac con imnáre L mac con con imailli etc LeSS₃ mac con cen
 imaille RMH mac con gan maille B 139. mbind] imbind M 140.
 Héirind is Albain] albain is erind etc RBS₃H alba 7 eiri Le

RÁTH MÓR MAIGE LINE

Ráth Rogein a hainm riasin,
hi flaith Bresail formna gil,
conustánic Mór iar tain,
ingen Rithir meic Derlaim.

Coíca bliadan dí 'sin ráith
tar éis Bresail áith-rind áith,
dia luid Bresal fo loch Laig
dia ralsatar fianna faid.

Dia n-epairt in ben 'sin sceól
ná ticfad Bresal dia eól,
ba marb Mór ar bélaib cáich:
is de rolil ainm don ráith.

10

R.

BEND BOIRCHE I

Boirche búadaeh, ba búaid fir,
mac Rossa rúaid, ríg buidnig,
nogaired búar co mbennaib,
in búachall búan bil-tengaid.

Othá Inber Cholptha chrúaid
co Dún Sobairchi sair-thúaid
notictis fo gairm ind fir
as each airm dia indsaigid.

Airm conriced ria búar mbrecc
ar oman chúan is chonglecc
notuiled leó each n-aidehe
a muirech, a mór-Boirche.

10

B.

Ráth Mór Maige Líne. RBLcMSS₃H 1. *riasin*] artusin (*with tu expunct.*) Le artus riasin M 2. *hi*] co S₃ *formna gil*] formnad gil Le briathar glain S 3. *conustánic*] conatainic R 4. *iar tain*] iarsin M 4.

RATH MOR OF MAG LINE

Rath Rogein was formerly its name in the reign of Bresal of the white shoulder, till presently Mor came there, the daughter of Rithir, son of Derlam.

Fifty years she lived in the Rath after parting with eager Bresal of the keen spear, when Bresal disappeared under Loch Laig, and his warriors raised a cry.

When a woman said (so runs the tale) that Bresal would never come home, Mor fell dead before the eyes of all: hence the name clave to the Rath.

BEND BOIRCHE I

Victorious Boirche, the man of might, son of Ross Ruad, well-attended king, the staunch loud-voiced herdsman, used to call the horned kine.

From harsh Inber Colptha to Dun Sobairche north-eastward they came at his call, seeking him from every quarter.

In the spot where he met his dappled kine, for fear of wolf-packs and worryings, their master and great guardian would sleep with them nightly.

Derlain] gerrlaim Lc 6. *Bresail*] om. Lc *áith-rind áith*] reid rindaith etc LcS 7.] for echtra dochuaid Bresal etc LcS *laigh Breasal fo loch laigh* M 8.] fo loch lai dia rolustar Lc *fo loch laidh roluidhestar* S 9. *Dia n-epairt*] dia ndebairt S₃H *conn debhairt S 'sin*] inar S 10. *ná*] ní S₃ 11.] mor tre bresal ba marb de etc LcS *mor ar bela ba marb caich* M 12.] a hainm fil for an raith si etc LcS *de rolil a hainm an raith* M *dom*] in etc BH

Bend Boirche I. RBLcMSS₃H 1.] Bend boirche buadhaigh buaidh fir S 3. *nogaired*] rogaired etc LcS *búair*] búair S *co mbennaib*] R coabennaib B *co benaib* Lc *co bendaib* etc MSS₃H 4.] mac rossa ruaidh rothengaidh S 5. *Cholptha*] colpa de M *chrúaid*] cas S 6. *sair-thúaid*] særinhas S 7. *notictis*] dothigdis Lc *rothigdis* S 8. *indsaigid*] innaigid R *indagaid* B *indsaigi* Lc *hinnsaidig* M *indaide* H 9. *conriced*] condriced etc LcMS₃H *mbúair*] BS *buar cœt.* 11.] nahuilead leó a lenmain vel cach noidechi Lc *boirche buan fa bert gan fell S notuiled*] rotuillid M 12.] rosfeithedh buar do blaith beind S *a muirech*] R a mbuirech B *a muirigh* S₃ *ammureach* H *ambaireac* M *a fureach* Lc

BEND BOIRCHE II

IN eól duib in senchas sen
mara ris' mben Boirche bil ?
glas-mag na rón riss anair,
in tress asnad mór meic Lir.

Bennán breetha, nírbu bláith,
dorigne berta fir baith :
bennán do guin meic meic Lir,
lennán dond ingin gil gaith.

De roléic dia cride chrád
Manannán, ba bine báeth,
Loch Ruide, Loch eurchach Cúan,
in tress lind lúath, Loch Dá Cháech.

10

Atbath Ibel ós muir mál
dia guin 'con níth, carad ceól ;
'sind léim fofuair in mag már
ind ingen án inna heól.

IN.

TALTIU

CÚÁN ÚA LOTHCHÁIN *cecinit*

A chóemu críche Cuind chain
éitsid bic ar bennachtain ;
co n-écius duib senchas sen
suidigthe óenaig Thalten.

Trí chét bliadan, fodagaib,
teora bliadna do bliadnaib
co gein Críst, coistid rissein,
ón chét-óenuch i Taltein.

Taltiu ingen Magmóir maill,
ben Echach gairb maic Dúach daill,
tánic sund ria slúag Fer mBolg
co Caill Cúan iar cath chomard.

10

BEND BOIRCHE II

Know ye the ancient story of the sea that goodly Boirche confronts? eastward lies the seals' green plain, one of the Three great Moans of Mac Lir.

Spotted Bennán, not mild of mood, wrought a wanton's deeds: a buck was he to gore the son of Mac Lir, the wise white maiden's paramour.

Therefore, in anguish of heart, did Manannán let loose—it was a wanton crime—Loch Ruide, Loch Cuan of the curraghs, and the third rapid water, Loch Da Chaeach.

Ibel, that loved music, died above the teeming sea, of the wound he took in the combat: at the Leap that the great plain felt, the noble maiden has her home.

TALTIU

O nobles of the land of comely Conn, hearken a while for a blessing, till I tell you the legend of the elders of the ordering of Taltiu's Fair!

Three hundred years and three it covers, from the first Fair at Taltiu to the birth of Christ, hearken!

Taltiu, daughter of gentle Magmor, wife of Eochu Garb son of Dui Dall, came hither leading the Fir Bolg host to Caill Chuan, after high battle.

Bend Boirche II. RBLcMS ₃ H		2. <i>mara ris</i>] mar airis LeH		mar	
raítear S ₃	<i>mben</i>] mbenn B	beand etc	LeS ₃ H	4. <i>asnað</i>] osna Le	asoin
S ₃	<i>maic</i>] mac S ₃	5. <i>breetha</i>] bechta Le	breadha M	breahta S ₃	
7. <i>maic</i> (1)] mna Le	8. <i>lennán</i>] lenda B	9. <i>De</i>] dia M	<i>cride chrað</i>		
crídhí crad R	crídiu cruac B	crídhí grec Le	crídhí creach M	crídhí crech	
S ₃ H	10. <i>bine</i>] bindi Le	11. <i>Ruide</i>] ruid Le	12. <i>in</i>] om. B		
13. <i>míl</i>] meand Le	14. ' <i>con nith</i>] connith R	conith B	condith Le		
gerníth S ₃	gníth H	dogni M	15. ' <i>sind</i>] sin S ₃	isind cæt.	<i>fófuair</i>]
fuair B	<i>már</i>] S ₃	om. cæt.			

Taltiu.	LRBMLcSS ₃ H	Attribution in L only	1. chain] cáin L	2.	
bic] L	ruind etc	BMS	rinn etc cæt.	ar] bar B	3. co n-éicius] condéicius L
conindiser etc	LeS	duib] dib R	doib H	5-8.] om. LeS	5. Tri] L
coic etc cæt.	fodagaib] L	cotangeib etc cæt.	6. bítadna] L	mili cæt.	7.
coistid] cloistig etc	RBM	11. táinic] tucús R	tugad etc	BMLcS	ria]
re LeS	lia S ₃	12. chomara] comord etc	HSS ₃		

Caill Chúan, ropo chlethchor crand
 ó Escir co hÁth nDrommann,
 ó Mónai Móir, mét n-uide,
 ó Séil co hArd nAssuide.

Assuide, in suide selgga,
 fris'ndáiltis daim drom-dergga,
 gnáth cend carbaig a caill sair,
 in athbéim for brú Chlochair.

20

Commur, Currech, Crích Linni,
 Ard Manai i mbítis rindi,
 batir coscraig coin Chairpre
 for tír Tiprat Mungairde.

Mór in mod dorigned sin
 al-los túagi la Taltin
 athnúd achaid don chaill chóir
 la Taltin ingin Magmóir.

Ó thopacht aice in chaill chain
 cona frémaib as talmain,
 ria cind bliadna ba Bregmag,
 ba mag seothach seoth-šemrach.

30

Scaillis a cride 'na curp
 iarna rige fo rí-gebrutt;
 fír nach follán gnúis fri gúal,
 ní ar feda ná fíd-úal.

Fota a cuma, fota a cur
 i tám Thalten iar trom-thur;
 dollotar fir, diamboi i cacht,
 inse hÉrend fria hedacht.

40

13. *chlethchor*] cetchur etc RM 15. *Mónai*] moin H manaig Lc
 mhónaigh etc SS, *mét n-uide*] met ude L co meit nuide etc RH 16.
Séil] seil L oil S₃ ail cæt. *nAssuide*] S. nassade L nasuide etc RBMHS,
 nasuigi Lc 17. *Assuide*] asuigi Lc asuidhe RSS₃ 18. *fris'n-*] L

Caill Chuan, it was a thicket of trees from Escir to Ath Drommann, from the Great Bog, a long journey, from the Sele to Ard Assuide.

Assuide, the seat of the hunt, whither gathered the red-coated deer; often was the bugle first sounded east of the wood, the second time on the edge of Clochar.

Commur, Currech, Crich Linde, Ard Manai where the spears used to be; the hounds of Cairpre killed their quarry on the land of Tipra Mungairde.

Great that deed that was done with the axe's help by Taltiu, the reclaiming of meadowland from the even wood by Taltiu daughter of Magmor.

When the fair wood was cut down by her, roots and all, out of the ground, before the year's end it became Bregmag, it became a plain blossoming with clover.

Her heart burst in her body from the strain beneath her royal vest; not wholesome, truly, is a face like the coal, for the sake of woods or pride of timber.

Long was the sorrow, long the weariness of Taltiu, in sickness after heavy toil; the men of the island of Erin to whom she was in bondage came to receive her last behest.

cosn- etc cæt. daim drom-dergga] coin cheinnderga S₃ 19. cend] caill
(with no cinn superscr.) H carbaig] L carbaid BLc carpaid M carbait S
cairpe S₃ carþ R carþ H a caill] accaill H 20. in] o HS₃ athbéim] L
áthfinn etc LcS atinnd R ath innd B iathm̄d M ath uint H áthuinn
S₃ for brú] L acaill R acuil BMLcS acluid H a cladh S₃ 21. Commur]
comar etc LcSH Crich] cend Lc Linui] L line etc cæt. 22. Manai] L
mbanba cæt. 23. iatir] L batar etc cæt. coscraig] coseraid RLcS cosocra
M 24. for tir] L for brú S₃ ar bru RMH ar tæb B os or Lc os oir
S Mungairde] mungairbhi etc S₃H 25-28.] RBMLcSS₃ follow a different
version from LH: see Commentary 29. aicce] L lé etc cæt. 30. as] LB
a cæt. 31. ba] la L 33. curp] cuirp L 34. fo] foa HS₃ 35.
fir nach follán] fil ní follan L fir na falann R fir na fallain BMLc fir nach
fallain etc S₃H cáich ga cáinedh S gnúis] gnuius RB grial] gnuius S 36.
ní ar feda] na arfeda LH no ar feda S₃ ní hairfeadha M ní harfeda RB
gnitharfedaib Lc do na dáinib S ná fíduál] na fíduál L na fíduall RBM
ina fíodhghual S₃ fa deghehúis S 37. cuma] ema LLc coma RBMH
a cur] táim thur L 38.] Thalten iarna tromsetur L i tám] tam HS₃
ataim Lc atá a (retraced) S Thalten] teamf̄ (retraced) S iar] iarna LcS₃H na
S 39. dollotar] L tancatar etc cæt. i] om. Lc 40. inse] isan- Lc ria]
ra RB re H na M hedacht] hidnacht H taidecht Lc hidhalis (retraced) S

Roráid-si riu 'na galur,
 ciarb énairt nírb amlabur,
 ara nderntais, díchra in mod,
 cluiche cáinteoh dia cáiníod.

Im kalaind Auguist atbath,
 día lúain, Loga Lugnasad ;
 imman lecht ón lúan ille
 príom-óenach hÉrend áine.

Dorairngert fáitsine fir
 Taltiu tóeb-gel ina tír,
 airet nosfaímad cech flaith
 ná biad hÉriu cen óg-naith.

50

Óenach co n-ór, co n-argut,
 co cluichib, co ceól charput,
 co cumtuch cuirp is anma
 iar n-eólus iar n-erlabra.

Óenach cen guin, cen gait neich,
 cen cheist, cen changin, cen chreich,
 cen chron, cen aidbriud, cen dáil,
 cen élúd, cen ergabáil.

60

Óenach cen chol, cen chelggad,
 cen aithis, cen imderggad,
 cen imchosnom, cen ellach,
 cen táide, cen taithehennach :

Cen techt fer i forud mban,
 cen mná i forud fer find-glan,
 acht cách fria chárus ó thaig
 inna árus ard-óenaig.

She told them in her sickness (feeble she was but not speechless) that they should hold funeral games to lament her—zealous the deed.

About the Calends of August she died, on a Monday, on the Lugnasad of Lug; round her grave from that Monday forth is held the chief Fair of noble Erin.

White-sided Taltiu uttered in her land a true prophecy, that so long as every prince should accept her, Erin should not be without perfect song.

A fair with gold, with silver, with games, with music of chariots, with adornment of body and of soul by means of knowledge and eloquence.

A fair without wounding or robbing of any man, without trouble, without dispute, without reaving, without challenge of property, without suing, without law-sessions, without evasion, without arrest.

A fair without sin, without fraud, without reproach, without insult, without contention, without seizure, without theft, without redemption:

No man going into the seats of the women, nor woman into the seats of the men, shining fair, but each in due order by rank in his place in the high Fair.

41. *Roráid-si*] L conderbailt Le conepairt etc cæt. 42. *ciarb énairt*] cerbo meirb etc LeS ciar benir M *nirb*] robo Le nír S *amlabur*] labur Le mlábar S 43. *ara ndermtais*] L arandentais etc RBMHS₃ arcondendais etc LeS 45. *Im*] L hi etc cæt. *atbath*] L cen ail etc RBMHS₃ dia luaiaín Le o thosaigh S 46.] laithi lugnasai laneruaid Le *Loga Lugnasad*] laithi lugnasaidh etc RMHSS₃ laithi in lugnasaid B 47. *imman*] L imo etc RMSS₃ imoa BH com Le *ón*] o RBMLeS 48. *áine*] L uile etc cæt. 49-56.] *only in LH* 50. *ina*] na L 52. *ná*] nat H *óg-naith*] ognaithe L ogh . . th H 57. *gait neich*] goithe neith S₃ 59. *aidbriud*] aindbriud R aibriud BM aibreth S fhaitbead Le elad S₃ *cen dáil*] cid afl L dondail Le 60. *éiud*] eiliugud Le aibreadh S₃ *ergabáil*] L athgabail etc cæt. 63. *cen* (2)] im S *ellach*] LS cellach etc cæt. 64. *taithchenmach*] tromcendach R 65. *fer i forud mban*] a farradh ban mbán S 66. *i forud fer find-glan*] a forad fer fidgeal Le a farradh fer nimlán S 67. *fria charus*] fria charus L ria arus RBM inarus H na arus S₃ acadhus LeS ó] oa S₃ 68. *inna árus*] inna arus L inarusc ind etc RS₃H inarus in etc BM anarus in Le anárus an S

Óen-chairdde in óenaig andsin
 etir hÉrinn is Albain,
 ic techt ind, ic tuidecht ass,
 cen nach n-ecraitius n-amnas.

70

Ith ocus blicht for each dind,
 síd ocus soinn dia chind,
 doratad do gentib Gréc
 ar fírinne do chomét.

Ó chaíniud Talten din tSéil
 co flaith Lóegaire maic Néil
 dogníthe la slúag síabra
 óenach cachá hóen-blíadna,

80

La Fíru Bolg, bátar and,
 is la Túatha Dé Danann,
 la maccu Míled iarsin
 co Pátric iar prím-chreitim.

Atbert Pátric, 'Ba búadach,
 in recht aienid imúallach:
 cen cop ar Dia dorónad
 boí in Coimdiu 'ca chommórad.'

Co tánic Pátric iar Críst
 óenach Talten, tróeta tríst,
 mór marb rochaín a chéile
 hi relic na rath-Féine.

90

Fert óen-doruis d'fíir co n-aí;
 fert co ndíb dorsib for mnai;
 ferta cen dorsi dreana
 for maccu, for ingena.

Aisneis do chorthib fert fadb,
 fulang caindel d' airi marb;
 cnuice for allmarchaib ánaib
 ocus múir for mór-phlágaib

100

Unbroken truce of the fair the while through Erin and Alba alike, while men went in and came out without any rude hostility.

Corn and milk in every stead, peace and fair weather for its sake, were granted to the heathen tribes of the Greeks for maintaining of justice.

From the lamentation for Taltiu of the Sele to the reign of Loegaire mac Neill was held by the fairy host a fair every single year,

By the Fir Bolg, who were there, and by the Tuatha De Danann, by the Children of Mil thereafter down to Patrick after the first coming of the Faith.

Said Patrick, 'Victorious was the proud law of nature; though it was not made in obedience to God, the Lord was magnifying it.'

Till Patrick came after Christ was held the fair of Taltiu that subdues curses; many a dead man his mate bewailed in the graveyard of the wealthy Féni.

A tomb with one door for a man of art; a tomb with two doors for a woman; graves without doors . . . over lads and maidens.

Records from pillars over graves decked with arms, bearing of candles to watch the dead, mounds over noble foreigners, and walls built over the dead of great plagues.

-
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 69. <i>in</i>] <i>om.</i> L | 71.] <i>ic teehta ind 7 ass</i> L | 72. <i>n-ecraitius</i>] <i>hecradis</i> |
| B <i>necraitech</i> H <i>dagra</i> LeS <i>n-amnas</i>] <i>cohamnas</i> LeS | | 73. <i>for</i>] L |
| ar <i>cæt.</i> | 74.] <i>diacind sid 7 soinind</i> B | 77. <i>chainiud</i>] L <i>eitsecht</i> etc |
| RBMHS ₃ <i>chédtecht</i> etc LeS <i>din tSéu</i>] L <i>donteill</i> R <i>dondeill</i> BM <i>don</i> | | |
| <i>feil</i> etc S ₃ H <i>bo dein</i> Le <i>budh dhen</i> S | 79.] <i>doronad sum ri siabra</i> L | |
| <i>la</i>] re LeS | 80. <i>cacha</i>] <i>each</i> B <i>ann gach</i> S ₃ | 82. <i>Tuatha</i>] <i>tuait</i> S ₃ H |
| <i>tuathaib</i> S | 84.] <i>co patraice ceann ar cceidimh</i> S ₃ | 85-88.] <i>only in</i> |
| LH | 89. <i>tánic</i>] L <i>tóracht</i> etc <i>cæt.</i> | 90. <i>tróela</i>] <i>tróethadh</i> Le |
| <i>rochain</i>] 7 o <i>chain</i> L | 92. <i>relic</i>] <i>reilgib</i> etc LeS <i>rath-Féine</i>] <i>rathéine</i> L | |
| <i>raithfheile</i> S ₃ | 93. <i>Fert</i>] <i>ráth</i> L <i>co n-aí</i>] <i>connaoi</i> S ₃ <i>conoi</i> H <i>connoi</i> R | |
| <i>condoi</i> B <i>conndai</i> M <i>combái</i> L <i>cangei</i> Le <i>cognái</i> S | 94. <i>fert</i>] <i>rath</i> L | |
| <i>for mnai</i>] do <i>mnai</i> LLeS | 95. <i>ferla</i>] <i>ratha</i> L <i>feart</i> BLcM <i>is fert</i> S <i>cen</i> | |
| <i>dorsi drená</i>] RB <i>cen doirsib drená</i> M <i>i trenai</i> <i>condagaib</i> L <i>cen doirrsi</i> | | |
| <i>chena</i> etc S ₃ H <i>can doirrsib can trenai</i> Le <i>con doirrsib trená</i> S | 96.] | |
| <i>for maccaib for ingenaib</i> L <i>do macaib do ingenaib</i> Le <i>for meon for ingena</i> M | | |
| 98. <i>fulang</i>] L <i>d'fulang</i> etc RBS ₃ H <i>dfulang</i> a M <i>do fulaing</i> LeS <i>caindel d'</i> | | |
| <i>airi</i>] <i>aeulur</i> Le <i>aco ilar</i> S | 99. <i>for</i>] <i>fri</i> S ₃ <i>allmarchaib</i>] <i>allmarcu</i> etc | |
| BMS ₃ <i>ánaib</i>] L <i>ána</i> etc <i>cæt.</i> | 100. <i>for</i>] <i>fri</i> S ₃ <i>phlágaib</i>] L <i>plaga</i> etc <i>cæt.</i> | |

Maraid mór Tailten cech than,
in' rohadnacht ilar mban,
ocus mór foluig mór marb,
in' rohadnacht Eochu garb.

For mór Echach úaigthe clach
fiche forud ríg Temrach ;
ocus for mór mín a mná
fiche forud a ríгна.

Ríg-imscing don Mumain múaid
fri rígu Temrach atúaid ;
teora Connacht, cen nach cacht,
for forud fer nÓlnecmacht.

110

Láechrad Lagen, lór do blad,
eturru is cóiced Ulad ;
innisem don leith andes :
Ériu, dia ríг ba ruidles,

Ulaíd ria cretim cruiche
co carptib don chét-chluiche ;
Lagin ria firu Muman,
Connachta hi lurgg lán-chuman.

120

Lia Gruip, lia Gair, lia lobur,
lia in chlainm i tóeb na forud,
clocha ríme, roth Fáil Flaind,
coirthe Colmáin, carn Conaill.

Geiss di urchur ná geib greim,
geiss di tochim cen tairlim,
geiss oc dul úadi do phraind
a désein tar clé-gúalainn.

101. *Maraid*] moraid L *cech than*] LLc nach tan *cat*. 102. *in'*] innti
S *ilar mban*] can imral Lc mór mban S 103. *foluig*] fólluig L foluing

For ever endures the wall of Taltiu, where numbers of women were buried, and the wall that hides many dead, where Eochu Garb was buried.

On the wall of Eochu, compact of stones, twenty seats of the kings of Tara; and on the smooth wall of his wife twenty seats of their queens.

A royal chamber for mighty Munster to the left of the kings of Tara; the three parts of Connacht, not straitened, upon the seats of the men of Olnecmacht.

The warriors of Leinster, land of renown, between them and the province of Ulster; let us name them, from the right hand side: Erin, that belonged to her king in fee,

The Ulstermen, before the faith of the Cross, who came with their chariots to the first games, the Leinstermen before the men of Munster, and Connacht in well-remembered order.

The Stone of Grop, the Stone of Gar, the Stone of the Sick Men, the Leper's Stone beside the seats: the Rocks of Counting, the Wheel of Fal Fland, the Pillar of Colman, the Cairn of Conall.

Forbidden for Taltiu is a cast at random; forbidden, to ride through it without alighting; forbidden, when leaving it for a meal, to look at it over the left shoulder.

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- | | |
|---|---|
| RBS ₃ fulaing H fulaing MLcS | 104. in'] ind Lc garb] agarb BM |
| 105-113.] mainly illegible in L | 105. mür Echach] muridach M úaigthe] |
| snaighthi Lc snaithi S naighti M | 107. min a mná] a . . . L sunna |
| mna Lc sunna amna S | 108. a] na R |
| cid nach etc LcS cacht] cath Lc | 111. cen nach] cenach BMH |
| cæt. 114. is cóiced] L 7 óicc etc cæt. | 112. nÓlnecmacht] BM olnecmacht etc |
| cæt. 116. Ériu] herend L eṛ R erim etc LcS dia rig] do rig L dia | 115. innisem] L innisim etc |
| raid Lc ba] L ni S ₃ is etc cæt. | 117. cruiche] curthi etc LcS |
| a etc cæt. don] ón S | 118. co] L |
| lurgg] na lurg S | 119. ria firu] ria feraib etc LS ₃ ré firu Lc |
| 120. hi | 121. Gruip] L luibh S ₃ loip cæt. lobur] labuir H |
| lubair S ₃ | 122. in chlaime] L claimh S ₃ clam RBMLcH cáin S i tóeb] |
| L ar eul etc cæt. | 123. clocha] clotha L cloch i etc S ₃ H clochar Lc |
| rime] uime Lc raoimthi S ₃ roth] rot RBM rod Lc ród S Fáil] L fuil Lc | 124. Carn Conaill] raith chairn chonaill L |
| fail cæt. | 125. urchur] |
| esba L ircra BM ná geib] nach gab S nad gaibh S ₃ | 126. tochim] |
| toitim MLc dirim (in litura) S ₃ tairlim] torleng H toirling SS ₃ | 127. |
| oe dul] L di oc techt etc RBMS ₃ di techt etc LcH úadi do] uaith can Lc | |
| 128. clé.] gle L | |

Céti tri decera rostecht;
fer cen chend fair 'ca imthecht,
mac meic secht mbliadan for meór,
táim in tsacairt dind aeór.

130

Na teora fogla filte
asrogart Pátric innte,
gait dam ar chuing, guin bó mblicht,
loscud lés fás, ní prim-slicht.

Pátric pritchais, conid breth,
nad gébad síd nech doneth,
céin bes Taltiu cech thrátha,
céin marait a rígrátha.

140

Ráith airthir, ráith íarthair uile,
ráith Lugdach, ráith Lort, ráith Luire,
ráith Chon, ráith Chanand, mochen,
ráith síl Taideg, tredua Talten.

Tredua Talten sech cech tír,
áitt i troiscitis na rí,
láechaib, clérchib, cétaib cenn,
na tísad teidm tír nÉrenn.

Hi tredua Thalten, im theirt,
rosnír Ísu do Mac Eirc
na teora plága do breith
a hÉrinn, ní hanaichnid.

150

IN gialleherd co ndaigthe immach,
bádud na mbarc ar Bregmag,
mortlaid mac nÁda Sláine,
do Mac Eirc ní himnáire.

129.] L tri hinganta taillten techt etc *cæt.* 130. fair] air L *om. cæt.*
'ca] co L oca etc *cæt.* imthecht] taidecht etc LcS timš M 131. maic]
beg Lc for meór] L for feor RBS for fer M ar feór etc LcS₃H 132.
táim] L tuitim S₃H teidm etc *cæt.* dind aeór] ahaieór etc S₃H don
daigeoir Lc 133. teora] dera RMLc tera S (*corr. by later hand*) fogla]
fodla H fola S(*g added by later hand*)RBLcM filte] L filti RLc filte

A fair green with three marvels it possessed: a man without a head walking about it, the son of a boy of seven years, held on a finger, the fall of the priest from the air.

The three heinous spoils Patrick forbade in it; stealing of oxen in the yoke, slaughter of milch cows, burning of empty byres—no pristine tradition [he taught].

Patrick preached—so it is a judgement—that none who did such things should find peace, so long as Taltiu shall stand, for ever, so long as its royal raths endure.

The Eastern Rath, the Rath of the evil West, the Rath of Lugaid, the Rath of Lort, the Rath of Lore, the Rath of Cú, the Rath of Canu—hail! the Rath of the Seed of Tadge, the triple rampart of Taltiu.

The triple rampart of Taltiu, famed beyond all lands, the spot where the kings used to fast, with laymen, with clerics, with hundreds of headmen, that no disease might visit the land of Erin.

In the triple rampart of Taltiu, about tierce, Jesus granted to Mac Eirc to take away the three plagues from Erin—it is not unknown.

That the custom of *gall-cherd* should be put away, the sinking of the ships off Bregmag, and the pestilence of the sons of Aed Slaine: to Mac Eirc it was no disgrace.

-
- BSS₃ filti M filltiu H 134. *asrogart*] L ropritchais etc RBLeS
 ropritchais etc S₃H napritchais M 135. *gait*] L goid (added by later
hand) S om. cæt. dam ar chuing] L dam chuing 7 etc cæt. 136. *loscud*] loiscer B loiscid Le lés] L les etc RH lios S₃ leis BMLcS fás] fós S
 (corr. to fas) fos Le ní] im B im (corr. to ní) S in M -slicht] L icht cæt.
 137. *pritchais*] pritchas L 138. *naa*] L na RBHM nach LeSS₃ nech] LeS
 neich cæt. doneth] doneach M doneich H 139. *céin*] LS₃ cen RBHLeM
 gen S Taltiu] taillten H tailltin Le cech] gan etc BLeS 140. *céin*] om. L
 cen RBM ge LeS marait a] mhar ara S rig-] L prim cæt. 142. *Lort*] lorg L lore S₃
 143. *Chanand*] L genaind etc cæt. 144. *síl Taidcg*] L sithaig Le síd taidg etc cæt. *tredua*] tre tuath RB tré tuaith MLe a tuaith S
 145. *Tredua*] tretuaith etc RBMLcS 146. *troiscitis*] troiseifidis S
 148. *tisad*] tiad Le tír] a tir etc MLeS 149. *Hi tredua*] hi tretuaith etc
 RBM a trenaib etc LeS im] am Le 150. *rosnir*] L rosir etc RMS₃
 rohir B rohior H rofir etc LeS Ísu] usa Le 151. *plága*] plaghda R
 152. *ní*] L ciarb etc cæt. hanaichnid] anaithneich S 153. *co ndaigthe*] L
 noberthi etc RBMH doberthai etc LeS₃ na adbertai S 154. *ar*] for S
 156. *do*] ar L ní h-] L cis R nirb etc cæt.

Cíambad termond Taltiu ar thrét
tuc Dia cairde dia chomét,
Pátric, Brigit, Becán bán,
Mac Eire, Eithni, Adamnán.

160

Imráidem a tánic de
iar creitim na Trinóite ;
trena Tailten, tuir théite
oc promad na fían-chéite.

Fir ar dún ar tús da tríall ;
fir eter da ndún 'na ndíad ;
fir iar ndún dénma ossaid :
at eat na trí prím-thossaig.

Pátric, fortgella cech rí
iar tochim Thalten fo thrí,
Mac Eire, Ciarán Cairn don maig,
at eat na trí comallaig.

170

Cóic cét óenach immosech,
cíd cinteoh ar écinteoh,
ó óenuch Pátric Macha
co dub-óenach nDondchada.

Dá fichet rígh rodaacht,
la cethrur rígh doridnacht,
ó Níall uile ind rígrad rán
acht Ailill a óenurán.

180

Óen rí ó Lóegaire ille,
óen rí ó cheniul Chairpre,
noí flaithe síl Aéda áin,
secht flaithe clainne Colmáin.

Sé rígh déc ar Mide amach,
ó Eogan issin óenach,
ocus deich rígh, doríacht so
a crích Conaill, a chóemo. A.

Though Tailtiu was a sanctuary for the flock, God gave friends to guard it, Patrick, Brigit, white Becan, Mac Eirc, Eithne, Adamnan.

Let us speak of what came next after the establishment of the faith in the Trinity; the triple bands of Tailtiu, the companies who go to make trial of the warriors' fair-green.

Men on the *dun*, first, to visit it; men between two *duns*, after them; men behind the *dun*, to ratify the truce; those are the three chief beginnings.

Patrick whom every king invokes after traversing Tailtiu thrice; Mac Eirc, Ciaran of Carn from Mag Ái, these are its three guarantors.

Five hundred fairs, turn about, that is, certain with uncertain, from the Fair of Patrick of Macha to the Black Fair of Donchad.

Two score of kings held the fair, by four kings it was dedicated: all the noble line of kings was sprung from Niall except Ailill alone.

One king from Loegaire descended, one king of the race of Cairpre, nine princes of the seed of noble Aed, seven princes of the family of Colman.

Sixteen kings out of Meath sprung from Eogan were at the Fair, and ten kings—these came from the territory of Conall, O nobles!

- 157-160.] LH only 158. *cairde*] cairdiu L 161. *Imraidem*] imraidim
etc MLcHS a] LR na cæt. 163. *Tailten*] a tailltin Lc *tuir*] tair L
don LcS 164. *oc promad*] L do molad etc cæt. *fian-chéite*] L primgheige
S primcheiti etc cæt. 165. *ar tús*] i tus RBS eathus Lc tus M *da*] do
LcS₃H 166. *ndún*] LH dún cæt. *'na ndiád*] nandiaid LRS₃ na diaid etc
cæt. 167. *ossaiá*] said B 168. *na*] L a cæt. 169. *fortgella*] portgella B
fortchealla Lc 170. *tochim*] toithim Lc tuitim M *Thallen*] themrach S
171. *mac Eirc*] om. L *Ciarán*] is ciaran etc LcS *Cairn*] cá irad L om. BMLcS
don] den H 172. *at eal*] atecht LcS *na*] L a cæt. *comallaig*] S₃
cumhalaibh S cumalaig etc cæt. 174. *ciá*] gé S *ar*] eid Lc 177.
rig] ri RLcSS₃H *rodaacht*] L imroacht RMLcS₃H imdroacht B imóracht
S 178. *la*] L in RBM im LcSS₃H *cethrur*] sheiser S₃ *doriánacht*]
rodasacht L 179. *ind rígrad rán*] L in læchrad lán etc cæt. 180. *a*]
na BMS 183. *siú*] a sil S 184. *secht*] ocht S₃ *clainne*] cenel S₃
185. *ar*] a B fer Lc osin S₃ 186. *ó*] co L 187. *só*] dó LcS

Cethri fichit, is fír sain,
do bliadnaib acht óen blíadain,
taichniud Tailten, tróg a fot,
céte Cormaic cen charpot.

190

Conostánic 'na chath chass
mac meic ind rí^g mothar-mass,
ocus mac domeil mid mesc
ingine ind rí^g dodrairmesc.

Rí Temra, togaide de,
Maelsechlainn Slemna slane,
sruth nEufrait eirge i n-ardda
oen-milid na hEorapa.

200

Orddan íarthair domuin duind
dam chobair, Cormac úa Cuind,
chucund i forud flatha
do chlaind Domnaill Dondehada.

Tuc gort Gáedel a gábud,
tuc hÉrinn a herbádud,
tuc óenach Talten a feór,
ciarb atharda, rop aneól.

Bec leis a tard dún do maith,
bec leis d' ith de bliucht de braich,
bec leis de šeót de bíud de brut,
bec leis de ór de argut.

210

Bec leis cacha lúaid diar les,
bec leis d' iasc do mil do mess,
bec leis dúnn ri cond erúaiche
óenach cecha hóen-túaithe.

Bec lais caithmít den bith búan,
bec leis rí^gad cech fir úan,
bec leis cach lucht lán fonlen
conontuc d' óenuch Thalten.

220

Four score years (this is true) all but one year, Taltiu lay deserted, alas how long! and the green of Cormac without a chariot.

Until there came in his serried array the king's comely-bearded grandson, and the son, who drinks the heady mead, of the daughter of the king who thwarted the Fair.

The King of Temair, chosen thence, Malsechlainn of secure Slemun,—like the River Euphrates rises on high the one champion of Europe.

The glory of the noble West of the world to my aid! a new Cormac ua Cuinn, offspring of Domnall son of Donchad, comes hither to the princely seat.

He brought the cornfield of the Gaels out of danger, he brought Erin out of shipwreck, he raised the Fair of Taltiu from the sod; though of ancestral use, it was unknown.

Too little he counts it, what he has given us of good; little, what he has given us of corn, of milk, of malt; what of treasure, of victual, of vestment; what of gold, of silver.

Too little he thinks it, all that he contrives for our profit; too little all the fish, the honey, the mast; too little, that we hold, when the corn-rick is roofed, a fair to every tribe.

Too little, he thinks, we enjoy of the enduring world; too little he thinks it, to make each of us a king; too little, each full throng that follows him, till he has brought us to the Fair of Taltiu.

189- <i>end.</i>] in LH only	193. <i>chath</i>] cat H	196. <i>ingine</i>] H <i>m̄c</i> L
197-200.] L only	202. <i>chobair</i>] comair H	203. <i>chucund</i>] om. L
204. <i>Donchada</i>] maic Donchada L	209. <i>do</i>] dia H	211. <i>bíud</i>] bud L
213. <i>luaid diar les</i>] L luad ar les H	215. <i>dúinn</i>] om. L	216. <i>cecha</i>]
each L	217. <i>caithmí</i>] caitmi H	den] don H
		219. <i>fon</i>] con H

Duthragair, ria techt anonn
cia bad fota ar saegul sund,
co nantartad hi tech nDé
iar cinned a chomairle.

Crist la Máelsechlainn na súad,
Crist leis ar dothech ar dúad,
Crist leis ar chocad ar chath,
dia chomge dia chommórad.

Ríg ná tairnechtar ar ndáil
ní dlegat ar n-imgabáil,
Máelrúanaid, Flaithbertach, Fland,
Áed, Cathal, Dondchad, Domnall.

230

Duthrachta uí Lothchain láin
duíbsi, a ócu ind óenaig áin;
mo báide iar sonad so
cían bas chomad, a chóemo.

SLIAB FÚAIT I

Foderc dam fri sellad suaire
oc Ard Asse imma cúaird
Fert mná Nemid, níth co ngail,
Med meic ingine Balair,

Port eos' tuesat Lugair luing
i nDesciurt Maige ind Óendruind,
Snám in Tuire trén iar trath tert,
sech is focus is fodeire. F.

Loch Echtra, loch nEchach n-án,
sliab Breg, sliab Bairche bith-bán,
lecc Suidi Congail na cend,
sliab n-ard n-airegda nUllend,

10

He desires, though our life here should be long before going other-where, that he should bring us into the house of God after achieving his design.

Christ be with Maelsechlainn of the sages! Christ with him against misfortune, against tribulation! Christ with him to protect and prosper him against war, against battle!

Kings that have not attended our meeting ought not to shun us: Maelruanaid, Flaithbertach, Fland, Aed, Cathal, Donnchad, Domnall.

Ua Lothchain's full good wishes to you, O youths of the noble Fair! thus I greet you after a lucky strain, so long as there be observance of the Fair, O nobles!

SLIAB FUAIT I

Plain for me to see with bright glance from Ard Asse round about is the Grave of Nemed's wife, valiant in war, the Balance of the son of Balar's daughter.

The port where the Lugair brought their ship in Descert Maige Oendruind, the strong Boar's Crossing, after the hour of tierce, it is near and plain to see.

Loch Echtra, noble Loch Neagh, Sliab Breg, Sliab Bairche ever-white, the stone Seat of Congal, taker of heads, the tall stately Sliab Ullenn,

221-224.] H only 226. *ar dúad*] ardduad L ar doadh H 228. *dia*
(1)] *ed.* Críst dia etc LH *chommórad*] comedadh H 233. *ui*] u L

Sliab Fúait I. L only 4. *Med*] Marginal note .i. lugmad . is ass
atchonnaire 7. *tert*] Read teirt 8. is focus is focus (*bis*) L

Sliab Slánga, sliab Culind cain,
sliab Moduirn im-Mugdornaib,
sliab Cairthind oc Áni án,
sliab Fóta fetach find-ár.

Slebe Ulad alla tuaid
i crích Araide adruaid,
sliab Mis magnech, monor ngand,
sliab caín comramach Calland.

20

Slebe Connacht sund, sliab Tua,
sliab Cairn, sliab Betha bith-nua,
sliab Carthind, sliab Bethech bend,
slebe gann-ardda Galeng.

Cenél n-Eogain, crích Ulad,
fir Breg féta fir-bunad,
crích na Colla, ní cói ceirt,
for cech oen-leith is fodeirc. F.

Finnaid úaim co segda súaire
aní dia n-apar sliab Fúait,
ar domrala sund im thass
co fessabair a senchass.

30

Fúat mac Bregoin, baile a baind,
ba toirm dar tíre treboind,
óclách narb uathad 'na loing,
toísech úa mbuadach mBregoin.

Is é a oenur dorell
oc tascnam tíri hErend:
rosuc ceim gradach nglinne
co hinis na Firinne.

40

Tuc leis da lár na hinse
fót dar tonna trén-trillse,
co nofuirim, cadla cuaird,
sunna for lár sleibe Fúait.

Sliab Slanga, fair Sliab Cuilinn, Sliab Moduirn in Mugdorna, Sliab Cairthin, by noble Aine, smooth Sliab Fota, of the glorious battle.

The hills of the Ulaid, to the northward, in red Crich Araide, spacious Sliab Miss—rude work! smooth Sliab Callann, scene of combats.

Next the hills of Connacht—Sliab Tua, Sliab Cairn, Sliab Betha, ever-fresh, Sliab Carthind, peaked Sliab Bethech, the rugged heights of the hills of Galenga.

Cenel Eogain, the confines of Ulaid, the men of Brega, a goodly native stock, the confines of the Three Collas, no rightful boundary, on every side they are plain to see.

Learn ye from me, in clear and stately verse, the reason why Sliab Fuait is so named, since it chances that I sojourn here, so that ye may know its story.

Fuat son of Bregon, brave were his deeds, his fame was spread over earth's extent: a warrior was he, not solitary in his ship, a leader of Bregon's victorious sons.

He turned aside, all alone, on his journey to the land of Erin; his steps bore him, stately and steadfast, to the Isle of Truth.

He brought with him, of the island's soil, a sod, over the strong-maned sea, and laid it—fair voyage!—here on the soil of Sliab Fuait.

15. *án*] *Read áin*

in margin talland *fac.* of L

40. *na*] *inna* L

16. *find-ár*] *Read find-áir*

29. *úaim*] *uaib* L

43. *rofuirim*] *Read rofuirim*

20. *Calland*] *supplied*

33. *baile*] *bail* L

In tan ba firen in rí
 nobid in fót fo chaem-lí:
 mad dia raded góí nach than,
 suas dochured a foescal.

Is fair-sin, seol cen timmi,
 do chomét a fírinni,
 dellig iar céin, céim co mblait,
 in gerrán buadach Patraic.

50

Atá sunna, sét col-lí,
 fotán tíri tairngirí,
 in-Nemiud nár nithach neirt;
 duib céin co follus is fodeirc.

F.

SLIAB FÚAIT II

Finnaid úaim, co ségda suaire,
 aní dia n-abar Slíab Fúait,
 ar domrál sund co cas,
 co fesabair a senchas.

[Fúat mac Bili, beóda in fer,
 tuc leis a hindsib Maigden
 tar cach rót 'na rémimm ráin
 fót co hÉrinn a hEspáin.]

Fúat úa Breogain, baile a bann,
 ba trén dar tíre trebann,
 óclach nárb úathad 'na luíng,
 taisech búadach mac mBreoguinn.

10

Fúat úa Breogain, baile a bann,
 ba trén dar tíre trebann,
 ruc céim cen gúasacht grinne
 co hinis na Fírinne.

Whenever a king was truthful the sod was bright with fair hues :
but if ever he uttered falsehood, it would turn its roots upward.

It was upon it—an unwearied journey—that, to preserve its
truth, Patrick's glorious gelding lay down long after—strength
was in his gait.

Here it remains, a shining treasure, the little sod from the
Land of Promise, in honoured Nemed, martial and mighty : to
yourselves it is clear and plain to see.

SLIAB FUAIT II

Learn ye from me in clear stately verse the cause why Sliab
Fuaith is so named, that ye may know its story, since I find myself
snugly here.

Fuat son of Bile—brisk was he—brought with him from the
Maidens' Isles through all roads on his glorious roaming a sod
from Spain to Erin.

Fuat, Bregon's grandson, doughty his deeds, strong was he
beyond earth's utmost might, a young warrior not single in his
ship, a victorious leader of the sons of Bregon.

Fuat, Bregon's grandson, doughty his deeds, strong was he
beyond earth's utmost might : his steps bore him without danger
of spear-heads to the Isle of Truth.

-
- 46.] chaemchlí L 50. a] ña L (n expunct.)
Sliab Fuaith II. LeSS₃H RBM have only 5-8, 21-24, 29-32 5-8.] after
 12 Le 5. beoda] baile Le 6. Maigden] maigin Le maidhen S 7.
 'na] co S rémimm] reimend etc BLc reminn etc RS reimib M ráin] rán etc
 BLcS₃H 8. a hEspáin] co hespain etc RM anespain B 9. bann] bond
 etc LeS 10. trén] trom LeS tíre] tirib S trebann] Le treabhann S₃
 trebtann H trebonn S 11. nárb] nar S 12. taisech] taibsi Le
 búadach mac] mac mbuaghacñ S 13. bann] bond etc LeS 14. tíre] ed.
 tirib Le tir in S tirthaibh etc S₃H trebann] Le trebonn S treabthann S₃
 trebtonn H 15. ruc céim] e rug cem S cen guasacht] guasachtach Le
 nguasacht S

Tuc leis do lár na hindsí
fót dar tonna trén-millsí,
eo rofuirim, cadla in chúairt,
sunna for lár sléibe Fúaitt.

20

[IN fer atbeired gaí nglais
ós chain in fóit eochar-glais,
don fót ba soblad in sód,
ní fodmad cen a impód.]

IN tan ba fíréin in rí,
nobíd in fót fo cháem-lí:
mad dia ráided goí in each than,
súas nochuiread a faescal.

[Maraid in fót 'sin tsléib thúaid,
co fúair 'sin rót each robúaid:
fót ná fuilnged claíne cúac
tuc fer cen saíbe sáer-Fúat.]

30

IS fair-sin, céim cen timme,
do chomét na fírinne,
doluid iar céin móir cen gait
in tapstal prímda Pátraic.

Atá sunna fót co lí
fótán tíre tairngiri,
i maig Náir, níthach a nert,
dogén co follus foderc.

40

Doáirim úa Duinn duibe
fót Cinn builid Berraide
do seól co becht dar' fuaig lib
cert sléibe Fúait, is finnaid.

F.

He brought with him, of the soil of the Island, a sod over the strong sweet waves and planted it—fair the voyage—here on the soil of Sliab Fuait.

If any man were to utter pallid falsehood over the smooth surface of the green-rimmed sod, it would not endure the lie without turning over—the gift was fame for the sod.

When a king was upright the sod would bear a bright hue: but if ever he spake falsehood it would turn its roots upward.

The sod remains on the north side of the mountain: it gained virtues of all kinds on the way: a sod that would not endure crooked misdealing, a guileless man brought it, noble Fuat.

Upon it, with step unshrinking, for guarding of the truth, came long after, not by wrong, the chief apostle, Patrick.

Here abides the shining sod, the little sod of the Promised Land, in the Plain of Nár (martial his might): I will make it clear and plain to see.

Ua Duinn of dark speech told the tale of the sod of blooming Cenn Berraide when he firmly wove for you for your instruction the true story of Sliab Fuait—and learn ye it!

-
- | | |
|---|---|
| 18. <i>tonna</i>] S tonnaib Le tuinn cen S ₃ H | 19. <i>co refuirim</i>] cor fuirim S |
| cor fuairig Le <i>cadla in</i>] cadla do Le ba cadhla in S | 20. <i>sunna</i>] sunn S ₃ |
| <i>Fuaitt</i>] sean fuait S ₃ | 21. <i>nglais</i>] glas Le lais S |
| <i>eochar-glais</i>] ochurglais R feocarglais B imglais M | 22. <i>chain</i>] cind Le |
| hathlam an sodh Le don fhod rob athlom an sodh S don fodba osoblaid an sod M | 23.] don fod fa |
| gan S | 24. <i>ni fodmad</i>] ni fognad B nochananad etc LeS cen a] ag Le |
| 25. <i>firén</i>] S firinne etc LeS ₃ H in ri] a brí S ₃ | 26. <i>nobid</i>] dobid Le robidh S <i>cháem-lí</i>] choimlí S ₃ comli H |
| 27-28.] <i>added in</i> Le | 27-28.] <i>added in</i> Le |
| at foot by scribe of text | 28. <i>nochuiread</i>] docuiread etc LeS |
| 29. <i>'sin tsléib thúaid</i>] sin sa tsiab Le | 30. <i>robúaid</i>] romiad Le |
| nat S ₃ <i>fuilnged</i>] fulgnend Le fuilghidh M <i>ciac</i>] cuach R cuadh Le | 31. <i>ná</i>] gua S guach M |
| 32. <i>cen saibe</i>] can aibi M <i>Fúat</i>] fuath B | 37. |
| co lí] cailli Le | 39. <i>Náir</i>] nar S ₃ H <i>níthach</i>] Le naitheach S nithe S ₃ H |
| a nert] Le annert S gan nert S ₃ H | 41. <i>Dóirím</i>] da airim Le |
| fót] fo S | 42. |
| 43. <i>dar' fuaig</i>] doruaig S | |

SLÍAB CALLANN

IS eól dam aní dia fail
 ainm sléibe Callann cobsaid:
 Callann ria gairm, cen chor de,
 ainm in chon roboí ac Buide.

Buide mac Báin, ba búaid fir,
 roalt coin crúaid 'na cháem-thig,
 cú co romét ós ralaig,
 do chomét a cháem-falaid.

Dáel-chú Celtchair, crúaid a chor,
 ba hé thúaid athair in chon:
 and frith in Dáel, nárbo dis,
 hi cloccunn cháel Chonganehnis.

10

Bátar trí coin ina chind
 Conganehnis, caíme ar each dind:
 brec, dub, odar, tes a tlaecht,
 cirrset mór enes in chonart.

Cú maic Dá Thó, rothuill troit,
 cú na cerda fo chomnoit,
 in cú roboí ac Celtchar chóem,
 ropo rechtmar in ro-Dáel.

20

In cú roboí ac Buide búan,
 cuilén don Dáel ón donn-chúan,
 ba comga cethra ocus cruid
 co laithe debtha in Duind duib.

Dond dub Cúalnge, dígrais dó,
 conort Callann i crú-chró,
 co fil sund 'sin tsléib a mart:
 aige do chéin rocomacht.

SLIAB CALLANN

Well I know the origin of the name of stalwart Callann's mountain: the hound that Buide owned was called by the name of Callann, unalterably.

Buide mac Báin was a man of mark: in his fair house he reared the fell hound, greater of size than an oak tree, to guard his goodly flock.

Daelchú, the hound of Celtchar—hard his cast—was the hound's northern sire: in the hollow skull of Conganchness was Dael found—no puny beast.

Three hounds there were in the head of Conganchness, a fair sight among all strongholds: dappled, black, and dun—warm was their coat: the pack mangled many a fell.

The hound of Mac Dá Thó, breeder of strife, the hound of the Smith, equally noted, and the hound that fair Celtchar owned; a law-keeper was noble Dael.

The hound that belonged to steadfast Buide, a whelp of Dael from the high-bred litter, was a guardian of kine and gear till the day of the dark Dun Bull's battle.

The dark Dun Bull of Cualnge, too hard a match for him, crushed Callann in fresh gore: so here on this hill lies his carcass: a rite has been held from of old.

-
- Sliab Callann.** RBLcMSS₃H 3. *ria*] re LcSS₃ 4. *roboi*] boi S₃
 5. *ba búaid fir*] buaid fir M can cor de Lc 6. *'na chám-thig*] co cæmgne Lc
 7. *co romét*] comromhed M 8. *-falaid*] alaid RM alaigh S chalaidd Lc
 10. *thúaid*] atuid Lc in] na Lc 11. *frith in Dóel*] dofrith dæl B 12.
hi] in R *cháel*] cruaid etc LcS. 14. *cáime*] cæm Lc caimh SM ar cach]
 ina M 15. *dub*] 7 dub Lc tes] om. Lc 16. *in chonart*] co comnart S
 18. *cú*] is cú Lc na] an SS₃ fo] fa B fá S *chomnoit*] comnait B chæmnoid
 Lc 23. *comga*] coimhdhi S₃ comdha etc SH 24. *Duind*] duinib M
 26. *conort*] S₃ (*in litura*) comnart RB comort Lc comart M comairt S
 comnart H i crú-] a cu S 27. *sund 'ein tsleib*] san tsleib sunn etc LcS
 a mart] anart Lc in mart M 28. *aige*] ed. oigi R oige BM oig S₃H
 a oigedh Lc aiged S *rocomacht*] RB rocommacht S₃H docomact M comrag
 Lc rocomnart S

Is don sceól sin, is fír dam,
 fil Slíab Callann na comram:
 fert Callann hi fót fo feór
 dam ósin rót is roeól. IS.

30

SRUTHAR MATHA

Sruthar Matha, maídid lib,
 a slúag faílíd dian fír-díl!
 ma tá lib, cen tacha trell,
 aided Matha mic Roírenn.

A Laignib na ferg fuilid
 da bás i crích comaithig
 toisc Matha i mbeól in buinne,
 eól a fatha acainne.

Fid enúas imda atchúala mé
 i n-farthur Macha maige,
 ar aí blaide ocus bolaid
 daire ní boí a baramail.

10

Bolad noéirged don fid,
 an táeb le gaeíth noglúaised,
 ní fuighthe adba folaig
 'sin Banba dia boltanaib.

Cach muc nosúiged lia sróin
 bolad in doire dímoir,
 maided a croide re cois
 don doire mani dechdais.

20

Tríallaid tocht fon mbolad mbúan
 trét Cathaír móir na marc-slúag:
 nír thús ratha don mór mall,
 Matha dia clód fo chumang.

From this tale—truth I tell—comes the name, Sliab Callann of the triumphs: well I know Callann's grave in the sod under the sward by the road-side.

SRUTHAR MATHA

Sruthar Matha, praise it among yourselves, O joyous people, that love it well! if ye know in full the story of the death of Matha son of Roiriu.

From Leinster of the bloody conflicts to his death in a neighbour land Matha's errand brought him, to the stream's outlet: the occasion thereof is known to us.

A wood rich in nut-clusters have I heard of in the western part of Mag Macha; there was no forest to match it for fame and for fragrance.

Such an odour rose from the wood, on the side where it moved with the wind, that no hiding-place from its fragrance was found in Banba.

Every swine that snuffed up the odour of the vast forest, their hearts would break forthwith if they could not reach the forest.

The herd of Catháir Mór, lord of horsemen, fares forth after the goodly odour: it was no prosperous enterprise for the tall slow-foot man, Matha, to be sent to master them perforce.

31. *hi fót*] a *ʔot* M *fo ʔeór*] fo eor BM fon feor S 32. *ósin*] isin Lc *rót*
is] rodus R rodas S

Sruthar Matha. RBLcMSS₃H *Lines 5–32 in S₃H only* 1. *maidid*] maidid etc RBMH maigid etc LeS maoidhidh S₃ 2. *dian*] fial B
3. *ma tá*] mata RBMH matha LeS 6. *comathig*] comhuidhigh S₃H
8. *ʔatha*] fátha S₃ 11. *blaide*] mbl⁺e S₃H 14. *táeb*] taoibh S₃
16. *'sin*] sa S₃H 17. *nosúiged*] dosuídheadh S₃ dosuided H 19.
maided] maoidheadh S₃ *re cois*] rea cois H

Filled ná sóud 'na sét
nír fét Matha don mór-thrét :
ránic co Cummar fon chás,
ullam tánic a thig-bás.

Maidis a chenn, ba táem troch,
le tograim is le tesbach :
téit co cíamair fon sruth súain,
mar nár guth d' íarraid indúair.

30

Mac Roirenn mic Rogain rúaid,
ríg-muccid Cathaír Chonlúain,
torchair sund co saír-mer sain
co robáided 'sin tsruthair.

De roráid cach fer co fír,
'In sruth tar Matha, is mór-gním :'
méraid ria gairm, bid gním glan,
a hainm sír corob sruthar. S.

40

Sruth Nencha, nách scailenn scol,
ria mac Raíreann na rochor,
fúarus ós cach rús rorad,
ba hed ar tús in tsruthar. S.

ODBA

Sund rohadnacht Odba úais,
omna co crúais, carad gaís :
druimm ria gall-echaib rognáis,
cuing tláis, úa Ballethain baís.

Mac Blai Ballethain ón Brí
Odba na chrí romar-cloí,
in dub dét-bladach, nír duí,
oc Cunn chét-chathach diamboí.

Neither swerve nor turn in their road could Matha get from the mighty herd: in such plight he reached Commar: promptly came his doom.

His head split, a doomed man's stroke, with the pursuit and burning heat: sadly he sinks beneath the smooth stream—small blame to him—to seek coolness.

The son of Roiriu son of fierce Rogan, chief herdsman of Cathair of Conluan, perished by his violent effort and was drowned in the river.

Therefore said every one truthfully, 'The stream has gone over Matha—a dreadful deed!' his name shall remain for ever to call the stream by, that it be Matha's River: it shall be a deed of note.

Before the days of Roiriu's son, cunning in casts, Sruth Nencha (though the school mention it not) was of old the river's name: I have found the great tale, above all lore.

ODBA

Here was buried proud Odba, one that loved wisdom, an oak for strength: the grandson of wanton Ballethan frequented the hill with his docile yoke of foreign horses.

Odba, son of Blai Ballethan from Brí, won great victories in his lifetime, when he served Conn of the Hundred Fights: no sluggard was he, dark wielder of the famed ivory hilt.

-
30. *tograim*] S₃ *togairm* H 32. *indúair*] H *ionnfhuair* S₃ 33. *Mac Roirenn*] Matha Le *Rogain*] *rorind* Le 34. *muccid*] *muaigh* M
 35. *sáir-mer*] *særmer* R 36. *co robáided 'sin*] *corobaidh isin* etc RBM
 37. *roráid*] *doradadh* Le *roraidhedh* S *doráidh* etc S₃H 38. *sruth tar*] *sruthair* Le 39. *ria*] RB *re cæt* *biá*] *ba* Le 43. *ós*] in RB as MS₃H
os etc LeS *rorad*] *ré ragh* Le *roragh* S₃H *arragh* S
 Odba. RBLcMSS₃H 2. *crúais*] RH *cruas* etc *cæt*. *carad*] *curadh* Le *gais*] *craais* M *gnáis* S 3. *ria*] *ra* RB *ro* M *re cæt*. *gall-echaib*] *cailleachaib* Le 4. *cuing*] *cuind* LeS *tláis*] *triaif* B *bais*] *baes* etc RBM
 5. *ón*] *om*. B 6. *na chí*] *nā ri* R *nacri* etc LeS *nachræ* M *romar-cloí*] *romarbelai* Le *rombarclái* S *romra cláoi* (*ra in litura*) S₃ 7. *dét-bladach*] *dedbladad* R *decbladach* M *deachladach* Le *decladhach* S *dui*] *drai* Le *drúi* S 8. *oc Cunn*] *o cund* R *o chund* S *boe o cunn* (*with boe struck out and e written over o*) B. *bæ o cunn* M *ba conn* S₃ *ba acconn* H *chét-chathach*] *cetfadach* RB

Ba muccaid menmnach ria mess
 in dún dígna, degrach doss,
 fer co solma in slúag-thend sess,
 Odba, oisces úan-chend oss.

10

Airm in' rohailed a úag,
 mór slúag dianid airer án:
 na slóig dia mbá-som cen brón
 cóir cíá thá-som ara lár.

A ainm amlaid, ós each all,
 rolen tall don talmain trumm:
 Odba ass co n-ilar glonn
 nirb idan sonn rosllass sund.

S. 20

Odba, ben Héremóin, and,
 tall 'na glé-medóin hi crunn:
 máthair a mace, in maith mall,
 int app thall rostatlaig sund.

S.

INBER CÍCHMAINE

Inber Cíchmaine, cid cress,
 gáet co lith-baile láech-bress
 Maine ergna, úais ella,
 mac Medba ocus Ailella.

Rongáet Fergna fo gáine,
 fíal-mac fedba Findchaíme,
 co fil a lecht ara lár,
 airm romert in mór-maccán.

9. *menmnach*] he Le

10. *in dún dígna*] in dun ndidhnad R in dun
 didna B an dunn dighna S, a dun digna H in dun astighna M oda an
 dingna Le ota in dingna S *degrach*] degair Le *doss*] dois S,

11. *solma*]

A swine-herd shrewd of judgement was he, a frowning fortress, a fervent champion; a man quick of hand, a keeper of serried ranks, Odba, the lamb-head wether that leads the flock.

The spot where his grave was built was the noble pleasance of many a host: 'tis right that he lies in the midst of the untroubled hosts from whom he sprang.

So his name, higher than any cliff, clave to the strong land yonder; hence Odba of the many exploits is called: no staff unstained was broken here.

Odba, wife of Eremon, is there, in the midst of her portion yonder: he that was chief in yonder land cherished her here, the well-born indolent lady, the mother of his sons.

INBER CICHMAINE

At Inber Cichmaine, though it be narrow, was slain (a mighty onslaught) far-famed Maine, son of Medb and Ailell, exulting in fury of warlike combats.

Him Fergna, generous son of widowed Findchoem, smote, in his flower, and his grave is in the ground, where the tall stripling murdered him.

-
- samla R smala Lc sess] seis RLcMH 12. oisces] oscis R osgis (with
 vel roscreas superscr.) B osgeis Lc osges S ossgis M ruscē S₃ focres H
 oss] uas Lc ois S₃ 13. Airm] anairm S₃ in'] im Lc rohailē] rohoiled
 B a uag] a uadh RS a huad Lc uad S₃ 14. dianid] donith Lc donf
 S airer ān] gaire nan S 15. dia mbā-som] diambasom R diabasum etc
 BM diabasam etc LcS₃ diabassom S diebassom H 16. cia thā] ciahā
 M 17. A] om. M amlaid] amlaid amlaid M 18. trumm] trum S₃
 truim cæt. 19. Odba ass] adhba os S 20. nīrb idān] nīrbadan B
 nīrbigan Lc roslas] rolas B rusla Lc rosla M rolos S sund] suinn H
 21-24.] om. S₃ 21. Héremóin] deremon etc BM 22. hi crunn] a
 chrunn Lc na cronn H 23. in] om. Lc 24. rostallaig] rostathlaid B
 rostatlaid Lc rastaclaid M rostathl- RSH sund] sonn H
 Inber Cichmaine. RBLcMSS₃H 2. gáet] gæd Lc gaeth RBM co]
 con S₃ 3. uais] uas RLc ella] alla S 5. Rongáet] rogæt etc BS₃
 rangæth M rongæth R fō gáine] fer firi Lc 6. fedba] ferda etc LcSS₃
 8. mór-maccán] mor macam etc BS₃ maeth macam etc LcS

Adbal in gním cen gáine
dorigne mac Findchaíme, 10
bás Maine Andoí na n-ech
ós each glan-roí glas-lindech.

Immon curach, comol nglé,
ba mudach, ba mór-scele,
díth Maine múaid, náro mer,
ó fúair a ainm int inber. IN.

Ba hand rogaet, garb in scél,
mac Ailill find frithir-chél,
Cíchmaine, cing crúaid ar chel,
dia roling thúaid i n-inber. IN. 20

Nó issí a aided féin iar fir
in fir do chéin cen chain-gnim,
marbad fir na mall-súl mer
oc tarrúd éisc na n-inber. IN.

MÓIN TÍRE NÁIR

Mebul lemm inní dia fail
senchas Móna Náir nertmair:
ruc Nár for ás a fine
co fúair bás la hÉtsine.

Étsine, ban-fénnid bress,
romarb Nár co neim éicess:
ciarb éicess Nár cosin neim,
dofuc co bán in ben-sin.

Dá én bátar oc in bein
diarb ainm Cel is Celetir: 10
'na ndígail, ba bán ar bruid,
Nár fo mibail, fo mebuil. M.

9. cen] om. Le con S gáine] chainne Le 10. dorigne] doroine LeS
dorinde S₂ dirichne H 11. Andoí] adnæ BM annai Le andnai S
12. -roí] re etc LeS₂ rígh S goe H -lindech] lainneach S 13. Immon]
imbun S 14. ba (2)] in S₂ mór-] mo R -scele] sgile M 15. díth]
tæt Le múaid] muad Le 16. int] mun M 17. garb in] gairbe S

Dreadful the deed unworthy that Findchoem's son committed, the killing of Maine Andoe, lord of steeds, known over every bright blue-watered plain.

Around the curragh—famous meeting! it was ruin, it was great pity,—befell the loss of mighty Maine, that was not witless, whereby the inlet got its name.

There was he slain (harsh the tidings), Ailill Find's ill-omened son, Cichmaine, stout champion against death, when he leapt into the inlet in the north.

Or else, this is the true story of the stranger's death by no kindly deed, even the killing of him with the fierce heavy eyes as he hauled the fish out of the inlets.

MOIN TIRE NAIR

Shameful, I ween, is the origin of the legend of the Moor of mighty Nar: Nar caused his tribe to increase until he met his death at the hand of Etsine.

Etsine, valiant warrior-woman, slew Nar the venomous poet: poet though he was, and venomous, that woman brought him to pale death.

Two birds had the woman, whose names were Cel and Celetir: in revenge for them (it was 'a white page for a blot') Nar was brought to ruin and shame.

gairbi an Le 18. *Ailill*] aillella etc S₃H *frithir-chél*] nichel Le firthren
S 19. *cing*] om. Le *ar chel*] a gal Le tar cel S₃ 20. *dia roling*] robo
ling Le *i n-inber*] int inber etc LcSS₃H 21. *Nó issi*] ba hi LcS no
hinnsi M asi S₃ *a aided*] a aghaid R aidid B a hoig Le 22. *cen*] do
Le iar S *chain-*] chæm Le caim S chlaoín etc S₃H 24. *oc*] da Le
do S *tarruid*] tardad Le *na*] nã R

Móin Tíre Náir. RBLcMSS₃H 1. *Mebul*] meabuir etc LcMS₃H
2. *Móna*] om. M 3. *for ás*] for fás etc RS₃H *forus* Le ar fas M a] sa BS
4. *la hEtsine*] la histine Le la hestine S is bithbine M 5. *Etsine*] eitsin etc RB eistine Le esdine S *ban-fénnid*] in ban feinnidh etc LcS
ba feinnid H *bress*] in bres etc RB bras Le 7. *cosin*] cosa etc BLcS₃
8. *dofuc*] dafug M dosfuc S *in ben*] in mben B in mbein M an bein H
10. *diarb*] diarbo LcS Cel] cæl S *Celetir*] celeieir B ceilcieir M ceilir Le
ceiler S 11. *'na ndigail*] na dighail S *bán*] ban *codd.* ar *bruid*] R at
brug etc BS₃H a brud M armbrugh Le inmbrugh S 12. *fo mibail*] fombidail M fo milaib Le *fo mebuil*] R cid mebul etc BSH is mebul M
cid mebuir etc LcS₃

FÍCH MBÚANA

Dorat Búan, in ben nár bán,
ingen Samáir, a sír-grád
do Choinculaind co mbroí baile
diasloí for slicht a charpait,

Dia rucsat réim co hEss Rúaid
in triar láechda co lond-búaid,
Lóegaire, láem ar brú bla,
Conall cláen, Cú na cerda.

Imchosnam in míre mír
ruc thiar in díne ndaith-gil:
co Samáer sáersat a sreith,
dáig rofáemsat a óen-breith.

10

Ruc Samáer, nach sín samail,
in mír don Choin chath-labair:
in Cú thúaid, diar bunad blad,
fuair mír curad cen chosnam.

And rongrádaig in grúad glan,
dianid comainm Búan bladmar,
co tícht 'na degaid 'na dáil
co Fích Nemain in núall-gáid.

20

And rochúala a díth 'mon all
hi Fích Búana na mbúaball:
ní mucechaing céim hi fat,
ní fúair in mbéim dia tarat.

D.

FICH BUANA

Buan, Samaer's daughter, a woman not white of hue, gave her lasting love to Cuchulaind of the firm barb, when she followed his chariot's track,

When the warlike three of ardent valour held their course to Ess Ruaid, Loegaire, a flame on the roaring battle's edge, Conall Cross-eye and the Hound of the Smith.

The contest for the coveted portion brought westward the rivals bright of tint: toward Samaer they loosened rein, for they had taken him for umpire.

Samaer, whom no equal lays low, gave the Portion to the battle-boasting Hound; the northern Hound, whose fame was firm-rooted, gained the Champion's Portion without dispute.

Then the bright-cheeked maiden loved him, she whose name was famous Buan, and came after him to meet him to Fich Nemain of the anguish-cry.

I have heard how she perished there upon the rock at Fich Buana of the oxen: a luckless way she went afar; she dealt a blow to one that felt it not.

Fích mBúana. RBLcMSS ₃ H L has the first stanza only		1. in ben]
om. LLc nár] nad LLcS	2. Samair a] B samaera L samer a etc LcS	
samairi a RM sameriu H saimheire S ₃ sir-] L saer etc caet.	3. co] L	
os caet. mtró] L broi RBS ₃ H bru Lc brae M blai S	4. diasloi] L	
fecht musloei etc RMS ₃ H muslaei B feacht roslai etc LcS for] LLcS ar		
caet. a] om. LcS	6. lond-] lan LcMS	7. lám] laemdha M
cláen] caomh S ₃	10. thiar] thsiar Lc triar S in dīne ndaith-gil] ini ni	
tathgil Lc	11. a] ar Lc	12. dáig rofaemsat] doig dofaemsad Lc da
aemsad M	13. nach] ann LcS sin] sain R sin caet. samail] samair Lc	
14. don] do RLcM chath-labair] comramaigh S	15. diar] dien H bunad]	
buanadh S	16. cen] ar S	17. rongrádaig] dogradaigh etc LcS
grúad] gradh R	18. bladmar] blathmar B	19. co ticht] co tiacht etc SH
do thig Lc dothic S	20. Nemain] co neim S in niall-gáid] inuallgaid	
B inuallgaidh M anuallgaidh Lc ag nuallgaidh S	21. rochiála]	
dochualaid Lc 'mon all] noll Lc	24. ní fuair in mbéim] ní fuair beim B	
do fuair in mbem S ní fma mein M		

LOCH DÁ GABAR

Loch Dá Gabar, gním dia fail,
 úaim co fir rofesabair,
 a rígrad ón Bregrus balc,
 ní do senchus na sen-marc.

Sund robáidit, bríg cen blad,
 echrad Echach ríg Muman:
 báeth in fiad rosforaim and,
 Gáeth ocus Grían a n-anmann.

Dorucait ria réir don ríg
 ar feis Temrach do thairb-ríg
 ó Eochaid maire-cend na mál
 d' Enna fairtend enech-nár.

10

Rosfúaitgi serrach seng sel
 óthá in glenn imba Glasgen:
 rocingset reime, réim troch,
 cor' lingset léim 'sin láech-loch.

Loch.

LUSMAG

IN eól duib aní dia fail
 Lusmag cosin lí luchair?
 ria cath Maige Tuired te
 ba Mag Muired Moncaide.

Ó chath Maige Tuired túaid
 ainm dó Lusmag co láech-búaid:
 and roben Diancécht cen chair
 lus ra each crécht dia chobair.

Loch Dá Gabar. RBLcMSS,H 3. ón] don RH *Bregrus*] breg dos
 Le breaghus S 4. sen-] saer etc LcSS₃ 5. robáidit] robaidid B
 robaidhedh etc S₃H robaighedh S robaid Le cen blad] co mblad S₃

LOCH DA GABAR

Loch Da Gabar—the reason of the name ye shall learn from me, in sooth, O princes from strong Bregros! 'tis a story of steeds of old.

Here were drowned (inglorious might!) the horses of Eochu, king of Munster: wanton the wild thing that chased them thither: Gaeth and Grian were their names.

They were brought with homage at the feast of Tara from the bull-king, Eochaid Marc-cend, ruler of chieftains, to the King, mighty Enna, noble and bounteous.

A slender foal drove them once in panic, issuing from the glen where Glasgen dwelt: they fled before him, a fatal course, till they leapt their leap into the warriors' lake.

LUSMAG

Know ye the reason for the name of Lusmag with its bright splendour? before the battle of Mag Tuired yonder it was called Mag Muired Moncaide.

From the battle of Mag Tuired in the north its name was Lusmag of warlike prowess: there blameless Diancecht applied a herb to every wound to heal it.

-
- 6.] echradha airdrigh muman S 7. *fiad*] fian B *rosforaim*] RH ros
forad BM dosfarraid Le rosfarraigh S dusfarraigh S₃ 9. *Dorucait*]
RH doruuccaid etc BS dorugad Le dorucesad M díá rugsad S₃ *ria*] dia
LeSS₃ *don*] ind H 10. *do*] co S *thairb-rig*] sarbrig Le sairbrigh etc MS₃
tairbrig etc *cæt.* 11. *ó*] om. BM *mairc-cend*] maircend etc RH maireand
mor (*with c supplied by later hand*) B airmthend Le armcenn M airmchenn S
12. *d' Enna*] demni M *fairtend*] fortend etc RS₃ airthend Le airmthenn S
mairthenn M 13. *Rosfiúaitgi*] rosfuadaigh etc LeSS₃ 14.] ota hin
robo gasgen Le in glenn] glenn B in loch S *imba*] ima B robo LeS
15. *reime*] rompo LeS 16.] coralingsid leim sin loch M *'sin*] don Le
sa S₃

Lusmag. RBLcMSS₃S₄H 2. *li*] liath Le 3. *te*] thair S 4
Moncaide] B moncuide R muncaidhe S₃ munchaidi Le monchaide S
moncuiche etc MH munchadhair S 8. *lus ra cach*] lusmag can Le
lusrad a M lusradh na S lusrachán S₄

Conmelt cach lus, láthar nglé,
hi fus ar tiprait Sláinge:
i n-Achud Abla fuilech
ba cabra ríg robuidech.

10

Cach láech nolaiged fon lind
atraiged súas co slán-grind,
cen on cen anim cen ole
for agid nó for ard-chorp.

IS ed sin fodera tan
Lusmag na lega labar:
do gnímrud Diancecht na ceól
drécht co ndírgud rodag-eól.

IN. 20

BENN CODAIL

Senchas Codail cuimnig dam
sund ós ruibnib na rogal:
cid dia fail, fri dáil ndíthig,
ainm cáid Codail chorr-chíchig?

Codal corr-chíchech roalt
Érinn ambrit, ilar marc;
sund forin chnuc cúar atchí
fo brut búan ósa bruinni.

Cach ás noásad in bein,
Ériu ágmar, ba harm-gein,
noásad amlaid co hán
in enoc ós talmain tonn-bán.

10

Co n-érbairt ria haiti hi
cen laici tria léitmigi:
'Ronguin gaeth, rongoir grían grinn,
atraig in sliab ós Érinn.'

Mani rathaiged in ben
in enoc for ás, for indeb,
nobiad ós Érind uile
glé-rind Codail chnes-buide.

20

He brayed each herb, clever device, here by the spring of Slange: at bloody Achad Abla he succoured grateful kings.

Every warrior he laid under the water would rise up sleek and sound, without blemish, spot, or hurt on visage or noble body.

Thus arose of yore the name Lusmag of the voluble physicians; of the skill of Diancecht lord of spells under guidance it hath well learned a tale.

BENN CODAIL

Bear me in mind the story of Codal, honoured here beyond hosts famed for prowess: why is it known to the death-dealing array—the unsullied name of round-breasted Codal?

Codal the round-breasted reared the virgin Erin, rich in steeds; here, on the swelling hill, thou seest him with a lasting vesture covering his breast.

Growing as grew the woman, warlike Erin, born among arms, so gloriously grew the hill above earth's bright surface:

Till she said to her fosterer in her vigour unabated: 'The wind hath pierced us, the cheering sun hath scorched us, the mountain is rising above Erin!'

Had not the woman noticed the hill growing and gaining, the far-seen peak of yellow-sided Codal would stand above all Erin.

9. *Connelt*] combeith M *lus*] om. S₄ 10. *ar*] a LeS 12. *robuidech*] robuidhnech S roguinech LeS₃ 13. *nolaiged*] roluidhedh S noluidheadh S₃ 14. *atraiged*] atraige S₄ *slán*] sair B 16. *nó*] na LeMS. *for ará-chorp*] fordechorp R forard a chorp Le 17. *tan*] than BLcS₄ dó S 18. *na*] an S *labar*] on labró S 19. *gnimrad*] gnimh B 20. *drécht*] drech M *rodag-eól*] re dageol S₃ rondaigeol H

Benn Codail. RBLcMSS₃H 3. *cid*] om. Le *ndúthig*] crichich M 5. *roalt*] ronalt S 6. *ambrit*] ar mid Le *marc*] mbarc S₃ 7. *forin*] aran M 8. *fo brut búan*] fora bruth Le 9. *Cach ás*] canas RBM *noásad*] rofasad etc BLcS *in bein*] an ben LeS in mbein H 10. *Ériu*] erind etc LeM *ba harm-gein*] conairmnm Le conardnem S 11. *noásad*] is rofas Le rofhásadh S 12. *ós*] as M 13. *Co n-érbairt*] conderbairt etc BLcH cnearbairt etc MS *ria*] re BLcS 14. *tria*] tre etc LeMS cen R 15. *Ronguin*] romgoin etc LeSS₃ *rongoir*] romgair LeS romguin S₃ 16. *atraig*] adrai Le 18. *for ás*] for as S₃ forus B ar fas Le for fás etc *cæt*. *for indeb*] for indemh S₃ for [i]ndem H forinnem etc RM formnem B co firnem Le coric neam S 19. *noíad*] robíadh S

In lá doméla ní de
ard-rí Bréna agus Bóinde,
comaid ar each tress rothag
mess Codail do ríg Themrach.

IS and roadnacht iar n-úair
Codal cairpthech claideb-chrúaid
hi tul-chnuc gurm na ngéc nglas :
is ed adfét in senchas. S.

TLACHTGA

Tlachtga, tulach ordain úais,
forbaid mór ríge co rochrúais,
ón chéin rosgab Tlachtga thoich,
ingen Moga réil ríge-Roith.

Mug Roith mac Fergusa Fáil
mac Rossa ríge da ronáir,
Cacht ingen Chathmhind na cles
a máthair dath-grind díles.

Roth mac Riguill roalt hé ;
de ba Mug Roith rogaide :
dá mac Moga, Búan is Chorb,
sona dar slúag a sáer-dord.

10

Ba hí máthair na mac mass
Derdraigen dúr dron-amnass,
agus máthair chert Cairpri,
is becht lem ó bláth-bairdni.

Ingen Moga, mílib slúag,
Tlachtga toga, nár tháeb-fúar,
luid ríge hathair ndímór ndil
co Símon sáer sechtmisid.

20

In the day that the High King of Brena and Boand shall eat the food thereof, Codal's fosterling shall be a guard for the King of Temair in every conflict he has chosen.

Codal of the chariots and the stout sword was buried there afterwards in the blue hill of green boughs: so the story runs.

TLACHTGA

Tlachtga, proud and princely hill, has seen the passing of many a stern king, since long ago seemly Tlachtga possessed it, daughter of the famous slave of kingly Roth.

Mug Roith was son of Fergus Fáil, son of royal and worshipful Ross; Cacht daughter of Cathmann skilled in feats was his own mother, fresh of hue.

Roth son of Rigoll fostered him, therefore was he Roth's chosen Slave: his two sons were Buan and Corb, whose noble chant brought the people luck.

The mother of those goodly sons was Derdraigen, strong, fierce, and fell: she was mother too of Cairpre, as my gentle bardic art certifies.

Daughter of Mug, master of thousands, was choice Tlachtga—not chill was her bosom: with her giant father dear went she to noble Simon *sechtmisid*.

-
22. *Bréna*] breg etc LeSH bregha S₃ 23. *comaid*] RS₃ comaig
 BM combail Le comair S coimde do H *rothag*] rotach H tre chath LeS
 om. M 27. *tul-chnuc*] tul chnuic etc LeSS₃ *gurm*] guirm LcMSS₃ *ngéc*]
 neg Le
- Tlachtga.** RBLcMSS₃H 1. *ordain úais*] arda uas Le ard ahuas S
 ard anuas M 2. *forbaid*] f ɸ R forbad B forambidh Lc forba S₃H
mór rig] mor ri Le morig M 3. *chéin*] chein R cem B ceim M
 cheim S₃ (*in litura*) reim LeS *rosgab*] rogab RS 4. *Roith*] roig B
 8. *dath-grind*] reñ M 9. *Riguill*] rigguilid R *roalt*] ronalt LeS 11.
dá] do S₃ *is Chorð*] a corp Le 12. *a*] i R an Le *-dord*] ord B 14.
dron-] dreach Le 16.] *ed.* is becht romoblain bairdne R is becht
 romoblain hbairdne B is bect romolann bairdne M is becht lem im lan
 bairdne H darbo beacht each blath bairne Le darbo becht gach blath
 bairdne S rug mor mbert ar blaith bairdne S₃ 17. *Ingen*] igin M
 18. *toga*] a togha M 19. *luid*] doluid M *ria*] le BLcS riana M *ndimór*]
 om. M 20. *sechtmisid*] R sechtmaisid B .viii. maisigh LeS seactmisigh
 M seachtmisigh S₃ sechtmis H

Trí meic la Símon, ba sám,
ba dímór a ndiabol-bág,
Nero, Carpent is Uetir,
ba balc-gent co mbeó-gletin.

Doratsat na meice 'malle
seire do Thlachtga tri tháide,
cor' sílsat a broinn, cen bréic,
do chloinn chomadais chomméit.

Tlachtga di thriun, nírbó thimm,
dorigne in roth rúad rogrinn
maróen la Mug ndímór ndil
is la Símon sechtmisid.

30

Hí dorat léi in fuidell, fiss,
forfácaib in roth rochliss,
líá foirbthe i Forcarthain fainn,
ocus in coirthe i Cnámchaill.

Dall cach óen nodnaicfe sell,
bodar cach óen nodcluinnenn,
marb risa mbenfa ní de,
don roth garb-grennach gráinne.

40

Iar tuidecht anair don mnaí
ruc tri maccu co mór-gnaí:
atbath dia mbreith in mer menn:
scél mór cen chleith rocluinnem.

Anmann na mac, lúad nad chres,
Múach is Chuma is Doirb díles:
in tslóig ó Thoraig, rostecht,
dóib (is comaid) a cloistecht.

21. *la*] ag Le 22. *a ndiabol-bág*] andiabalagh RH andiabolplag M
anradag Le riamaroagh S 23. *Nero*] nera etc SS₃H *Carpent*] cairpmendt
H cairptind M *Uetir*] neitir Le neidhir S beitir M betir H 24. *ba*]

Three sons had Simon, who dwelt at ease; gigantic was their league of hell: Nero, Carpent, and Uetir, they were a mighty race, mortal in conflict.

All the sons together gave their love to Tlachtga secretly, and quickened her womb, in truth, with offspring like in build and bulk.

Tlachtga—no weakling was she—was one of three, with the beloved giant Slave and with Simon *sechtmisid*, who made the red well-finished Wheel.

She carried with her the fragment, I wis, that the cunningly-made Wheel left behind it, the perfect Stone at feeble Forcarthain and the Pillar at Cnamchaill.

Blind is each that once sees it, deaf is each that hears it: dead is he that aught touches of the rough-jagged dreadful Wheel.

When the woman came westward she bore three sons of great beauty: she died at their birth, the bright brisk lady: a strange tale—let us hear it and hide it not!

The names of her sons (no meagre utterance) were Muach and Cumma and darling Doirb: 'tis for the men of Torach, that claimed them for its own, to hear their names—and mark ye them!

bat RS₃ co] a LcS -*gletin*] beithir M 26. *seirc*] om. Lc tri *tháide*] tria
thaithe etc RB tria taide H tre thaidhe S₃ tri haite M ria haide S rena
haithle Lc 27. *silsat*] silais Lc a *broinn*] ambroind R na broind Lc
cen bréic] can meid Lc 28. *chomadais*] chomaisi Lc 29. *dí*] R do *cæt*.
thriun] thriur Lc siur M 31. *maróen*] moræn RB maré Lc la] ria M
re SS₃ om. Lc *ndil*] ndaigh R 32. *la*] ra B ria M re LcSS₃
sechtmisid] sechtmisigh etc RS₃ sechtmisaigh M sechtmiossaigh H seacht
maisigh etc BLcS 33. *léi*] he M lé etc *cæt*. *fuidell*] fuideall Lc fuigell
etc *cæt*. 34. *forfácaib*] foragaib etc MS *rochliss*] rotelis M 35. *lia*]
ba LcMS *foirbthe*] forche Lc foirfe S₃ i] a H om. *cæt*. Forcarthain] incartan
R foreartach M *fainn*] fuind LcS 37. *cach óen*] cach æn H each neaen
Lc cach noen etc *cæt*. *nodnaicfe*] notfaicfe R nodfaicbe S notnfaicfe H
nusfaici Lc *sell*] seal Lc feal S 38.] 7 bodhar rochlúineadh S
nodcluinnenn] nocluinnend etc RS₃ notcluinnenn H nocluinnfead Lc 39.
risa mbenfa] gach æn frismbean H 40. *gráinne*] gruaimde etc LcS
43. *mbreith*] breith M 44. *rocluinnem*] rocluinem etc RH rocluinnenn M
adchluinem S₃ dochluineam etc *cæt*. 45. *Anmann*] anmanna etc LcS
na mac] nat M *liad nad chres*] luadh nat cres RH luag nad tres M re mes
LcS 46. *Muach*] much R muac M *Chuma*] cam Lc is Doirb] doirb R
47. in *tslóig*] na sloigh R 48. *comaid*] chomaigh R comaigh S comhaigh
M com H

Hi céin béit ós Banba blaid
anmann na mac ar marthain,
is scél fír fri sílad sin,
ní tie díbad dia dainib.

50

In enoc in rohailed úag
do mnaí na n-airer n-adúar,
dar cach sogairm suí sana
is dó is togairm tuí Tlachtga.

T.

MAG BREG

Secht maic Breogain, bríg cen brón,
Brega, Blad, Cúalu cath-mór,
Cúalnge, Fúat, Murthemne maith,
ocus Íth úasal ard-flaith.

Slechtsat maige ar maith dia claind
in cumann daith derb-álaind,
conid leó iar n-úairib airthir,
ocus úaidib ainmnigthir.

Roslecht Brega, bág cen chleith,
in mag-sa imríadat ar n-eich,
co mair ria gairm ngel, roglac,
a ainm sel mar cach secht-mac.

10

S.

Dochúaid fri senchas nach snéid,
iar sreith na súad co soréid,
Brega cen bine blaide
ainm daim Dile dell-glaine.

49. *Hi céin béit*] cein beít H h cem bed B biaidh gan bed S *Banba*] banbann S₃ *blaid*] mb্লাidh R combloidd etc LeH bil BS 50. *anmann*] anmanna S *ar*] i BM 51. *is scél*] iscel BM ascél LeS *fri sílad*] do fírad Le *rosiladh* S 52. *ní*] na BMS₃H *dainib*] ndainib etc LeH

As long as the names of her sons shall be held in honour throughout Banba (this is a true saying to spread abroad) there comes no ruin to her men.

The hill where a grave was built for the lady of the chilly lands, above every title given by lucky poet it bears the style of silent Tlachtga.

MAG BREG

The seven sons of Bregon, a strength unsaddened, Brega, Blad, Cualu great in battle, Cualnge, Fuat, good Murthemne, and noble Ith, high chieftain,

That active right-goodly band cleared a good plough-land for their children, so by them is it tilled in after times and from them is it named.

Brega cleared—a boast not to be hidden—this plain our horses drive round, so that his name, as each of the seven's, endures a while for an illustrious title of the land he seized.

There has come down, with a tale not trivial, along the line of the learned, luckily, the name of Brega, free from repute of crime, the ox of bright-brooded Dil.

53. *In cnoc in rohailed*] an cnocan hailead Lc *úag*] uadh RLcS uad M
54. *n-adúar*] nadfuar etc LcS nardfuar M 55. *sogairm*] sodhghairm M
sui sana] sai so ana S₂ doso ana S sai serca Lc soi sona H 56. *is dó*
is togairm] as do togairm Lc is do togairm M as dó fa togairm S darab
comainm H *tui*] tul B *tæb* Lc *om*. S

Mag Breg. RH₂B₂LcMSS₂S₃H 2. *cath-*] cloth S 4. *úasal*] ual S
ard-flaith] intardflaith S₂ anardlaith S arflaith R 5. *Slechtsat*] slect M
maige ar] read mag-ar *maith*] maigh H₂ 6. *in*] i M *daith*] ní maith S₂
derb-álaind] daebalaind Lc derbadh lind S₂ ba deghroinn S 7. *n-úairib*]
nuair SS₂S₃M nuir Lc *airthir*] H₂B₂ airdir R ar fir M a fir S₃ iarsin
etc LcSS₂ sin H 8 *ocus*] conadh S 9. *bág*] bad Lc baidh B₂ ba
H₂ 10. *mag-sa*] mag H *imriadat*] imriagaid etc H₂LcSM ar *n-eich*]
na heich' (*with vel ar neich in marg.*) H₂B₂ eich S₂ 11. *ria*] re etc LcSS₂H
ngel] seal Lc scel S₂ fer S 13. *fri*] ar R 14. *sreith na*] srethaib S
co] nach LcS₂ *soréid*] roreid M soilléir S 15. *cen bine*] combine R
blaide] bloigi Lc mbloighe S 16. *dell-glaine*] dealbglóine etc SS₂H
dealbglain M

Aire rochar Dil, nár dúail,
in dam ba muirech mór-búair,
dáig i n-óen-fecht rochin sí
ocus in dam co ndath-lí.

20

Tulchinde druí, derbdait máil,
tuc leis in n-ingin n-óc-náir
co lóg búadach na blaide
co Mag mbúarach mBolegaide.

Rolen ainm in daim duilig
do Maig Breg co mór-chuirib:
bréit Breg, in dom-airm cen acht,
rotréic sogairm na secht-mace. S.

MAG LÉNA I

Inmain in fert, fichtib slúag,
ocus inmain lecht láech-búan:
inmain marbán cen mire,
dia tue banbán bith-lige.

Scenb in scél roscailled ann,
láech nár laided nach labrann:
díth lúath Léna cen logud
dorat úath is airomun.

Léna mac Róeda rathaig
ailis muic mó cach fachaid:
rob é sin in tore tigba,
las' rort Léna in láech-bidba.

10

Is de sin frisngéra thúaid
Mag lond Léna co láech-búaid,
ón gas gurm nogaibed gail,
luid as, aided nárb inmain,

17. *Aire*] arái etc LeSS₂ *rochar*] adrochair Le adorechair S atorchair S₂
dúail] RS₃ dual etc *cet*. 18. *muirech*] murneach Le -*búair*] sluag
etc LeSS₂ 19. *rochin*] rochinn etc H₂S₂ dochinn Le 20. *co*

Therefore did Dil love—was it not natural?—the ox that was leader of a great herd, because she was born in the same hour as the ox bright of colour.

Tulchinde the druid, as poets affirm, bore off the young and modest maiden, along with the renowned excelling steer, to Mag Bolgaide rich in cattle.

The name of the ox unmanaged clave to Mag Breg, with its many troops; that oxen-home is called without doubt 'Brega's strip': the appellation of the seven sons departed from it.

MAG LENA I

Dear is the monument, visited by scores of crowds, and dear the grave of martial memory; dear is the corpse, now spiritless, to which the swine gave lasting sepulture.

Thorny the tale that was bruited there, of a fighter that never needed urging, who speaks no more: the sudden fate of Lena, that fades not, has caused dread and dire dismay.

Lena, son of wealthy Mess Roida, reared a swine, worst of plagues: this was that fatal boar whereby Lena, martial foe, was slain.

From him shall fierce Mag Lena of martial fame answer to its name in the north, from the noble scion who faced the fray: he departed thence, a death undesired,

ndath-lí] don daithlí H_2 dilindsi S_2 21. *derbdaí*] derbaid etc
 H_2B_2 LcSS $_2S_3$ deruait H 22. *n-ingin*] ingen RH_2S *n-óc-náir*] ocnáir etc
 RH_2 LcMS $_3$ adhnair S_2 23. *lóg*] lelg H *búadach*] mbuadach etc RSS $_2M$
mbuada Le 24. *mbúarach*] mbuagach Le mbuadach MS $_2$ *mBolgaide*]
mbolcaidi MH mbolgaighe S_3 mbolgraidhi Le molgraidhe S 26. *dó*]
ar S_3 27. *breit*] breit RMSS $_2H$ breid H_2 breith LcS $_3$ *in*] om. H
dom-airm] forainm S_3 daimairm S_2 28. *rotréic*] rothreth S *sogairm*]
togairm Le

Mag Léna I. RH_2B_2 LcMSS $_3S_4H$ 2. *ocus*] 7 is H_2 *lecht*] an lecht
LcH $_2$ 3. *míre*] bine H 5. *Scenb*] RS $_4H_2B_2$ *sceanbdha* etc *cæt*.
6. *nár*] nach MS $_4H_2B_2$ *laided*] laiged etc LcSHH $_2$ *nach*] nár LcH na S
labrann] labram Le homann S 8.] *dorat hua isi romhuin* etc H_2B_2
9. *mac*] om. R 10. *cach fachaíd*] can fhachain Le gach fachaín SS $_3$
11. *in*] a LcS $_3S_4H_2B_2$ 12. *las' rort*] lér thoit LcS *láech-bidba*] in l. b.
LcSS $_4H_2B_2$ 13.] IS e sin frisnera tuaid M *thúaid*] atuaid LcS $_4$
14. *co láech-búaid*] ré henuair etc LcS 15. *gas gurm*] gais guirm LcMH $_2B_2$
nogaibed] na gaibed etc MS $_3S_4B_2$ na gaibe H_2 *gail*] thair LcS

Dia lotar 'na tóitib trell
 cóic cóicid áille Érenn
 dia saigid día Samna sair
 áit i mbaí a hadba inmain.

20

Roalt sab na sír-glec sáer
 Ailbe mín-brec mullach-máel;
 tue mór slúag fo thalmain tair
 in cú úag arnaid inmain. IN.

MAG LÉNA II

Muc mic Dá Thó, tlacht-múad tore,
 nocharb í in attrúag imnacht:
 co cend secht mblíadan, cen brath,
 sesca gamnach dia bíathad.

Ba hairdire in molbthach mas
 feib sontar triasin senchas,
 cen chleith mbratha rodusbrú:
 cethracha dam dia fothu.

Amra cródaib, for creit chairr
 aire nónbair 'na trom-thairr:
 céin baí oc raínd robaile co rath
 dosromailt Conall Cernach.

10

Ci aslúí Ailbe na ngrúad nglan,
 cú dianad caidle in cosnam,
 cé doraírg gressa don phurt,
 nírbó messa de in mór-mucc. M.

17-20.] *om.* S 17. *tóitib*] do itibh etc LcS₃ 18. *áille*] ana Lc amra M
 19. *dia saigid*] dia saig M do saigid etc S₄H₂B₂ Samna] samla Lc 20. *a*
hadba] adba LcM a adhba S₃ 21. *sab*] sam LcS *sír-glec*] saerglac Lc
 saerglec M sirglac SH 22. *mín-brec*] muinbrec H in mbrég H₂
 in mbrecc B₂

When the five fair provinces of Erin came, on a time, in full array, at Samain-tide, to seek the swine in the east where it had its loved abode.

The noble prop of constant combats bred Ailbe sleek and dappled, smooth of poll: many a host he laid under earth in the east, that perfect hound, fell and dear.

MAG LENA II

The swine of Mac Dá Thó, that chieftain richly clad, was no bare-boned starveling: for seven years' space, without deceit, sixty strippers were milked to feed it.

Famous was the goodly belauded beast, as is sounded forth in story, without hiding the treachery that destroyed it: forty oxen toiled to nourish it.

Its mighty tail alone on the cart-frame was nine men's load, strangest of bloody sights! Conall Cernach devoured it, while he was making the brave bountiful division.

Though Ailbe of the bright cheeks escaped—that hound whose pleasure was in combat: though he repelled attacks from the place, it was none the poorer for the great pig also.

mullach-máel] malach chlaen etc LeS 24. *in cú*] conid LeS *úag*] S₄H₂
uagh B₂ uad etc *cæt. arnaid*] ernaid R ardmuig Le

Mag Léna II. Laud 610 Harl. 5280 LeS 1. *tlacht-míad*] *ed.*
lachtmuad LdHrl tlachtmad LeS 2. *nocharb*] no arb Hrl *attriag*] Ld
atruag HrlLe atruadh S 3. *cen brath*] comblaidh LeS 4. *sesca*] xl
S *dia*] coa Ld 5. *molbthach*] moltach Hrl 6. *sontar*] rantar Le
rothair S 7. *mbratha*] bá rath Le brathar S *rodusbrú*] rodus brug Le
rothasbrudh S roscan clu Ld ruscā clu Hrl 8. *fothu*] fothad Le
fothugh S 9-12.] *Also in Rawl. B 512: see Notes* 9. *Amra cródaib*]
Fiad na crobaib Rawl fiadnaib crobaib Hrl fiadnaib coraib Ld *Perhaps*
Amru cróchraib *for creit*] fo creich Le for cert Ld ro cret Hrl chairr] cairr
HrlLe charr S 10. *'na*] ina LeS a Rawl *trom-thairr*] tromtharr S
tarr Le 11. *céin*] cén S cein Ld cen *cæt.* 12. *dosromailt*] doromailt
Rawl rustomailt Le rothomailt S 13. *Ci ashú*] cia ruslui Hrl ce
ruslu Ld *na ngríad*] im grad Ld am gradh Hrl 14.] cú diandechaid
cach cosnam etc LdHrl 15. *cé dorairg*] Ld gédrarich Hrl gid airid
(the last i added later) Le diáirairigh (?) S 16. *nirbo messa de*] niruó mesai
die Hrl dó nirbo mesa LeS

Mess Gegra, Mess Roída rán,
 dá mac Dá Thó na trom-dám;
 mac Mess Roída fri féth, fuit,
 issé rométh in mór-muic. M. 20

Lotar dó iar tóitib trell
 cóic cóicid ána Hérenn,
 dosfuc a combág cuicce;
 mór in oll-dám óen-muicce. M.

ODRAS

Odras, úais ind ingen,
 fris' indlem laíd lúaidme,
 Odornatan airme
 meic Laidne meic Lúaidre.

Ban-briugaid ba brígach
 in gnímach glan gúasach,
 céile cáem co cruthacht
 do Buchatt balce búasach.

Bóaire cáid Cormaic
 co roblait in Buchatt,
 dúiscid búar co mblaitne
 cach maitne for muchacht. 10

Fechtus luid dia ésse
 a ben glésse gasta,
 Odras rúad co romét,
 do chomét búar mblasta.

Moch dia mboí 'na codlud
 Odras groc-dub gnóach,
 dosrocht ben in Dagda,
 ba samla día sóach. 20

Mess Gegra and noble Mess Roida were two sons of Da Tho, host of the mighty troops; Mess Roida's son, he it was—alas! that fed the great swine to fatness.

The five noble fifths of Erin came to him once in full array; their rivalry brought them to him: great was that following of a single swine!

ODRAS

Odras, noble the lady for whom we furbish the lay that we indite, the daughter of Odornatan . . . son of Laidne son of Luaidir.

A lady of land was she, and mighty, deedful, radiant, danger-loving, the fair and shapely spouse of stout Buchat, lord of cattle.

Keeper of kine to worshipful Cormac was Buchat, man of might: he roused the lusty herd betimes each morning.

His trim alert wife Odras, fierce and tall, followed him one day to watch the sweet-fleshed cattle.

As busy dark-wrinkled Odras was sleeping in the early morning the Dagda's wife found her: in this wise came the shape-shifting goddess:

-
- 17-24.] *These two stanzas are in inverse order in the MSS* 17. *Mess Gegra,*
Mess Roida] mesráeda mesgedra Hrl 18. *dá]* do Le 19. *mac Mess*
Roida] an mesroida etc LdHrl is mac mesreda S an mes Le *félh]* feth
LdHrl feith S feithles Le 20. *rométh]* dometh Le 21. *iar tóitib]*
iarndóitib etc LdHrl iar toid Le iar taidhibh S *trell]* Le thall S drenn
LdHrl 22. *ána]* ana LeS ina Ld inna Hrl 23. *combág]* combáigh
S comaid Le *cúicce]* Le acú Le cuco Hrl cucca Ld 24. *mór in oll-*
dám] mór in olldáimh S nirbo olldamh Hrl corbo oldam Ld rob ollaim
Le *óen-muicce]* oen-mhuco Hrl oen mucca Ld a aen mucu Le
- Odras.** RLcMSS₃H 1. *ind]* om. Le 2. *laid]* laigh LeS luais S₃
3. *airme]* airmhe S₃ 4. *Laidne]* láime LeH láimhe SS₃ 5-8.] om. H
5. *bríugaid]* Le briuga M brugaid etc RSS₃ 6. *in]* ba LeSS₃ 7.] celi
caem comeruthachach Le ceile caem cu cruathocht M ceile comcháomh
cruthach S₃ 9. *Bóaire]* boair Le cáid] caem LeS 10. *co robhlait]* corblaid
Le co robhlaidh etc SS₃ 11. *diúiscid]* diuscithig M biar] buair RM
12. *cach mairne]* om. Le muchacht] muchat LeS₃ 16. *do]* do do Le biar]
mbuair R buair M om. Le mblasta] blasda Le mbasda S 17. *dia mboi]*
diamuide (de expunct.) M 18.] co rogbad guoach etc LeS *groc-]* goroc M
19. *dosrocht]* dorocht Le 20. *samlai]* samlai R samlaid etc MH *dia soach]*
dosocht S₃H dia soadh S dia soach cat.

Tuc léi tarb in tnúthach,
in rígan garb gnáthach,
baí i Liathmuine láthach,
in fiachaire fáthach.

Dairis boin in búaball,
tarb túamann 'nar taídenn,
ó Themraig tric táraill
co Slemnaib Fraích Oírenn.

Slemon ainm in tairb-sin,
dremon in dóel donn-sin :
a ainm, mer cen mebsain,
'sed rolen in fonn-sin.

30

Luid co Crúachain cróda
iarsind úath-blaid ágda
in Mórrígan mórdá,
ba slóg-dírmach sámda.

Luid Odras 'na hiarn-gait,
iarmairt nárbu ada,
's a gilla dúr dorthain,
torchair i Cúil Chada.

40

Cada ainm a gilla
rofinna mór fíche :
ruc Odras, úair áithe,
for lurg a búair bíthe.

Iarsin, d' éis a gilla,
luid in ben gléis glanda
co Síd Crúachan cumma,
co fríth úath-blad alla.

Roléic cotlud chuicce
in groc-dub cen glicce
i nDaire úar Fálud
dia fúair sárgud sicce.

50

The envious queen fierce of mood, the cunning raven-caller, brought off with her the bull that lived in miry Liathmuine.

The bull covered a cow, the paddock bull in our herd: he hied him in haste from Temair to the levels of the Moor of Oiriu.

Slemon was that bull's name: wild was that brown savage, a mettlesome unmastered beast: his name clave to that lowland.

There came to blood-stained Cruachu, according to the weird and terrible tale, the mighty Morrigan, whose pleasure was in mustered hosts.

Odras came to despoil her by arms, to an issue that was not lawful, with her stark ill-fated henchman, who fell at Cuil Cada.

Cada was her gillie's name—many a fight he knew; Odras brought him, in a bitter hour, on the track of her herd of heifers.

Afterward, when her henchman was gone, the lady came, in shining trim, to Sid Cruachan likewise, and a weird event befell yonder.

Imprudently the dark-wrinkled one let sleep come over her in cold Daire Falgud, where she met mortal outrage.

23. *láthach*] *ed.* laithech etc RLcS laidtheach M laidtech H lúthach S₃
 24. *fiachaire*] *fiachuri* etc LcS 26. *túamann*] tuaimfhinn Lc na
 túamand S *taidenn*] *ed.* teiged R thegenn M tegenn H toigfhinn Lc
 toigenn S taoidhinn S₃ 27. *tric táraill*] co tairrlig etc LcS tric M
 tao (*in litura, with th superscr.*) taraill S₃ 28. *Fraich*] foirech M fraech etc
cæt. Oirenn] rorenn Lc ráoirenn etc SS₃ 29. *Slemon*] slemoín etc *codd.*
 30. *dremon*] dremain SH *dóel*] deil MH deilm S₃ 31. *a ainm mer*] na sain a ainm M *mer*] mes LcS *cen*] chon Lc 32. *'sed*] ised Lc sedh
 (*with a superscr.*) S₃ 34. *úath-blaid*] tuath blaidh R *ágda*] agda R adhgha
 M nada etc LcS adhbha S₃ adbhæ H 36. *-dírmach*] díрмаidh S₃
sámda] samda *codd.* 37. *hiarn-gaif*] hiarnaidh Lc hiarraidh S 38.
iarmairt] iarmait M *nárbu*] nirbo Lc narbudh S₃H *ada*] fhoda Lc 41.
ā] an M 42. *rofínna*] rofímdhæ M *fiche*] SS₃ fídchi Lc fiche *cæt.*
 43. *úair áithe*] uraithe Lc uair aithe etc *cæt.* 44. *búair*] bo LcS
 46. *luid in*] doluid LcS luid a RMH 48. *co*] om. R *úath-blad*] tuathbladh R huatblad M *alla*] ealla Lc 51. *úar*] fuar etc RH ur Lc
Fálgud] *ed.* algu M falgu etc RH falgha etc LcSS₃ 52. *sárgud*] sarg̃ H sarghu M sargha S₃ sardub R sardu S sadu Lc *siccē*] síche Lc

Dosruacht ina tathum,
trúag tachur for tulaig,
in Mórrígan úathmar
a húaim Chrúachan cubaid.

Rochan fuirre ind agda
tria luinde cen logda
cach bricht dían, ba dalbda,
fri Sliab mBadbgna mbrogda.

60

Legais in ben brígach
fri Segais, sreb súanach,
mar cach linn cen líg-blad:
nísbai brígrad búadach.

Don tsruthán fáen foglas
is ainm sáer co soblas,
luid ón mnaí thrúaig thadaill
cosin abainn Odras. O.

CLEITECH

Cleitech in druí díles daith,
scél cen mímes, ba mór-flaith,
sund roadnacht in fáid fir,
ó fil comainm cáid Cleitig.

Bés ba hé in tech turchad and,
iar ngrés na n-ugdar nemgand,
dia n-ebrad cen tréithe the
cléithe tech nÉrend uile.

Nó ba *cléithe ach* n-anbal
mac Erca do moch-marbad:
hi Cleitig crúaid cen chrábud
fúair guin, loscud, lind-bádud.

10

The horrid Morrigan out of the cave of Cruachu, her fit abode, came upon her slumbering: alas, the combat on the hill!

The owner of kine chanted over her, with fierceness unabating, toward huge Sliab Bodbгна every spell of power: she was full of guile.

The forceful woman melted away toward Segais in a sleepy stream, like a pool void of lustre: she lost her victorious powers.

Odras is the sweet-sounding noble name of the sluggish pallid streamlet: it passed from the lady—luckless visitant—to the river Odras.

CLEITECH

Cleitech the druid, faithful and ready, was a great chief—a word not lightly spoken; here was the seer buried, from whom comes the revered name of Cleitech.

Perchance 'twas the house that then was reared, according to the record of copious authors, which was called abidingly yonder 'the top of all houses' in Erin.

Or else, the untimely slaying of Mac Erca was the 'top of boundless groans'; at grim Cleitech undevout he met wounds, burning and drowning.

-
54. *tachur*] *dacur* Le *for*] *fri* Le 57. *ind agda*] *andagda* LeS *in agda* R
 innagdhā etc MH *anuaghdhā* (*in litura*) S₃ 58. *tria luinde*] *trialluimni* M
fri hall mnai LeS 59. *cach*] *cen* etc RLe *dian*] *dia* Le *di* S *ba dalbda*]
ba delbda (*with vel a above the e*) R 60. *mBadbгna*] *mbadgna* RS₃ *mbadna*
H bladhna (*with l expunct. and m written over the b*) M *bagna* etc LeS *mbrogda*]
mbrodga R *mborda* Le *mborgda* M *brodha* S 62. *sreb*] R *seal* LeSS₃
searb etc MH 63. *lig-*] *li* Le *liath* M 64. *brigrad*] *brigmar* LeS
búadach] *buarach* RS 65. *Yien*] *fæ* M *Yoglas*] Le *faglas* RMH *fadhlas* S₃
 67. *thriaig*] *truagh* S₃H *thuaigh* etc LeS *thadaill*] *tagaill* R 68. *cosin*]
 aran etc LeS

Cleitech. RB₂H₂LeMSS₃H 1. *in*] *om.* S 2. *cen*] *ba* M *mimes*]
 mhineas H₂B₂ *ba*] *la* S₃ *flaith*] *maith* etc LeS 3. *fáid*] *flaith* LeS *fir*]
 fíir H₂B₂Le 5. *Bés*] *om.* LeMSS₃ *in*] *om.* M *turbad*] *turгаib* Le
 turoebad M *rotuargbadh* S *doturbad* S₃ 6. *ugdar*] *uachtar* LeS
nemgand] *nimgann* SS₃ 7. *the*] S₃ *te* R *om.* H₂B₂ *de* LeMSH 8.
cléithe tech] *tleithi tech* Le *cléthech* S *nÉrend*] *erend* etc RLeSS₃H 9.
cléithe ach] *cleithi tech* etc H₂B₂ *cleite uch* H *cleiti each* M *cleithead* Le
n-anbal] *ba mórblad* Le *nallblad* S *anbhal* S₃ 11. *cen chrábud*]
 angábhadh S 12. *Yúair guin*] *om.* H₂B₂ *lind-bádud*] *is lind bhadhadh*
 etc H₂B₂ *luathbadad* etc LeS

Cléithe ach i nErind uill
 díth cáid Cormaic uí chóem-Chuinn
 hi tig Cleitig iar ngliaid glic
 dia lil cnáim faich 'na brágait.

Adchúala mac ac Degaid
 mac Sin meic Rois in rebaig:
 and dorigne thúaid a thech
 fer crúaid dar chomainm Cleitech.

C. 20

Iar labrad do flaith each fír
 co fagbar a maith mór-dil:
 in rí as nóebu ná each nech
 roscar ria chóemu Cleitech.

C.

CERNA

Cía bem sund 'nar suidi sel
 hi cnuc Cerna na coinnem,
 atá thall 'sin Cherna chrúaid
 drem, 'sa menma ri mór-úail.

Is and atá Cerna cass,
 mac ruc dar berna búadhas,
 isa athair cert Cairpre,
 tue mór mbert ar bláth-bairdne.

Is and atá Femen find
 ocus Gemen ón gorm-glind,
 ocus Artán, ard aire,
 is Marcán mac Donngaile.

10

Is and atá Fíngen, feith,
 fer nodirged cech ndían-breith,
 is Gúaire glan gáesach grinn,
 ocus Báesach mac Tuilchind.

13. *Cléithe ach*] cleithi each Le cleithi iach H uill] and (*with vel uill*
superscr.) Le 14. *díth*] di H₂ chóem] om. M 15. *Cleitig*] cleithi R
glic] RLc nglic etc *cæt.* 16. *dia lil*] diar len LeS *iaich*] ieich H

The 'top of groans' in wide Erin was the loss of worshipful Cormac, grandson of noble Conn in the house of Cleitech, after a contest of wits, when the salmon-bone stuck in his gullet.

I have heard of a son of Dega, son of Sen, son of Ross, skilled in feats: there in the north he built his house, the stern man whose name was Cleitech.

When the Lord of every man hath spoken, may I receive his exceeding reward! the King that is holier than any hath parted Cleitech from its loved ones.

CERNA

Though here we sit a while on the hill of Cerna, where troops find quarters, yonder in stern Cerna lie a multitude whose heart was set on pride.

There is nimble Cerna, a lad that bore off victory across the battle-breach, whose true father was Cairpre that won many a match in smooth poesy.

There is Femen the fair, and Gemen from the dark Glen, and Artan, that lofty chieftain, and Marcan son of Donngaile.

There is Fingen—attend! one that shaped aright each keen judgement; and Guaire, pure-handed, skilful and polished, and Baesach son of Tollchend.

iach RLc 17. *ac*] do S 19. *and*] isand etc LcS *dorigine*] dorigined R
dogní Lc rognith S 20. *fer*] læch LcS *dar*] dian M dā H 21.
labrad] labhraidh H₂B₂ *labra* S comruc S₃ *do flaith cach fír*] dá gach flaith
libh S 22. *maith mór-díl*] maigh móirghil H₂ 23. *as nóebu ná*] do
næmu R is naoimhdiu H₂ is næbhdfú B₂ is noemdou H as cæma na Lc
is righdha ná S is naoibhe na S₃ 24. *ria*] re etc H₂B₂S₃ fri LcS
choému] claidiomh H₂ clæmhfu B₂ cæm Lc caoimhe S₃ caemu etc cæt.

Cerna. RH₂B₂LcMSS₃H 1. *Cia bem*] ge beind Lc diambem H
2. *na coinne*] na caemneamh S i caemnemh Lc 4. *drem*] dram R
drong LcMS *ri*] ra RM *àra* Lc ara S righ H₂ rí B₂ re S₃H *mór-
uail*] mourboaidh H moruaidh LcS 6.] mac righ mhac rug tar bernadh
buachas H₂ mac righ . mac rug tar bearna buadhehás B₂ *biadchas*] buades
Lc 7. *isa*] is H 8. *tuc mór mbert*] mor mbert rug Lc 9.] is
ann fuil fæbar mac finn Lc *Femen*] femac MS 10. *ón*] o R os LcS
-glind] lind etc LcMSS₃ 13-16.] om. LcS 13. *feith*] feigh M feath
S₃ 14. *cech ndian-breith*] ga ní ainbhreith H₂ gach ndí anbhreith B₂
gach ndegbreath etc S₃H

Is and atá co bráth mbúan
 días cen táth is cen tár-lúad,
 Find, scailed cen bedg ri blaid,
 ocus Derg a derbráthair.

20

Is and atá Néide nía
 Géide ocus Garb is Gartnía:
 and atá in slúag-thend cose
 Alduí úan-chend Iarlaithe.

Is and atá Cían cen chor,
 ocus Casán cúl-remor,
 Dub Dá Chonn, dul cen daille,
 ocus Bresal Breg-lainde.

Is and atát na trí hÁed,
 Áed úa Temna, nach tár-máeth,
 Áed úa Húaine, in sonn sercach,
 ocus Áed donn dúr-bertach.

30

Is and atá Bennán bind,
 is Loingthe luchair láed-grind,
 ocus Berr mac Eirc uide,
 is Conán cerr cét-guine.

Is and atá Détla in dul,
 ocus Cétna cath-labur,
 Alduí nár athben for nech,
 ocus Cathgen cath-maínech.

40

Is and atá cethri Gairb,
 im Garb nGlinde, im Garb mac Scairb,
 im Garb rige na rúac rot,
 im Garb cúac a slíab sen-Chrot.

17. atá] atat etc B₂LeSS₃H co bráth mbúan] go braithni bhuan etc H₂B₂
 18. táth] tar (with vel tath superscr.) R tár-lúad] tarlúad S₃ sarluadh R

There till the final doom rest a pair free from stain, free from word of blame, Find that scattered gifts in famous wise, un-flinching, and Derg, his brother.

There is the champion Neide, and Geide and Garb and Gartnia : there till now is the host-attended warrior Aldui Lamb-head, son of Iarlaithé.

There is Cian, the unwearied, and broad-backed Casan, Dub Da Chonn, that walked not blindly, and Bresal of the land of Brega.

There are the three Aeds, Aed ua Temna, no tender minion, Aed ua Huaine, beloved staff, and Aed *domn*, the hard-travailing.

There is sweet-spoken Bennan, and bright Loingthe of the merry lays, and the traveller Berr son of Erc, and wry Conan the hundred-slayer.

There is Detla next and Cetna, proud in battle, Aldui that dealt no man a second stroke, and Cathgen, battle-enriched.

There are the four Garbs, Garb of the Glen and Garb son of Scarb, Garb *rige* of the bold raids, and crooked Garb from old Sliab Crot.

tarsluagh etc H ₂ B ₂ H	tsarsluag LeS	tarluagh M	19. <i>scailed</i>] S	scaillid
RH ₂ B ₂ M	scailltead Le	scailli H	scoileadh S ₃ cen]	cē RSH can etc
LcH ₂ B ₂ M	com S ₃ ri]	re RS ₃ ra H ₂ B ₂	fa M ar LeS	cen H
21. <i>nia</i>] is garb S	22.] 7 gartnia nan gerrann S	23.] slucat and ag	tend cuse M	-thend] techuinn H ₂ tecund (<i>with vel teacund superscr.</i>) B ₂
om. S	24. <i>Aldui</i>] ailli H	ian-chend]	uacenn R	uaiceand B ₂ ua cuinn
H ₂ anchend Le	na ceann MS	25. <i>chor</i>] chol LeS ₃	26. <i>ocus Casán</i>]	
casan croda etc LeS	27.] dachond dubh gan daille S	30. <i>Temna</i>]		
tomhna H ₂	teimhne S ₃ temni H	nach tár-máeth]	S ₃ nach	tarmaeth etc
RB ₂ M	nach taraoth H ₂	nachar moeth H	ba maithmain Le	ní dhármáidh
S	31. <i>úa Huaine</i>] ua . s . huaine H ₂ B ₂	ua huain Le	úa maine S ₃	32.
<i>dúr-bertach</i>] diubartach LeS	33. <i>Bennán</i>] bendan H	benna etc	RMSS ₃	
beno Le	bernán etc H ₂ B ₂	34. <i>Loingthe</i>] loigthi Le	<i>luchair</i>] luachair	
LcH ₂ láed-]	R laech etc LeS ₃	laimh H ₂ B ₂	lán S laem M	luaid H
35. <i>Berr</i>] bran Le	bī M birn S	uide]	iudai H ₂ iudí B ₂	36. <i>cét-guine</i>]
cedghuinid H ₂	cathduine S	cathguine Le	37. <i>Détla</i>] detlaidh H ₂	dell Le
38. <i>ocus Cétna</i>] secht geedna H ₂	7 cetla R	7 enna etc LeS		
<i>cath-labur</i>] gcathlabhar H ₂	catí M	39. <i>Aldui</i>] alla Le	aille H	aodha H ₂
aedhu B ₂	nár athben]	na rathben H ₂ B ₂	nar athban Le	natben M
for] fri	Le	40.] 7 caothgen comaineach H ₂	7 caethgean camaineach B ₂	7
cathgen cathmaidhmeach S	42.] im garb mac sona shensdairn Le			
<i>Scairb</i>] stairn S ₃ gairb S	43. <i>rige</i>] ruidhe S ₃ na riác rot]	nar na crot		
Le im nár na crot S	44. <i>ciác</i>] cuach H ₂ B ₂ LeMS	a sliab]	om. H ₂ B ₂	

Is and atá Gúala in gel,
 oculus Goll mac Da. Gemned,
 oculus Fíach dar Fálga fraig,
 oculus Slánga mac Dubthaig.

Is and atá Túathal tan
 is Tipraite traig-lethan 50
 oculus Brúach don Brega, is bind,
 oculus Trena mac Loiscind.

Is and atá Fúatach fáid,
 oculus Síthchend sochonaig,
 oculus Faidech na fine,
 is Laidech lór lán-fíle.

Loingsech mac Óengusa and,
 Eochaid Lemna na láech-land,
 is Níall mac Cernaig cubaid,
 tuc i mBregmaig brón-chumaid. 60

Is and atá Áed Sláine sáer,
 is Conall láeg Breg bronn-cháel,
 oculus Óengus óc Odha
 is Congal cáid cáem-cholma.

Is and atá Ailill án,
 Diarmait, Bláthmac nár beó-bán,
 Sechnasach sodaing cose,
 is Conaing mac Congaile.

Is and atá Irgalach, aig,
 oculus na dá Amalgaid, 70
 is Cendfáelad Bregach bind,
 Finnachta fíedach fíal-grind.

Cináed mac Irgalaig and,
 oculus Flaithbertach fúamann,
 oculus Cernach, cen chur de,
 is Dúinchad delbach Daíle.

There is Guala the white-skinned, and Goll son of Da Gemned, and Fiach—a shield guarding Falga—and Slanga son of Dubthach.

There is Tuathal from of old, and Tipraite Broad-foot, and Bruach of Brega—sweet name—and Trena son of Loiscend.

There is the seer Fuatach and Sithchend, fortune's favourite, and Faidech head of the family, and worthy Laidech, accomplished poet.

Loingsech son of Oengus is there with Eochaid of Lemain, wielder of blades, and comely Niall, Cernach's son, who caused sore grief in the plain of Brega.

There is noble Aed Slaine and Conall, slim-flanked Calf of Brega, and young Oengus of Odba and worshipful Congal, fair pillar.

There is splendid Ailill, Diarmait, Blathmac that never paled, Sechnasach, ever affable, and Conaing son of Congaile.

There is Irgalach—set on! and the two Amalguids and sweet-spoken Cendfaelad of Brega and Finnachta *fledach*, lavish and merry.

Cinaed son of Irgalach is there, and Flaithbertach of the shoutings, and Cernach, continually, and shapely Dunchad of the Dael.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 45. <i>Guala in</i>] gualan H ₂ Lc | 46. <i>Goll</i>] gual H ₂ B ₂ oll S ₃ <i>Da Gemned</i>] |
| da gemned RH daghemded M dogeindedh Lc dagennedh etc H ₂ B ₂ S | |
| dogheineadh S ₃ | 47. <i>Fálga</i>] balga Lc |
| 48. <i>tan</i>] tenn H ₂ | 51. |
| <i>Briach</i>] buach H ₂ <i>don</i>] do M <i>Brega</i>] bregda R bhregadh H ₂ bregdus Lc | |
| <i>is bind</i>] bind LcS sluind M | 53. <i>Friatach</i>] faithech etc H ₂ B ₂ faiteach Lc |
| faitcech S faidhteach M | 54. <i>Sithchend</i>] sicheand B ₂ seiscend Lc |
| <i>sochonaig</i>] sochonaith etc RMS | 55. <i>fine</i>] féine etc H ₂ Lc |
| 56. <i>Laidech</i>] | |
| laighech H ₂ laidhteach M <i>lór</i>] om. H ₂ B ₂ <i>-fíle</i>] féile etc H ₂ Lc. | 57. <i>and</i>] |
| ainn H ₂ | 58. <i>Lemna</i>] laimhne etc LcS <i>na</i>] om. R |
| 59. <i>Cernaig</i>] cerna | |
| RS ₃ H | 60. <i>brón-</i>] mór Lc |
| 62. <i>is Conall láeg</i>] R conall laogh etc | |
| H ₂ B ₂ conall aed etc LcS conall loein M is conall err S ₃ H <i>Breg</i>] breg is | |
| etc H ₂ B ₂ LcS | 63. <i>óc Odba</i>] o coba R |
| 64.] is conceaidh caid caid | |
| caem enomga M <i>Congal</i>] conall S ₃ <i>caem-cholma</i>] H ₂ B ₂ caemchnodhbha S | |
| comealma etc RLcS ₃ H | 66. <i>nár beó-bán</i>] narbeol bán S ₃ is baedan S |
| 67.] is sechnusach seng gose S ₃ <i>sodaing</i>] S sogaind RLc sodhaind M | |
| sodaince H sogaing B ₂ H ₂ | 69. <i>Is</i>] om. S ₃ H <i>Irgalach</i>] fírgalach R |
| iargalach H ₂ <i>aig</i>] aid H | 70. <i>ocus</i>] om. H ₂ <i>Amalgaid</i>] amalgaid daen |
| laim Lc | 71. <i>Bregach bind</i>] ann H ₂ bregda binn Lc |
| 72.] <i>ocus</i> Flaith | |
| bhertach feimenn H ₂ is finnachta flaith fígrind B ₂ | 73. <i>and</i>] brega |
| binn H ₂ | 74.] is fianachtadh flaith fígrinn H ₂ <i>ocus</i> flaith bhertach |
| feimeang B ₂ | 75-76.] om. H ₂ |
| 75. <i>Cernach</i>] cerna Lc | 76. <i>Daile</i>] |
| do ele R dó elé B ₂ doille H daile LcSS ₃ daele M | |

Is mór ria n-áirim uile
in slóg fáilid folt-buide,
fil fon Chernai chruim chétaig
do síl Chuinn, roscath-métaig.

80

Fil mnaí fo brut cach fír díb
hi enuc Cernai fo chét-bríg,
don tslúag roáirmius cose,
co n-áinius, co n-oíbinde.

Dobiur bréithir, nach bec blad,
dia mbeith nech las' mbad chuman,
ainm cech fír bregda, cen bréic,
fil 'sin Cherna a cét comméit.

Is é as tóisech dóib 'na thaig
Cerna nóisech náimtemail:
is dó-sin fri fošnaidm fíal
is comainm cert in Cerníam.

90

Is úad-sin ri togairm thúaid
comainm Cerna co cét-búaid
sech cach ngell co nglund guide,
cía bemm sund 'nar sír-šuide. C.

A rí na baíde cen bréic
ar do naíme co nert-méit
co rísem nem na ngell nglé,
cía bemm sund sel 'nar suide. C.

100

Too many to number in full are the joyous yellow-haired host that lie beneath Cerna, stooping home of hundreds, men of Conn's line that made it great by war.

His wife lies under the cloak of each man of the host I have enumerated thus far, on Cerna's hill, hundred-strong, in splendour and in beauty.

I pledge a word that is no small boast, that for every goodly man we name, in sooth, there are a hundred as good in Cerna—were there any one that could call them to mind.

Cerna, famous foeman, 'tis he is first among them in his home; his right appellation, by noble conjunction, is Cerniam.

From him comes for utterance in the north the appellation of Cerna, with its hundred gifts, best of all pledges for fulfilment of prayer, though here we sit continually.

O King of unfailing loving-kindness, by thy holiness and mighty power may we reach Heaven of the clear promises, though here a while we sit.

-
77. *ria n-áirim*] *ria airem* R *re rim* M 79. *Chernai*] *cernaigh* H₂
carmain etc *LeS* *crenaig* M *chruim*] *cruind* *LeS* 80. *roscath-méaig*] *roscomedaigh* etc *S₃H* *roscainetaid* R *catmedaigh* (*with ros added later*) M
81-84.] *after* 88 H₂ 81. *mnaí*] *a mhnaí* etc H₂B₂ *díb*] *gil* *Le* *dhil* S
82. *hí*] *in* etc *RM* *fo*] *fon* *LeMS* *chéit-brig*] *cédbrith* *Le* *cemsin* S 84.
co n-áiniús] *gonadh ionus* H₂ *co n-oibinde*] *go naibhne* H₂ *is co naibne* S
can aibinde M *con eroibnie* H 85. *Dobtur*] *daber* etc *LeS* *dobhfhiur* H₂
86. *las' mbad*] *lasbud* R *la esbhadh* H₂ *lausbadh* B₂ *lasmod* M *lasmadh* S₃
risbu *Le* *risbudh* S *chuman*] *cumann* H₂B₂ 87.] *is adimdhá ainm cen*
bréice S 88. *'sin*] *a cnuc* S *a cé*] *céd* *Le* *a S* *comméit*] *om.* H₂ *coibet* B₂
coimed S 89. *as*] *an* *Le* 90. *náimthemail*] *nimdimoil* *Le* 91.
fošnaidm] *fonaidm* etc *SS₃* *fiat*] *ngiall* H₂B₂ *fuil* *Le* 92. *in Cerniam*] *carmain* *Le* *an caorníadh* S₃
95. *ngell*] *ngeill* *Le* *glend* M *co*
nglund] *gan glund* B₂ *gan ghloinn* H₂ *fri glonn* *Le* *gun glund* M *co*
ngluinn S₃ *guide*] R *gaile* M *nguide* etc *cæt.* 96. *cia bemm*] *ce beind*
Le 97. *baide*] *baidheg* H₂ *buidi* *Le* *baighe* S *baide* etc *cæt.* 98.
naime] *neime* R *naidi* *Le* *noime* H *naeimhe* etc *cæt.* *co*] *ar do* H *nert-*
méit] *nermeid* H₂ *nert* *Le* 99. *risem*] *risim* H₂ *rus im* *Le* *na ngell*] *naingéal* etc H₂B₂ *can geill* *Le* 100. *sund sel*] *sel sund* M *'nar*] *ar* S

CLÓENLOCH

Sund dodechaid Clóen ar chel
 mac Ingoir, dóel nár dinged,
 úa ríge Ala Clúaide, cluin,
 ruc mór n-úaire dar ard-muir.

Clóen mac Ingoir, clú rochaith,
 diarbo dú Alba ech-maith,
 is é cét-fer co gnúis grind
 tánic fri dúis co Hérinn.

Cía rosir mór n-airer n-úar
 fer na claideb calad-chúar,
 noco tánic a tháem troch
 co ránic Clóen co Clóenloch.

10

Dešin adberar cach airm
 Clóenloch, ná celar comainm;
 flaith rogarbad do gním gá
 romarbad co sír sunda. C.

IRARUS

IN eól duib fri derbthas
 in senchas fír fobaid
 fail d' Irarus úasal
 asa chnúasach, comaid?

Fechtas diamboí Cairpre
 rí na bairdne beóda,
 ba Lifechair lígda
 in grith-echair gleórda,

Hi Ráith Chairpre, atchúala,
 flaith na bairdne bágda
 for cind na n-én n-úagda
 in find slúagda sámda,

10

CLOENLOCH

Hither came to his death Cloen son of Ingor, a scorpion that was never crushed, the king of Ail Cluaide's grandson (hearken!), who crossed the high seas many a time.

Cloen son of Ingor, who spent fame, whose home was Alba, rich in horses, was the first man, cheerful of countenance, that came with wealth to Erin.

Cloen of the hard curved swords, though he ransacked many a chilly coast, his fatal faintness came not on him till he reached Cloenloch.

Hence men speak everywhere of 'Cloenloch'—let not its name be hidden! a prince that was hacked by spear-play met his death finally here.

IRARUS

Know ye with certainty the brisk veracious tale that pertains to noble Irarus from its fruitage—preserve it!

Once when Cairpre, king of the sprightly bards, who was named radiant Lifechair, the man of gleaming clashing blades,

Was in Rath Cairpre, as I have heard—that prince of martial bards, that fair-haired host-girt easeful lord, to chase the inviolate birds,

Cloenloch. $RH_2B_2LcMSS_3H$ 1. *ar*] *om.* H_2B_2 2. *dóel*] *del* M
dinged] *dingnedh* R 3. *úa*] *mac* LcS *Ala Chuaide*] *al* *cluaide* H *ala*
cluaine H_2B_2M *aloindi* Lc *cluín*] *adcluín* Lc 4.] *rug* *sin* *mor* *nuair*
tar *ardmuir* Lc 5. *rochaith*] *rocarth* M 6. *dú*] *do* H_2 7. *gnúis*] *nguis* Lc *nduis* S_3 8. *fri dúis*] *ar* *túis* S_3 *for* *tús* R *for* *tuis* Lc *fri*
tuis *etc* MS *co*] *an* SS_3H 9. *rosir*] *rohir* H *rarosir* M *n-úar*] *mor* M
10. *-chúar*] *chruaidh* *etc* H_2B_2 11. *a tháem*] *an* *taem* H_2 *a* *taeb* M
12. *co*] *nogo* H_2B_2 *co*] *om.* H_2B_2 13. *aðberar*] *doberar* R 14. *ná*] *ní* Lc
no M *om.* H_2 *celar*] *celor* H *cheil* a Lc *comainm*] *codainim* H_2 15.
flaith] *fear* LcS_3 *rogarbad*] *rogabhad* H_2 *do*] *co* R *le* Lc *re* S *om.* H_2B_2
ga] *nga* RLc

Irarus. RB (*only* 33-*end*) $B_2H_2LcMSS_3H$ 2. *fír*] *fíor* H_2S_3 *fír* *cæt.*
fobaid] *fodaid* Lc 4. *asa*] *os* Lc *ósa* S *chnúasach*] *cnuasach* $RLcMS_3H$
comaid] *comhaidh* H_2B_2 *comai* Lc *combaigh* S *comaich* H *comaigh* *etc*
 RMS_3 5. *diambóí*] *diambiadh* H_2 8. *grithe-chair*] *grithechaidh* H_2
glifeachair Lc *grifechair* S 9-12]. *after* 16 M 10. *báгда*] *bada* Lc
bágha S 11. *n-úagda*] *nuagda* H *nuada* LcM 11, 12.] *transposed*
with 15, 16 *in* H_2B_2 12. *shúagda*] *luada* Lc

Cantais ceól trúag taidiúir
ind eóin ainiúil úagda
do Chairpre Luire ligda
ós chind a chuirp chúanna.

Rop iat-so a n-anmann,
nírb amgann a n-uide,
Tortha ocus Tortha,
cóem-días chomtha, atchluine.

20

Ind eóin aile farma
don sceóin scéamda scáile
Tiagu, Tiagu, in tan-sa,
in días ban-sa báide.

I ngalar úais fota
tucsat ríg búais buca
secht coicait óg aideche
céin baí a caibche chuca.

Gairis Cairpre cúanach
a druif dúanach dogbaid,
Biene a ainm amlaid,
fer co sam-graid sobraig.

30

Atbert fria druif ndocht-sa
'Ní bam ruí budecht-sa
meni dingba in énlaithe
rothrén-gaib mo nert-sa.'

'Cissi aird ó ngairret
duit eóin gairg notgabab,
a chara chóem Cairpre?
cía halt airgne agat?'

40

'Anair iarum agait,'
ar Cairpre, 'siar saigit,
ó thurebáil glain gréine,
mór a géire gairit.'

They sang, the strange inviolate birds, a sad mournful strain for radiant Cairpre of Lore, over his comely form.

These were their names, 'Tortha' and 'Tortha', a goodly pair of comrades, thou hearest: not short was their journey.

The other birds thereafter of that lovely spectral terror were 'Tiagu, Tiagu', in that hour, the tender womanly pair.

They cast the wealthy generous king into a tedious long disease, full seven times fifty nights, as long as the union that brought them to him lasted.

Cairpre of the troops called for his rhyming . . . druid, Bieue by name, a cheerful man, loved of all.

He said to this strict druid: 'Now shall I never thrive unless thou rid me of the bird-flock that holds my strength in thrall.'

'From what quarter do they call, the fierce birds that beset thee, my fair friend Cairpre? in what wise do they assail thee?'

'Westward they assail', said Cairpre; 'from the east they approach, from the bright sunrise; exceeding fiercely they call.'

- | | |
|--|---|
| 14. <i>ind</i>] na h- LcS <i>uagda</i>] uada etc RLcS uaga H aga M | 16. |
| <i>chianna</i>] cuana H ₂ B ₂ M cuanda R | 18. <i>nirb amgann</i>] niorba gall etc |
| H ₂ B ₂ 20. <i>chomtha</i>] comta RM comtai H comthadh H ₂ | 21. |
| <i>Ind</i>] na h- LcS <i>aile</i>] ailli Le | 22. <i>don</i>] do S <i>seeóin</i>] seeol H |
| <i>Tiagu, Tiagu</i>] tiaga tiagu R tiagha tiagha SS ₃ tiagai tiagai H tiaga 7 tiaga | 23. |
| Le 24. <i>báide</i>] buidhe B ₂ abaidi Le | 25. <i>fota</i>] ada S |
| uais Le 28. <i>céin</i>] cin Le om. H ₂ B ₂ <i>caibche</i>] caimthi S | 30. <i>a druid</i>] |
| a drai etc B ₂ MSH an drái S ₃ airdri Le | 32. <i>sobraig</i>] sobraid etc |
| RH ₂ B ₂ LcMS ₃ 33. <i>fria</i>] fri M <i>druí</i>] adrai LcH | <i>ndocht-sa</i>] R indochtsa |
| BS noehtsu Le 'andocta M antuchtsa etc S ₃ H | 34. <i>ruí</i>] rai B ri |
| LcSH ri S ₃ <i>budecht-sa</i>] don fechtsa Le donachtsa S | 35. <i>dingba</i>] |
| dingbad R dingma LcH | 37. <i>Cissi airé</i>] ciasa haird LcS |
| <i>notgabail</i>] rotgabaid B ongabaid etc LcS ongabaid (<i>altered to notgabaid</i>) M | 38. |
| 40.] ciasa hairde on aghaid S | 41. <i>agait</i>] acait R thegaid Le |
| <i>thurbáil</i>] turgabail BLcM <i>glain</i>] glan RBS geal Lc | 44. <i>gáire</i>] ngere R |

‘Tucthar dam-sa iarum
in drem-sa cen díbad,
crand as cach fíid óg-maith,
ball slóg-daith fri sílad.’

Cachain in druí détla
cétla imda oraib,
sund in each amm agair:
ní fúair crand dia cobair.

50

‘Fíid Frosmuine, fégaíd,
co ndosmuire dúinid,’
ar in druí co ndúanaib,
‘túagaíd oculus túirid.’

Co fríth herus chuca
iar ndenus nárb fota
asin muine mesta
don fíir chnesta atchota.

60

Rochan air cen fíuirech
in druí buidech bledech
co roíe cen anad
a amar, a enech.

Tuargabad in crand-sin
co slúag-balad sinnsir
co rochoise na heónu
cosna ceólu, cinn-sin.

‘Ó ronert cech nósad’
atbert in druí dúasach,
‘diar nglé-denus gnásach
is Érerus úasal.’

70

IS deşin atbérar
forainm, fégar, filte
Irarus na hairgne
ó híe Cairpre, is cinte.

'Then let there be brought to me this muster, complete: a tree from each well-grown wood, a limb prolific for propagation.'

The dauntless druid chanted against them many a spell, as is told here at all times, but found no tree to avail.

'The wood of Frosmuine, look ye, with its palisade of shrub, hew it down and search it!' said the druid with his rhymes.

So they found him a spindle-tree from the fruit-laden brake, without long waiting for the worthy man who gets it.

The mighty druid, well pleased, chanted over it without delay, and straightway healed his trouble and his honour.

That tree was borne aloft, diffusing patriarchal perfume, and it checked the birds and their singing, be sure!

'Since every rite hath prevailed,' said the druid gift-enriched, 'from our wonted good day's work comes the name of noble Érerus.'

Hence shall men utter the riddling appellation (be it seen!) Irarus of the onset, from the healing of Cairpre, 'tis certain.

48. *slog-daith*] *slogmaith* LeSH *fri*] *fria* SS₃ 49-52 follow 56 in B
 49. *Cachain*] *Canaid* etc LeSS₃ *délla*] *dealla* Le 50.] .c. *lad ima oraib*
 Le .c. *la imgach ndoraidh* S 54. *co ndosmuire*] *an dosmuine* Le
 con dosmuine SH *duinid*] *ed. dunuid* M *nduinigh* H *duinid* etc *cæt.*
 56. *tiagaid*] *tuaraid* R *túirid*] *curigh* M 57. *frith*] *om. Le herus*] *ierus*
 R *ferus* (with so *superscr.*) Le 59. *asin*] *isin* Le 62. *buidech*]
baideach Le 63. *roic*] *roich* Le *raigh* M *cen anad*] *can ana* Le *cenan*
anad M 64. *a amar*] *amara* LeM *a enech*] *ahenech* RB 65.
Tuargabad] *tuarascbad* Le 66. *shiag-balad*] *snuadbalad* Le *sinnsir*] *sindfir*
 R *sindsfir* B 68. *ceólu*] *ceolaib* R *cinn-sin*] *cindsi* LeM 69. *cech*] *co*
 S₃ *nósad*] *nosach* H 70. *duasach*] *duasadh* S₃ 71. *diar*] *iar* LeS
 -*denus*] *genus* LeMS *gnásach*] *ngnásach* LeS *gnasadh* S₃ *ngaesach* B
 72. *Érerus*] *iererus* R *ererus* etc *cæt.* 73. *atbérar*] *ed. atberar* etc *codd.*
 74. *fégar*] *ed. fegair* RH *fegar* B *fedghar* M *fegthar* etc *cæt.* 75. *na*
hairgne] *nahahairene* Le 76. *ó hie*] *a tig* B *o tic* M

Dorácbad dia apaid,
 seél ná lacaid logad,
 rotucad réil robreth,
 dia tomled a thorad.

80

IS é sin co sobail
 cen fogail a senchas
 don sceól na muin min-chas
 in eól duib a derbthas?

IN.

MAG FINDABRACH.

Diambad mé nothecmad tair
 arin maig imríadabair,
 ní chélainn ria techta as,
 atbérainn a ban-senchas.

Findabair, ingen Lugdach,
 tathaim sund, tan ba cumthach,
 dia tudehaid anfar ane,
 ós chethaib fían forngaire.

Lugaid Láigde doluid and
 la Cormac, cor cen imroll,
 co torchair in gilla glan
 hi cath Chrinna chomadbal.

10

Na trí Ferguis, fichtib bla,
 do láim Lugdach rosleóta :
 dara n-éssi ba cáep chró
 in Lug rosgáet ac Ráith Chró.

Ed roglúais in ingen sair
 éc a hathar úais inmain :
 do derb in sceóil ní roscar,
 conid a beóil bebsatar.

20

77. *Dorácbad*] daragaib Le doraghbaid S dofaccuad H *apaid*] abadh S,
 apad H asaid B 78. *ná*] nar B *lacaid*] lagaib Le lagaigh M lagadh

To its lord was bequeathed (a word that oblivion wastes not) that he should understand clearness of judgements when he ate of its fruit.

So runs profitably the legend unimpaired, from the tale of the tangled thickets : know ye its certainty ?

MAG FINDABRACH

Were I to find myself in the east on the plain where ye ride, ere departing I would relate the story of its women, I would not hide it.

Findabair, daughter of Lugaid, died here in the hour of her distress, when she came hither from the west, commanding clouds of warriors.

Lugaid Laigde, unerring marksman, came hither with Cormac, and the stainless stripling fell in the mighty battle of Crinna.

The three Ferguses, with shoutings manifold, were hewn by the hand of Lugaid : Lugaid, that slew them at Rath Cró, was left all imbrued in gore.

It was the death of her proud beloved father that brought the maiden eastward : of a truth, she never left him till the breath left her lips.

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|---|--|------------------------|-------------------------|
| S ₃ <i>logad</i>] loga Le | 79. <i>rotucad</i>] rauaid Le | rothuaid S | rotucaid M |
| rathughad etc S ₃ H | 80. <i>thorad</i>] LeS ₃ | torud etc <i>cæt</i> . | 81. <i>co</i>] a H |
| 82. <i>fogail</i>] fotail H | 83. <i>na muin</i>] Le | namain R | mamuin B |
| domuin S | na (with <i>ch superscr.</i>) maín S ₃ | nach moín H | 84. <i>a derbthas</i>] |
| in senchas (with <i>vel derbtas superscr.</i>) R | a sencus etc LeS | fri derbtas H | |
-
- Mag Findabrach.** RBLcMSS₃H
- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2. <i>imriadabair</i>] imragabair B | 3. <i>ria</i>] re BM | a Le | ar S | <i>techta</i>] |
| techtain B | 4. <i>atbérainn</i>] doberaind Le | ban-sénchas] | bunodus etc LeS | |
| 6. <i>cumthach</i>] cuimneach Le | 7. <i>tudchaid</i>] tuchaid Le | tucaig M | | |
| tugaid S | <i>ane</i>] amne LeS ₃ H | anar M | 8. <i>chethaib</i>] chathaib Le | cethaigh S ₃ |
| 9. <i>Láigde</i>] laidhe R | laige etc BM | laga etc LeSS ₃ H | <i>doluid</i>] docher S ₃ | 10. |
| <i>Cormac, cor</i>] cormac. h. cuind Le | <i>cen</i>] con RBMS ₃ | <i>imroll</i>] innall B | 11. | |
| <i>co torchair</i>] condrochair R | condorchair B | 12. <i>chomadbal</i>] na comram | | |
| etc SH | 13. <i>fichtib</i>] fithtib R | eo lin Le | <i>bla</i>] mbla Le | 14.] a |
| crinda adceas a lehta etc LeS | <i>rosleóta</i>] R | rosleotha B | dosleoghtha M | |
| ronleóta S ₃ | rosleonta H | 15. <i>dara n-éssi</i>] ara nesi Le | <i>cáep</i>] cræb Le | |
| 16. <i>in Lug</i>] lugaid etc SH | <i>ac Ráith</i>] ar gai Le | 17. <i>Éd</i>] he H | <i>ingin</i>] | |
| ingen RB | 18. <i>éc</i>] tasc S | 19. <i>sceóil</i>] sceol etc RM | scel Le | <i>roscar</i>] |
| rachar Le | | | | |

MAG FINDABRACH

[Ruc bás cumad cen chodnach
a dalta i ndiaid Findabrach :
ina dúain dlegar a chur,
is úaid atberar Bréchmag.]

Robsam eólach and iarsain
forsin maig imriadabair :
airm i fil a lecht cen lag,
cert diambad mé notheemad.

D.

LIA LINDGADAIN

IS eól dam aní dia fil
Lia Lindgadain láech-labair :
Lindgadan ria lúad, dar lenn,
nosmachtad slúag fer nÉrenn.

Hi flaith Find meic Findtain úais
ba rechtaire co rochrúais :
cárbo rannaire Osraige
ba callaire coirmthige.

Fecht dia eúala in guth glan,
in mac alla oc imlabrad,
isin charraic threthuill te
dia dígail cechaing cuicce.

10

Dofarraid barr na tuinde,
rosamaig fri serb-luinde,
cor' bris in charrac cen cheól
fer clis na scallac seith-eól.

Eól.

[After Findabair, her nursling died of grief for loss of his mistress: 'tis right to set his name in her lay: from him Bréch-mag is called.]

I was familiar there afterward with the plain ye ride about: 'tis right that I should find myself in the spot where stands her grave imperishable.

LIA LINDGADAIN

Well I know the reason of the name of haughty Lindgadan's Stone: Lindgadan, whom we speak of, I trow, used to keep order in the host of the men of Erin.

In the reign of proud Find son of Findtan he was a steward right severe: though he was the spencer of Ossory, he was crier of the ale-house.

Once when he heard a clear voice, the echo answering him from the hollow rock yonder, he made towards it to take vengeance.

The wave's crest overtook him, its bitter fury laid him low; so the music-deserted rock shattered the cunning man of the weariful crags.

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- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| 21-24.] in HS ₃ only | 21. <i>cumad</i>] cuñ H | 23. <i>chur</i>] char H |
| 24.] is uaithe tá fionnabhair S ₃ <i>Brécmag</i>] <i>ed.</i> Bregmagh H | | 26. <i>forsin</i>] |
| isin Lc isi S <i>imriadabair</i>] imriagsabair etc BMSS ₃ imriadsatar H amriadamar Lc | | |
| 27. <i>a</i>] <i>om.</i> S ₃ <i>lag</i>] ladh Lc | 28. <i>nothecmad</i>] nacindeadh Lc | |
| Lia Lindgadain. RBLcMSS ₃ H | 1. <i>dia fil</i>] diatá S | 2. <i>laech</i>] |
| laeca Lc <i>labair</i>] labrá S | 3. <i>ria liad</i>] reil uadh S ₃ <i>lenn</i>] RM lemm etc | |
| <i>cæt.</i> 4. <i>sluag</i>] sluaig BLcM | 5. <i>Findtain</i>] bratha S ₃ | 6. <i>rechtaire</i>] |
| rechta ri H <i>rochriais</i>] robuais Lc | 7. <i>ciarbo</i>] roba S ₃ | 10. <i>imlabrad</i>] |
| milabar M comhlabhradh S ₃ | 11. <i>threthuill</i>] os tuinn S ₃ <i>te</i>] de Lc | |
| 13. <i>Dofarraid</i>] dafarraid Lc | 14. <i>fri</i>] fria RS ₃ <i>serb</i>]- sreb R sam B | |
| sár Lc <i>luinde</i>] builli Lc | 16. <i>scith-eól</i>] sciathmor (<i>with vel eol superscr.</i>) Lc | |

GÁIRECH

Baile hir-ralsat gáir cen góe
macrad Emna for óen-chóe,
'mon lecht rosmairn immasech,
is dó is comainm cert Gáirech.

Cú na cerda boí i cacht chró,
ed rosnacht ie sár-gubo,
dia caínset cen ladna ille
graige ocus arma is ailche.

Grellach Átha, áit roan,
ar fíched, ar fogarbad ;
díth Chon, diarb ord ar n-aire,
ba scél borb cach beó-baile.

10

LUIBNECH

Sund rocosrad in cétach :
ba cruthach in cáem-étach,
dechelt Crimthainn, cé cumal,
súlchar sét na sáer-luban.

Trí coícait luban, dar lenn,
ed is cuman, 'ma thimchell :
nír chumung fri dímes dóib
co n-ubull díles derg-óir.

Ulaíd dosfucsat a céin
dia rucsat, borb in báeth-réim,
ó Dún Dá Benn fri sían slat
ba céim cían co Cend Febrat.

10

Tucsat éc meic ríg Muman
rucsat sét na sír-luban :
in cétach co cumma glan
derb is sunda rocosrad.

S.

GAIRECH

The place where the lads of Emain, met together, raised a cry (truth I tell), round the grave that betrayed them, each in turn—its rightful name is Gairech.

The Hound of the Smith was in bloody durance: this it was that set them wailing sorely, when horses and weapons and stones, no longer dumb, joined in keening.

The marsh of the ford, where he tarried, was a-bubbling and a-seething: the death of the Hound, whose charge it was to guard us, was harsh tidings for every home of men.

LUIBNECH

Here was the Cetach made a spoil: beautiful was the goodly garment, Crimthann's mantle, a hundred cumals' worth, a gaudy treasure of fine tassels.

Thrice fifty tassels, I trow, round its border, it is recorded: none of them scanted in esteem, each with its several apple of red gold.

The Ulaid brought it from far when they bore their way—wild was the mad career!—from Dun Da Benn, with war cries and pillage, to Cend Febrat—it was a long step.

They did to death the King of Munster's son, they ravished the treasure of long tassels, the bright well-fashioned Cetach here in verity was it made a spoil.

Gáirech. RBLcMSS₃H 2. *Emna*] nahemna H *for*] ar MS₃H 3. *rosmairn*] rosmairned M *romairn* H 4. *comainm*] ainm S *cert*] glan Lc glannda S 5. *i*] ar M 6. *ic*] in etc S₃H 9. *ait*] aiti Lc 12. *cach*] gan S₃

Luibnech. RBLcMSS₃H 3. *dechelt*] dochealt etc LcM 4. *súlchar sét*] súlchar an séd etc LcS sulcarsad M suil scarsad S₃ sul scarsat H na] om. LcS -*luban*] curadh LcS uban M 5. *lenn*] leam etc BLcMS 6. *ed is cuman*] ead doscumaL Lc betis cuman M 'ma] na LcS 10. *dia rucsat*] diasrucsad M in] a m- LcS 11. *Dá*] na R *sian*] fian Lc *slat*] om. M 12. *ba*] co R 13. *Tucsat*] rucsat B *éc*] om. RBLcS *Muman*] na muman LcS 14. *sét na*] na set H 15. *co*] om. M *cumma*] cumga M cum H *cuma* etc *cæt.* *glan*] nglan BLcS 16. *derb*] daig B

LECC THOLLCHIND

Lecc Thollchind, túachail in t-ainm,
 ós brúachaib mara mid-gairb,
 is eól dam cen chleith cubaid
 a senchas, feith, fir-bunaid.

Tollchend, drúth Echdach ria ail
 meic Énna chrúaid Cheindselaig,
 and rotraserad in drúth dían,
 dia raserad fri lúth láech-Níall.

Airm i torchair féin in fer
 la muintir Néill, nár Gáedel,
 rotescad de co tenn tall
 a chend ocus a chathbarr.

10

Ba gláeta in cathbarr calad
 imon cend cíar cath-labar
 co ríacht frisium slúraig athlaim
 dia brisiud, dia búan-scarthain.

Roféimdetar uile n-oll
 ní don chind nó don chathbarr
 ara chúartaib ní chelid,
 do thúarcain ná trom-thenid.

20

‘Cuirther ’sin muir fo tháth tess
 in cend,’ ar cách co comdess,
 ‘ar atá do šaidbre ar slúraig:
 is í-seo ar n-airle in óen-úair.’

Iarsin cuirther i muir mall
 in cend cíar isin chathbarr
 co ticht do each thuinn, nár thé,
 cosin lice luimm lúaidmit-ne.

LECC THOLLCHIND

Lecc Thollchind, name of import, stands over the margin of the rough mid-sea; well known to me, appropriate, unconcealed, is the story of its true origin—attend!

Tollehend, with his rock, was fool to Eochaid son of stern Enna Cendselach: then was the quick fool struck down, when warrior Niall was shorn of strength.

At the spot where Tollehend also fell, who was no Gael, by the hand of Niall's following, his head and helm were there struck off perforce.

Fast clave the stout helm to the dark head proud in battle, while round it came the alert troops, to break it and finally dissever.

They availed not, with all their might, against head or helm, to loose its circling clasp (hide not this!) by blows or force of fire.

'Cast we the head with its covering in the sea southward,' said they all in order due: 'for it concerns the weal of our host: this we counsel, one and all.'

Thereupon the dark head in its helm was cast into the sluggish sea, and it was borne by the chilly waves to the bare Stone we sing of.

Lecc Thollchind. RBLcMSS ₃ H	2. <i>mid-gairb</i>] midgairm B
midhairm M migairm S	4. <i>feith</i>] feid B feig Le fégh (<i>rewritten</i>) S
- <i>bunaid</i>] chubaid Le	5. <i>drith</i>] drai LeS <i>ria ail</i>] congail Le can ail S
6. <i>chriaid</i>] caem Le	7. <i>rotrasrad</i>] rotaserad B
naserad M diar hascradh etc S ₃ H	8. <i>dia raserad</i>] dia
Le	9. <i>i torchair</i>] adrochair R adoreair BM atrochair Le
10. <i>nár</i>	
<i>Gáedel</i>] nar gaegel M na nuarslegh Le na nûrslegh S nar cuitedh S ₃	
11. <i>de</i>] é S tenn] teoin B	13. <i>gláeta</i>] gaelta R
14. <i>imon cend ciar</i>]	
inmuin ceann ar M <i>cath-labar</i>] creathlabar S ₃ commarbad Le comlabar S	
15. <i>co riacht</i>] condriacht R conriect M <i>frisium</i>] frisin etc LeS <i>shiaig athlaim</i>]	
sluagh Le sluagh athlum S	16. <i>buan-scarthain</i>] diansearad (<i>with vel in superscr.</i>) R buan searadh LeS
17. <i>uile n-oll</i>]	
18. <i>nó</i>] na LeS ná (<i>corr. to nó</i>) S ₃ chathbarr] car M	19. <i>ara</i>] arna S ₃ ní]
na S ₃	20. <i>ná</i>] no BMS ₃ H
21. <i>fo tháth</i>]	
do <i>saidbri</i>] do thaibri Le co saidbri M	24. <i>is i-seo</i>] RB ised etc <i>cel.</i>
<i>airle</i>] áirbi Le	25. <i>i</i>] sin B
in etc LeMS	26. <i>in</i>] i R <i>ciar isin</i>] ciar is a B ocus
te M mále S	27. <i>ticht</i>] riacht BS ₃ tig etc LeS <i>nár thé</i>] nathe Le nach

Noí tuill isin chind, ba col,
tuill a chluas, tuill a óol,
tuill srón agus súil ngér nglass,
toll fo brón a bél bith-brass.

30

Ó dofuc cach tonn, nár thé,
in cend lond mar lúath-blede,
ail forsn-dessid a thairm trice
rolen a ainm in aird-lice. L.

INBER BICNE

Aided Bieni, báid dia fail,
gilla Conaill cháid Chernaig:
Biene, ba bríghda blaide
deg-mac líghda Lóegaire.

Oc tabairt a búair i port,
is and dochúaid a donn-chorp,
fon lac lúthach cen labrad
cor' múchad, cor' moch-marbad.

Andsin rochuirset na búair
a mbenda áille i n-óen-úair,
cárbo thenn-chol in cach thig
Bennchor Ulad a n-aided.

10

LOCH SÉTA

Sund robáided in sét sen
mind Lóegaire Luire Lagen
dianos-tucsat aindre ind
ingena Faindle féith-grind.

Nine holes were in the head (it was an ill deed): the holes of its ears, the holes of its cheeks, the holes of its nostrils and its keen grey eyes, the hole under the mill of its mighty mouth.

When the chilly waves brought the fierce head, as of a swift sea-monster, its name clave to the lofty Stone, the rock whereon its fame settled suddenly.

INBER BICNE

The love that caused the death of Bicne, worshipful Conall Cernach's gillie: Bicne was doughty and famous, the illustrious brave son of Loegaire.

As he drove his kine to harbour, there vanished his proud form under the dragging quicksand, without a word, till he was smothered and slain untimely.

There the kine cast their fine horns, all at once; though it was a heavy reproach in every home, their death was the 'horn-casting' of Ulaid.

LOCH SÉTA

Here was sunk that ancient treasure, the diadem of Loegaire Lorc of the Leinstermen, when maidens put it there, the daughters of spruce Faindle.

-
29. *ba col*] bam col etc LeS 30. *tuill*] is tuill LeS *óol*] ol LeM *ól* S
 31. *srón*] a sron LeS *ocus súil*] is tsúl Le sa súl S 32. *fo*] ba LeS a
bél] om. Le 33. *Ó dofuc*] o dothug etc LeS otafuc M odusfug S₃ 34.
loná] luath LeS 35. *a thairm*] an tairm H 36. *a*] an R *in*] don LeS
 Inber Bicne. RBLcMSS₃H 2. *cháid*] chaeim Le 3. *bríga*]
 bríga etc LeMS 4. *ligda*] lidha LeS ligha M righdha S₃ 5. *a*] in
 etc BLc *illeg. in M* *i port*] a purt LeS 6. *donn-chorp*] cæm churp LeS
 7. *lac*] BH lag R lach Le loch SS₃ om. M *lúthach*] luatach Le lúthmar S
 8. *cor' míchad*] dumuchad B *cor' moch-marbad*] domochmarbad B cur mor-
 marbad etc HS₃ 10. *a mbenda*] ambeann M 11. *thenn-chol*] thenchól
 R tennchar etc LeS *in cach thig*] moan tigh H 12. *Bennchor Ulad*]
 benn eoh rulað R *a*] da S₃
 Loch Séta. RBLcMSS₃H 3. *dianos-tucsat*] dianotucsat B dianatue-
 sad Le dia rotucsad M *aindre*] a ainne B aindred M 4. *féith-grind*]
 fialgrind etc LeS féithgrind cæt. 5-8.] *after* 12 LeS

Mac Duib Dá Roth, détla in daig,
doluid ée isin cinaid :
in sét is in fáel fulla
atát ar óen issunda.

Moncha, Dína, Dalb, ba dú,
Echen balb oculus Biblu,
na cóic mná rostachair trá
mar óen ria n-athair sunda.

S.

10

TRÁIG THUIRBE

Tráig Thuirbe, turebaid a hainm,
do réir auctair ria imšnaidm :
Tuirbe trágmar ós cach thráig
athair grádmar gúr Gobáin.

A thúraig notelged iar scur
in gilla mergech mór-dub
ó Thulaig Béla buide
fri cach ména mór-thuile.

Cían nodcuired a thúraig the
in muir ní thuiled tairse :
cid Tuirbe thess na túag trén,
ní fess can cúan nó chenél :

10

Manip don tsíl dedgair dub
luid a Temraig ria láech-Lug,
ní fess a chan fri dáil de
fir na cless ó Thráig Thuirbe.

T.

Dub-Da-Roth's son, bold warrior, met his death in payment for it: treasure and werewolf man, here alike they lie.

Moncha, Dina, Dalb, dumb Echen and Biblu, as was meet, he encountered them all five, together with their father, here.

TRÁIG THUIRBE

Tuirbe's Strand, exalt its name, to bind it fast, as authors tell: Tuirbe *tráigmar*, famed above all shores, was the loving father of bold Gobban.

When work was over he would hurl his axe, that rusty grimy henchman, from yellow Tulach Bela against all the flood-tide of the bay.

As far as he cast his axe, the flood would not rise beyond it; as for Tuirbe of the mighty axes, in the south, none knew whence came his breed or race:

Unless it were of the nimble swarthy seed that went from Tara, fleeing before warrior Lug: none that met him then knew whence he came, the man of skill from Tuirbe's Strand.

5. *délla in daig*] det in daig R dedla an daith S₃ doluig deg Le doluidh é S
 6.] asin chinaid mor an bed Le isin cin sin mor in béd S é] ech BM
 7. *in sét is in*] isin sed sin Le é sa séd sin S₃ mon sed sin faen S mar aon re set H in sed M *fael fulla*] fael full M fail ata S 8. *atát*] ata RS *ar óen*] hiraen B adharaen S mar áon S₃ *issunda*] sunda etc LeMSH an áonchuma S₃ 9. *Dina*] díla RM dima LeS *Dalb*] delb R dolb LeS *ba dú*] ba tu Le ba tru S 10. *balb*] dalb RLeS *Biblu*] dibliu Le 11. *rostachair*] R nostachair SS₃ nostacair cæt. 12. *mar óen*] moaroen R

Tráig Thuirbe. RBLcMSS₃H 1. *turbaid*] toraib Le a hainm] a ainm RLeM 2. *réir*] reifm S₃ *ria imáinidm*] rima snaidm Le riana snaidm S 3. *tráigmar*] turmar M ós] as B 4. *gír*] glán S 5. *thúig*] tuagh RB 6. *mergech*] meargdha S₃ 7. *Béla buide*] mbiail mbuidi etc LeS bel buide M 8. *fri cach ména*] frisin mbenann Le frisa mbenann S 9. *nodcuired*] nacureadh Le nochuireadh etc SS₃ the] SS₃ de Le te cæt. 10. *in*] i B *ní*] na Le *thuileá*] tuile Le tuiligh M 11. *tuag*] tuaidh R 12. *can*] ca Le cá S ca ? H cana M *nó chenél*] a cenel RB dun cinel Le da cinel S cenel M 13. *don*] do B *dedgair*] degair LeM deggair S₃ 14. *a*] o B *ria*] la LeS 16. *fir*] fer BLcS

BRÍ LÉITH

Mebuir lemm aní dia fail
 senchas Brí Léith meic Celtchair
 ocus díach na slúag-bann slan
 for Liath Cúalann na comdál.

Liath mac Celtchair Chúalann chóir
 carais ingen Midir móir,
 Brí brúach-brice búadaig co mblaid:
 nídusráinic mac Celtchair.

Ní baí bad chaíme 'na ré
 bad saíre, bad súlchaire:
 cor' char in didil nár duí
 ingen Midir maic Induí.

10

Cechaing 'na báig Brí in ben
 'na dáil co lín a hingen,
 co ríacht Temraig na tríath tair
 d' fáilti fri Liath mac Celtchair.

Ní arrlaic Midir Mide
 in Liath dochum a thige
 acht roseaíl in tríath co taí
 in Liath ocus in láech-mnaí.

20

Iarsin dochúaid 'na congaib
 ingen Midir mór-glonnaig,
 co n-érbailt co téith iar tain
 túaid i mBrí Léith meic Celtchair.

'Cen co foam, clú cen geis,
 mise ocus tú, a Brí co mbreis,
 bid hé do chomainm tréith tall
 Brí Léith meic Celtchair Chualann.'

Rop hé sin a athesc ard
 in Léith lúaides cach láech-bard
 fri Brí mbrúach-brice riana scur
 labrad lúath-glice lán-mebur.

30

M.

BRÍ LÉITH

I call to mind the origin of the tale of Brí Léith meic Celtchair, and the woful issue of exploits of tireless hosts against Liath, from Cualu of the gatherings.

Liath, son of upright Celtchar of Cualu, loved great Midir's daughter, Brí *brúach-brecc*, famous for excellencies, but Celtchar's son could not attain her.

There was none fairer in her time, none nobler, none more winsome, and the sweetheart who was no sluggard loved the daughter of Midir mac Indui.

The lady Brí journeyed for his sake, attended by her maidens, to meet him, and came to Temair of the chieftains eastward to greet Liath mac Celtchair.

Midir, lord of Mide, would not suffer Liath to approach his house, but the prince dissevered till death Liath and the valiant lady.

The daughter of doughty Midir departed then in her battle-harness, and she died afterward an easy death at Brí Léith meic Celtchair northward.

'Though we mate not, thou and I, O Brí, cause of combat, fame unforbidden! the place yonder shall bear thy gentle name, Brí of Liath mac Celtchair from Cualu.'

Such was the lofty speech of Liath, whom the martial bards extol, to Brí *brúach-brecc*, ere they parted, a swift shrewd saying, right memorable.

Brí Léith. RBLcMSS ₃ H	5-8.] S ₃ H only	6. <i>ingin</i>] ingen H
ingh] S ₃	8. <i>ni-</i>] in S ₃	9. <i>bad</i>] bat R ba M
ba . . . ba R	<i>súilchaire</i>] suilbire etc LcS	11. <i>didil</i>] idail R finnghil S
12. <i>ingin</i>] ingen S	13. <i>báig</i>] baid etc MSS ₃ daig Lc	<i>in ben</i>] inber B
14. <i>dáil</i>] baid M	15. <i>Temraig</i>] temair LcS ₃	16. <i>a' fáilti</i>] do
fhai li Lc dáilidh S	17. <i>arraitic</i>] ralig etc LcS	18. <i>thige</i>]
chaomhthighe S ₃	21. <i>congaib</i>] chongaib Lc	23. <i>co n-érbailt</i>]
conderbailt B conderbailt S	<i>téith</i>] a thech Lc tei (<i>with blank space</i>) M	
tréith S ₃ <i>tain</i>] sin BM dain Lc	24. <i>túaid</i>] thoir S	25. <i>foam</i>]
roithem Lc roichem S	<i>geis</i>] cheis Lc	26. <i>a</i>] om. Lc
treth etc RS	29. <i>Rop hé</i>] ra be Lc robe MS ₃ H	<i>ara</i>] nard MS ₃ H
30. <i>Léith</i>] leth R <i>líaides</i>] claides R	31. <i>riana</i>] ria Lc	32. <i>labrad</i>]
labraid etc LcS		

TETHBA

Dorat Tethba don tír thúaid,
ná bad sechna dia sár-búaid,
a comainm clethach, rochar
ingen Echach Aireman,

Dia luid la Noisín anall,
la mac Nechtain find-gúalann,
Tethba, rothuile each tech,
is a muimme mór-Eitech.

Eitech, ingen Lennglais Lúain
roscar fri dend-mais ndrech-búain :
áit i ragaib duibe a drech,
ba hé a cend uide Eitech.

10

Marait a n-anmann dia n-éis,
conas-fagbam fria n-aisnéis,
ná mban co mbríg is co mblat :
rotag cách tír dia tarat.

Dorat.

LOCH AINDIND

Loch n-Aindind ós Mide múad
sund ar slige na sáer-ślúag :
Aindind mac Gúmóir gab and
iar tíachtain tíre hÉrend.

IS Loch nÚair, éia hÚar 'sa loch ?
éia díb in t-Úar ronúar-chroth ?
ised ráiter fiad each dáil
bráthair d' Óengus mac Úmáir.

When she came thence with Noisiu son of white-shouldered
Neehtan—Tethba, who made populous its houses, and her nurse,
tall Eiteh,

Their names endure after them, the names of the women
 mighty and strong, and we find them to tell their story: each
 chose the land to which she gave her name.

And Loch Uair—what Uar claims the lake? which of them was the Uar who stirred its cold waters? in presence of all gatherings it is said that he was brother to Oengus son of Umor.

Loch Aindind. RBLemSS₃H 1. ós] a M *míad*] múaid LeS
2. na *sáer-shiag*] cach saer sluagh LeS 3. *Gúmoir*] umoir LeM *gab*] gaibh S baoi S₃ 4. *tíre hÉirend*] tíre nerenn M a tír nerenn etc LeSS₃H
5. *nÚair*] huar B 'uar Le 6. *romíar-chroth*] ranúerth Le 7. *cach*] can Le 8. *d' Óengus*] aonghais etc LeS₃H *Úmair*] gumair etc RBSS₃H

Loch Aindind. RBLemSS₃H 1. ós] a M *miad*] múaid LeS
2. na *sáer-shiag*] each saer sluagh LeS 3. *Gúmoir*] umoir LeM *gab*
gaibh S₃ baoi S₃ 4. *tíre hÉirend*] tíre nerenn M a tír nerenn etc LeSS₃H
5. *nÚair*] huar B 'uar Le 6. *romíar-chroth*] ranúertho Le 7. *cach*
can Le 8. *d' Óengus*] aonghais etc LeS₃H 9. *Úmair*] gumair etc RBSS₃H

Inann athair ós each dind
 dorigine Úar is Aindind,
 oculus inann brú rosbert:
 dú dóib a mbeith im chomchert.

10

Inann ben rosnalt malle
 in dá mac co mór-aidble:
 inann finde oculus fégað,
 inann mét is mór-dénam.

I n-óen-fecht rucait a ndís,
 Aindind is Úar, cen athscís,
 acht is toisciu robreth brú
 Aindind, roleth each lán-chlú.

20

Oculus rígrad Gúmóir glain,
 lib in eol can dia n-athair,
 acht co Fíru Bolg bladmar
 berar a n-ord imadbal?

Ac Point robátar dá mac
 Danaus, Gréus na nglac,
 ótát Gréic cen ord ndubach
 is Fíru Bolg na mborb-churach.

Rogab Gréus co ngraimm glan
 rigi for claind a bráthar,
 co mbátar fo mámus mass
 cen cháðus cen chairtechas.

30

Tarrúd úire ar airib
 for leccaib ar láech-maigib
 fognítis clann Danai díl,
 ba gním gann dia nglan-bráithrib.

The same father, famed above every stronghold, begat Uar and Aindind, and the same womb gave them birth: it was meet for them to share equal rights.

The same woman bred up together the two boys huge of stature: the same were their fair skin and their looks, the same their bulk and mighty build.

In the same hour were born those twain, Aindind and Uar, without a second labour, but the womb first brought forth Aindind, whose full fame spread afar.

And the royal seed of bright Umor—have ye heard whence their father came, unless their exalted line is carried back to the renowned Fir Bolg?

Two sons had Point: Danaus and Grecus strong of grip, from whom come the Greeks by no obscure lineage, and the Fir Bolg of the rude curraghs.

Grecus with his bright strength seized the rule over his brother's children, and they submitted to a prosperous sway, unhonoured, unbefriended.

Hauling of clay over slabs of stone, to make ploughlands and pastures, did the children of loved Danaus perform: it was a rough service to their illustrious brethren.

-
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 9. <i>ós</i>] as B | 10. <i>dorigne</i>] or ghein S ₃ | 11. <i>ocus</i>] 7 is M <i>rosbert</i>] |
| rosmbeart S ₃ | 12.] iat 7 cime caimchert S <i>im chomchert</i>] im caeimcert B | |
| co coimnert Le | 13. <i>rosnalt</i>] R roalt S rosalt etc cat. | 14. <i>in</i>] na |
| MS ₃ H | 15. <i>finde</i>] fine etc SS ₃ H in bean M | 17. <i>rucait</i>] rugad etc |
| LcS | 18. <i>cen</i>] con Le | 20. <i>roleth</i>] robreath (<i>altered from roleath</i>) M |
| 21. <i>Ocus</i>] sencus R <i>rigrad</i>] B rigraid etc cat. | 22. <i>lib in clos</i>] ni clos lib | |
| LcS lib ni clos etc MS ₃ H | 23. <i>acht</i>] for M | 24. <i>a n-ord</i>] asord LcS |
| 26. <i>Danaus</i>] danus LcS ₃ H tanus S dairus is B na nglac] nangla M geal | | |
| anglace Le glan a glac S na nglanglac etc S ₃ H | 27. <i>ótát Gréic</i>] ota | |
| <i>greic</i> etc RBMH ataid Le <i>cen ord</i>] na nord M | 28. <i>mborb-</i>] mbor H | |
| 29. <i>ngraimm</i>] ngairm R ngreim BLe ngrain M <i>glan</i>] nglan RBLeM | 30. | |
| <i>for</i>] <i>ós</i> S ₃ <i>bráthar</i>] athar B | 31. <i>mámus</i>] amus B a mamus S ₃ H | |
| 32. <i>chairtechas</i>] <i>ed.</i> coirtechas etc RBM cordecus Le chortachas S chorachas | | |
| H earchthanas S ₃ | 33. <i>Tarraid</i>] tarraid R taradh Le tarru M <i>ar</i>] tar | |
| B for S ₃ H na h- S | 34. <i>for</i>] ar LcS <i>ar</i>] a RS ₃ H <i>-maigib</i>] maidhe R | |
| 35. <i>fognitis</i>] donidis etc LcS <i>Danaí</i>] dana Le danae M danis S danuis (<i>in litura</i>) S ₃ | 36. <i>ba grím</i>] bá glan (<i>with da nglan superscr.</i>) Lc <i>gann</i>] granda | |
| B om. Lc <i>dia nglan-bráithrib</i>] do glan brathrib etc RS ₃ H <i>dia mbrathrib</i> B | | |
| <i>dia nderbrathir</i> S | | |

Ní laimtis usce úar d' ól
acht in muir múad cen mín-glór
Fir Bolg 'ca mbráithrib bunaid,
ciarb ord áith-mer écubaid.

40

Iarsin moslúat immach
Úar ocus Aindind óach
fir in chóem-lossa, ba cóir,
d' éis Óengossa maic Úmóir.

Gabsat 'car lochaib lethnaib
iar scarthain ria mór-ethraib:
hi flaith Chairpri Níad Fir
táncatar Temraig taib-gil.

Dochúaid Aindind coa loch lainn;
luid Úar úad ass cen errainn
co ríacht in loch n-úar n-aile,
ó fil lúad a láech-blaide.

50

IS Loch nÚair ósin amach
'ca ragaib Úar a athach:
cid d' éis Aindind, gairb im ga,
rolen a ainm in loch-sa. Loch.

DRUIM SÚAMAIG I

Druim Súamaig, dara saigid,
co slúagaib, co sídchairib,
fon druim dúanach co nduba
fail Súamach mac Samguba.

Ba fáith, ba fili, fir dam,
ba suí, ba sencha solam,
Súamach, cen chaite caccaid,
aite ríam do ríg-maccaib.

37.] ní lamdais uar dol dool Le 38. múad] ruadh S₃ mín-glór] minglor
S₃ minglor *cæt.* 39. 'ca] coa R co *cæt.* 40. áith-mer écubaid]

The Fir Bolg, by law of brothers of their blood, durst not drink cold water, save from the mighty rude-voiced sea, though it was a shrewd inequitable ordinance.

Thereafter Uar and keen-eared Aindind, men of fair substance, as was just, fare forth after Oengus son of Umor.

After leaving their long boats they settled by our broad lakes ; in the reign of Cairpre Nia Fer they came to white-flanked Tara.

Aindind went to his shining lake: Uar departed from him, portionless, till he reached another cold lake ; whereof comes mention of his martial renown.

From that time forth it is called Loch Uair, where Uar gained his breathing-space: and since the time of Aindind, fierce in spear-play, his name has clung to this lake.

DRUIM SUAMAIG I

It is Druim Suamaig that ye are crossing, with its hosts and its fairy people: under the hill of songs, in darkness, lies Suamach son of Samguba.

He was a soothsayer and a poet—truth I tell: he was a scholar and a ready shanachie: Suamach, exempt from the toils of war, was once a fosterer of kings' sons.

aith mechubaid Le	41-44.] om. Le	41. <i>mostuát</i>] inulsat (?) R
níusluat B nuslaigid S	43.] fer gu cem caomlosa cóir S	44. <i>Úmóir</i>
gumoir etc RBS ₃ H	45. 'car'] ga LeS go etc S ₃ H	coar etc RBM 46.
scarthain] scarthair Le	mór-] sgiam S	47. <i>hi flaith</i>] a flaithus etc LeSH
Niad Fir] nia fer LeS	48. <i>táncatar</i>] rangadar S	Temraig] teindfir B
taib-gil] taebgeal etc LeS	tonnghil S ₃	49. <i>coa</i>] co etc LeSS ₃ H
luind etc LeS	50. <i>uad ass</i>] uada R	cen errainn] each erraind Le
urraid M gu heruinn S	gó errainn S ₃	51. <i>riacht</i>] roicht Le
LeS <i>n-uár</i>] nar R	52. <i>o</i>] i H	<i>luad</i>] lug R
baile LeSS ₃ H	53-56.] om. S	54. 'ca <i>raguib</i>] coaragaib R
corfagaib Le	coaragabh M	coarrogaib H
atharrach B	55. <i>ciá</i>] cia R	<i>gairb im ga</i>] garb agha Le
don Le		56. <i>in</i>]

Druim Súamaig I. RBLcMSS₃H Only the first five stanzas are legible in R ; only the first nine in H

1. *dara*] dar BMS sunn dar Le *saigid*] saidigh

etc RM saide Le

3. *druim dúanach*] ndruim duamach R druim

nduanach cat.

4. *Súamach*] suanach Le Samguba] sanguibi Le

samdube S

5. *fáith*] flaith LeS

8. *aite riam*] ba haide R

INgen Gaimgelta, in glúair glé,
meic Rodba meic Thúraig Tuile,
Caindlech, nírb étig ria hail,
ba sí sin sétig Súamaich.

10

Altsat a ndís immalle
Cormac, cond na loingse-se,
mac ríge Ulad co n-úath-bla,
hi crích curad cáem-Chrúachna.

Diar' chechaing Cormac aníar,
in borrhlat cosin bláth-níam,
ó Chrúachain, nach rabáid blad,
do gabáil ríge nUlad ;

20

Ó rosiacht bruidin na mbreth
Cormac, duilig a debech,
Da Choca, cen tlás temil,
fúair bás ocus beó-thenid.

Cechaing Súamach dar each sruth
dia aurgaire, dia astud,
is a ainder ér arnaid
co Tulaig nDér ndron-adbail.

Déra in Dagdai, díles dó,
ic cainiud Áeda ó Áth Nó:
roseí rí Cuilte, in curaid,
ina thuirt 'sin trom-thulaig.

30

Ó doríacht cen laice ille
aite in maic maith 's a muime,
adeíat in daigid nduilig
ina brainig don beó-bruidin.

'Díaid oirgne Cormaic adeiu',
ol Súamach, 'ic serb-laigiu:
dalta romdechair cose,
ní beo im bethaid dia ésse.'

40

The daughter pure and bright of Gaimgelta son of Rodba son of Tuag Tuile, even Caindlech (none blamed her beauty), was spouse to Suamach.

They twain between them reared Cormac, chief of these outlaws, dread-shouting son of the king of Ulaid, in the country of fair Cruachan's warriors.

When Cormac, that lusty sapling in bloom of beauty, advanced out of the west from Cruachan, that no fame outshines, to seize the kingship of Ulaid :

When Cormac, dangerous foeman, reached Da Choca's Hall of Judgements, undimmed by faintness, he met death in fatal fire.

Suamach hastened across the rivers, he and his proud stern mate, as far as the massy Hill of Tears, to stop him and stay his steps.

(The Dagda's tears—for the Hill is his—the warrior king of Colt let fall in mourning for Aed of Ath No, over his pyre on the mighty hill.)

When the brave boy's foster parents reached the spot, without faltering, they see the flames of ruin fringing the blazing Hall.

'I see the smoke of the slaying of Cormac where he lies on a bitter bed', said Suamach: 'the nursling that was my pride till now: let me live no longer after him!'

9. *Gaimgelta*] caemgelta M in] om. S₃ 10. *Thúiaig*] S tuaid RM tuat
 B tuaith etc LeS₃H 11. *Caindlech*] cundeoh R caintleoh B étig] eith
 (with ic superscr.) R eithe B etich H ria] re MS 12. si] hi LeS
 14. *na loingse-se*] ina loingse B na caemloingse M 15. *íath-bla*] uathblad
 Le 16. hi] a LeMS 18. *borr-slat*] borbslat R bláth-niam] R
 mblathniam etc BS₃H mblathmhiad etc LeS mblathslab M 19. *nach*
rabáid] nacarbaid M 21. *mbreth*] mbreatha B 22. *duilig*] duileid Le
debech] deileach etc LeS deibeach (altered from deileach?) S₃ 24. *beo-*
thenid] bedroneim Le bédronem S bithainib M beotheinid (with r superscr.)
 S₃ 27. a] om. Le érnarnaid] érnarnaidh S ergnai Le 28. *nDér*
 nander S ndron-adbail] dronadbail M ndrongsadbail etc LeS 30.
 ic] o B a LeMS Aeda ó Ath No] aed o athno B aeda athgno Le an cerna
 dó S₃ (in litura) 31. *rosai*] ruseai etc LeS 32. *thuir*] thuir S
 33. *laice*] laidi Le 35. *daigid*] B daidhigh M deathaig etc LeS
 doighir etc S₃H 36. *bruiníg*] bruiníg LeM bruinich H beo] be B beol
 S breó S₃H (perhaps rightly) 37. *Diaid*] daig B daid M 38. ol] o M
serb-laigiu] serslaigiu Le searbhlú S₃ 39. *romdechair*] caimdeach air Le
 40. ni beo] B ni biu etc LeSS₃ nimbeo M

DRUIM SÚAMAIG I

Ronguil Caindlech, cruth rochar,
is roscail a folt find-glan:
fúair a tairnem, a tuirim
i nArd Chaindlech comduilig.

Comainm na cnoc, ní celar,
ó díth na deise atberar:
réil cen min-dergnas don maig
dindsénchas Dromma Súamaig.

D.

DRUIM SÚAMAIG II

Feart Suamaigh sund ara leirg,
meic Samhddhuba co saer-ceird:
adbath ara tulaig tric
gan cath da cumaidh Cormaic.

Dia tainic Suamach slatra
a ndeadhaigh a dheadhealta
meabais gan ceird ngaisgidh de
sa leirg ag faicsin bruigne.

Tulach Dher a hainm ar tus,
(ader-sa ribh a deadh-rus,) . . .
da raibi in Dagha data
and a caineadh Cearmata.

10

Rob e-sin a hainm thall
re reimeas Tuath Dé Danann:
budh Druim Suamhaigh co brath mbeacht
a hainm la cach on céd-fheart. Feart.

Caindlech bewailed him, even as she loved, and loosened her fair bright locks: she found her death-bed and her dirge at forlorn Ard Caindlech.

The name of the hills—it is not hidden—is called from the death of that pair: far-seen with no faint lustre over the plain is the legend of Druim Suamaig.

DRUIM SUAMAIG II

Here on his hillside is the grave of Suamach son of Samguba, skilled in liberal arts: he died of a sudden on his hill, not by battle, but of grief for Cormac.

When valiant Suamach came, following his brave nursling, he died on his hillside, without feat of arms, when he beheld the Hall.

The Hill of Tears was its name at the first (I will tell you its noble secret) when the comely Dagda was there, mourning for Cermait.

This was its name yonder in the time of the Tuatha Dé Danann: but Druim Suamach, from that first grave, shall be its name in all men's mouths till the very Doomsday.

41. *Ronguil*] romguil B raguil Le roguil S *cruth*] crúch S₃ *rochar*] dachar Le
 43. *fúair a tairnem*] fuar a tuirnib M 44. *comduilig*] comhehubhídh S₃ After 44 S₃ inserts a stanza: see Notes 45. *na cnoc*] om. B nach o Le
 47. *réil*] eol S₃ *cen min-dergnas*] ceiminnergnais B gemindeargnas M combindergnus (*altered*) S₃ can minshencus Le *g̃ minnearghnus* S *don maig*] du maig B amuigh Le donmuidh M

Druim Súamaig II. R (*illegible*) M 7. *read* bebais

DÚN MAC NECHTAIN SCÉNE

Necht Inbir Scéne ro scail,
máthair na mac co mór-aib,
anmann dóib 'nar túathaib thall
Túachail is Foil is Fannall.

Ba hé a n-athair, ard a ech,
Fer Uillne mac lór Lugdech:
Cú na Cerda fo bláth becht
rosort ar áth i n-óen-fecht. N.

BILE TORTAN

Ultán. Bile Tortan dorochair,
doruart mór sín dia eochair:
cian comdatar minnain fris,
ba amne noscarfaitis.

Mochuma. Bile Tortan tarcai tres
lúadaid fri gáetha graifnes:
atá sunn ón úair ba glass
cosin lathe bas n-aithmess.

Mochúa Chiana Dolcan.

Brónaig fir Thortan uile
ac cáined in óen-bile:
annsa dóib aní n-adehíat
do ní uili nádunbíat.

Cróin Galma. Fir Thortan dia fertais dál
'mon crann ndeligthe ndermár,
nícostaidled síled sín
cosin lathe bad erchrín.

DUN MAC NECHTAIN SCÉNE

Necht of Inber Scéne, mother of the sons right beautiful, made known among our tribes yonder their names, Tuachail, Foil, and Fannall.

Their father (tall was his steed) was Fer Uillne, worthy son of Lugaid; just in the bloom of youth, the Hound of Feats slew them all together at a ford.

BILE TORTAN

Ultan. Fallen is the Tree of Tortu, whose skirts conquered many a storm: . . . even so would they disperse.

Mochuma. The Tree of Tortu looks down on strife: name ye among the wise him who writes of it! here it stands from the time that it was green till the season of its decay.

Mochua. Sad are all the men of Tortu, mourning for that single tree; dearer to them is the thing they see than all things that are gone from us.

Croin Galma. When the men of Tortu used to meet together round the huge conspicuous tree, the pelting of the storms did not reach them, until the day when it was decayed.

Dún mac Nechtain Scéne. BLcSS₃H (*illegible*) S₃ adds two stanzas; see

Notes 3. 'nar] ar B 5. ard] om. Le 6. lór] loir LeS 7. Cerda]
ēna S ceardca S₃ fo] fa Le 8. rosorl] rusfortadar Le ar áth] om. LeS

Bile Tortan. BLcMSS₃ The Saints are omitted in S 1. dorochair]

dorchair B 2. doruart] danart Le donairt S doruacht S₃ mór] moir

Le dia eochair] dorochair Le na fochair S 3. cian] coian Le om. S₃

comdatar] B combatar etc LcSS₃ comadar M minnain] B mic maein Le

meic main MS imeanmuin S₃ 4. amne] maen M 5. Tortan]

torthan here and generally in B 6. liadaid] luagaid B lugaid Le luaiged

S 9. uile] ile S₃ 10. ac] a LeS o M 11. an] ni (?) B (*above*

line): illeg. in M n-adchiat] nodeciad M 12. do ni] daine LeS don M

nádunbiat] nadunbiad S nandunbiad Le nadimiad B nodimiat M nat im-

chiad S₃ 13-16.] om. B 13. Cróin Galma] cron gama Le crom gallina M

croin galma S₃ fertais] feasdáeis S₃ 14. 'mon] moa M mo S₃ ndermár]

ndímár S₃ 15. nicostaidled] nocustaidlidh M nochustaidhleadh S₃ siled]

silidh M siliudh S 16. bad erchrin] S₃ ba deroċin M badercain LeS

Colum Cille. Cía rocrínad nírbo rom,
cían úad ótá ar domun:
in Rí dorósat a chrí
rofuirim afrithisi.

20

Ultán Tige Túa.

Coíca ed remet in chrainn
dercad tar feda fir-druing,
ocus trí cét, comul nglé,
hi lán-airde a fídbaide.

Mochuma.

Trí dindgna Ereenn, doseí,
roscarsat fri trebairi:
Eó Rossa, Eó Mugna múad
ocus Eó Tortan táeb-rúad.

Mochúa.

Bile Tortan, trom a fúaim
fri haineiss síne rorúaid:
rolá sunn mór saithe de
osnad gáeithe gem-aidche.

30

Ultán úa Conchobair.

Rogab foss ós Tortain truimm
ó ré mac Míled mór-uill
co torchair, tan rosaí a gné,
hi ré mac nÁeda Sláine.

Cróin Galma.

Gáeth dorascair in bile,
ní fulaing nach dían eride,
co foraim trí coíeta troch
do Chonaillib 'na n-óenoch.

40

Sínche ó Chillín Íchtair Thire.

Cía nodbena-su, a chaillech,
brosna dia ind fort tellach,
is mór do maccaib cóemaib
conatail foa glan-chróebaib.

Colum Cille. Though it is withered now, it had not an early end: long has it been on earth: the King who created its form has brought it low again.

Utan of Tech Túa. Fifty cubits is the thickness of the tree that overpeered the array of the forest: three hundred cubits, famous count, was the full height of its timber.

Mochuma. Three landmarks of Erin, thou seest, are shorn of their strength, the Tree of Ross, the mighty Tree of Mugna, and the red-sided Tree of Tortu.

Mochúa. Deep was the sound of the Tree of Tortu in the storm's fierce torment: the moaning of the wind on winter nights has torn from it here many a swarm of leaves.

Utan. It found an abode over strong Tortu from the time of the sons of mighty Míl, until its colour faded and it fell, in the time of the sons of Aed Slane.

Croin Galma. A wind laid the Tree low—none that is not hard of heart can bear the loss—and it crushed thrice fifty victims of the Conaille, at their fair.

Sinche. Beldame, though thou breakest faggots from its bole on thy hearth, there was many a fair youth that has slept under its bright branches.

-
- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 17. <i>rocrinad</i>] rocrionaigh S ₃ | 18. <i>ar</i>] B for <i>cæt</i> . | 19. <i>dorósat</i>] |
| doacht Le dorocht S | 20. <i>rofuirim</i>] ra urim Le rouurum S | 21. |
| <i>Tige Túa</i>] om. Le <i>remet</i>] <i>ed.</i> raemed B remed LeS reimed M remut S ₃ | | |
| 22. <i>dercad</i>] derca B <i>tar</i>] S ₃ a <i>cæt. feda</i>] om. B <i>feda</i> Le eda etc MS <i>firdruing</i>] fíor druing S ₃ firdruing Le firdroing S ferdruing BM | | 23. |
| <i>comul</i>] comall M cumat S | 24. <i>hi lán-airde</i>] an airde S | 25. <i>dosci</i>] |
| fosci LeS | 27. <i>muia</i>] muaid etc BMS ₃ | 28.] inteo don torthain |
| taebrauid etc BMS ₃ | 29. <i>Mochúa</i>] mocuma Le <i>fuaim</i>] fuam etc BLcM | |
| 30. <i>sine</i>] na sín S <i>roriaid</i>] roruad BLcS | 33. <i>Rogab foss</i>] rogabad etc | |
| BS ₃ rosgab M | 35. <i>a</i>] om. B | 36. <i>mac nÁeda</i>] aeda saeir B |
| 37. | | |
| <i>Croin Galma</i>] croin galma BS ₃ cron guba Le cr . . . M om. S <i>dorascair</i>] dotrascair LeS | 38. <i>nach</i>] cach Le gach S | 39. <i>co foraim</i>] coraim (<i>with for superscr.</i>) Le <i>troch</i>] tore S |
| etc MS ₃ na n-] an S | 40. <i>Chonaillib</i>] B conallehaib LeS conallaib | |
| 41. <i>Sinche ó Chillín Íchtair Thire</i>] sincin o cillín | | |
| íchtair tire B sínchi o cillínche no ó cill íochtair S ₃ sinchiu Le sin . . . | | |
| iet . . . M om. S <i>Cia nodbena-su</i>] cian odbeanasu M cian o dobenasu B cía | | |
| notbenusa S ₃ cian od benu Le cian o dobensu S | 42. <i>brosna</i>] brosnad | |
| BM <i>dia ind</i>] dia inn S ₃ dia sain B osrain M doben Le doboing S <i>fort</i>] | | |
| <i>ed. fora</i> S for <i>cæt. tellach</i>] teach etc LeS | 44. <i>conatail</i>] conachtail LeS | |
| conach triaill M <i>foa</i>] S ₃ fon Le fo BMS | | |

Ultán Tige Túa.

IN ben roscail a moing find
 roscail mór cuarán cóem-grind:
 is cass conatbi a gen
 iar fuirmed Bili Tortan. Bile Tortan.

Cróin Galma. Dotuit uile frismbí súil:
 confersat gletin rodúir:
 ní thall in gáeth láma de
 co foraim bága in bile. B.

50

Mochúa. Atá erehra ar gach rét
 cid fir domuin, tíagait éc:
 is úr derg, is crín a chré,
 each lucht robuí 'mon mbile. B.

Ultán. Mag Tortan, is mag cen chend
 ó doroscar fria chóem-chrand:
 dá trían a sochair luid de
 ó dorochair in bile. B.

60

Torannán Tulcha.

Immarmus Adáim anall
 romelt maccu na sáer-chlann:
 is ed díl rontá-ne de
 iar crínad a sár-bile. B.

Colum Cille. Fás Ochann is Tlachtga án
 d' éis Ailella na trom-dám,
 mac Nathí, réided Mide,
 ní frithirt is óen-bile. B.

Mochúa. IS mé Mochúa, adbiur fri Cróin
 ná dénad toirsi ndímóir:
 a frémaib in chrainn col-lí
 noásfaitis il-bili. B.

70

Ultan of Tech Tua. The woman who loosed their fair locks, many a trim sandal hath she loosed : gleefully she laughed at the felling of Tortu's Tree.

Croin Galma. All that meet the eye must fall : they joined in stubborn conflict : the wind withdrew not its hand until it brought down the Tree's pride.

Mochua. To all things comes decay : all men in the world go toward death : they are but red earth and lifeless clay, all folk that gathered round the Tree.

Ultan. The plain of Tortu is a plain without a ruler since it lost its noble tree : two parts of its prosperity are gone since the Tree fell.

Torannán. Adam's transgression of old hath undone the children of the free people : such is the lot in store for us since their mighty Tree withered.

Colum Cille. Deserted is Ochann, and noble Tlachtga, since Ailill, son of Nathí, is gone, the chief of strong troops, that rode through Meath : a death not like that of any other Tree.

Mochua. I am Mochua : I bid Croin not to grieve excessively : from the roots of the illustrious Tree many a tree might spring.

45. *Tige Túa*] *om.* S₃ *roscaill*] *rosgai* S₃ *a*] in BM *find*] *mais* M 46. *cuarán*] *curach* B *curan* Lc *caruan* S₃ *coem-*] B *com-* etc *cæt.* 47. *cass*] as Lc *conatbi*] *contibe* B *cona tibhe* S₃ 48. *fuirmed*] *fuirme* BS₃
49. *Croin Galma*] *croin galma* BS₃ *croine gaillina* Lc *croin gailina* M *om.* S₃ 50. *confersat*] *isfersad* Lc *asfersad* S₃ *dofersat* S₃ (*con erased before do*) *gletin*] *geltain* LcS *geill din* M 51. *láma*] *læna* (*altered from lamha?*) M *lamhdha* S₃ 52. *foraim*] *furim* LcS *foraib* M *bága*] *baidhe* S₃ *in*] *om.* S₃ 53. *Mochúa*] *sínchi* S₃ *ar*] *for* S₃ 54. *éc*] *dec* M *dég* S₃ 55. *is úr derg*] as *oirdaire* LcS 56. *cach*] *ca* B *gon* S₃ *robui*] *dobidh* S₃ *'mon*] *fon* LcS 57. *Ultán*] *ultan tulca tortan* S₃ 58. *dorascar*] *dodorchair* B *dascarad* Lc *fria*] *fa* S₃ *fria a B chóem-*] *cod* M 60. *doro-* *chair*] *dodorchair* B *in*] *a* B 63. *dil*] *diach* S₃ *rontá ne*] *rondenad* etc LcS 64. *iar*] *ar* BMS₃ *a sár-bile*] B *is ar mbile* MS₃ *an tsærbile* etc LcS 65. *Colum Cille*] *torna tulcha* Lc *mocua M án*] *anes* etc LcS 66. *-ám*] *thres* Lc *les* S₃ 67. *Nathi réided*] *našireadeadh* B *nahfreideag* Lc *nahi redhedh* S₃ *dathi reded* M 68. *frithirt*] *frithfirt* S₃ *frithfirtus* Lc *frithid* S₃ *is óen-bile*] *aenbile* Lc *asainbile* S₃ 69. *adbiur*] *adber* LcS 71. *col-í*] *adchí* Lc *adhe* S₃ 72. *noásfáitís*] *rafesfádaís* Lc *rosfásdís* S₃ *il-bíli*] *anbili* Lc *bilige* S₃

Colum Cille. Bá-sa laithe i n-óen na sam
ocond fidbaid na ndlochtan,
dorignius ní bad toisc dam,
romdín barr Bili Tortan. B.

Mochuma. Nímtha díl cía feraid gen
gáeithe fri feda fortan :
indíu óen-banscál conben
brosna do Bile Tortan. B.

80

Ullán. Cía roben gáeth cluiche friss,
hí céin ba hóc ní rombriss :
do thalmáin tairind each sen :
tathum do Bile Tortan. Bile Tortan.

The recension of the Dindshenchas to which most of our manuscripts belong seems to have ended originally at this point. In some copies, however, the legend of Lége is added. Lc and S have further the five poems which follow Lége.

LÉGE

Senchas Lége, láthar sain
il-laídib is il-lebraib,
is léir amail érnid ass
do réir in légnid légas.

Líag ingen Trescáit trebair,
maic Throscaig búain, maic Belaig,
maic Booz, maic Agaill uird,
maic Malairn, is maic Licuirb,

Maic Siabairt, maic Claraig cuir,
maic Coltaig, is maic Smirduib,
maic Mercill, maic Leeduib luind,
maic Iachduib, is maic Libuirn,

10

Colum Cille. On a certain summer's day I was in the wood of tufted leafage, having an errand to perform: the crown of Tortu's Tree gave me shelter.

Mochuma. No comfort have I, though the winds stir the treetops of the wood to laughter: to-day a solitary housewife breaks faggots from the Tree of Tortu.

Ullan. Though the wind made rough sport with it, it could not break the Tree while it was young; but it brings to the ground all that is old: this I know by the Tree of Tortu.

LÉGE

The legend of Lége, a name of peculiar import in ballads and in books, is clear as ye expound it, according as the reader reads it.

Liag was daughter of stout Trescat, son of long-lived Troscach, son of Belach, son of Booz, son of highborn Agall, son of Malarn, son of Licorb,

son of Siabart, son of . . . Clarach, son of Coltach, son of Smiridub, son of Mercell, son of fierce Leedub, son of Iachdub, son of Liburn,

73. *Colum Cille*] B *om. cæt.* *Bá-sa laithe*] ba samalta Lc ba samlaithi S *i n-én na*] moenda (a *superscr.*) B maena Lc maen no M inaeni (i *subscr.*) S
74. *na ndlochtan*] S₃ na dlochtach B na dloctan M nád locht an Lc da dlochtadh S 75. *dam*] tham B 77. *Mochuma*] Colum cille LcMS₃ *díl*] dín B a díL LcS *feraid*] ferad Lc *gen*] gein (with a *subscr.*) Lc gena genaid M 78. *feda*] fedaib Lc *fortan*] M forthan B fortal S₃ findtan Lc finntan S 79. *óen-banscál*] aenbansean M as aonbanscal S₃ *conben*] S₃ combean BM domben Lc combladh S 81. *cluiche*] cluithe B bili Lc 82. *hi céin*] S₃ gein B agein Lc agen S in cein M *rombriss*] rombris B robriS S₃ rodbris *cæt.* 83 *cach*] can Lc 84. *Bíle*] bil B

Lége. LLeMSS₃H (1-24 *illeg.*) 1. *láthar*] lathar L luaighi M luaigid etc *cæt.* 2.] in uaithnib an aenaigibh Lc in uainibh in áonaighibh S 3.] L leir ima nerind anos etc LcS nias fuil ar lo illithi M nochasfail ar lo líthe S₃ 4.] ní is mo no gon lucht an erichi Lc ní as mó ina ag lucht aoineriche S *légnid*] legnid L leigind etc LcS 5. *Trescait*] trescaig Lc tresaigh S 6. *Throscaig*] L troist mē S boist mē etc LcS₃ loist mē M 7. *Booz*] L troghaigh S throscaigh etc *cæt.* *Agall*] admoill S₃ 9. *Siabairt*] L siopuird S₃ cibuirn Lc ciabuirn M sibuirn S *Claraig*] caraid Lc 10. *is*] *om.* S₃ 11. *Mercill*] smeircill S₃ luind] duind L linn S 12. *Iachduib*] L iachtaig etc *cæt.* *Libuirn*] liuirnd S lioptuirn S₃

Maic Lathairn, ris' lúate uile,
maic Soait, is maic Sibuir,
maic Succait, maic Stairn fíaclaig,
maic Sait chláraig crúaid-fachtaig,

Maic Cairr, maic Fuit, maic Ifit,
maic Filist, ba feidm trichait,
maic Cáim na clóe can sciath,
maic Nóe, is maic Lamíach.

20

Genelach Lége, is lór dam,
ó Threscail co Nóe nertmar,
do réir na n-eólach cáem cass,
treórach ní sáeb in senchass.

Líag ainm na mná ba mer,
siur do More, mór-mac Deled;
bráthair don mnaí molamm immaig
Conand mac fergach Fáebair.

Líag ropo lán, dar lib,
fofúair cánaid ó chardib:
for Éirinn rop fiach fri hed,
trí coicait líag each thened.

30

IS iat tuc in cánaid cóir
don mnaí dífreera dímoir,
Conand mac Fáebair na fled
ocus More mór-mac Deled.

IS úadib tucad in cháin,
ó Chlaind Nemid in nert-gáid,
ó Sémíon, ó Fergus ard,
is ó Erglan fial fir-garg.

40

son of Latharn, by whom evil deeds were set afoot, son of Soalt, son of Sibort, son of Succat, son of Stairn long-tooth, son of hard-groaning flat-faced Salt,

son of Carr, son of Fot, son of Ifit, son of Filist, with the vigour of thirty men, son of Ham, that bore spears without shield, son of Noah, son of Lamech.

This is the pedigree of Liag (enough for me) from Trescat to mighty Noah, according to the kindly keen men of learning: no misleading guide is the legend.

Liag was the name of that eager woman, sister to More, great son of Dele; Conand, high-mettled son of Faebur, was brother to the woman whose praise we noise abroad.

In full measure, ye may believe, did Liag receive tribute from her friends: there was laid on Erin for a time an impost of thrice fifty measures from every hearth.

They that brought the proper tribute to the imperious woman, huge of build, were Conand son of Faebur, the feast-maker, and More, great son of Dele.

From these was the tribute brought: from Clann Nemid, in their sore need, from Semion, from tall Fergus, from generous right-fierce Erglan.

-
13. *Lathairn*] lathaig Lc ris' *tiáte uilc*] L co lan meid mbuirb etc LeS cu lan meid cuirp etc MS₃ 14. *Soalt*] sothailt M soairt S₃ *Sibuir*] sith buird etc LeMS 16. *Sailt*] cais S₃ *crúaid-iaichtaig*] cruadiattaig *fac. of* L (but may be cruadiachtaig in ms.) cruadsciataig Lc cruaidechtaig M 17. *Cairr*] L cuir Lc cair S cairn MS₃ *Fuit*] L fuith LeS ipist MS₃ *Ifit*] L ifir LeS puit MS₃ 18. *maic*] ba M *Filist*] eilis Lc filis S pilist S₃ *feidm trichail*] feid . . . diehit L tren trichim LeS 19.] L *m̄c cuis mc* caim rocláí sciath etc LeS *m̄c cam na cloimdimh gan sgiath* M *m̄c caim* nar claoi ga ina sciath S₃ *perhaps rightly* 20. *is maic Lamiach*] *m̄* Lamiach L ba mac do Lamiach LeS 21. *is*] om. M 22. *Threscail*] trosach S 23. *na n-eólach*] eolach L 24. *ni*] sni M 25. *ainm*] L a hainm *cæt.* 26. *siur*] ba siur LeS *mór-*] om. LeS 27. *don mnai*] read mná *molamm immaig*] *ed.* molam immaig L molaim thair etc *cæt.* 28. *Conand*] L conaing *cæt.* *mac fergach*] forderg mac LeS 29. *lán*] L lánmór etc *cæt.* 30. *fofúair*] dofúair L refúair M rofúair S₃ *cánaid*] cadus etc LeS ó] góa S₃ coa H 31.] fir ereann rob iach re head M ba fiach for éfrinn an oil S₃ 32. *thened*] filed M tealloigh S₃ 35. *Conand*] L conaing *cæt.* 38. *in nert-gáid*] indergáid L ineartaid L ineirtgaig M co nertbaigh S co nertghaid H 40. *is ó Erglan*] S ó ferglan L is ó ferglan Lc o fergalan MH o earghalan S₃

IN cháin sin rocummad and
trí coícait liag, nír lán-gand :
dá trian d' arbar is imm oll,
in tres trian linn do lommomm.

Ropo throm la Claind Nemid
in cháin-sin, ba dluig debig,
cor' fúacratar cath cen chlód
for More, for Conand cend-mór.

Tancatar do chur chatha
na fir sin, ba réim ratha,
co fúaratar Léig labair,
co ruc béim ó bidbadaib.

50

Fergus leth-derg, rosloit sin
conosfargaib cen anmain,
mod nárbo thacha dia thig,
ria cur catha ria cairdib.

Rochuindig for Fergus find,
mar ná beth cend ósa chind,
co mbeth ria gairm-si, ba glond,
a hainm-si forsin ferond.

60

Arsin rocuired in cath
do fúatuch na Fomórach :
ba rogarb araí in robud
arin mnaí do mudogud.

In cath rolád, leth for leth,
ba cummasc claideb is cleth,
i torchair More, mór a blad,
ocus Conand na comram.

That tribute that was then devised was thrice fifty measures—no sparing levy: two full thirds of corn and butter, the third third of milk.

On Clann Nemid that tribute lay heavy; it was ground for strife, and they proclaimed war without surrender against More and Conand Big-head.

Those men came to give battle, and their march prospered; they came upon proud Liag, and she was struck down by her enemies.

It was Fergus Red-side that spoiled her and left her lifeless—an exploit that freed his home from want—before joining battle with her friends.

She demanded of fair-haired Fergus, as there should be no head over his head, that her name might be on the land to call it by—it was her glory.

Thereupon battle was joined, to the rout of the Fomoiré: very fierce was the challenge on that account, because of the woman's murder.

Side to side was the battle fought, a melee of swords and spears, wherein fell More (great his fame), and Conand of the trophies.

-
41. *rocummad*] racummad L rocinded etc *cæt.* 42. *nir*] L nar *cæt.*
 43.] *liag uachtair baba* (*letters in italics seem rewritten*) L da trian darbur is im
 oll LcSH da trian arba isin oll M da trian arbha is ime oll S₃ 44.] is
 liaig mini cruthneeta L an tres trian lind do lomam Lc in tres trian do
 lomom S is in treas do lomlond M an tres trian do linn lomann S₃ L adds
 in tres fiach linni nir lond liach immi a nanlond 45. *Ropo throm*] ra
 mor Lc robo mor S la] ri L 46. *dluig*] dluid LcS duilig M *debig*]
 deibid etc LcS deimhin M 48. *Conand*] L conaing *cæt.* 50. *ba*
réim] co med Lc co rem S 51. *co fáaratar Léig*] dosfarthatar liagh S₃
 52. *co ruc béim ó*] dia thug béim ar S₃ 53. *rosloit*] roloit M roslait
 L 54. *cono² argaib*] corus fagaib etc LcS eunas fagaib M 55.
mod] mog etc LcMSH *thacha dia thig*] tha cataig L 56. *ria cur*] dia gor M
ria] dia S ria a S₃ 57. *for*] an LcS 58. *ná*] nach LcMS *beth*]
 beith LcMS₃ *chind*] cinn etc MS₃ 59. *ria*] fo Lc óa S₃ ba] fo LcMS
 60. *forsin*] fora S₃ 61. *rocuired*] doferad etc LcS 62. *do fáatuch*] da
 fuatach L sealt for fine S₃H seal for fine etc *cæt.* na] L om. *cæt.* 63.
arái] in ri M *in robud*] L an ramaidh Lc a romhodh M an ramogh S an
 roghadh S₃ 64. *arin*] iarsan S₃ 65. *rolád*] dolagh Lc rolagh M
leth] leith LM 66. *cummasc*] comairt LcS 67. *i torchair*] dorochair
 LcS blad] lagh S 68. *Conand*] L conaing *cæt.*

Diar' marbad Conand 'sin chath
 ocus More, ba móti in rath,
 diar' fuabairthe isna háraib
 rofúataigthe Fomáraig.

70

Frith sund in senchas cose
 dia fail Lége for Lége:
 ar nech ná celid co cass:
 is demin a dind-senchass. S.

BRÉFNE

FINDTAN *doroine*

Bréfne, cá hadbar dia fail?
 fiarfaig dona hollamnaib:
 caide adbar in anma
 aran tír co trom-tharba?

Cá hadbar dia fuil Slíab Fráech?
 fiarfaigid dam an gním gáeth:
 abair frim an fáth co mblaid,
 inní diatá Túaím Regain.

Cá hadbar dia fuil Mag Slécht
 ar Mag Senaig na sáer-écht?
 abair leat tre gním ngosa
 senchas Maige hIndusa.

10

Bréfne, ban-gaisgedach bil,
 ingen Beóáin maic Beothaig,
 rothuit ag tachor fan tír
 le clandaib Cáim co cláen-bríg.

Regan do chlaind Cháim cholaig
 do slúag Balair béimennaig,
 láech co ngaisged is co ngluind
 ris' ná gabtha cert comluind.

20

When Conand was slain in the fight, and More too—the greater the triumph! when they were cut down in the carnage, the Fomoiré were routed.

Here was found the tale, as it is to-day, whence Lége has its name: hide it not perversely from any man, for the story of the place is true.

BRÉFNE

Whence derives the name of Brefne? seek it of scholars: for what cause was the name given to that land of abundant increase?

Whence derives the name of Sliab Fraech? ye seek of me the learned labour: tell me the famous cause whence Tuaim Regain is named.

Wherefore was the name Mag Slecht given to Mag Senaig of doughty deeds? tell on with toil and effort the legend of Mag Indusa.

Brefne, daughter of Beoan mac Bethaig, a brave soldier-woman, fell in conflict for that land with the Children of Ham, with their evil power.

Regan of the Children of impious Ham, from the army of strong-smiting Balar, was a warrior of prowess and exploits, whom none could face in equal battle.

69. *Diar'*] da L *Conand*] L *conaing cæt.* 'sin] na Le 70. *in*] a LeS
 71. *diar' fúabairthe*] da fuabairthe L *diar fuapartai* M *dofuagair thes* Le
 do fuacarthas S *dia bfúadluighthe* S₃ *isna háraib*] asna háraib S *is na*
har M *na thóraib* Le 72. *rofúataigthe*] rofuadaichi M *rofúaguirthe* S₃
Fomáraig] na fomaraig L 73. *in*] a S₃ 74.] *inni diata liagh for*
leige Le *ní díatá liag ar leghe* S 75. *nech*] L *each etc cæt. ná celid*] na
cleithead Le *ni cheilebh* S₃ 76.] L *isam demin na seanchas* Le
deimin ba saim in seancas etc MH demin issámh an seanchas S *deimhin*
budh sámh a seanchas S₃

Bréfne. LeS 4. *aran*] ara S 6. *fiarfaigid*] *fiarfaig* Le 7
co mbliad] gan ail S 8. *Regain*] *dregain* Le 18. *béimennaig*]
borrfadhaigh S 20. *ris' ná*] *fris nach* S *cert*] a cert S

Regan anglondach can acht
is é dorinni an comrace ;
toiseach teaglaig, lín a slúraig,
Áenguis meic in Óig arm-rúaid.

Luid roime an láech da rírib
ó domarb in ban-mílid
d' iarraidh chísa, narbo chert,
ar slúag nGáedel, gérb anrecht :

Conustarla 'na agaid
mac ríG Gáedel can chabair,
cor' fersadar comlunn crúaid
ós oir Alla meic Asúail.

30

IN baile ar' benad de a chend
don Fómóir, ba gním rothend,
ní cheilim ort fáth dia fail,
is uad atá Túaim Regain.

Fráechnat do muintir Chesrach
ráinic an slíab sáer-theistach :
dofuil fo duma glan gáeth,
conad úaithi atá Slíab Fráech.

40

Indusa, ingen Breis búain,
do Thúaith Dé Danann drech-búain
dotuit le fer-gním ngosa
a Muig úathmar Indusa.

Deich cét ocus trí míle,
issé in rád foirbthe fíre,
doroehradar, líth co mblaid,
le sáethar ag Sléchtan-maig.

IS aire tucad Mag Slécht
ar Maig Senaig na sáer-écht,
ar senaib ná ceilid raind,
ó ré Odbgen meic Šengainn.

50

Regan it was, dangerous beyond dispute, that engaged the combat ; he was leader of the retinue of red-armed Oengus mac ind Oc, with all his army.

The warrior went his way in good sooth, when he had slain the soldier-woman, to demand an unjust tribute from the hosts of the Gael, though an unrighteous claim.

There met him, face to face, unaided, the king's son of the Gael ; they fought a stern fight, hard by the rock of Asual's son.

The spot where the Fomoir's head was struck off—it was a doughty deed—is called after him Tuaim Regain : I hide not from thee the cause of the name.

Fraechnat of Cesair's following came to the mountain, witness of noble deeds : she rests under a bright windy grave-mound, and from her is named Sliab Fraech.

Indusa, daughter of long-lived Bress, of the Tuatha Dé Danann kind of face, perished by a deed of manly might at dreadful Mag Indusa.

Three thousand and ten hundred—this is the true complete account, a famous number—perished of their toil at the Plain of Prostrations.

Therefore was the name Mag Slecht given to Mag Senaig of doughty deeds, as verses reveal to the aged, since the time of Odbgen son of Sengann.

21. <i>anglondach</i>] glonnach Lc	27. <i>d' iarraidh</i>] diarr a Lc	28. <i>ar</i>]
a Lc <i>gerb anrecht</i>] <i>ed.</i> ngerb annracht Lc	gerb aimchert S	32. <i>Asúail</i>]
aifuair Lc	33. <i>ar'benad</i>] inarbenad Lc	34. <i>Fomóir</i>] obair S
36. <i>riad</i>] uada Lc	<i>Regain</i>] dragain Lc	39. <i>fo</i>] fad Lc
40. <i>iaithi</i>] uadh Lc	43.] dotuit re gnimhaibh gosa S	51. <i>raind</i>]
48. <i>le</i>] re Lc	<i>Sléchtan-maig</i>] slechtan .m. Lc	sléchtanaibh S
rind Lc	52. <i>Odbgen</i>] foibngen Lc	obgen S

Mé Findtan mac Lamíach luind
 bá-sam crúaid a cert chomluind
 isam eólach-sa rem ré
 senchais Bethad is Bréfne. = B.

LOCH LAIGLINDE

Loch Laiglinde, loch na tonn,
 co fúair ainm tri écomlonn ?
 cid hé a ainm, nírb ed roime
 nocor' báided Laiglinde.

Táinic Laiglinde, an láech lir,
 a cáeca láech co longaib,
 co torchair in cáem 'sin glind
 re táeb tobair don dílind.

Romaid iman mag amach
 tond asin tipra thiprach,
 co nderna loch can tráig de
 ocus cor' báid Laiglinde.

10

Tipra Dera meic Scera
 rob é sin a hainm chena :
 Tipra Dera, ba hainm dí
 nocur' báided Laiglindi.

Delgnat ingen Lochtaig luind,
 ben Parrthalóin don phrím-thuind,
 máthair Laiglinde co mblaid,
 ara tue tonn trom-dígail.

20

Cáeca ban, ba mór an gním,
 im Delgnait, 'ma mnaí in aird-ríg ;
 dochóid 'sin дума ara n-éis :
 romarb guba re n-aisnéis.

IS misi Findtan abus :
 ragab isa maithreachus :
 atá lem can cadhus de
 senchus Locha Laiglinde.

Loch.

I am Fintan son of eager Lamech : I was a stark fighter in equal battle : I am versed in my time in the legend of Betha and of Brefne.

LOCH LAIGLINDE

Loch Laiglinde, lake of waves, through what unequal conflict did it get its name ? Though this was its name, it was not so aforetime, until Laiglinde was drowned there.

Laiglinde, the well-attended warrior, came with fifty fighting men in ships ; the chieftain perished in the glen, beside a spring of water from the Deluge.

A wave burst forth from the brimming well over the plain far and wide, and turned it into a shoreless lake, and drowned Laiglinde.

The Well of Dera mac Scera was also its name : it was called Dera's Well until Laiglinde was drowned.

Delgnat daughter of fierce Lochtach, wife of Partholon after the primal Flood, was mother of famous Laiglinde, on whom the wave wrought dire vengeance.

Fifty women (great was the deed) attended Delgnat, the high king's wife : she went into the grave-mound, when all were dead, and died of mourning for the tidings.

I am Fintan, here alive, in penitence : I know (yet am not therefore honoured) the legend of Loch Laiglinde.

55. -sa rem ré] sa rém re S rem a re Le

Loch Laiglinde. LeS

9. iman] arin S

13, 15. Dera] Gera

Le 14. hainm] Le ainm S

17. Delgnat] dealbnat Le Lochtaig] lochta

Le 22. im Delgnat] ma dealbā Le aird-rig] righ Le

26.] sic Le

rogab issa maithrichus S : see Notes

27. caðhus] Le deghchus S : see

Notes

LOCH CENN

Loch Cenn, cid na cinn diatá?
adfiatar a iarmarta,
ó docher la Cairpri trá
Colmán mór mac Diarmata.

Colmán mac Diarmata gnó
rogab Érin cen iargnó:
dorat a lecht, lith nad gó,
i Maig Femin dia tig-ló.

Cairpre mac Crimthainn co saí
úa Cuind catha cráeb rochlai:
línais in Loch Cenn dia chró
úa Echdach meic Aengusso.

10

Noí céit cenn, ní comdáił gann,
im chenn Colmáin na corr-lann,
Cairpre Caisil, coimnert cing,
dobert for linn Locha Cenn.

Loch Síleonn, rossáer rosmenn
a ainm ar thús úas dígenn:
craithfid ela finnaid find
ós linnib Locha Síлинд.

20

Loch Cend
mairg doimir fora bruach;
dolin Cairpri do chinnu é
condad cru é sis isuas.

Loch Síleonn ósin anall,
ar dodrímem línib drong,
rolín Cairpre cathach cairn
conid de a ainm Locha Cenn.

L. C.

LOCH CENN

Loch Cenn—what are the heads whence its name comes? let its traditions be recounted, since Colman *mór* son of Diarmait fell by the hand of Cairpre.

Colman son of comely Diarmait, who ruled Erin without annoyance, put his grave (no cheating treasure) in Mag Femin, at his dying day.

Cairpre son of Crimthann, with a sage's help, vanquished that battle-branch, Conn's progeny: the grandson of Eochaid mac Aengussa filled Loch Cenn with his blood.

Nine hundred heads—no meagre share—with the head of Colman, wielder of pointed blades, did Cairpre of Cashel, stalwart prince, cast upon the waters of Loch Cenn.

Loch Silenn!—its earlier name ennobled and glorified it above bounds: the swan shall wave its white plumes over the waters of Loch Silenn.

Loch Cenn! woe to him that rows along its shore! Cairpre filled it with heads, till it is all blood beneath and above.

Loch Silenn from that time forth (since we tell the tale to numerous companies) did Cairpre fill, the warrior of the Cairn, so that hence comes the name of Loch Cenn.

Loch Cenn. LeS	2. <i>adfiatar</i>] <i>ed.</i>	adfedthar S	dofegar Le	6.]
dolen a ainm nó dogab erinn co higró Le			7. <i>lecht</i>] leth Le	8.
<i>Femin</i>] fheim Le	<i>tig</i>] dig Le	15.] C. C. dobeir eind Le	16. <i>for</i>] co	
Le	17. <i>rossáer rosmenn</i>] <i>ed.</i>	russairus menn Le	rosaidh rosmenn S	
18. <i>a ainm ar thúis</i>] <i>om.</i> Le		19.] crafid ela find finnaidh Le		20.
<i>Silind</i>] silenn Le	21–24.] Le <i>only, as printed</i>	22. <i>doimir</i>] read roimair		
26. <i>dodrimem</i>] dorimam Le	28. <i>de</i>] e Le	<i>a</i>] <i>om.</i> S	<i>Locha</i>] loch Le	

MAG NDUMACH

Tír Úa Failge, fót na fían,
 in rót ríam co raibne rán,
 maigen daig-fer dénma dúan,
 in dara slúag Laigen lán,

Life, Léige, Lechet lór,
 Réire, Rechet, Ross Mór mín,
 Géisille, im glaine gort ngúr,
 ocus Múr Dá Maige mín,

Mag ocus móin, móin is fid,
 fid ocus móin, móin is mag,
 gaible ocus gaí glas dían-gon,
 gaí glas dían-gon, gaible glan.

10

Éremón is Éber úais,
 rosglúais gaisced glé-mer gléis
 imon raind raindset na rí:
 maraid 'ca síl tara n-éis.

Ro thríallsat a rainn 'malle
 Érenn, iar tomus chrainn gaí,
 im thrí druimnib, soillse sét,
 co trichait cét for each n-aí:

20

Druim Cresaig, cert Maine múaid,
 Druim Bethach fo baile bríg,
 Druim Fingin i Mumain móir,
 fotha bunaid bróin don bríg.

Atbert Éber, úair nár fír,
 co lín a nglond nglé-mer nglúair,
 bec leis áen-druim aige díb
 ocus a dó 'sin tír thúaid.

Atbert Éremón cen úath
 do glé-medón Gáedel ngnáth
 coná d' athchlaind mar dochúaid,
 ná bad athraind úaid co bráth.

30

MAG DUMACH

The land of Ui Failge, the warriors' soil, the highway once trodden by an illustrious concourse, a region of brave men, makers of songs, home of one of the two peoples of populous Leinster,

Life, Lege, prosperous Lechet, Reire, Rechet, level Ross Mor, Geisille, known for brightness of sore battle-fields, and level Mur Da Maige,

Plain and moorland, moorland and wood, wood and moorland, moorland and plain: fork and blue spear swift-wounding: blue swift-wounding spear and shining fork.

Eremon and proud Eber were stirred by hasty valour, ready in arms, concerning the division the kings had made: it endures with their children after them.

They essayed together the division of Erin, by measure of spear-shafts, including three ridges, shining treasures, with a cantred to each of the three:

Druim Cresaig, the fief of mighty Maine; Druim Bethach, dowered with excellence; Druim Fingin in great Munster, root-cause of sorrow for that reason:

Because it was not just, said Eber,—he deemed it too little to have but one of the hills, with all their rash resplendent exploits, while two went with the northern land.

Said Eremon, undaunted, in the midst of his trusty Gaels, that, as it was no case of an inferior line, he would never yield a new division.

Mag nDumach. LcS	2. <i>raibne</i>] raighne S	4. <i>in dara</i>] an
darna Lc a tarla S	5. <i>Lechet</i>] leced S leithi Lc	6. <i>Rechet</i>]
reithedh Lc <i>min</i>] minn Lc	7. <i>ngúr</i>] gur Lc	8. <i>min</i>] mind Lc
14. <i>rosgluais</i>] ragluais Lc	15. <i>imon</i>] mo Lc <i>raindset</i>] doroiindsed Lc na	
<i>rig</i>] na ri Lc ina righ (i of ina added) S	16. <i>maraid</i>] om. Lc 'ca] aga Lc	
<i>tara</i>] ara S	18. <i>chrainn gai</i>] ed. crann ngai LcS	20. <i>for each n-ai</i>]
ar gach ngai Lc	21. <i>Maine</i>] muaine Lc	22.] fo baile bríg transposed
with a Mumain móir in S	22-24 seem to be rewritten in S	25. <i>fir</i>]
brigh Lc	26. <i>a nglond</i>] nglond Lc	29. <i>cen uath</i>] conruath Lc
30. <i>ngnáth</i>] ngath Lc	31. <i>coná d' athchlaind</i>] ed. conadh athchlaind S	
conad ag a chland Lc		

Atbert Éber, úair nár ming,
 ‘Nímba féimed, óir ním fand:
 mína raindter ar mo rath
 dobérthar cath tara chend.’

‘Do chath i cind mís ó ’niu’
 ar Éremón, ‘tri chís eró
 co Tóchar eter Dá Mag
 co brú Brí Dam, toisc nad gó.’

40

Tinólais Éber andess
 cona thress trén-fer ’na ais,
 co slúagaib in descirt déin
 ó Áth Cliath co Loch Léin lais.

Atracht Éremón co n-ír
 do glé-medón Gáedel nglúar
 ó Šrúib Brain co Brig Molt moch,
 ó Chrúaich Aigle co Loch Cúan.

Co ráncatar in dá rí
 ’sin tír táncatar na slúaig:
 romeбайд in cath fodess
 óir ba trumma in tress atúaid.

50

Tóchar mór itir Dá Mag
 ’s a chlad fri bóthar anair,
 Éber mac Miled rosmert
 is dia lecht indister sain.

Slige flatha Lugach lán
 Mag nDumach na ndám dar dúal,
 at imda and дума ndúr
 ’na múr ar marbad na slúag.

60

Resíu ba Mag nDumach ndúr
 airm ir-rubad in rí rán
 a ainm Mag Tendais na n-uch
 co n-imad guth ocus gár.

Said Eber, for he was not backward: 'I will brook no denial, for I am no craven: unless division be made to my advantage, battle shall be waged instead.'

'Battle shalt thou have within a month from now,' quoth Eremon, 'by tax of blood, as far as Tochar eter Dá Mag, and the skirts of Bri Dam—no idle errand.'

Eber mustered his men from the south, with his force of fighters at his back, with the hosts of the fierce southern land, from Ath Cliath to Loch Lein.

Eremon arose in his wrath in the midst of the shining Gaels, from Srub Brain to Bri Molt, right early, from Cruach Aigle to Loch Cuan.

So the two kings met in the land where the hosts assembled: the battle was broken southward, for the northern force was stronger.

The great Causeway between Two Plains, with its dyke east of the road, did Eber son of Mil betray: of his grave the tale is told.

The crowded highway of King Lugaid, Mag Dumach of the bands that own it by right: after slaughter of armies, many are the stony grave-mounds therein, now turned to ramparts.

The spot where the noble king was slain, before it was known as stony Mag Dumach, bore the name Mag Tendais, place of groans, with much noise of voices and shouting.

34. <i>Nímba</i>] <i>ed.</i>	nimbam Le	nibam S	36. <i>tara chend</i>] imá chend S
37. <i>Do</i>] da Le	38. <i>tri</i>] tria S	39. <i>Tóchar</i>] togthar Le	42. <i>trén-fer</i>]
trénmer S	'na ais] na fais Le	nár thais S	43. <i>déin</i>] dén S
44. <i>Clíath</i>] om. Le	45. <i>co n-ir</i>] condír S	47. <i>Brig</i>] brí S	48. <i>Loch</i>
Cúan] locuan Le	49. <i>in dá</i>] ina Le	52. <i>óir ba</i>] orroba Le	<i>atúaid</i>] tuaid
Le	55. <i>rosmert</i>] rusmbert Le	56. <i>indíster sain</i>] sin sin tair Le	58.
<i>nDumach</i>] numach Le	59. <i>at imda</i>] <i>ed.</i>	a dimda etc LeS	<i>duma ndúr</i>]
duma anur Le	60. <i>múir</i>] muir S	<i>slúag</i>] sluaigh Le	63. <i>Tendais</i>]
tendus S	ninaiS Le		

Adrochair Palap don gliaid
 mac Éremóin áin each thír
 la Conmáel mac Ébir uill
 ar taidecht ó thuinn do thír. Tír.

CNUCHA I

Cnucha, canas rohainmnighedh? Ní ansa. Dia tangadar cóic meic Deala meic Lóith co hErinn, Gann 7 Genann, Rudraighe 7 Sengann 7 Slaine. Doradsad cóic righna leo .i. Fuat ben tSláine, *a qua nominatur* Sliab Fúait 7 Inis Fuata. Étar ben Gainn, isí adbath a n-Édar, 7 is uaithi ainmnighther Edar. Anust ben tSengainn, Liber ben Rudraighe, Cnucha ben Genaind, issi conabudh isin tulaigh sin 7 is innti roadhnaecht, conidh uaithi raiter Cnucha frisin tulaigh, dia ndebradh:

Coic mna tucsadar ille
 coic meic Deala co nduilghe:
 da mnái dibh Cnucha co mbladh
 is Étar étroecht imghlan.

Adbath Cnucha sunna trá
 'sin chnuc fria n-abar Cnucha:
 adbath Étar ben Ghaind glúair
 a mBenn Étar fri haen-uair.

Desin atá Étar án
 is Cnucha cétach comlán
 is Inis Fuada gan ail
 ocus Sliab Fúait co mor-blaigh.

10

CNUCHA II

Cnucha, canus rahainmniged? Ní ansa. Cnucha, ingen Chonnaid a hiath Luimnigh, buime Chuind chét-chathaig, dochoidh and do tham ina tigh feisin, ocus dohadhnaiceadh la Connad isin chnuc ugad .i. Cnucha. *Unde Cnucha dicitur.*

In the strife fell Palap son of Eremon, the noble in all lands, by the hand of Conmael son of mighty Eber, after coming from water to land.

CNUCHA I

Cnucha, whence was it named? Not hard to say. When the five sons of Dela mac Loith came to Erin, Gann and Genann, Rudraige and Sengann and Slaine, they brought five queens with them: Fuat wife of Slaine, from whom is named Sliab Fuait and Inis Fuata; Etar wife of Gann—she died in Etar and from her Etar is named; Anust wife of Sengann, Liber wife of Rudraige, and Cnucha wife of Genann—she died on that hill and was buried therein, and from her the hill is named Cnucha. Whereof it was said:

Five wives did Dela's five sons bring hither with hardship: two of them were famous Cnucha and bright radiant Etar.

Now Cnucha died here on the hill that is called Cnucha; Etar, wife of renowned Gann, died in the same hour on Benn Etair.

Hence is named noble Etar, and Cnucha, populous with hundreds, and blameless Inis Fuata, and Sliab Fuait great in fame.

CNUCHA II

Cnucha, whence is it named? Not hard to say. Cnucha daughter of Connad from the meadow-land of Luimnech, and nurse of Conn the Hundred-Fighter, deceased there of a sickness in her own house, and was buried by Connad in the hill of Cnucha yonder. Hence it is called Cnucha.

Cnucha I. S Eg. 1781 2. *co nduilghe*] can duilgi Eg. 4. *étrocht*] o trocht Eg.

Cnucha II (*prose*). LcS Eg. 1781 (*see* Folk-Lore iv. 77) *Chonnaid*] chonaing Lc *hiath*] hiathaibh Eg. Eg. *ends with ina tigh fen* *Connad*] conaing Lc *chnuc ugad*] cnocán S

Cnucha, cnoc ós lind Life
 roboí uair ba hairithe:
 ba dún oíged, roboí tan,
 dia rabi ac Túathal techtmar.

Fert in Drúad a ainm reme
 ri cét-remes Ugaine
 co remis Cuinn i Cnuc Brain,
 co tánic ingen Chonnaid.

Muime Chuinn, nocharad raind,
 ba hí Cnucha chenn-álaind:
 roboí 'sin dún fo dathaib
 ri remis Cuinn chét-chathaig.

10

Cnucha, ingen Chonnaid chais,
 a híath Luimnig lethan-glais,
 dochúaid éce do thám 'na tig:
 robo gád la Gáedelaib.

Adnacht in ben, éarbo brón,
 isin chnuc 'na chert-medón,
 conid Cnucha ósin immach
 a chomainm co bráth mbrethach.

20

IS é sin, a lucht nad gann,
 a rús fír ósin anall,
 senchas na tulcha-sa ana
 ria n-apar co cert Cnucha.

Cnucha.

Cnucha, a hill above Life's stream, was once a seat of honour: it was a harbourage for guests once on a time, when Tuathal *techtmar* owned it.

Fert in Druad was its name of old, in the ancient days of Ugaine till the days of Conn at the Raven's Hill, till the coming of Connad's daughter.

Nurse to Conn, who loved strife, was Cnucha of the lovely head: she dwelt in the painted keep in the days of Conn of the hundred fights.

Cnucha, daughter of Connad the curly-haired from Luimnech's broad green meadow-land, died there of a sickness in her home; it was a loss to the Gaels.

The woman was buried, sorrow though it was, right in the middle of the hill, so that Cnucha is its name thenceforth till the day of judgement.

Such, ye open-handed folk, is the true account of it from that time, the story of this hill here, that is rightly called Cnucha.

Cnucha II (<i>verse</i>). LeS Eg. 90 Lism.		1. Cnucha] Cuncha Lism. lind]
cind Lism.	2. ba hairithe] dob airithi Le rob áiriche S	4. dia rabi]
anuair bui Lism.	5. Fert in Druad] druim na ndrúadh Eg. ainm]	
hainm LeEg.	6. ri] ré LeS eo Lism. o Eg.	7. Cuinn] om. Eg.
i Cnuc] chnuic Le	9. nocharad] nacaradh Le dacharaidh Eg. raind]	
rind Le	10. hi] si Le Cnucha] cuncha Lism. -álaind] bainn Eg.	
11. fo dathaib] fora taeib Le forathaib S bhá cath Lism.	12. ri remis]	
eo haimsir S	13. Cnucha] cuncha Lism.	15.] dochuaidh écethall
ina thigh Lism. dochuaid and do tham na tig etc LeS	16. gád] gráin	
Lism.	19. conid] gurub Eg. Cnucha] cuncha Lism.	20.] a hainm
coti in brath breathach Lism. a ainm goti mbrath breathach Eg.	21-24.]	
om. Lism. Eg.	21. sin] om. S	22. a rús fir] arús fir Le

Here Le ends. S appends a series of legends, mainly in prose, most of which have never been printed, so far as I know. They are therefore included here, with a few exceptions, which are duly noted.

CODAL

Codhal cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Aird-rí rogabastair for Erind .i. Eochaidh Ollathar a ainm, ainm anaill dó an Daghdha. Roíoghail-sidhe Erind etir thúaithe De Danann. Dorat Magh Fliuchrois día mac .i. do Aedh. Báí óclach laissién forsin fearand-sin, Codhal corr-chíchach. Báí ben rochaem laissidhe .i. Eachradh ingen Garainn glúnmháir. Dorat Aedh mac in Daghdha grad dissidhe. Faidhis Aedh a draidh día hedarguidhe. Asbert an ben nach treicfedh a fer fesin for aird-rígh nErend. Indister d' Aedh éra do tabairt don mnáí fair. Luidh-sidhe d' acallaimh an Daghdha 7 adféd dó a éra do inghin Garaind 7 adbert na biadh co coir meni chomraicedh fría. 'Bentar ar éicin de hí', for an Daghdha. 'Egail lím-sa coimérghe thúaithe Dé Danann do bith imón ngnim-sin, 7 a n-impodh fort-sa, 7 ole mór do beth dhe.' 'Assu lem-sa gach ní bías de', ol an Daghdha, 'indás do mugugad-su tríana gradh, 7 gan a rochtain. Gabar Codhal acod', for sé, '7 faí la mhnai iarsuidhiu.' Dognither samlaidh. Gabar Codhal la hAedh, 7 berar a ben día sai[g]thin, 7 faighis lé. Berair Codhal 7 trí nonbair leis día coiméd. Rosoich an fis co Garaind 7 co Danaind 7 co Guirm ingen Danaind 7 co Sen mac Senghaind. IS and rouatar-sidhe, ac fleghugud a tigh Garainn. Rofagsad a fleghugad 7 lotar a ndíaidh Aedha, 7 gabsatt tech fair, 7 curthar ár a muintire, 7 eolóidh fen ass. Doberait leó in mnáí co Garaind 7 co Gruadh cóa mac. Tinolaidh an Daghdha a muintir 7 a maíene .i. Aedh 7 Cermad caem 7 Aenghus 7 Midir aite Aenghusa 7 Bodb Derg. Eirghit clanda Eoghain Inbir im Gharann 7 im Codhal. Fobairther cath aturra. Dogníad coraí íaromh do réir Elemaire an brethiman. Is í breth ruc-sidhe, an ferann in rosáraighedh Codhal a dílsiugad dó 'na enech, 7 a cinta a saraigthe, 7 can ingrem Aedha 'na chind tría bithu sir. Doberthair rátha dho-sum indsin im dílsiughadh an feraind, 7 scaraid amlaidh. Conidh desin rolen Codhal don

CODAL

Codal, whence its name? Not hard to say. A high-king held sway over Erin; Eochaid Ollathair was his name, and his other name was The Dagda. He divided Erin among the Tuatha Dé Danann. He gave Mag Fliuchcross to his son Aed. Now Aed had a soldier, set over that land, Codal Round-breast; and he had a very fair wife, Eachrad, daughter of Garann Big-knee. Aed, the Dagda's son, fell in love with her, and sent his druid to solicit her favours. The woman replied that she would not leave her husband for the high-king of Erin. Aed learns that the woman has refused him. He went to talk with the Dagda, and told him how he had been rejected by Garann's daughter, and declared that he should never be well until he mated with her. 'Let her be taken from him by force,' said the Dagda. 'I fear lest the Tuatha Dé should rise at such a deed, and turn upon thee, and a great evil come thereof.' 'Let come of it what may,' said the Dagda; 'better so, than that thou shouldst pine for her love, and never possess her. Take Codal prisoner,' said he, 'and then sleep with his wife.' So was it done. Codal is made prisoner by Aed, and his wife brought to him, and he slept with her. They carry off Codal with thrice nine men to guard him. There came word of this to Garann and Danainn and Gorm, daughter of Danainn, and Sen son of Sengann, as they were feasting at Garann's house. They left their feasting and pursued after Aed, and took his house over his head, and his household were slaughtered, but he himself escaped. They carry the woman with them to Garann and his son Gruad. The Dagda musters his household and his sons, Aed, Cermait *caem* and Aengus, with Aengus's fosterer, Midir, and Bodb Derg. The kin of Eogan of Inber rise to help Garann and Codal, and battle is imminent. Thereafter they make peace at the bidding of Elcmaire the judge. This was his award; that the land where Codal was wronged should be assigned to him in satisfaction of his honour, and in quittance of the wrong done to him; and that he should not seek vengeance on Aed on that score for ever. Securities are given to him to that effect, as to ownership of the land, and they part on these terms. Hence it was that Codal's name clove to the

tulaigh íarom, ar Chodha[1] a ferannus furre. Codhlín imorro mac Codhail 7 Eachraidhe, is úaidhibh-sidhe ainmnighther Codhlín din tulaigh aile, día n-ebradh andso *ut sequitur*.

Tug mac an Dagdha dhimoír
serc gan tarba fri hanbail
do mnaí Chodhail a charad,
d' Echraidh con n-amharc n-anbail.

Torchair an dún a ndernadh
do Chodhal na rún rind-mer:
esce Aedha is cned Chodhail
adaigh n-adhaigh rohindledh.

'Meltair lem an barc bleidhech
a rí na rend n-imrebach:
uaim-si ainm forsín tulaig,
for Chodhal chubhaigh chnedhach.'

10

SLÁINE

Slaine, cidh día[tá]? Ní ansa. Slaine rí Fer mBolg, 7 a mbrethem, is les roslechtadh a caill din Bruigh. Atbath íarom a nDruím Fúar frisa n-aparthar Dumha Slaine, 7 rohadhnacht ann, conidh uadh raiter Slaine din tulaigh, día n-ebradh:

Adbath sund [Sláine na] slogh:
fair atá in дума dí-mór,
conidh Slaine is ainm don chnuc
a ndechaidh bás sin prim-purt.

DUBAD

Dubadh, cidh dia[tá]? Ní ansa. Rí rogabustar for Erin, Bressal bo-díbadh a ainm. Táinic díth do buaibh Ereann fríá linn, cona rabatar acht secht mba 7 tarb indti. Rothinolaid fir Ereann as gach aird chuice do genam thuir occa fo chosmuilis thuir Neamhruaidh, comadh de nodigsitis dochum nime. Táinic a síur

hill, by reason of his ownership over it. But from Codlin, son of Codal and Echrad, the other hill gets its name. Whereof was said as follows :

The giant Dagda's son gave his love unprofitably, without shame, to the wife of his friend Codal, Echrad of the wanton glance.

The stronghold where that was done fell to Codal, skilled in secrets of spear-craft ; Aed's mortal danger and Codal's wounding were encountered face to face.

'Let me lay the vast dwelling in the dust, O king of the circling stars ! and let my name rest on the hill, even on well-named wound-dealing Codal.'

SLAINE

Slaine, whence the name ? Not hard to say. Slaine, king of the Fir Bolg, and their judge, by him was its wood cleared from the Brugh. Afterwards, he died at Druim Fuar, which is called Dumha Slaine, and was buried there : and from him the hill is named Slaine. Hence it was said :

Here died Slaine, lord of troops : over him the mighty mound is reared : so the name of Slaine was given to the hill, where he met his death in that chief abode.

DUBAD

Dubad, whence the name ? Not hard to say. A king held sway over Erin, Bressal *bó-dibad* by name. In his time a murrain came upon the kine of Erin, until there were left in it but seven cows and a bull. All the men of Erin were gathered from every quarter to Bressal, to build them a tower after the likeness of the

dia sai[g]thin, 7 adrubairt rofosaighfedh an ngréin a clethib¹ nime cen rith, comadh lá sir doib fri dénam a saethar. Luidh inn ingen for leth do dhéanam a drai[d]echta. Luidh Bresal na diaidh 7 comraicidh fría, conidh ón chul doronadh and raiter Ferta Chuile don inad. Tainic adhaidh doib iarsin, ar romilledh a draighecht mon n-inghin. 'Tiagham as dono' oldad fir Erenn, 'ar nír gheallsom acht bith aen-lá oc denamh an chnuic-si, 7 ó rodubadh fornn ar ngnímh 7 o thainic adhaidh, 7 dochóidh an lá ass, tiat cách día n-inad.' 'Ba Dubadh a ainm co brath an inaigh-si', ol an ingen. Conidh de atá Dubadh 7 Cnoc Dubadha.

RÁITH CHRINNA

Raith Crinna, cidh díatá? Ní ansa: ó Chrinda mac Cuind chét-chathaig, romarbadh and la hEochaidh find Fúathnairt, rohainmnighedh. Co rug Eochaidh a chend leis a teach Theamrach co rochuir for cleith cháerthaind, ar ulc fría hArt mac Cuind, ar ba ges dó anní sin. Conidh desin rohindarbadh Eochaidh il-Laighnibh, conidh de atáitt Fotharta indtiu aniu.

Crinna mac Cuinn, crúaidh a gaí,
do robo dún Dún Crinnaí:
cidh é a ainm-siumh gairther dhe
ann robo bec a buaine.

UMALL

Umall, cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Umall gilla Finntain meic Bochra itorchair ann la Tuaith Dé Danand, in tan tucadh cét-chath Muighe Tuiredh atorru 7 Fir Bolcc. Rohadhnacht iarom a Muigh Réidh, ar rob é sin a ainm ría nUmall: día ndebradh:

Umall gilla Fíntain féil. rohadhnaicedh a Muigh Réidh:
na celidh for buidhnibh clann. inní sin díatá Umhall.

¹ a clethibh a clethibh *ms.*

Tower of Nimrod, that they might go by it to Heaven. His sister came to him, and told him that she would stay the sun's course in the vault of heaven, so that they might have an endless day to accomplish their task. The maiden went apart to work her magic. Bressal followed her and had union with her: so that place is called Ferta Cuile from the incest that was committed there. Night came upon them then, for the maiden's magic was spoilt. 'Let us go hence,' say the men of Erin, 'for we only pledged ourselves to spend one day a-making this hill, and since darkness has fallen upon our work, and night has come on and the day is done, let each depart to his place.' 'Dubad (darkness) shall be the name of this place for ever', said the maiden. So hence are Dubad and Cnoc Dubada named.

RATH CRINNA

Rath Crinna, whence the name? Not hard to say: from Crinna son of Conn the hundred-fighter, who was slain there by Eochaid *find* Fuathnairt, it was named. Eochaid brought his head with him to the House of Tara and set it on a stake of rowan, to spite Art son of Conn, for that was a thing forbidden to him. For that cause Eochaid was banished into Leinster, and hence come the Fotharta in Leinster to-day.

Crinna son of Conn, stout his spear: Dun Crinna was his stronghold: though it is called by his name, short was his span of life therein.

UMALL

Umall, whence the name? Not hard to say. Umall, the servant of Fintan mac Bochra perished there at the hands of the Tuatha De Danann, when the first battle of Mag Tuired was fought between them and the Fir Bolg. Afterwards he was buried in Mag Reid, for that was its name before it was called Umall. Hence it was said: 'Umall, servant of noble Fintan, was buried in Mag Reid: hide not from assemblies of the clans the reason of the name Umall.'

No dano Umall .i. all umha darat Manandán mac Lir ime ann fríá hedh cían tria druídhecht, 7 comadh ón all umha sin adberthaí Umall fris.

MAG LETHLUACHRA

Mag Leathluachra, cidh díatá ? Ní ansa. Leathluachair 7 Furu-drán, dá óclach gradha do Fínn mac Cumhaill, robadar isin maighin sin. Dá dún acco a Muigh Léthluachra, Dún Furudhráin 7 Dún Lethluachra. Anand find, ben Furudhráin isin dún medhonach, conidh de raiter Dún Anainne finne. Dorat Anand gradh do Lethluachair, co ndernsad aentaigh, co feas forro a mbéd. Conidhromarb Furudrán Lethluachair ina míghnámh, co roadhnacht isin muigh sin, conidh de raiter Magh Leathluachra, *ut dicitur*:

Leathluachair mór-óglach Finn . gilla is úallecha baí a nErinn, is é robai sunda ana . is uadh sloindter an mag-sa.

CONACHAIL

Conachail, cidh díatá ? Ní ansa. Corann ingen Daíl doróne sealec and for mucaibh allta co romarbsat na muca náí coin da conaibh, co roadhnacht lei-si íat acus co ndernad duma úasa. Conadh desin atá Conachail, díá ndebradh :

Corann, robo ben co céill,
ingen Dail, is domhna féil :
dorighne selg for an muigh,
conadh de atá Conachail.

Marbaid na muca móra
náí coin da conaibh crodha :
a fert roclaidhedh cen ail,
conidh de atá Conachail.

Cidh Corann a ainm anfu
ac na hócaibh fír-Fochlíu
in caille, etar slíabh is chaill,
dob ainm do riamh ría Corann. C.

Or again : Umall, that is to say, the brazen cliff that Manannan Mac Lir put round it there for a long season by his magic : and from that brazen cliff, perchance, men called the place Umall.

MAG LETHLUACHRA

Mag Lethluachra, whence the name ? Not hard to say. Lethluachair and Furudran, two favourite soldiers of Finn mac Cumail, lived in this spot. They had two strongholds in Mag Lethluachra, Dun Furudran and Dun Lethluachra. In a stronghold between the two dwelt Furudran's wife, Anand the fair, from whom it was called Dun Anainne Finne. Anand gave her love to Lethluachair, and they met, and their crime became known. So Furudran slew Lethluachair for his wrongdoing, and he was buried in that plain, and it was called after him Mag Lethluachra, *ut dicitur* : 'Lethluachair, Finn's tall soldier, the proudest lad in Erin, dwelt here once on a time : from him the plain derives its name.'

CONACHAIL

Conachail, whence the name ? Not hard to tell. Corann, daughter of Dael, held a chase of wild swine there, and the swine killed nine of her dogs, and she buried them, and a mound was raised over them. Hence the name Conachail, whereof was said :

Corann, daughter of Dael, who was a woman of understanding—'tis cause of . . . , held a chase on the plain, and hence comes the name of Conachail.

The great swine kill nine of her brave dogs : their grave was dug without fault ; so hence comes the name of Conachail.

Though Corann is the name to-day of the wood—mountain and wood alike—among the youths of the true North, this was once its name, before it was called Corann.

ATH CROCHA

Ath Crocha, cidh [diatá?] Ní ansa. Croch mór mac Daíre dornnmaí do Chlandaib Deadhadh atorchair ann la Coinculaind mac Sualtaimh for cath Finnchoradh, *a quo* Ath Crócha *nominatur*. Nó Crochán cenn-derg romarbsat Maic Morna ann, día ndebradh :

Atorchair leo na hinis . a siúr budhén Maighinis :
atorchair ann Cróch na cele . 's a ingen Cróchu cenn-derg.

Et Maighinis ingen Garaigh glún-mháir romarbadh a Maighinis, conidh uaithe roghab ainmniugadh, 7 Cróch cenn-derg, 7 a ingen Crócha forsín áth út, conidh uaidhibh roghabh a n-ainm Ath Crócha.

MAG N-ÚRA

Mag nÚra, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Colum Cille dorighne moladh do Chi[a]rán mac an tŠaír íarna écc. Énna macu Laighsi, issé robáei for cind Cholaim Chille. Bearchán a farrudh Cholaim Chille, air issé rob aite dó, 7 is uadh fuaírmhór a fáitsine. IS ann rorecadh an t-immond, aít a fuil Cros Cholaim Chille forsín faichthi. Tarcas lán tíre na manchán do búai do Cholaim Chille, nó. xx. cé uinge d'argat, 7 ní gab Colum Cille sin, acht a trí mámana do úraibh Cíaráin. Tucadh dosum sin, 7 ruce leis eo Magh nUatha. Rocraith-sim a thri mhám isin muigh-sin, cor'chuir na deamna ass, ar robo lán do dheamhnaib conice sin é. Conidh óna huraibh Cíaráin rolen Magh n-Úra dhe. Mag nDerg a ainm ar tús, ó Derg mac Dolair, dorochair and. Mag nUatha a ainm íarsin, ó Uath échtach mac Feradhaigh, dorochair and for cath Muighe [Deirg], tuesat Connachta do Chormac Conloinges in lá ría toghail Bruighne Dá Choga. Magh nÚra imorro a ainm iar tain óna huraibh Cíaráin do chrothadh fair.

ATH CROCHA

Ath Crocha, whence the name? Not hard to say. Croch *mór* son of Daire *dornmar* of the Clanna Dedad fell there by the hand of Cuchulainn son of Sualtam at the battle of Finnechora, *a quo* Ath Crocha *nominatur*. Or from Crocha *cenn-derg*, whom the Sons of Morna slew there, whereof it was said :

‘There fell by them their own sister, Maginis, in her island ; there fell there Croch of the ambuscades, and his daughter Crocha *cenn-derg*.’

And Maginis daughter of Garaid *glún-mar* was slain at Maginis, so it got its name from her ; there were slain also Croch *cenn-derg* and his daughter Crocha, at the ford yonder, so Ath Crocha had its name from them.

MAG N-ÚRA

Mag Ura, whence the name? Not hard to say. Colum Cille made a hymn in praise of Ciaran mac an tSaír after his death. Enna maccu Laigse received Colum Cille. Berchan was in Colum Cille’s company, for he was his tutor, and from him he got the more part of his prophecies. The hymn was sold where Colum Cille’s Cross stands on the green. Colum Cille was offered the monks’ stock of kine, or two thousand ounces of silver ; but he would accept nothing but three handfuls of Ciaran’s earth. This was granted him, and he carried it with him to Mag Uatha. He sprinkled his three handfuls on this plain, and drove out the demons : for till then it was full of demons. So the name Mag Ura remained in memory of Ciaran’s earth. The first name of the plain was Mag Derg, from Derg mac Dolair, who perished there. Afterwards, its name was Mag Uatha from Uath *échtach*, son of Feradach, who fell there in the battle of Mag Derg, in which the men of Connaught fought with Cormac Condloinges, the day before the sack of Bruiden Da Choca. In later times its name was Mag Ura, from the sprinkling of Ciaran’s earth over it.

MAG MANDACHTA

Magh Mandachta, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Mand Muirisce mac Daíre brathair Damháin meic Daíre atorchair and la Coineulaind mac Sualtaigh for Táin Bó Cúailnge, conidh de raiter Magh Mandacht[a] .i. Mand-echta .i. écht Mainn and. Nó comadh ona mnaibh romarb Cúchulaind and a cinta Derborgaill mná Lughdach sriab-nderg, romarbsad-som tría formud, nóraite Magh Mandachta de .i. Magh in Bain-échta, 7 Áth Bannleachta forsin ath .i. o ban-lechtaibh ban Uladh ann.

LOCH LUGBORTA

Loch Lughborta, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Mór-dál robaí ac tri maccaibh Cermada meic in Daghdha annsin a Cáendruim frisa raiter Uisnech, fri Lugh mac nEithne, do dhenamh chóra fris a lus a n-athar .i. Chermuda, rosmarb-som ie éd 'ma mhnaí. Rococradh Lugh¹ dino la maccaibh Cermuda .i. Mac Cuill, Mac Cécht, Mac Gréne, Lugh do marbadh. Saidhis Mac Cuill sleigh inna tragad² an fir. Doluidh-sim iarom uaidhibh a n-eisimul cusin loch ucut. Marbthair 7 baiter andsin hé, 7 issed adberad-som, conidh fair rogniadh in carn fil isin phurt frisa n-abur in Sidhán. Conidh Lecht Logha in carnn-sin, 7 conidh Loch Lughborta 7 Carnd Lughdhach iarom desin.

Nó comadh o Lughaidh mac Táil frisa n-aparthaí Delb Aedh rohainmnighedh. Uair in tan taínic Delb Aedh mac Táil aness a Mumain cona chóig maccaibh, iarna fogra día inghin fesin dó a ferann d'fagbáil disi 7 día fir .i. do Thrad mac Tasaigh, is é port rogab-som in crích út, co nderna-som tene druidhechta iar sin, cor' muighsed cóic sruama eisti, 7 cur' lái-sium mac fri gach sruaim díbh .i. dá mac fri hOirbsen aníar .i. Gnó beg 7 Gnó mór, Baetan i mBeathra, Andiledh a nDelbna móir, Anlenn a nDelbna

¹ omit Lugh² read thraigid

MAG MANDACHTA

Mag Mandachta, whence the name? Not hard to say. Mand of Muirese son of Daire, brother of Damán son of Daire, fell there by the hand of Cuchulainn son of Sualtam, at the Cattle-Raid of Cualnge, and hence it is called Mag Mandachta, that is, Mand-echta, from the killing of Mand there.

Or it may have been from the women whom Cuchulainn slew there, in revenge for Derb Forgaill, wife of Lugaid *sriabnderg*, whom they killed out of jealousy, that the plain was named Mag Mandachta, that is, the plain of the slaughter of women: and the ford may have been called Ath Banlechta, that is, from the graves of the women of the Ulaid who were buried there.

LOCH LUGBORTA

Loch Lugborta, whence the name? Not hard to say. A great meeting was held at Caendruim (which is called Usnech) between the three sons of Cermait, the Dagda's son, and Lug son of Ethne, to make peace with him in regard to their father Cermait, whom he had slain through jealousy about his wife. Now the sons of Cermait, namely, Mac Cuill, Mac Cecht, and Mac Greine, had laid a plot to kill Lug. Mac Cuill thrust a spear into his foot. Then Lug escaped from them by his prowess to yonder lake. There he was killed and drowned; and they say that the cairn which stands on the shore, called the Sidan, was raised over his body: so that cairn is Lug's Grave, and hence come the names Loch Lugborta and Carn Lugdach.

Or else the lake was named after Lugaid mac Táil, who was called Delbaeth. For that territory was the place that Delbaeth mac Táil took possession of, when he came northwards out of Munster with his five sons, after being warned by his own daughter to give up his land to her and her husband, Trad mac Tassaig. Then Delbaeth lit a magic fire, and five streams burst forth from it; and he set one of his sons to watch each of the streams, namely, two of his sons to the west of Loch Oirbsen, Gno *beg* and Gno *mór*: Baetan at

Bethra, Andiled at Nuadhat. Anais fen icon inadh úd, 7 comadh uadh nógabhadh an loch ainmniugad 7 an port .i. Loch Lughborta .i. Lughaidh a ainm-sim connici sin: Delb Aedh a ainm osin amach .i. Dolb-aedh .i. don tenidh doilbthe.

Next comes the legend of Loch mBlonac, which is printed in Metr. Ds. iii. 546.

CRÚACHÁN AIGLE

Cruachán Oighle, cid diatá? Ní ansa. Aighle mac Deirg meic Condach dorochair and lá Cromderg mac Connrach uair . . . Clíara cedach romarb Aighle for comairce Chromdeirg. Cruachán Garbrois a ainm reme-sin. Crúachán Oighle imorro a ainm ósin ille, *ut dicitur in sequenti.*

Oighle mac Deirg, derg a dhrech,
romarb Cromderg mac Connrach:
don gnim-sin co ngairge ngus
as de atá Oighle ar Gharbrus.

Crúachán Garbrois gairmdís de
lucht eólais in tiri-si:
Cruachán Aighle ósin amach
a ainm co tí in bráth brethach.

Cidh diatá Clíara cétach?
finnad senchadha Olnécmacht: 10
ann robíth ingen in Scáil
isa clíar ótha Espáin.

Is Druímne, cidh diatá an t-ainm?
ann ba Luat mac in Scáil Bhailb:
ann robíth Bairend a ben
dár' bhris a druim trén-galar.

Ecaill atá for an linn
an feas duibh cidh diatá in dind?
Ecaill ingen Aedha deirg
and robíth, meic in Leth-deirg. 20

Bethra, Andiled at Delbna Mór, Anlenn at Delbna Nuadat. He himself stayed at that spot, and it may be from him that the lake and the place had their name, Loch Lugborta, for till then his name was Lugaid, but thenceforth Delbaeth, that is Dolb-aed, from the enchanted fire.

CRÚACHÁN AIGLE

Cruachan Aigle, whence the name? Not hard to tell. Aigle son of Derg, son of Connra, fell there by the hand of Cromderg son of Connra, because Cliara *cétach* whom Aigle slew while under the protection of Cromderg . . . Cruachan Garbrois was previously its name: but thenceforth it was Cruachan Aigle, *ut dicitur in sequenti*.

Aigle son of Derg (red his face); him Cromderg son of Connra slew: from that deed of savage force the name Aigle is given to Garbros.

Cruachán Garbrois the learned of this land used to call it: thenceforth its name is Cruachan Aigle, till the day of judgement.

Whence comes the name Cliara 'Cetach? let the shanachies of Connaught inquire: there was slain the Scal's daughter, and her attendants from Spain.

And Druimne, whence the name? There Luat was, the son of the Scal Balb: there his wife Bairend was killed, when sore disease broke her back.

Ecaill, that stands above the water—know ye whence the stronghold is called? Ecaill was killed there, daughter of Aed *derg* son of Lethderg.

SLIAB BADBGNA

Sliab Badhna, cidh díatá ? Ní ansa. Día tangadar Fomóraigh a tochosal chatha Muighi Turedh, tangadar ann na cethri righ-feinnigh .i. Goll 7 Irgholl, Omna 7 Badhgna, ceithri meic Innigh meic Tuire thort-builligh. O romebaigh in cath iarom for Fomoraibh rolen cach a toghraim asin cath. Dorochair Goll 7 Irgholl fora sleib, conidh úaidhibh raiter Slíab nGuill 7 Slíab nIrghuill. Docher Omna fora áth, conidh uadh Ath Omna for Buill. Robith Badhgna ina sleib i n-airrthiur in tslebe, conidh uadh raiter Slíab Baghna. Dorochair dono Fer Dá Laare oc Buill, conidh uadh raiter Ath Dá Laarg for Buill. La Lugh lámh-fhada atorechradar. Atorechair Clárach a Corann, conidh uadh raiter Clárach. Cnamha a Cuil Cnamha.

TULACH EOGAIN

Tulach Eoghain a n-Uaib Failghe, cidh díatá ? Ní ansa. Eogan Bruighne Dá Choeca roadhnacht innti. Is aire imorro adberthe Eogan Bruighne de, air is a mBruighin Dá Choeca rucadh 7 rohoileadh hé .i. Eogan Bruighne mac Nathí meic Rossa Failghe meic Cathaír móir, 7 is uadh ainmnighther Tulach Eogain, día n-ebradh :

Fuil sunn lecht Eogain Bruighne
 ní leacht deoradh cen duilghe,
 fer gan tath[a]ír na thír thair
 úa Cathaír móir meic Eoghain.

Cormac úa Cuind, issé roalt Eogan. Riched imorro ingen Dén rodnalt. Is eissiumh dorat in magh fris n-abar Mag Riched disi a ferannus, 7 comadh uaithe nóghabhadh ainmniughadh. ISin

SLIAB BADBGNA

Sliab Badbgna, whence the name? Not hard to say. When the Fomorians came to the hosting of the battle of Mag Tured, there came thither the four kingly warriors, Goll and Irgoll, Omna and Badbgna, the four sons of Innech son of Tuire the stark smiter. When the battle broke thereafter against the Fomorians each fighter pursued his man out of the battle. Goll and Irgoll fell each on his mountain, and from them Sliab Guill and Sliab Irguill are called. Omna fell at his ford, and from him comes Ath Omna on the Buill. Badbgna was slain on his mountain, on the eastern side, and from him Sliab Badbgna is called. Also Fer Da Laarc fell by the Buill, and from him Ath Da Laarc on the Buill has its name. These fell by the hand of Lug *lám-fota*. Clarach fell at Corann, and from him Clarach is called. Cnama fell at Cul Cnama.

TULACH EOGAIN

Tulach Eogain in Offaly, whence its name? Not hard to say. Eogan of Bruiden Da Choca was buried there. Now he was called Eogan of the Bruiden because it was in Bruiden Da Choca that he was born and bred, namely, Eogan of the Bruiden, son of Nathi son of Ross Failge son of Cathair *mór*; and from him Tulach Eogain has its name. Whereof was said:

‘Here is the grave of Eogan of the Bruiden, no grave of a stranger unused to hardship, but a man without reproach in his eastern land, the grandson of Cathair son of Fedlimid.’

It was Cormac ua Cuinn that bred up Eogan: Rechét also reared him, Dian’s daughter. He it was who gave her in fee the plain that is called Mag Rechét, and it would be from her that it got its appellation. In that hill too were buried Cathair *mór* and

Tulach Eogain. LSS₃ H (*only a few lines legible*) *Prose introduction not in*
 L *Quatrain, l. 4.]* ua Catháir meic Feidhlimidh S₃ (*sic leg.*)

tulaigh sin dano roadhnacht Cathair mór 7 Rossa Failghe 7 Nathí
7 Eogan Bruighne, día n-ebradh :

Tathum domna bróin ar beirt
for ligib láech ós lom-deire :
ní fil adféta co fir
ingnais éca na n-ard-ríg.

Missi sund ós lepthaib trá
fri serc-maid, fri sír-guba :
iat-som fo brón bethad cé
cen sód is cen sóinmige.

Faillet sund cethrur calma
i n-óen-áit i n-óen-adba :
bith for lepaid nal-láech lond
is deccair, is díchumung.

10

Cethair, is rúss, rúamdaís gail,
Nathí úais athair Eogain,
Eogan Nathí, Ross na rath,
Cathair cóir in cethramad.

Sé meic Rosa Falge feil,
bítis Lagnig día lán-réir,
fir allaid ar each achud
co nostrarraid trom-thathum : T.

20

Oengus find, Oengus dub dían,
Brenaind, Dalán, daig dar sliab,
Eochaid, ba airech achaid,
is Nathí, co trom-thathaim. T.

Maclocc, Fergus, Cetach cruaid,
Currech, Furudran find-gluair,
aithellach da Ailill ail,
Oengus, Coelan, Conamail,

Deich meic sin do Chathair cruaid
ocus sé húi 'sind oen-uaig :
ba sluag leoman cen lacad
sund im Eogan tamthata. T.

30

Ross Failge and Nathi and Eogan of the Bruiden, whereof was said :

I have matter of grief for a burden to lay on the tombs of warriors over the bare grave : there is none that can tell aright of the passing of the high kings in death.

Here above their beds I stand with loving dirge and endless lamentation, while they suffer sorrow for this world, without pleasure or happiness.

Here rest a brave quartet in one place, in one abode : a hard thing, a thing intolerable it is, to stand over the bed of the fiery warriors.

Four there were, as is well known, that did red deeds of valour ; proud Nathi, Eogan's father, Eogan, Nathi's son, Ross giver of gifts, and the fourth, just Cathair.

There were six sons of generous Ross Failge, to whom Leinster gave full obedience ; men untamed on all battle-fields until the death-sleep fell upon them :

Oengus the Fair, fierce Oengus the Black, Brenainn, Dalan, that flame across the moor, Eochaid, chief of the field, and Nathí, till the sleep of death.

Maclocc, Fergus, stern Cetach, Currech, Furudran shining white, the two Ailills, modest pair, Oengus, Coelan, Conamail,

Those are the ten sons of stern Cathair, and his six grandsons, in one tomb : a band of lions undaunted were they, here round Eogan . . .

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 3.] dar leam nit féta go fíor S ₃ | 4. ingnais] a ngnáis S | 5. lepthaib |
| trá] leachtaibh S na leaptaibh S ₃ | 6.] L fri sercblaidh fri sírdecaibh | |
| etc SS ₃ Read serc-naid | 7. iat-som fo] siadsomh fri S ₃ | 8. cen sód is] |
| ed. can sód L cen a sodh etc SS ₃ | cen sóinnmige] co somhaíne S fa som- | |
| haíne S ₃ | 9. cethrur] milidh S ₃ | 10. -áit] toigh S ₃ |
| lepaid] leptaibh S ₃ | 11. for] ar L | |
| is rúss] Rosa S ₃ H | 12. Cethair] ed. cathair L catáir S catháoir S ₃ | |
| 13. na rath] S ₃ | naned L co rath S | 17-48.] in L |
- alone, as printed

Siat sain a meice sa húi
ind ard-ríg Cathair cleth-núi:
i Carmun na rig ir-rag
adbul in gnim a tatham. T.

Éber mac Miled, meit gal,
leat liath Lugna luath-moingach
'sin Bothur eter Da Mag
tát sin tóchur 'na tatham. T.

40

Secht fir secht fichit secht cét
secht rí-gíir co soilse dét:
mac Heiris iar coll a chor
tá sund co tromm na thathom. T.

Ainm in chnuice maith as each mud,
fo fail each flaith 'na foluch,
ruc leis in leoman mar Lug:
fotá Eogan na thathum. T.

Mór láech, mór lige, mór lecht,
mór fine ocus mór n-airecht,
dars' tic túr ocus tachud
noco rún in rí-g-thathum. T.

50

Cormac úa Cuind, cen chur de,
roalt sund Eogan Bruidne:
ainm a muimne cen mafad
Rechet, ruc in rí-g-thathum. T.

[An tEogan-sa, as i do oil,
Rechet, inghean Dein díрмаigh:
dorad roinn dia muime maith
gan coing uirre *acht* an t-ard-flaith.

60

Dobherainn eol gan dailbh daith
go ttug duthaigh di an dath-maith:
fonn glan gan doméin rodet
conadh Magh roréidh Reichet.

They are the sons and the grandsons of the high king Cathair of the new spear: at Carmun of the kings, where I shall go, a mighty matter is their sleep.

Eber son of Míl, doer of brave deeds, Lugna *leth-liath* of the floating mane, on the Road between Two Plains they lie, on the causeway, sleeping sound.

Seven men, seven score, seven hundred—seven kingly men, with sheen of ivory: Mac Heiris, after violation of his compacts, lies here heavily asleep.

The name of the hill, good in all regards, under which each prince lies hidden, did that lion, Lug's rival, win for himself: under it lies Eogan sleeping.

Many a warrior has there been, many a tomb, many a grave, many a kindred, many a gathering, whereof inquiry and . . . makes mention: the sleep of the kings is no secret.

Cormac ua Cuinn nurtured here assiduously Eogan of the Hostel: his nurse's name, without question, was Rechet, who slept among kings.

[This Eogan, Rechet it was who nursed him, daughter of Dian, captain of troops; he gave his good nurse a portion with no yoke upon it save the high king's.

I would asseverate without glib falsehood that Eogan the fair of colour gave her an estate; bright well-liking land was granted her, so that it is called smooth Mag Rechet.

35. *read* Lugna leth-liath 48. *read perhaps* fota 51.] L tarsa
 tuethar is tachadh S tarsa tugadh túr tachur S₃ 52. *in rig-thathum*] na
 rímhathumh S na ríghthaim *with e written over na and th over th* (nach rígh-
 thathaimh?) S₃ 55. *ainm*] ba sí SS₃ *mafad*] mathamh S₃ 57-*end*]
 S₃ *alone, as printed* 62. *dianmaith with dath superscr.* S₃

An lo tall a dalta di
do Reichet an magh mín-si
gan cháráit gun mnaoi mun magh
búi, go ttáinig a tathamh. [T.]

GLAISSE BULGA

Glaissi Bulga, cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Glas ingen Deirg meic Deaghadh roalt Osgur mac Oisín meic Find. Co romarb Cairpre mac Cormaic uí Chuinn intí Oseur a cath Gabhra. Et tánic Glas aníar al-Luachair Deadhadh do chainédh a dalta co tech a hathar. Ó 'tconnaire an tech úaithe 7 in muintear 7 na comaltadha batar ím Oseur, dorochair faen tara hais, co n-abadh cen anmain, co n-ebairt cách 'Glais bolc faen sund, 7 bidh é a hainm folilfe an ferand-sa co brath.' Conidh de asbert [in file]:

Glais-ben, ingen Deadhadh Deirg . roalt Oseur, aidble uird:
robriis a cridhe gan cheilg . forsin leirre a nGlassa Buillec.

LOCH SEMTIDE

Loch Semdidhe, cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Semtell mac Saibhce, tren-fer Airt mhic Cuind chét-chathaig robaighed and, far marbadh dhó Becloingis meic Eiris tríá ímthrasrad. Becloinges íaromh tanic a hEspáin co hErind, 7 conatecht comrac aínfir for Art mac Cuind, nó ben Airt do thabairt dó .i. Aenmaiche ingen Aedha mic Aiche rígh Connacht. Roghab Semdeall imorro an comlonn dar ceand Airt, 7 docer Begloingseach leis, 7 táinic díá thig, 7 rosfothraic isin loch, 7 rosbaighedh ann iarom. Conidh uadh ainmnighther Loch Semtille.

INIS SAMER

Inis Samér, cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Díambaí Partholón isinn indsi sin 7 a ben .i. Delgnatt, 7 a ghilla .i. Toba, 7 a chú .i. Samér, doluidh Parrtholón a aenur immach do chúartughudh an feraind. Aentaighid imorro díá éis a ben 7 a gilla, 7 ebhait digh ceachtar

From the day that her nursling set apart for Rechet this level plain, it belonged to the woman, without a burden respecting the plain, till came her time to sleep.]

GLAISSE BULGA

Glaisse Bulga, whence the name? Not hard to say. Glass, daughter of Derg mac Dedad, reared Oscar, son of Oisin, son of Finn. Cairpre son of Cormac ua Cuinn slew Oscar in the battle of Gabair: and Glass came from Luachair Dedad in the west to keen over her nursling at his father's house. When she saw the house at a distance with Oscar's family and foster-brothers round him, she fell backward and expired, so that all said: 'Glass lies here prone like a sack, and it is her name that shall cleave to this land till doomsday.'

Hence it was said: 'Glass-ben, daughter of Derg son of Deda reared Oscar—a notable honour: her heart broke, in sooth, on the slope at Glaisse Bulga.'

LOCH SEMTIDE

Loch Semtide, whence the name? Not hard to say. Semtell son of Saibche, the strong man of Art son of Conn the hundred-fighter, was drowned there, after slaying Becloinges mac Eiris in a wrestling-bout. Now Becloinges came from Spain to Ireland, and demanded single combat of Art mac Cuinn, or else that Art's wife, Aenmaiche, daughter of Aed mac Aiche, king of Connaught, should be given to him. Semtell undertook the combat on Art's behalf, and Becloinges fell by him. And he went to his house and bathed in the lake and so was drowned therein. So from him it is named Loch Semtille.

INIS SAMER

Inis Samer, whence the name? Not hard to say. When Partholon lived in that island with his wife, Delgnat, and his servant, Toba, and his dog, Samer, Partholon went off alone to explore the land. Now in his absence his wife and his servant came together,

n-aí a cúach robaí ac Parrtholón. Doroich Párrtholón iarsin día thigh, 7 conaitecht digh, 7 doberar dó a chúach, 7 ibis digh triasin cuslind órdha baí as, 7 airighis fair an días do ól as, 7 foreitir andsidhe co nderndsad míchostudh. Tie an chú chuice iarsin, 7 dobeir-sium bem día bhois do, conadhromarb. Conidh é sin céd-éd Ereenn. Conadh ón choin-sin raiter Inis Samér frissin n-[in]si 7 Samhér frisin n-abaind, conidh e sin ced[-éd] Ereenn 7 cedna drúis Ereenn. Luidh an gilla ass iarsin for baí chaí, 7 noseathat coin 7 eathaide hé. Sé bliadna .x. imorro do Párrtholón iarsin conisfuair bass.

DÚN RUISSARACH

Dun Ruissarach, cid diatá? Ní ansa. Garach mac Fomhuir do Domhnannchaibh las' rocumdaighedh he, 7 is í a aittreabh robaí ann. Iss íat a thrí mic sin robítha for tana la Coinchulaind .i. Lon 7 Diliu 7 Uala a n-anmanna.

No dano Sarach sáer dorighne do Phadraice a chumdach fa deoidh. Ata comla fris, 7 atá sab forin comlaidh sin ó ré Padraic cosaníu, 7 nidad críne achach, 7 ní fes cía cinél crainn íad. Atá dano a tairrngire don dún-sin a brith a tír tairrngire cona lán daíne 7 inndile leiss .i. secht lán faietí an dúine, 7 atá radhare isin faietí. Itá dano a mbriathraib Patraic each úair bus écen, cidh mór do bhuaib berthair chuice, co taillfe ann, co n-abra mac bantreabthaighe 'Ní thalla and'; 7 cibedh úair adbérthar sin and, raghaidh Dún Roissárach ass. Lan in dune do buaib máela odhra tugadh don tsáer fora dhenamh, acht testa aen-bó de: 7 is é logh tucadh don tsáer innti-sidhe, a ainm forsin dún .i. Dún Rois Sárach. Dun Trí Líag imorro a ainm ó chéin anall.

*Here follow the legends of Snám Dá Én (see p. 350 *infra*), Dún mBrea, and Benn Etair (for which see Rev. Celt. xv. 330, and Metr. Ds. iii. 110).*

and they both drank out of a cup that Partholon had. Then Partholon came home and asked for a drink, and his cup was brought to him, and he drank a draught through the golden pipe that projected from it. And he noticed thereby that the pair had drunk from it, and divined that they had behaved amiss. Then his dog comes up to him, and he gives it a blow with his open hand and kills it. So that was the first jealousy in Erin: and from this dog the island was called Inis Samer, and the river was called the Samer: so this was the first jealousy and the first lust in Erin.

Thereafter the servant escaped, fleeing at random, and was eaten by dogs and birds. It was sixteen years from that time to the death of Partholon.

DUN RUISSARACH

Dun Ruissarach, whence the name? Not hard to say. It was built by Garach son of Fomoir of the Fir Domnainn, and there he had his home. It was his three sons that were slain at the Tain by Cuchulainn: Lon and Diliu and Uala were their names.

Or again: Sarach the mason put a finish on the building for Patrick. There is a door to it and a bar on the door; from the time of Patrick till to-day they do not become rotten, and none knows what sort of wood they are made of. Also there is a prophecy about that *dun*, that it shall be borne to the Promised Land, with all the men and cattle therein, even seven times the content of the *dun's* close; and in the close there is a belvedere. Moreover it is one of Patrick's sayings, that whenever there shall be need, however many kine shall be brought thither, there shall be room for them, until the housewife's son says 'There is no room'; and whenever that shall be said there, Dun Ruissarach shall vanish.

The full of the *dun* in hornless dun kine was given to the mason for building it, but one cow was wanting: and in lieu of her this price was given to the mason, that the *dun* should bear his name, even Dun Rois Sarach: but its name from of yore was Dun Tri Liac.

DÚN CLÚANA ITHAIR

Dun Cluana hIthair cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Ithar mac Édgaíth an fennedha robáighedh annsin forsín linde 'na comair amach for Sinaind. Robaighedh annsin dono a chethri cornnaire, conidh de raiter Lín na Cornnairidh.

Bás Dubthaigh¹ duind icá thaigh,
bass Lughdach a Muighen-muigh,
Cormac a mBruidhin, bás laeíeh,
badhugh Ithair mic Édgaíth.

SÍD DUMA

Sith Duba, cidh díá[tá]? Ní ansa. Duma ingen righ Sidhi Fér Femin dodheachaidh a coinde Labradha lendánaigh do Feruibh Bolec, co torchair codladh furre, co rofáss ceó uimpe, 7 co ndeachaidh for merugud isin sidh, 7 co bhfuil ann beós. Conidh desin atá Sith Dumha.

MAG CORAINN

Magh Coraind, cidh diatá?¹ Ní ansa. Corann cruitire do Dhían Cécht mac in Dagdha, rogairm-sidhe asá chruit Caelchés do mucuib Dreibrinne, 7 roreith-sidhe fothúaidh iar nirt a cnámh, 7 roreth cúanart Olnécmacht 7 al-laechradh ina díaidh conice Céis Chorainn, 7 is desin atá Céis Chorainn 7 Magh Coraind.

TRÁIG EBA

Traigh Eaba, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Día tanic Cesair ingen Betha mic Naof lucht curaigh co hErinn. Tainic Eaba in banliaidh léi, cho rocodail isin trácht, co robáidh in tonn iarom. Conidh de raiter Rind Eaba 7 Traigh Eaba dona hinadhaibh sin osin ille.

Dún Clúana Ithair. ¹ i. i. dail ulad superscr.
Mag Corainn. ¹ cidh. c. d. ms.

DUN CLUANA ITHAIR

Dun Cluana Ithair, whence the name? Not hard to say. Ithar son of Etgaeth the warrior, was drowned there in the pool over against it, on the Shannon. His four horn-blowers were likewise drowned there: hence the name Lind na Cornaire.

The death of Dubthach *donn* befell in his house, the death of Lugaid at Maigen-mag; Cormac died at the Bruden, a warrior's death, Ithar mac Etgaeth was drowned.

SID DUMA

Sid Duma, whence the name? Not hard to say. Duma, daughter of the king of Sid Fer Femin, came to meet Labraid *lennánach* of the Fir Bolg. A sleep fell on her, and a mist rose around her, and she lost her way in the Sid, and there she still remains. Hence comes the name, Sid Duma.

MAG CORAINN

Mag Corainn, whence the name? Not hard to say. Corann, harper to Dian Cecht the Dagda's son, called with his harp Caelcheis, one of Dre briu's swine. And Caelcheis ran northward as fast as his legs would carry him; and the hounds of Connaught and their soldiery pursued him as far as Ceis Chorainn. Hence come the names of Ceis Chorainn and Mag Corainn.

TRAIG EBA

Traig Eba, whence the name? Not hard to say. When Cesair daughter of Bith son of Noah came with a boat's crew to Erin, Eba the leech-woman came with her. She fell asleep on the strand, and the waves drowned her. Hence these places were called Rind Eba and Traig Eba from that time forth.

ÚAIG BÚANA

Uaigh Buana, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Búan inghen Saméra dodhechaidh a ndeghaidh Chonculainn, dia ndeachatar triúr do chosnam an míre curadh .i. Laeghaire 7 Conall 7 Cúchulainn. Forfemdhesh breth uime doib a nEmain Macha, co túdchadar a fuighellaibh Cruachan. Foréimidh-sidhe dano, co ronerb co Samér do Eas Ruaidh, condacertsidhe iarom dóib, 7 dolotar fo chórai uadh. Luidh fer dib for Ess Ruaidh .i. Laeghaire. Luidh fer ele for Snamh Rathaind .i. Conall, 7 a ara Rathann is ann conapadh for Líg Rathain. Luidh ingen Saméra for loree na trí carpad. Athgeóin slicht fonnaigh Chonculainn, fódaigh nach sed cumang notheigedh. Rochlaidhedh¹ na múra, 7 nofairsingedh 7 nolingedh da gach thelaigh for araile. Roleblaing sí lem n-uáthmar ina dhíaidh-seom, co n-ecmaing a tul imón all dofuiris in carpat. Conidh desin ainmnighther Uaigh Búana.

MAG MUIRTHEMNE

Magh Muirtemne, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Tricha blíadan iar ndilind baí muir thairis, conidh de adberar Murthemne de .i. temhe (?) in mara, nó fo scemil mara hé. Nó mur draidhechta baí fair co muir-selche ann co n-aicnedh suightheach lais. Consuighedh in fer cona armgais[c]edh chuige, co mbidh for lár a ustudh-builg. Co táinic in Dagdha 7 a lorg anfaidh 'na laim 7 rothom uadh for an muir-tselche 7 rochan na bríathra-sa. 'Taí do chenn eúasachtach. Taí do chorp eísachtach.¹ Toí do thul toghuidhe.² Báig thúaigh.' Co rothraigh an muir-tselche desin cosin muir ndruidhechta 7 comadh desin adbertha Mag Murthemne de.

Úaig Búana.

¹ read Noclaided

Mag Muirthemne.

¹ Read perhaps eíccarach

² Read perhaps

tošúigthe

ÚAIG BÚANA

Uaig Buana, whence the name? Not hard to say. Buan, daughter of Samer, came following Cuchulainn, when the three heroes, Loegaire, Conall, and Cuchulainn, went to contend for the Champion's Share. They could not get a verdict at Emain Macha, so they came to Cruachan for judgement. This also failed them, but the case was referred to Samer of Ess Ruaid. He then gave them a decision, and they departed in peace. One of them, Loegaire, went over Ess Ruaid; another, Conall, crossed Snam Rathainn, and there his charioteer Rathann died at Lia Rathainn. Samer's daughter came on the spoor of the three chariots. She knew the trace of Cuchulainn's wheels, for it was no narrow track that he left. He would uproot walls and lay them flat, and leap from hill to hill. Buan leapt a dreadful leap after him, and struck her forehead against the rock that stopped the chariot. And hence Uaig Buana has its name.

Here follows the legend of Áine Clíach, copied, apparently, with very slight changes, from LL 288, 24-49, where it forms an introduction to Cath Maige Mucrimne, edited by Stokes in Rev. Celt. xiii. 434.

Next comes Ard Fothaid (prose only), as in Silv. Gad. ii. 483: cf. p. 90, supra.

MAG MUIRTHEMNE

Mag Muirthemne, whence the name? Not hard to say. The sea covered it thirty years after the Flood, and hence it is called Muirthemne, that is, 'darkness of the sea', or 'it is under the sea's roof'.

Or there was a magic sea over it, and an octopus therein, having a property of suction. It would suck in a man in armour till he lay at the bottom of its treasure-bag. The Dagda came with his 'mace of wrath' in his hand, and plunged it down upon the octopus, and chanted these words: 'Turn thy hollow head! Turn thy ravening body! Turn thy resorbent forehead! Avaunt! Begone!' Then the magic sea retired with the octopus; and hence, may be, the place was called Mag Muirthemne.

LIND FÉIC

Línd Fec, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Féc mac Follamhain mac Conchobair dorochair ann for cath Ruis na Rígh .i. a badhugh andsin, *et cetera*.

DRUIM TAIRLEIME

Druim Thairleme, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Lía labar robái and ó aimsir Thúaithe Dé Danann, 7 demun doberedh fregartha dó ass. Co n-apradh fri cach n-áen tairisem oca dia adhradh. Co tairb-lingedh cach aen nótheighedh seacha oca co mbidís icá adhradh. Co rofás desin coná téd neach ósin ille isin telaigh cen tairlem innte, amail budh ges dóib techt sece cen airisim innte. Conidh ón tairlem-sin rofás Druim Thairléme do radh frisin tulaig osin ille.

BRÍ GRAIGE

Brí Graidhe, cidh diatá?¹ Ní ansa. Día luidh Laegaire mac Néill rí Erenn co Ferta Fer Féce d'innsaighe Patraice, día tánic do síladh chredme a nErinn. Tangadar toirne 7 saighnéna móra andsin tría mírbaile Patraic co rolái scuru Erenn for fúascur. Conidh and fríth² acon tslíabh amne, conidh de dogarar Brí Graighe .i. tulach nó ard na n-ech *nam* 'brí' ard no tulach *dicitur*.

SLEMAIN MIDE

Sleamain Midhe, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. An tan dogairthe¹ cách do feis Teamhrach la rígh Erenn, nochommórtha¹ feis la rígh Midhe isin tulaig amne, ar ba ges do rígh Midhe cen fes na

Brí Graige.

¹ cidh. c. d. *ms.*

² *Read* frítha

Sleamain Mide. SS₂

¹ S₂ *reads* dognithí fess temrach la rí erenn

rocommórtha

LIND FEIC.

Lind Feic, whence the name? Not hard to say. Fiac, son of Follamain, son of Conchobair, fell there at the battle of Ross na Rig: that is, he was drowned there, *et cetera*.

DRUIM TAIRLEIME

Druim Tairleime, whence the name? Not hard to say. There was a talking stone there, since the time of the Tuatha De Danann, and a demon used to give answers from it. He used to tell every one to halt at it, to worship him. So that every one who passed by dismounted at it, and they used to worship him. Hence grew up the custom that none from that time onward approaches the hill without dismounting, as if they were under a ban not to pass by without stopping there. So from this usage grew up the habit of calling the hill Druim Tairleime from that time forth.

BRÍ GRAIGE

Brí Graige, whence the name? Not hard to say. When Loegaire mac Neill, king of Ireland, went to Ferta Fer Fecce to meet Patrick, when he came to plant the Faith in Erin, there came, through the miraculous power of Patrick, great thunderings and lightnings, so that all the studs of Erin were thrown into a panic. And thus they were found there by the mountain. So hence it is called Brí Graige, that is, the Hill or Height of the Horses: for *bri* signifies 'height' or 'hill'.

SLEMAIN MIDE

Slemain Mide, whence the name? Not hard to say. When all were bidden by the king of Ireland to the feast of Tara, a feast used to be celebrated by the king of Meath likewise on this hill. For the king of Meath was under a *gess* to keep the feast of Samain on

Samhna do dhenom isin tulaig út an² tan dogníthe fes Teamra lá righ Erenn. Bá coll geisi dono do righ Temrach cen fes Slemna do commóradh lá righ Midhe² an tan dogníthe fes Teamhrach lais. Conidh desin raiter Slemain .i. sliab maine, ar ba mór an main do righ Midhe seach each righ a nErinn cen imthuilled fessi Teamrach, [*et reliqua*].

S[1]emain .i. Sliab Main .i. Maein aidhi³ Moraind mic Cairbre Cind Cait boi and, in tan boi nert aithech-tuath for Erinn.]⁴

ATHAIS MIDE

Athais Midhe, cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Una (.i. gorta) mór dodheachaidh a nÉrinn uile, co nderna cach áen forar'thoill a nErinn domun-chuiledha daingne acu ic taisceidh a mbidh 7 ica choigill. Dorónadh teach ndaingen ac righ Midhe a Tulaig an Comlaind. Dodheachaidh araili duine 7 rotholl in teach 7 rosin a láim tresi[n] aidherbi d' iarraidh bídh. Roairighsit an lucht robái isin tigh sin 7 rotescadh a lamh thall de. Rosín-siumh dano an laim sláin tríasin aidhérbe cédna. Roghabsad an lucht robái thall issidhe, 7 tangus día saighidh 7 rogabadh hé. 'Cidh 'mo tarrdais do láim,' ar iad, 'a ndiaidh na laimhe aile día beim dhít?' 'Baí dom ocarai'ge', ar sé, '7 do saint bídh ocom, corbo cuma lím cach ball ar úair do bem dim, acht co b'faghbainn bíadh.' 'IS mór in athais do feruibh Erenn anní conraidhe', for cách. 'Bídh de dano bías Athais forsin tilaig a ndernadh co brath', for an druí. Conidh de rodníuíl ósin an t-ainm sin enuc .i. Athais Midhe.

Misi Muiris Ó Clérigh, 7 am triamhain ódie.

SLÍAB SLANGA

Sliab Slangha, cidh díata? Ní ansa. Selg dorónadh la Rudhraighe, trí *coicta* laech, ba hedh a lín. Dúisether tore allaidh oco. Marbaidh-sidhe *coicait* don tsluagh 7 brisis da ghaí Rudhraighe.

² S₂ reads 7 ba geis do righ erenn gan feis slemna do denam in tan sin 7 gan a commorad la ri midi

³ Read aiti

⁴ The words within brackets are only in S₂

the hill yonder, when the feast of Tara was held by the king of Ireland. It was violation of a *gess* for the king of Ireland if the feast of Slemain were not celebrated by the king of Meath, when he himself held the feast of Tara. Hence the place is called Slemain, that is, 'mountain of wealth'; for it was great wealth for the king of Meath, alone among the kings of Erin, not to contribute to the feast of Tara, [*et cetera*].

Slemain, that is, 'the mountain of Maen', that is, Maen, the fosterer of Morann son of Cairpre Cend Cait, dwelt there when the Peasant Tribes held sway over Erin.]

ATHAIS MIDE

Athais Mide, whence the name? Not hard to say. A great famine came on all Erin, so that all on whom it fell made themselves strong cellars to save and hoard their victuals. The king of Meath had a strong house built at Tulach in Chomluind. A certain fellow came and broke through the wall of the house and pushed his hand through the breach, seeking food. Those who were in the house espied it, and his hand was cut off inside the wall. He pushed his sound hand also through the same breach. Those within seized it, and they came upon him, and he was caught. 'Why', said they, 'did you put your hand in after your other hand, to have it cut off?' 'I felt such hunger', said he, 'and such craving for food, that I did not mind if all my limbs were cut off one after another, if only I could get food.' 'Tis a sore disgrace to the men of Erin, what you say', said they all. 'Therefore also shall Athais (disgrace) be the name of the hill where this happened, for ever', quoth the druid. So hence the name has cleaved to the hill from that day, namely, Athais Mide.

I am Maurice O'Clery, and I am weary this day.

SLÍAB SLANGA

Sliab Slanga, whence the name? Not hard to say. A chase was held by Rudraige; the number of the hunters was thrice fifty warriors. They rouse a wild boar. He kills fifty of the host, and

Tic Rossa mac Rudhraighe a foirithin a athar 7 desela an tore 7 térnaid, a ghaí slána leis. 'Rob buana do rei', for an rí, 'as slan-ghaiftheach tice on tore.' Conidh desin atá Slíab Slangha fair.

No Slangha mac Partholáin a[n]cethramadh aire Erenn rohadh-naice[d] ann la Partholán, *unde Slíab Slangha nominatur*: 7 is é cétna liaigh Erenn é, amail adberar sunn:

Slanga, mac Pártholáin grínd,
leighis doróne a nErind
Laighlind rogaed ina blai
i cath mór Muighe hIthaí.

MAG ETRIGE

Magh nEtrighe, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. An tan robás icá reidhiugud la Párrtholón, 7 ica threbad, is ann adbath in cethramadh dam robaí icá trebadh occa la méd a fedhma. Etrighe a ainm: is uadh raiter Mag nEtrighe don muigh, *ut poeta dixit*:

Líag is Leemagh cona li
Imaire 7 Etrighí
in ceathar-dham co ndír dām
rothrebsad tír Parrthalán.

TIPRA BROTHLAIGE

Tipra Brothlaighe, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Día romarbsad Maic Mórna Dornnmár 7 Indascland 7 Imdán do muintir Fínn uí Báisene, co roláiset a trí cindu isin tibraít, conidh ón brothlach sin adberar Tibra Brothlaige.

Tucsad cend Dornmáir dhaltaidh
is Innasclaind imfartail
7 Imgáin ar sene
ar lár Thipra Brothlaige.

breaks Rudraige's two spears. Rudraige's son, Rossa, comes to his father's assistance and turns the boar aside, and gets clear with his spears whole. 'Long life to thee!' quoth the king: 'whole-speared thou comest from the boar.' So the name Sliab Slanga is given to the hill.

Or, Slanga son of Partholan, one of the four princes of Erin, was buried there by Partholan, whence Sliab Slanga is so named. He was the first leech of Erin, as is said in this verse:

'Slanga, son of comely Partholan, wrought healing in Erin for Laiglind, who was wounded in his place at the great battle of Mag Itha.'

MAG ETRIGE

Mag Etrige, whence the name? Not hard to say. When this plain was being cleared and ploughed by Partholan, one of the four oxen that were ploughing it for him died there through the greatness of its exertions. Its name was Etrige, and from it the plain is called Mag Etrige, as the poet has said:

'Liag and Leemag with his sheen, Imaire and Etrige, were the team of four oxen, with the right of companies, who ploughed Partholan's land.'

TIPRA BROTHLAIGE

Tipra Brothlaige, whence the name? Not hard to say. When the Sons of Morna slew Dornmar and Indascland and Imgan of Finn ua Baiscne's household, they cast their three heads into this well: and from that cooking-pit it is called Tipra Brothlaige.

'They brought the head of Dornmar, the fosterer, and of imperious Indascland, and of Imgan, and cast them afterwards on the bottom of Tipra Brothlaige.'

GRELLACH DOLLUID

Grellach Dulluidh, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Dolludh mac Cairpre Nía Fer dorochair innti lá Coinculaind. Amrún Fer nDea a ainm ó chéin, fobith ba hann ceda-íraidhedh tochestol chatha Muighe Tuiredh lá Deo Danand.

OIN AUB

Oin Aub, cidh diata? Ní ansa. Baí óglach amra la Gaidhela ir-righi. Alais dá each for áes Sidhe Earemon, hi scaitib Auae Cenindáin.¹ Nemedh mac Namha ainm an rígh. Doleicthea dó iarom an da each asin tsídh. Domeabaidh sruaim ina ndeghaidh asin tsídh, 7 baí aúan már forsin tsrúaim sin ina ndeghaidh, 7 lethais tarsan tír an t-úan romór, 7 baí samlaidh co cenn mbliadna, conidh aire sin asrubradh Úanob don uisce sin, 7 conidh aire atrubairt Cúchulaind, 'For úan da each nEmna tánic'² .i. an tan tánic do thochmure Eímire. *Unde Oin ub dicitur.*

GLENN BREOGAIN

Glend mBreoghain, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. O Breoghan, o sinnser mac Míledh ainmnighther Magh mBreg 7 Glend mBreoghain, 7 as fris adberar Glend an Már-daimh .i. damh Smirgaill mic Teathrach, ba rí for Erin. Adbath dino an dam sin ó thoidin mná Futae¹ oc esradh² Muighe Breg siar co beólo dúin, 7 as frisin magh sin adberar Druim na Már-mhuice .i. ar ba delb muice tarfás do macaibh Míledh for each tilaig 7 for each ndingna a nErinn, annsin immerensat³ 7 adcobarsat gabáil in tire.

Oin Aub.

¹ Cenidnáin ms.

² Read tánac

Glenn Breogain.

¹ Read Fuata

² Read escrad

³ Read

in tan immeráiset

GRELLACH DOLLUID

Grellach Dolluid, whence the name? Not hard to say. Dollud son of Cairpre Nia Fer fell thereat by Cuchulainn's hand. Amrun Fer Dea was its name of yore, because there the muster of the battle of Mag Tuired was first planned by the Dea Danann.

OIN AUB

Oin Aub, whence the name? Not hard to say. There was a famous warrior reigning over the Gaedil. He reared two horses with the fairy folk of Sid Ercmon, among the droves of Aba Cenindain. The king's name was Nemed mac Nama. The two horses were loosed for him from the Sid. A stream broke forth after them out of the Sid, and there was much foam on that stream, following them, and the foam spread over the land exceedingly, and so it remained a year's length. Therefore that water was called Uanob (Foam-river): and of it Cuchulainn said, 'Over the foam of the two horses of Emain am I come' (that is, when he came to woo Emer). Hence men say Oinub.

GLENN BREOGAIN

Glenn Breogain, whence the name? Not hard to say. From Breogan, ancestor of the sons of Mil, is named Mag Breg and Glenn Breogain, and it is also called Glenn in Mor-Daim, 'the glen of the great stag', that is, the stag of Smirgoll, son of Tethra, who was king over Erin. Now this stag was killed by the troop of the wife of Fuat, scouring Mag Breg westward to the entrance of the *dun*. And this plain is likewise called Druim na Mor-muicce, 'the ridge of the great swine': for the shape of a swine appeared to the sons of Mil on every hill and on every high place in Erin, when they rowed round it and desired to take possession of the land.

AILÉN COBTHAIG

Ailén Cobthaig cid diatá ? Ní ansa. Dubthach dornmár mac Eogain rí Muman. Ben ambrít leis : mór imorro a túaithe na mná. Nobíd dano in ben oca chomét col-léir, conna comairsed fri mnaí n-aile. Bátar fir Muman oca chairigud cen chlannugud do dénum. Docúas uad do chungid ingine as áillem nobeth la Mumain dó. Fofrith dó iarsuidiu Fedelm folt-buide ingen Díníl ó Chum Díníl i crích Chorco Duibne ir-Ros Túascirt. Tic in techta aníar co n-ebert frisseom. Dolluid-seom iarom do feiss lassin n-ingin. Dollotar co mbatar issind faithchi uile a munter. Dolluid in ben immach cor-rala cor impu for túathbiul conna cuñgnétar nem na talmain. Ité clama bodra. ISSed ruc a ech inní Dubthach, co tech a ingine búí issind faithchi .i. Ethne thóeb-fofa, ingen Dubthaig. ‘Olc ón imorro’, ar sí, ‘soifet-sa uile : úam-se rucad in teolas di.’ Imthéit-side impu, conidrala díb acht in buidre nammá. ‘Ní huaim-se rucad ón’, or sí. Ní rolá díb iarom. Gaibthi síar. ‘Táet Dínél’ ar se ‘ar mo chend dom sénad.’ Druí side. Noséna-side, condarala de. Do tháet ind ingen immach do fethain fáilte frisín rí. ‘IS cóir duit’, ar Dínél, ‘fethain fáilte fris : is tú dorocht do maith ocus do líth duib.’ ‘Ba maith ón ám, a Dínél’, ar ind ingen, ‘dia mbeth iartaige de.’ ‘Bíaid’, or Dínél. ‘Cíd bías de?’ or ind ingen. IS and asbert Dínél :

‘A Fedelm, a folt-buide,
béra mac do Dubthach de :
bid fer innraic in cech airm,
Carpre cend-chotut a ainm.

Genfid i n-inis iar nglind,
rofestar Ériu imrind :
gébaid ríge, regtait fir
for Clanna Dedad meic Šin.

Ailén Cobthaig. LS *The first six words not in L* comairsed] comprised
 L *la Mumain dó*] *la mumain do chungid dó* L *la mumain* S *Fofrith*] *foríth* L *Díníl*] *diniuil* S *ó Chum Díníl*] *om. S* *ebert*] *erbairt* L
uile a munter] *om. S* *cuñgnétar*] *congadar* S *talmain*] *tal* L *talom*
 S *ruc*] *rodnuc* S *inní*] *intí* S *Olc*] *oc* S *imorro*] *om. S*
ar sí] *oblit. in L* *soifet*] *foirfedh* S *di*] *om. L* *Druí*] *druth* S

AILÉN COBTHAIG

Ailen Cobthaig, whence its name? Not hard to say. Dubthach *dornmar*, son of Eogan king of Munster, had a wife who was barren, but great in witchcraft: also she kept diligent watch over him, lest he should have dealings with some other woman. The men of Munster found fault with him for begetting no children. He sent a messenger to seek for him the fairest maid in Munster. Then there was found for him Fedelm of the yellow locks, daughter of Dinel from Cum Dinil in Ross Tuascirt in the region of Corco Duibne. The messenger returned from the west and told him of her. Then he went to sleep with the maiden. He came with all his following into the courtyard. His wife came out, and took a turn round them, withershins, so that they knew not heaven nor earth, and they were scabbed and deaf. His horse brought Dubthach to the house of his daughter, Ethne Long-flank, in the courtyard. 'This is a sorry business', said she; 'I will change you all. It was from me that she learned this knowledge.' She walks round them, and rid them of the spell, save only the deafness. 'This was not learned of me', says she: so she could not rid them of it. The king goes his way westward. 'Let Dinel come to meet me to sain me', said he. Dinel was a druid. He sained Dubthach, and rid him of the deafness. Dinel's daughter comes forth to bid the king welcome. 'Thou dost well to bid him welcome,' said Dinel: 'it is for thee he has come, to the welfare and joy of you both.' 'That shall be well indeed, Dinel,' said the maid, 'if issue spring therefrom.' 'It shall', said Dinel. 'What issue?' said the maiden. Then said Dinel:

'O Fedelm of the yellow locks, thou shalt bear a son to Dubthach: he shall be known in all places for a just man; Cairpre Hardhead shall be his name.

'He shall be born in the island beyond the glen; all... Erin shall know of it: he shall take the kingship—men shall come to him—over the line of Deda mac Sin.

<i>Noséna</i>] rosen S	<i>duib</i>] doibh S	<i>Biaid</i>] biaid imorro S	<i>bias de</i>]
bías and S			
<i>Poem.</i>	5. <i>iar nglind</i>] arglind S	6. <i>imrind</i>] imgrind S	7. <i>reglait</i>]
regtar I	8. <i>for Clanna</i>] do claind S		

Bíaid cét mblíadna i flaithius,
 bid airdire a mór-maithius:
 genfit adamra 'na ré,
 nad co tancatar cose.

10

Finnai cid lethan al-loch,
 ocus cid mór a anfod,
 tráigfid, ní bia banna fair,
 i flaith meic Dubthaig dornmair.

A tír fil la tóeb Cláre,
 otá Cnámchaill co hÁne,
 ní nad raibe fair cose,
 doniefa immed dáme.

20

Bairend, cid soréid uile,
 ásfaid comba Cloch Daire:
 bíaid immad aittin ann
 i tírib áillib Érann.

Femen cid sescand cose,
 ocus cid rota Raigne,
 dorega scoth-šemmor ind
 i flaith Chairpri chotut-chind.

Báidfidir iarom túaid Buí,
 is and atbeir Dinél druí
 díth meic Dubthaig, trúag n-élang,
 caínfitit túatha Érann.

30

Ásfaid carrac for a druim
 issind aicén oc Taig Duinn,
 comba fadire ós ler lán
 in charrac cach leth for snám.

Rafáid iarom timchell sair
 ecna do thír ocus muir
 la toíb nÉrenn, érim nglé,
 condaben fri Bentraige.

40

'A hundred years shall he reign, his great prosperity shall be famous; marvels shall arise in his time, such as have never been seen before.

'Though Loch Finnai be broad, and though mighty its storms, it shall fail, there shall be no drop of water therein, in the reign of Dubthach *dornmar's* son.

'The land by the side of Clare, from Cnamchail to Ane, to it shall come troops in numbers such as were not there till now.

'Though all Bairend be level, it shall swell and be Cloch Daire; there shall be abundance of furze therein, in the fair lands of the Erainn.

'Though Femen be a fen till now, and though Raigne be bog-land, the clover-flower shall overspread them in the reign of Cairpre Hardhead.

'He shall be drowned at length north of Bui; there Dinél the druid foretells the death of Dubthach's son, sad disaster; the tribes of the Erainn shall keen him.

'Over his body a rock shall rise, in the ocean by Tech Duinn, and the rock shall be seen floating far over the brimming sea, on every side.

'It passes then eastward round the shore, visible from land and sea, coasting Erin, on a famous voyage, till it touches ground at Bentraige.

11. 'na] fria S	12. nad co] nocho S	20. donicfa] dosricba S
dáme] daíne S	21. cid] cia L	22. Cloch] loch L
24. áillib] áilli (<i>with b in margin</i>) L	ailli S	25. sescand] soreidh S
26. rota] rotá L	roda S	27. dorega] doraegha S
30. atbeir] atber L	asbert S	31. triag n-élang] truaghnel ann S
os S	37. Rafáia] rafaid L	rofaigh S
	39. la toib] a taeb S	40. condaben] condosben S

Ó docomce Corpre clí
colla for crích mBentraigi
nícon bia senchas iarsin
do mac Dubthaig meic Eogain.

Regthair etarru ocus tír
oc buain míanna, mór in bríg;
it é dogénat in mbrú
síl mBuinne do Bentraigiu.

Tiefa rí rúnda aile,
Cobthach díť huib tarraige:
is leis bérthar aittreb ind
for Druim Corpri ehotut-chind.

50

Bíaid caín lind
condaticfat in Tálehind:
fíal étrocht, aille sretha,
bid léo tria bithu betha.'

EMAIN MACHA

Eamhain Macha, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Macha mong-ruadh, ingen Aedha rúaidh meic Badhuirnn, dorad for macaibh Díthorba in ráith do chlaidhe. Día mbatar for indarba i fothribh Bairne luidh-si ir-richt chlaimsighe chuco día mbatar¹ ac fuine thuire allaidh isin chaille. Berigh gach fer ar úair les hí do aentughudh fría, 7 nochengladh-si iarom. Beridh-si iarom lei co hEmain fon chruth sin cóic meic Dithorba .i. Baeth 7 Brass 7 Bétach, Uallach 7 Borbehass a n-anmand-sidhe. Fororchongairt-sidhe dino in ráith do chlaidhe, ar bá fearr lei moghsaine forro andá a marbudh. Rothoraind doibh ímpí 'ma cúairt día dealg iarsin in ratha², 7 rosclaidhset-som. Unde dicitur Eamain .i. eomhuin .i. eo imma mhuin Mhacha .i. delg ímmá braighit. Acht chena fégh in Réim Rígraidhi, *si desideras inuenire prolixius, 7 causa breuitatis hic praetermito.*

Nó dano is de Eamhuin Macha. Dia luidh Macha ingen Sain-

¹ díamabatar ms.² read ráith

‘When the champion Cairpre shall have hewed bodies in the land of Bentraige, no tale shall be told thereafter of the son of Dubthach mac Eogain.

‘Men shall come and go between the Rock and the land, quarrying ore, with great toil: they that do the crushing shall be Sil Buinde of Bentraige.

‘Another mysterious king shall come, even Cobthach of thy posterity: by him shall dwellings of men be brought thither, upon the hill of Cairpre Hardhead.

‘There shall be a time of peace, until the Tálchend come to them; a glorious kindred, praise unceasing; it shall be theirs, world without end.’

EMAIN MACHA

Emain Macha, whence the name? Not hard to say. Macha Redmane, daughter of Aed *ruad* son of Badurn, laid on the sons of Dithorba the task of trenching the rath. When they were in outlawry in the wilds of Boirenn, she came to them disguised as a leper, while they were roasting a wild boar in the wood. Each of them in turn carried her off to mate with her, and then she bound each fast. After that, she carried the five sons of Dithorba with her in this plight to Emain; Baeth, Brass, Betach, Uallach and Borbhass were their names. Also she ordered them to trench the rath, for she preferred to make slaves of them rather than kill them. She traced afterwards for them the rath round about her with her brooch-pin, and they trenched it. Whence men say ‘Emain’, that is *có-muín*, that is ‘the brooch at Macha’s throat’, that is, ‘the pin at her throat’. But see further the Succession of Kings, if thou desirest to learn the full story, which for brevity’s sake I here omit.

Or again, Emain Macha is named from this event: Macha daughter of Sainrith mac Inboith came to race the two steeds of king Conchobar at the Fair, after Crunnchu had declared that his wife was swifter than the king’s horses. The king told Crunnchu

42. <i>for</i>] fri L	43. <i>nicon</i>] nocho S	46. <i>oc búain</i>] óchlúain S in]
a S	47. <i>in mbrú</i>] imbrisc bru S	48. <i>do Bentraigiú</i>] meic fergusu S
49. <i>rinda</i>] quanda S	50. <i>dúit hult</i>] dithuib L dothaib S	<i>tarraige</i>]
tharrigi L	53. <i>Biaid</i>] bid S	55. <i>aílle</i>] áille S sretha] datha S

rith meic Inboith do choimling fri dha ghabair an righ Choncobair isin aenach, iarna radh do Chrunnchoin ba luaithi a ben andate eich an righ. Asbert in rí fri Crundchoin, foghebadh bás mene thísad a ben don coimling. Tanic iarom Macha do sáeradh a fir, 7 si alachta, 7 roreith an cend mblai frisna heocho, 7 ba luaithe dhi anda dona hechaibh. Arsisbis iarom mac 7 ingen d'aen-tairbert, 7 scredsad in noidhin, co rolai Ullta ina cess, co mba coimneart fria mnai siúil each fear, conidh o sin rolen an cess, 7 conidh on Macha sin 7 don eamon rosfue ata Magh Macha 7 Eamain Macha.

TECH NDUINN

Teach nDuind, eidd diatá? Ní ansa. IN tan dolotar meic Miled aniar don Erin, asbert a ndruí friú: 'Fear raghas isin crand siúil', for se, '7 madh é chanus ar tus dichedla for¹ Tuathaib Dei, maighfidh in cath forro, 7 lindi iarsin co brath a tír: 7 bebais in fer cuirfes in mbriacht.' Fochres crandchor forro, 7 tachraidh do Dhonn taidhecht isin seól. Dogníther iarom samlaid, 7 luidh Dond isin seól, 7 canaidh tinchetla friú, 7 doluidh síis iarsin, 7 asbert: 'Tonga na deo' ol sé, 'cona didhemthar cert no cóir duib festa.' Canaid-seom dano di thír tinchedla forro-som dia fregra. Iar mallachadh Duinn iarom do Thuath De dofáinic crith-ghalar fo chétóir isin luing. Asbert Amarghen: 'Bidh marb Dond', for se, '7 ní seghdha dund congbaile² im athgabail an ghalair. Ar dia ruethar Dond i tír, bíaidh an galar-sa co brath a nErinn.' Asbert Dond: 'Berar mo choland-sa', for sé, 'a n-oen na n-innsi, 7 dóbera mo chinél bendachtain form co brath.' Tice iarom ainbhtine doibh tria thinchedlaibh na ndrúadh, 7 báiter an bárc a mbái Dond. 'Berar a choland isin carraic n-aird thall', ol Aimhirghen: conidh de dogarar Teach nDuind. 'Tiefad a munn-ter an maighin sin', ol Amhirghen. Is aire sin adellad na han-manda peccacha co teach n[D]uind ría techt a n-ifearn, do reir na ngennti, cédus, co tabraid a mbendachtain for anmain Duinn. Madh anum firén imorro fir aithrighe is di chéin adci-sidhe, 7 ní berar fordul. As i sin tra cédfaigh na ngennti. Conid desin dogarar Tech nDuind.

¹ for for ms.² read a chongbaile

that he should die unless his wife came to the race. Then Macha came to save her husband, though pregnant, and raced the horses to the end of the green, and proved swifter than they. Then she was delivered of a boy and a girl at a birth, and the infants screamed, and the sound cast the Ulaid into their sickness, till each man was no stronger than a woman in childbed. And the sickness clave to them thenceforth. From this Macha and from the twins (*emon*) she bore come the names of Mag Macha and Emain Macha.

TECH DUINN

Tech Duinn, whence the name? Not hard to say. When the sons of Mil came from the west to Erin, their druid said to them, 'If one of you climbs the mast', said he, 'and chants incantations against the Tuatha De, before they can do so, the battle will be broken against them, and their land will be ours; and he that casts the spell will die.' They cast lots among themselves, and the lot falls on Donn to climb the mast. So was it done: Donn climbed the mast, and chanted incantations against the Tuatha De, and then came down. And he said: 'I swear by the gods', quoth he, 'that now ye will not be granted right nor justice.' The Tuatha De also chanted incantations against the sons of Mil in answer from the land. Then after they had cursed Donn, there came forthwith an ague into the ship. Said Amairgen: 'Donn will die', said he, 'and it were not lucky for us to keep his body, lest we catch the disease. For if Donn be brought ashore, the disease will remain in Erin for ever.' Said Donn: 'Let my body be carried to one of the islands', said he, 'and my people will lay a blessing on me for ever.' Then through the incantations of the druids a storm came upon them, and the ship wherein Donn was foundered. 'Let his body be carried to yonder high rock', says Amairgen: 'his folk shall come to this spot.' So hence it is called Tech Duinn: and for this cause, according to the heathen, the souls of sinners visit Tech Duinn before they go to hell, and give their blessing, ere they go, to the soul of Donn. But as for the righteous soul of a penitent, it beholds the place from afar, and is not borne astray. Such, at least, is the belief of the heathen. Hence Tech Duinn is so called.

*The poems which follow are found in L and in no
other copy of the Dindshenchas*

DÚN MÁSC

Iarfaigid díim, comul ñgle,
mad áil dúib eolas d' aichne:
ni triamain inti notairg
eter Liamain is laech-Mairg.

Cethri meic ic Sétnu seing,
ba díb Nuadu Necht nar-thend,
Mess Delmond, Oengus Ochach,
Ugen urnaíd il-chrothach.

Se meice ic Ugen cen ail,
ba rún-mer im cach rogail,
tumsat . . . cen tacha trá,
cumsat ratha is rodindgna.

10

Ladru, Noë, Finteñg fert,
Luad cúar, is Alb na n-airbert;
fuair fasc *cecha* fini in fer,
Másc, ba sini is ba sessed.

Tindabrais Ladru na land
i-nArd lind-amnais Ladrant:
Finteñg os mur Muadall na mbress
crichi Cualand contuiless.

20

Noe i n-iarthur Rechet cen fell
fuair *cach* ndechelt ndag-feraind:
Másc cen mannur, ba mó gá,
ina dangon dithogla.

Atchuala treib is' tír thair
ic Nóe mac Ugein aurngaíd:
ole fath dia mbái, borb in col,
Rath Núi i crichaib Garrechon.

Dibaid a chland aichri alt,
gnímaig os aichthi ecrat:
rosmucha in rí rechta thor,
acht mád Ucha, oen-chethror.

30

DÚN MÁSC.

Ask of me if ye desire to learn knowledge—happy meeting ! unwearied is he that offers it, between Liamain and martial Maing.

Four sons had slender Setna : of them was Nuadu Necht, noble and strong, Mess Delmond, Oengus Ochach, and Ugen *aurgnaid* of manifold beauty.

Six sons had blameless Ugen, who was eager-willed for every exploit ; they bathed [their blades] abundantly, they built raths and great fortresses.

Ladru, Noe, Finteng of the feats, Luad *ciar*, and Alb skilled in devices : and Masc, the sixth and eldest, won fame from every family.

Ladru of the blades found rest at Ard Ladrann of the dangerous waters, Finteng slept above Muadall of the combats in Crich Cualann.

Noe in the west of Rechet unbetrayed found a covering of good soil : Masc, mightiest with spear, in his impregnable stronghold dwelled undespoiled.

I have heard of an habitation in the eastern country held by Noe, son of Ugen *aurgnaid*, Rath Nui in the lands of Ui Garrchon : evil was its origin, brutish the deed of lust.

Childless were his offspring, vigorous of limb : they were deedful over the faces of foemen : the king that ruled over chieftains destroyed them all four, save Ucha.

Dún Masc. L only 8. Ugen] Eogan, with 'vel Ugen' superscr. L
 19.] omit mur. 28.] read uá nGarrchon 30.] read aighib

DÚN MÁSC

Luad oc Dún Chuair, cumnig lat,
co rubnib is co rigdacht :
fuair Alb, cen min-dergnas de,
dindsenchas for Albine.

Clanna Ugein láth ngaile
batar ruinig rath-maige :
ní sil deoraid ar daigid
am eolach na n-iarfaigid.

Iarfaigid.

49

DUMA OENA, DUMA ILIA, ÁTH EGONE.

Egone, Oena, Ilia,
tri meic Ross, rétis Brega,
otát da charn, na celtar
lat, immoserntar sleaga.

Segda ath, aidble tola,
cach trath fri fadli fela
o róet cach doenech imraig
noco teit inbaid d' ega. E.

DRUIM FÍNGIN I

A éicse Banba co mblaid
in fagbaid nó in fetabair
eid ima ndernsat cath crón
Éber ocus Eremón?

Atbér-sa rib co súaire sain,
inní 'ma ndernsat fingail,
im thrí drommaib cona ndreimm,
is ferr bátar i nÉrinn.

Druim Fíngin, Druim Classaig cain,
Druim Bethaig i Connachtaib,
is impo sin, ní slán so,
rolád a n-ár, a éicseo. A.

10

Luad dwelled at Dun Cuar, note it well! with retinue and royal state : Alb gained no light regard for the legend he left to Albine.

The offspring of Ugen, rich in martial heroes, were trusty men of the prosperous plain : no seed of strangers are our champions ! I am learned in what ye ask.

DUMA OENA, DUMA ILIA, ÁTH EGONE.

Egone, Oena, and Ilia were three sons of Ross, who rode over Brega, from whom the two cairns are called—round which spears are levelled, hide it not, thou !

Famous the ford of mighty floods, with largesse of hospitality at all times, whence every mortal has obtained . . . till comes the hour for . . .

DRUIM FINGIN I

Ye famous poets of Banba, do ye find or do ye know why it was that Eber and Eremon fought a crimson battle ?

I will tell it you pleasantly, the reason why they shed kindly blood ; it was for three hills, with their people, the best that were in Erin.

Druim Fingin, fair Druim Classaig, Druim Bethaig in Con-naught, for these was their carnage wrought—no wholesome deed, O poets !

Duma Oena, etc.	L only	4. read	immaserntar	8. teit]	read	taet
Druim Fingin I.	LBLe ₁ Le ₂	2. fagbaid]	L fagbai	Le ₁	findtai	BLe
3. ima ndernsat]	ma ndernsat	L immo	tardsat	Le ₁	ma tugsat	etc BLe ₂
cath]	in cath	BLe ₂	4. ocus]	is	L	5.]
Innisfet duib sunna sain	Le ₁	Indeosad sa sunda sin	Le ₂	súaire]	ed. suair	L
sain]	saein	L	6. inni]	cach	ni	Le ₂
etc cæt. cona ndreimm]	condreim	etc BLe ₂	cen drem	Le ₁	8. is ferr]	as
dech	Le ₁	9. Classaig]	classach	B	10. Bethaig]	L bethach
etc cæt. 11. is impo]	ca cosnam	Le ₁	ní slán]	ní sár	etc BLe ₂	nirsat
Le ₁	12. voláid]	laadh	Le ₁	éiceop]	colcho	Le ₂

DESCERT

Athair Cailte, comul ñgle,
 Goscen cerd do Chorpraige :
 ainm a mathar, moltaís raind,
 Finnigu ingen Umaill.

.F. Ar a grésaib co ñguire
 rorog fóir fri fir-suide
 Goscen na ñglan-grés cach dú,
 foirb narb amdes do cherdu.

.F. Fid ocus uisce ocus moin
 cuinchset fria coir . . r coméin,
 scel na celair, uar ní celg,
 conid de atberar Descerd.

10

Dorat Find ar-rogain raind
 d' Finnigin ingen Umaill :
 sund fríth failti cen tachail
 do Chailti is dia deg-athair. A.

Cach fuither dia fríth cose
 gairm cen dith ara deise :
 nolen and fir ind fachain
 cen cop dír do deg-athair. A.

20

CEND FINICHAIR

Cend Finichair, *unde nominatur*? Ní ansa. [Finichair mac]
 Gollain meic Gainmedaig brithem ocus fath-liaig ocus ba[rd
 Fin]d meic Cumail ocus úa Echach Find Fuath nAirt é, ocus
 Find mac Cumail [rodn]alt. Co tue grad do mnai Chathniad
 choñgnaid, conostar[raid] Cathnia i noentaid dormaine, coromarb
 cách dib araile, ocus d[orat] Cathnia cend Finichair forsin tsleib
 út, ocus *a quo mons nominatur*. Murend mor-aineach, ingen
 Echach Find Fuath nAirt a máthair. *Et* Tuirend Tamnaige a ben,
 ocus atbathadar dia chumaid. Coica bliadna a aes ocus coíca

DESCERT

Cailte's father—famous conjunction!—was Goscen the craftsman of the Corpraige: the name of his mother, whom verses praised, was Finnigu, daughter of Umall.

As reward for his workmanship, wrought in heat, Goscen, known everywhere for clean handiwork, chose out a home with a goodly seat, land that was no mean holding for a craftsman.

Wood and water and turbary they demanded in common, as a just claim; so that hence the place is called Descerd—a saying that is not hidden, since it is no lie.

Find granted to Finnigu, Umall's daughter, her choice of a portion; here was found a welcome without pinching for Cailte and his good father.

Every tenant that has yet been found leaves an enduring title to his holding: the true story of its origin cleaves to it, though it be not his in right of a well-born father.

CEND FINICHAIR

Cend Finichair, whence its name? Not hard to say. Finichair, son of Gollan son of Gainmedach, was judge and physician and [bard] to Find mac Cumail, and grandson of Eochaid Fuath nAirt, and Find mac Cumail [was his foster-father]. He gave his love to the wife of Cathnia *congnaid*, and Cathnia caught them in the deed of lust, and they slew each other, and Cathnia laid Finichair's head on yonder mountain, and hence the mountain has its name. Murenn *mór-aineach*, daughter of Eochaid Find Fuath nAirt, was his mother, and Tuirenn of Tamnaige his wife, and they died of grief for him. Fifty years was his age, and fifty feet his stature, and

Descert. In L only 8. Read *amdés* 10. One or two letters obliterated
 11. read *celar* The following words are not clearly legible
 Cend Finichair. Prose in LL 200: verse in LL 191. Words in brackets obliterated, and conjecturally restored

traiged a arddi, ocus coíca mac romúin, ocus coíca laech ara chur,
coíca ban ocus coíca con imma thenid. *Unde Find cecinit* ' Inmain
in fáid ', *et cetera*.

DINDSENCHAS CIND FÍNICHAIR, I SAMUD CHAEMGIN.

INmain in fáid Finichair,
ba haigni cáid eridichair
in gíl gluais nar grith-ecail,
ind fír lúaithe o Lifechair.

Dual do Chormac caurata
in borrh-slatt cen bith-ecla,
brithem bind, ba bunata,
faith-liaig Find, ba fileta.

Hi Cabraid a chomnaide,
i talmain a thig-laige, 10
coica traiged talmaide,
amgaire cen inmaine. In.

Romarb Cathnia cóngbaide
a aithgne ba hibraide,
ic ét moa mnai móng-buide,
dormaine cen inmaine. In.

Dith dessi tria dormaine,
a treisse rostingaire:
ba bét ar bruc Bregmaige,
éc rosfuc cen inmaine. In. 20

Mo chara ba cóngbaide,
a bara ba bidbaide,
Finichair, fáid fornaidi,
fer oll-blaide inmaine. In.

Missi Find in flaith-ruire,
ni mathmuine midlaige,
ni thucus do duni ar lár
a grád nach a inmaine. In.

fifty lads he taught, and there were fifty warriors in his keep, and fifty women and fifty hounds at his fireside. Hence Find chanted *Inmain in fáid*, etc.

(*The Dindshenchas of CEND FINICHAIR in SAMUD CAEMGIN.*)

Dear was the prophet Finichair: he was the advocate revered and beloved of him that shone bright, that cried not in panic, the swift one of Lifechair.

Liegeman to heroic Cormac was that lusty sapling, ever fearless, a judge clear-tongued, well-grounded, Find's wise physician, practised in poetry.

In Cabra was his abode; in earth his last bed: fifty feet of earth, affliction without love.

Cathnia, upholder of battle, slew him (his . . . was made of yew) in jealousy for his yellow-haired wife, and lust unloved.

Destruction fell on those twain through their lust; its might summoned them: it was an ill deed that brought sorrow on Mag Breg; death took them without love.

My friend was an upholder of battle, his wrath was implacable: Finichair . . . prophet, a man of much fame, well-loved.

I am Find, the high prince, no soft-hearted coward; to no man on earth have I given such affection nor such love.

9. *chomnaide*] doubtful reading, altered by original scribe.

Fuair forran i fornaide
 mac Gollain cen imduibe : 30
 ba bili bán Bregmaigi
 eride dam ar inmaine. In.

Finichair, géc omnaide,
 rodail éc cen irnaide
 dond fiur maith romarb-side
 almsaine cen inmaine. [In.]

Fer na fil im fiadnaise
 im triamain-se timgaire :
 ruc fath-brithem Almaine
 adgaire cen inmaine. In. 40

Mac Murinni Mornaige
 fer Turinni tim-chraide,
 brithem ard cen amgaire,
 bard Almaine inmaine. In.

Mac Gollain meic Gainmedaig,
 glan-medair fir hil-maine
 truag in teidm a throm-laige
 buan formaide a inmaine. In.

Find Fuath nAirt a sen-athair,
 fuair eladaine il-maine, 50
 cosindiu ní roseáilius
 ní romaidius a inmaine. In.

Coica míled móng-buide
 moan rí g cen rí g-duibe,
 cóica ban, chor comnaide,
 coica con co n-inmaine. In.

Cóica mac romúnestar
 ro seilgg is ro siblaige
 cóica cen báes mband-gaile
 ina aís co n-inmaine. In. 60

Gollan's son, free from dishonour, met onslaught in . . . : he was the stainless forest-tree of Bregmag, heart of poets in love.

Finichair, the oaken bough, dealt out death without pause, to the brave man who slew him an alms-gift unloved.

One that is not in my sight I am powerless to call back : a loveless summons hath borne away the seer-judge of Almu,

The son of Muirenn of Clann Morna, husband of faint-hearted Tuirenn, the high judge unperplexed, the bard of Almu well-loved,

The son of Gollan son of Gainmedach, bright of mirth, lord of much wealth : alas for the sickness that laid him low ; an enviable blessing is his love.

Find Fuath nAirt was his ancestor ; he gained many treasures of knowledge ; till this day I have not published nor boasted of his love.

Fifty soldiers yellow-maned stood round the king, not un-honoured ; fifty women continually, fifty hounds beloved,

Fifty lads he trained for hunting and for racing, fifty pure of woman's longing, well-loved in his life-time.

32.] *This line rewritten over an erasure : read cride dām* 47-48 and 51-52
are transposed in L, but with marks showing true order 50.] *read eladain* 52.]
read nír' maldius 54.] *read immon rig* 57.] *read ban, cor* 58.]
read ri . . . ri 59.] *read ban-gaile*

Da cét laech rolamair-sium
 damair-sium a ndimdaige :
 dosfuc fo éc omnaide
 comnaide cen inmaine. IN.

MAG DÁ GÉSI

FIND MAC CUMAILL *cecinit*

IN lia notheilginn do grés
 dar Maig Da Gés co Druim Suain,
 ba fota m' irchor din chloich :
 mad indiu, noco roich uaim.

Ni thoirchet mo dáil adiu
 dí ingin buid, buan-ban gleó,
 Iuchdelb ocus Lecco Dub :
 mór in glond dia mbetis beo.

Mas é mo sáigul rosiacht,
 domriacht *cech* baegul, *cach* bét : 10
 aire na toirchet mo dáil,
 menip áil mo šechna ar éc.

Bid Mag Da Gési co bráth
 dia n-esi *cach* trath, cid truag :
 bid maigen dedail cen dil
 on tsíl rośelaig rosúan.

Robith mór láech ar *cach* ló
 sin maig maith co n-ilur chia
 dar Mag Da Gés in *each* dú
 on dú do grés teilcind lia. IN. 20

Two hundred warriors he defied and daunted their despite ; he laid them under oaken bonds of death, in a dwelling unloved.

MAG DÁ GÉSI

The stone that I used to hurl continuously across Mag Da Ges, as far as Druim Suain—long was my cast with that stone : but to-day it reaches not the mark from my hand.

There come no more hither to meet me two tender maidens, Iuchdelb and Lecco Donn—a contest of noble ladies : were they living, great were the prize.

If my life has reached its term, there has come upon me every danger, every deed of violence ; therefore let them not come to meet me, unless they desire to keep me from death.

The place shall be called at all times, till the day of doom, the Plain of Two Swans, sad though it be, after they are gone : it shall be a plain without parting, without end, in memory of the seed that slew and slept.

Many a warrior has been slain, day by day, in the goodly plain, wrapt in mists, in every spot over Mag Da Ges, from the place where I used to hurl the stone continually.

Mag Dá Gési.

6. *buan-ban gleo*] read perhaps búan a ngleó

7.]

dub is cancelled and two dots over it refer to a correction in the upper margin, now scarcely legible : perhaps lo[n]d

15. *maigen*] read mag cen

LECHT HEILE

IS eol dam-sa in dluig diatá
 Lecht Heile cen immargá :
 fuair bás braití brí na mbreg
 do sceol Raitte co romer,

Diar' cechaing fri fiansa fecht
 Fergal, flaith feidil find-chert,
 co hAilill co Cruachain crúaid
 co rig Connacht claideb-rúaid.

Da siair oecu díb linaib,
 Héile is Medb co mór-gnimaib,
 grinn-gela im garg-bríg rosgell,
 ingena d' ard-rig hErenn.

10

Dolluid atuaid a tír Breg
 Herc mac Echach na n-inber
 dar eis Fergail na foga,
 cen ergail áig imгона.

Ni thormailt biad no bronnud
 no caemna no comlongud
 ic fir thiri no thalman
 icon díni dam-adbal.

20

Nogairthi a siur 'na dochum,
 ni d' ág no d' hule no d' fochun
 cor' thoimled fiadach feda :
 ba miannach a aiscena.

Bith i fothrib co ferda
 dognítis co comfedma,
 longud fiadaig a fedaib
 co diamair os dairedaib.

Cartais Raitte, reim co doc[h]t,
 fis co Fergal fir-etocht,
 fail Heile inn óir is na n-ech
 ic céile chóir chomaithech.

30

LECHT HÉILE

I know the occasion from which Lecht Heile is truly named ; the princess among princesses met a captive's death, through the words of Raitte, suddenly,

When Fergal, loyal and honourable chieftain, fared forth on soldier-service to stern Cruachan, to Ailill red-sworded king of Connacht.

Two sisters had they both for wives, Heile and Medb, mighty in deeds, daughters of the High King of Erin, serene despite the rude violence that made prize of them.

Here, son of Eochu, lord of harbours, came southward out of the land of Brega, following Fergal of the spears, without conflict in deadly battle.

He tasted neither food nor victual, neither refreshment nor repast, with any man of the land or soil, among the raisers of mighty oxen.

His sister was summoned to join him, not for battle, nor for harm, nor of purpose to eat the woodland venison : he longed for sight of her.

They found their living manfully, sharing hardships in the thickets, eating the venison from the woods and the oak groves in hiding.

Raitte sent word to right glorious Fergal—a harsh errand!—that Heile, mistress of gold and of horses, had found a shapely neighbour for mate.

Lecht Héile. 15. *foga*] In ms. the o is altered from a
28 in ms. 29.] Raitte is glossed *proprium*

21-24 follow

'Teine tulcha tairrether di,'
ar Fergal cen firinni,
'ar-rochur ind dia harggain
corop tind in timmargain.'

Doringned amlaid uile
ic damraid na nduluige:
truag in garg-dil rogníd and
for ingin ard-rig hErend.

40

De sin dorochair Fergal
dia cumaid, linib ler-gal,
dia tudchaid aniar ane
co Caillin fial Fergaile.

Doel ainm am-mathar moalle
rue d' Eochaid Here is Eile:
in bás rosfuc as cach eól
fail sund dune dan dag-eol. IS.

LUMMAN TIGE SRAFÁIN

Lumman Tigi Srafain canas roainmniged? Ní ansa Lumman ainm do each sciath .i. leoman, ar ní bíd sciath cen deilb leomain and .i. co mbad fuillite a gráin 7 a furfuath, ar is feochair amnas in leo 7 is cathach congalach, 7 tri brietu 7 tecusea dognítis insin. Bóe dano sciath la Corbb mac Cinain, 7 ní gaibthi cath nó comlund fris ic secht rígaib do rígaib hErenn.

Baí cath-milid in tan sin, 7 ba faid 7 ba fili é .i. Fer Bern mac Regamna, brathair do Fínd mac Regamna, *et oca-saide bóí Teite ingen Meic Nia, a quo Oenach Teite nominatur.* INund mathair¹ la Currech mac Cathair 7 la Fothad Cananne 7 la Teiti, la mnái Fínd meic Regamna, 7 inund athair la Fer Bern 7 la Fínd mac Regamna. Luid dano Fer Bern 7 duan leis do athchungid in scéith co Corbb mac Cinain, 7 rob é ainm in sceith la Corbb .i. Dubgilla. Tucad dano in sciath do Fíir Bern 7 ba fálid de Fer Bern. Ocus issí sin amser robás oc fúr chatha Cerna eter Art mac

¹ *marginal gloss.* .i. Fainchi tre-chichech ingen Airmora do Aradaib Cliach

'Let them prepare for her a hill-fire,' said Fergal, unjustly: 'let her be cast into it to her death, that her punishment may be sore.'

So was it done in full, by the ruffian soldiery: woe for the violent fate that was then contrived for the High King of Erin's daughter.

Thereof perished Fergal, with his numberless feats of valour, of grief for her, when he came eastward thence to noble Caillin Fergaile.

Doel was their mother's name, who bore to Eochu both Here and Heile: there is one here that knows well what death removed them from the knowledge of all.

39.] *has dogníd with first d expunct and r superscr.*

47.] *read rosnuc*

LUMMAN TIGE SRAFÁIN

Lumman of Tech Srafain, whence is it so named? Not hard to say. *Lumman* is a name for any shield, that is, 'lion', for there was no shield without the image of a lion on it, so that the horror and dread thereof might be magnified; for the lion is fierce and cruel, given to battle and fighting; and these images were made by means of spells and magic lore.

Now Corbb mac Cinain had a shield, such that seven of the kings of Ireland dared not face battle or duel with him. There was at that time a warrior, who was also a seer and a poet, namely Fer Bern mac Regamna, brother of Find mac Regamna, who had to wife Teite daughter of Mac Nia, from whom Oenach Teite has its name. (Currech mac Cathair, Fothad Cananne and Teite wife of Find mac Regamna were children of the same mother, Fainche *tré-chichech*, daughter of Airmora of Arada Cliach; and Fer Bern and Find mac Regamna were sons of the same father.)

So Fer Bern went, taking with him a poem, to demand the shield from Corbb mac Cinain: and the name Corbb gave the shield was Dubgilla. So the shield was given to Fer Bern, and Fer Bern was glad thereat. This was the time when the battle of

Cuind 7 firu na n-Insi *et* Cruithnecho Daíl Araide. Documlái dino Fer Bern o Brius Bérré do fíomad a scéith co Cerna i mBregaib. Ronimber iarum issin chath, co n-ecmaic tri choícait álad and, 7 atbered cách ba leth catha la Cond (.i. la hArt mac Cuind) Fer Bern a oenur. IMsóí ar culu da thaig do iarair a leigis, co toracht Tech Strafáin, 7 forrgither andsin é ó chnedaib. A gai gér 'na láim, a sciath moa bragit, a chlaideb cona thruaill uma fora chriss, co torchair, co n-epert fria gilla a úag do chlaidi. Túr dano a ainm-side. Rochlaided ind úag. A sleg dia thóeb. A chlaideb don taeib aile. A lummán¹ taris. 7 atbert 'Bid ainm din magin-se Lumman co brath. 7 i cind .ccc. bliadna o 'nocht dorosset dias sund 7 adnaicfiter form-sa, 7 fugeb-sa failti leo ic Dia, cid mór coseor rochurius'. *Unde Lumman Tige Strafain.*

Dubgilla dub-airm n-aisse,
eo ruisse, roen sleg snaisse,
sluindfe dún diupa deinne
do chungid leinne glaisse.

Comairle Dé dom thuus,
ciped tráth no ré rosius:
cia beit bruit oc mac Cinain,
ní da tinail consius,

Acht lend na daim a diablad,
na gaib eulend no craebrad,
ditiu della fri lummain,
celtar cunnail co ndael-dath.

10

Dligid aíl, nirbo uabur,
fri daíl iar n-áine faebur,
bratt cona srengat nóidin,
forbbaid oen-fir a oenur.

Etiud gnathach cuirp rethi
nad reith snathat nó snathe,
tugan martra, mind naire,
bratt nad ralad dar fathe.

20

¹ *marginal gloss.* .i. a sciath

Cerna was brewing between Art mac Cuinn and the men of the Islands, with the Picts of Dal Araide. So, to prove his shield, Fer Bern fares forth from Bres Bre to Cerna in Brega. He made play with it then in the battle, and it bore the dint of thrice fifty blows: and all said that Fer Bern alone was half the battle on the side of Conn (that is, of Art mac Cuinn). He turns back homeward to seek healing, and reached Tech Strafain: and there succumbs to his wounds. His sharp spear in his hand, his shield slung from his neck, his sword and his scabbard of bronze at his belt, he fell, and told his gillie to dig his grave. Tur was the gillie's name. The grave was dug: his spear at one side of him, his sword on the other, his shield (*lumman*) across him: and he said, 'The name of this spot shall be Lumman till doomsday: And at the end of three hundred years from to-night two men shall arrive here and shall be buried over me; and I shall find welcome from God along with them, however great the slaughter I have wrought.' Hence Lumman of Tech Strafain.

Dubgilla, dark armour of the back! Red yew, vanquisher of polished spears! I will name it, a thing that filches our colour, to demand a mantle of grey.

God's counsel for my guidance, in whatever hour or season I approach! though there be cloaks with Cinan's son, it is not to gather them that I shall seek,

But a mantle I seek that endures not folding, that neither spike of holly nor branch of tree may catch; that guards, as a brooch guards a cloak; a seemly vestment of the beetle's hue.

It is worth a request at the assembly, after play of blades—it was not arrogant: it is a cloak that children cannot rend... of a warrior in itself:

The wonted vesture of a king's body, that needle or thread runs not through; a martyr's cloak, a frontlet of the temples, a cloak such as has not been cast over seers.

10.] *marginal gloss* vel óen (?)
n-arach (*Bergin*)

17. *rethi*] *glossed* .i. rig

19.] *read* mind

Doeim fossad fot rea,
 cona ceil cossar class fua :
 cen co tarla moing fria
 méraid a lomm fria nua.

Ni taiss arricht, reim n-ellach,
 dar' na tarla slicht slinned :
 rofess am-maig ní moingach,
 ci atchess cen dlúth cen indech,

Cen garmna cruind co ndruine,
 cen chlaidbe adma fige,
 cen lamda deg-mná deimne,
 cen deilg n-eirrgi dia rige.

30

Reidfid Dubgilla delbda,
 dín mo debra, mind ngaible,
 in bratt condaig Fer Berna,
 acht ní trebrad ní coimge.

Ni find, ní liath, ni lachtna,
 ní derg, ní gorm, ni corera,
 ní breccan raenach riabach,
 ní hetgud srianach socera.

40

Sossad n-aidche, secc lige,
 fossad fri gaethaib gubae,
 cumthach brunni, barr feibi,
 fot aidche daille dube. D.

Mo duan ni dub, ni dous :
 dlug don tsluag cosnais
 slicht mo lám, niptar slemna :
 is me Fer Berna ó Brius.

Missi is mo lumman lomda,
 sund donrubad, tor tedma :
 iar ngním fri gliaid ngáithi
 biaid fóithi Fer Berna.

50

It guards the brain-pan at all times : it hides the rows of scars beneath : though no nap clings to it, the thread-bare shall last as well as the new cloth.

Not feeble has it proved in the tale of encounters, the stuff whereon has fallen no print of weaver's slay : on the outside it has been found not soft with nap, while it was seen bare of warp or woof,

Without beam of loom for broidery, without rods or implements of weaving, without handiwork of true-born dame, without stretching-pin to strain the web.

Shapely Dubgilla shall clear the way, the guardian of my brows, the . . . diadem ; the cloak that Fer Berna demands . . .

It is not white, nor grey, nor dun ; it is not red, nor blue, nor purple ; it is no tartan, striped nor checkered ; it is no beribboned garment of ease.

It is lodging for the night, a dry couch, a shelter against woful winds, a cover for the breast, a crown of wealth, through all the blind dark night.

Not dark is my song, no riddle : a theme for the host whom I shall seek out is the mark of my hands—they were not smooth : I am Fer Berna from Brius.

I and my naked shield, here were we wounded—a load of sickness ; after deeds done in the conflict of spears Fer Berna shall lie beneath it.

22.] *read* conceal
45.] *perhaps* doas *in ms.*

29.] *read perhaps* cen druine
46. *cosnaius*] *read* cosa sius

43.] *read* cumtach

Torsat sund, bid slicht sona,
 dias dond cen bricht cen bluga :
 laigfit form-sa, maith mana,
 is roga raith in ruba :
 legfait sain oc Dia delbda,
 bertait uaim demna duba. D.

Tri cé**t** bliad**na** iar saine,
 ní siabrat s**ét** consuide,
 conambeir mac Dé nime
 i ngné ngile cen duibe. D. 60

Buan in breth iarna broga :
 is tech truag cen nach tuga :
 ní comga in cé**l**, ní coma,
 is domna der co nduba. D.

Sluindfe in crich-se cen chaire
 cia theis fri toirse tuile :
 aní fogeir mo menma
 dombeir fri degra duibe. D. 70

Mo daig-fer, in dual d**rí**uich,
 ní laimed slúag a s**á**rgud :
 rop é m' ainm i cath Cherna,
 ar mbrath Fer Berna in brá-dub. D.

Crúaid in s**ét** sund ar saine,
 mo cholg na thruaill uimi,
 is lumman ch**iar** nar chained,
 tríar rodáled co dubi.

IN oenecht baidmis braine
 is nochraidmis c**ech** cuire :
 innar cethrur chrúaid chetna
 i n-ú**aig** fri det-bla dubi. D. 80

A Thuír tabair dot aire,
 dond úir nofalaig uile,
 lessaig mo laid im lige,
 dail 'com d**í**ne co nduibe. D.

Hither shall come a noble pair, without charm or spell—it shall be a lucky track: they shall lie above me—a happy omen: this spur of land is a prosperous choice: they shall decay in God's glorious keeping; they shall drive far from me the devils of darkness.

It will be just three hundred years till the Son of the God of Heaven brings me into a form of brightness without darkness: the way that he establishes is not the way of evil spirits.

Lasting is the judgement after it is promulgated: 'tis a dismal house without a roof: the omen is no protection, it guards not: it is cause of tears and gloom.

Thou shalt name without blame this land, though thou goest to meet a flood of woe: the thing that frets my spirit brings me to . . . of darkness.

My straight spear, mine by right—no host dared affront it: this was the name I won in the fight of Cerna: 'our hope, Fer Berna of the black brows.'

Hard, passing hard is the treasure here, even my sword in its sheath of bronze, and the dark shield that was never reproached: the three have made tryst with darkness.

Together did we whelm the front ranks, and make havoc of every host: together likewise do we lie in the grave, we four stout fighters, in darkness and gnashing of teeth.

Have a care, O Tuir! cover us all with the clay! preserve my lay, when I lie low! beetles are sucking my blood in darkness!

60.] *read síabra* 71.] *read daiger* 74.] *brádud facs. of L wrongly*
 76.] *read ina thrúail uma* 83. *Thuir*] *glossed proprium* 84.] *read*
nonfalaig 86.] *read dine (Bergin)*

DÚN CUIRC

Dún Cuire, cia lín uaib dan eol,
tan rolinad corbo lán
coire ar berbad, cuit in phuirt
cetadaig Cuire ara lar?

IS lé rolinad, ní gó,
ri Laithrind ingin Da Thó:
is í raorddaig in lucht
trí cét muce is trí cét bó.

IS í rochumsig iar fir
ar cind meice in rig co run: 10
is hí rodáil dóib in flaith
diambái in fer maith iss[in] dú[n]. D.

DRUIM FÍNGIN II

Rop hé-seo Druim nElgga n-oll
co Fingin fergga fráech-dond:
Rothniam sund a sídib slóg
taithiged Fingin find-mór.

Tictis sund *cecha* samna
ind rigan 's in rig-damna:
scartais ria slóg co soilse,
co cantais ceól *con* bith-toirse.

Ba derb la mac Luc[h]ta ille,
feib docuchta celmuine,
atberad tria chabra a cind
co ngebada Banba mbarr-fínd. 10

Sed noráided Rothniam rán
nodailfed cu Fotla Fáil:
ba siat a samla iar saine
buada Banba barr-glaine.

DÚN CUIRC

Dun Cuirc:—how many of you are there that know, when the seething cauldron was filled to the brim, what was the meal in its midst for the residence of Corc?

It was filled—no lie!—by Laithriu daughter of Da Tho: she it was who prepared the mess, three hundred swine and three hundred kine.

She it was who disposed it duly before the king's son, with art: she it was who poured the liquor for them, when the brave man dwelt in the dun.

DRUIM FINGIN II

This hill was known as great Druim Elga, until the days of ireful heather-brown Fingen: here came Rothniam from the populous Sidhe to meet Fingen, tall and fair.

Every Samhain-tide would the queen and the princely youth come hither; they would part from their attendants till daylight and chant an ever-doleful song.

Thenceforth the son of Luchta was assured, as omens portended, that she would tell him by word of mouth that he should rule over the fair surface of Banba.

The dazzling Rothniam used to say that he should make tryst with Fotla of Fal: she set forth to him severally the wonders of Banba's bright surface.

Dún Cuirc.	1, 2. dan eol tan rolnad] <i>rewritten over erasure</i>	12.
iss . . dú. L	iss . . dá <i>fac. wrongly</i>	
Druim Fingin II.	2. <i>fergga</i>] <i>ferggach facs. of L</i>	4. -mór] <i>so facs.</i>
<i>now illegible</i>	8. omit con	12. -fínd] <i>so facs. now illegible</i>

IS é sein ba sonsnaidm slecht
o fail in comainm comchert,
Druim Fingin co ngarb-sin gle
issind amsir ir-raibe.

20

Sund rognid in graibre gel
airne i ndeochaid Fingen:
Druim nElgga cen elgnus ñgle
dosail senchas dia rabe. R.

SLÍAB CÚA

Tanic tam, truag ind airle,
do buar Banba barr-aidble,
rosmarb cen timme na teist,
acht tarb Glinni 's a samaise.

Ser-mac Rudraigi rigda
Bresal bladach bo-dibda
ba flaith os chuan each curaich
fobái slúag in bo-chumaid.

Aice robui duanach drui
diarb ainm Buadach mac Birehlúi:
is do nogairthe cen fell
in sen-Bodb Bairchi bél-cherr.

10

Do Budb tue Bresal na mbreth
a boin is a tharb maeth-mer
ar rath féile in rig cor-rath
do chose aithgeire a druäd.

Fuacrais in drúi dia daltaib
comét in buair bec-lachtaig,
fer díb cech láí fri seire sét
dia ñgeilt is dia lan-chomét.

20

Rosaich co Cua cendmar cain
comét bend-glan in buair sain
ar fogail sluaig co seirge,
ar chonaib, ar chuan-meirle.

This was the smooth alliance of which comes the appropriate name Druim Fingin, famed for wild weather, in the time that Fingen lived.

Here was held the famous parley, the vigil to which Fingen came: here is the story whence was named Druim Elga, free of noted crime.

SLÍAB CÚA

There fell a sickness—sad the news—on the kine of wide-stretching Banba: it killed them, without exception or survivor, all but the bull of the Glen and his heifer.

The noble son of royal Rudraige, famous Bresal of the Murrain, was lord over every boat's haven and ruled the people in the cow-plague.

He had a rhyming druid, whose name was Buadach mac Birchlui: men called him, not amiss, the wry-mouthed old Crow of Bairche.

To the Crow Bresal, giver of judgement, gave his cow and his sleek wanton bull, as free largesse of the wealthy king, to stop his druid's greed.

The druid bade his fosterlings to keep the scant-yielding kine, one of them each day to guard the stock from sickness, to pasture them and watch them well.

His turn came to fair Cua *cendmar*, to keep . . . these kine from the raiding of starving folk, from dogs and thievish wolves.

17.] *read sošnaidm* 22.] *read ina ndeochaid* 24. *dosail*] *read perhaps*
dofail

Slíab Cúa. 5.] *read Sáer-mac* 8.] *read forbaí slúag i mbó-chumaid*
14.] *maeth- is uncertain* 22.] *bend-glan rewritten by later hand over erasure*

Luid lasin seilb co saine
in fer meirb cen min-gaire
conostuc i mbrothlaig buair
forsin tsleib chochlaig cith-ruaid.

Desin atá in caem-sliab Cua,
nocon é in saeb-niam sar-nua:
fair fogní fulucht n-ambal
diarbhi in muducht mor-adbal.

30

Rodelbus gleri cen gua
do šenchus Sleibe sen-Chua,
droñg rand raglan im gnim ñglice:
oll in t-adbar trias' tanic. T.

CELL CHORBBÁIN

Cell Chorbbain, clár cen chreidim,
cus' tathig dām is dirim,
la Pátric Macha a mór-raind,
toraind nar tacha tirim.

Failet náem, dam cen dimblad,
nonbur 'sa mbág ri Bregmag:
céin beit a mbuada ar bruidnib
turmid sluag trúana ar tend-blaid.

Mollíng dia lluid a Breg-dáil
dessid 'sin chill chaid chomláin
Sraphan, Lucan is Lugná . d,
Muadán, Cerbban is Chonlaid.

10

Corbbán, rochind for crábud,
fail sain chill fo chraibaib:
Baetán, nar brónach álaig,
in nomad naem da naemaib.

Failet nói rí, réim n-ága,
i Cill Náis fo neim niamda,
Murícan moen cen merball,
Cerball is Cellach cialla,

20

This undutiful sluggard went with his master's beasts secretly and put them in a cooking-pit for kine on the shady red-showered mountain.

Hence comes the fair Sliab Cua—it is no brand-new specious splendour; upon it he builds a darksome pit, when he wrought the monstrous slaughter.

I have fashioned a choice truth-telling tale from the story of old Cua's Mountain, a muster of polished stanzas in my cunning work: great is the cause whereof it came.

CELL CHORBBÁIN

Cell Chorbbáin, a plain whose fame decays not, visited by companies and crowds; to Patrick of Armagh belong its broad confines, an allotment neither scanty nor sterile.

There are saints, a famous company, nine of them, allies against Mag Breg: so long as their privileges rest on palaces, count ye the host . . . as secure fame.

When Moling came from Brega's conclave, he settled in the holy perfect church: Srafan, Lucan, and Lugnaid, Muadan, Cerbban, and Conlaid;

Corbban, surpassing in piety, rests under branches in the church; Baetan, not melancholy of humour, is the ninth of its saints.

There are nine kings, a martial line, shining in splendour at Cell Nais; Murican *moen*, unerring of aim, Cerball and wise Cellach,

Cell Chorbbáin.	5.] <i>read náeim</i>	8.] <i>fac. of L reads ard tend-</i>
blaid	11.] <i>read Lugnáid: the i has been erased</i>	12.] <i>a punctum delens</i>
<i>under the i of Chonlaid seems due to a later hand</i>		14.] <i>read isin chill</i>

Colmán, Broen, is Bran beoda,
Find, Faelán, Dunchad dana,
i Cill Chorbbain, rochuala,
roclaitti a n-uaga ága.

Failet nói mná co massi
thall a taissi i tóeb chroisse,
Sadb is Etáin cen uissi,
Medb is Deccair Deir Choisse.

Aillend is Aíne i n-oen-úaig,
Ailbi ocus Aife tír-tíal,
Uasal oen-gel, ben Faelain,
mór saer-fer diarbu tír-mian.

30

Nonbur rí, nonbur rígan
tucsat sir-blad da sámud,
is nonbur náem bud naemdu,
bad oebdu cin ó Adum.

IMdai rí, ocus rígnai
is gillai gribdai grada
aes uird is cheóil fri córgud
la toeb trí nonbur ndana.

40

INmain cathir is chlith-rúaim
cos' tictis maith-tír mochrad:
alaind in senud seing-thaeb,
cúiri cend-caem dar clochan.

Cech erraig, uair cen fáille,
tictis sluaig luaith, dar linne,
co Cerball daith cen dognus:
ba maith a corgus cille. C.

Gormlaith glórda cen gainni,
rígan rí Fómna finni,
doriñgni gnímu grána,
ingen rí Traga Tinni:
Aillend is Chellach Carmain
dosfuc i talmáin cilli. C.

50

Colman, Broen, and the lusty Bran, Find, Faelan, bold Dunchad ;
at Cell Chorbain, as I have heard, their soldier-graves were dug.

There are nine women, fair to see ; yonder beside the Cross rest
their remains : Sadb and Etain, not meek of mood, Medb and
Deccair Der Choisse ;

Aillend and Aine in one tomb, Ailbe and full-modest Aife,
Uasal *óen-gel*, wife of Faelan—many a noble desired her !

Nine kings, nine queens brought long renown to their meeting-
place, with nine saints, the saintliest and the comeliest of Adam's
line.

Many are the kings and the queens and hawklike favourite
squires, the clerics and the musicians in array, beside those three
bold nines.

Dear is the city and the sheltered churchyard, where nobles
came at early morn ; comely is that slender synod, that fair-faced
assembly beyond the causeway.

Every spring, punctual to the hour, came the hosts swiftly, we
throw, to brisk unsullen Cerball : good was their church's Lent !

Gormlaith, ready of speech, open of hand, queen of the king of
shining Fomuin, daughter of the king of Traig Tinne, wrought
dreadful deeds ; Aillend and Cellach of Carman she laid in the
church-ground.

28] *over Deccair is written proprium (sc. nomen) : so too in 31 over Uasal*
50.] *the in of finni is rewritten*

Ni raibi duini daidbir,
 crech no chuire no chend-gail,
 ni rabi dām cen deg-raind
 i flathius Cherbaill chend-glain.

Cerball, nir dúí ciar dót-mer,
 diar' chluí ar Cormac in chetail
 tri fichit cet is coicfiur
 tuitset ria n-óc-fiur Etair.

60

Coic ríg trichat cen chreidim
 rogabsat hErinn n-alaind
 o Lagnib na cath cétach
 otá Etar co hAraind.

Cóic ríg déc, cen daidbri dām,
 gabsat rám os Raigni rúad
 o Faelan, cen daidbri dál,
 cosin n-ár i nAlbe úar.

70

Nir samlá Cherball ri nech
 hi cein bess Bregrand ar bith:
 nir chumma nech ris im chath
 nir chumma a chrech nach a chath.

Ni raibi rfam a chomfíal,
 ni tharat biad do bran-eon,
 reme nir chin a chom-chaem:
 seele a moch-thaeb fo fain-eor.

IAR n-ól a fíled ba forlond,
 tri fichit med ba med-rand;
 tri fichit ríg, reím ndeccair,
 leis dia lepaid la Cerball.

80

Ba hollom berla Féne,
 ba leignid leire mebra,
 ba faid, ba fili forba,
 ba suí solma na senma.

There was no man poor, neither raiding nor mob nor riot, there was no band of poets left portionless, in the reign of bright-haired Cerball.

Cerball, though prompt of hand, was no boor when he vanquished Cormac, maker of songs; three score hundreds and five fell before the young lord of Etar.

Five and thirty kings of unfading fame from Leinster of the hundredfold battalions ruled over beautiful Erin, from Etar as far as Arran.

Fifteen kings, no band of beggars, grasped the helm of red Raigne, from Faelan's day—no beggars' conclave—till the carnage at cold Albe.

Compare none to Cerball, so long as Brega's land endures; there was none to match him in battle, none to match him in foray nor in fight.

None was ever so generous, none like him to feed the ravens; before him lived none so fair as he; alas that he is laid untimely under the bending grass!

After drinking at his feasts, he was stronger than all, three score measures was his share of mead: three score kings, an array hard to vanquish, attended Cerball bedward.

He was an adept in the tongue of the Féni, a student diligent of memory, a seer and an accomplished poet, a ready scholar in music.

Ba gaisgedach cen gainne,
 rí taistelach cen timme,
 marcach os echaib ána,
 nia craiti cana cille. C. 90

IAR ndola i ndebaid ndeg-theind
 notheilged foga frithgrind,
 ba gnáth a haithle affrind
 co tabrad fath ar fithehill.

A secht fo thrí cen daidbre
 rothecht ar Laigne linne
 flathius Cerbaill cuir Carmain,
 col-luid i talmain cille. C.

Triar ic dul dar Banba mbind,
 cath Liamna, labrad lan-grind, 100
 Caemgen in dag-fer nosding,
 Brigit Lagen dia lar-chill. C.

DRUIM N-ASSAIL

Druim nAssail, iarfaigther dam
 eid diatá in tilach thond-glan?
 dund fir rothreb fora foir
 diatá Assal mac Umóir.

Acus meic Umoir uile,
 cade a slonnud ar suide?
 cade a craeb choibniusa immach,
 acht mad fine Fomorach?

Fer díb-side, Assal ard,
 dessid uasin druim dron-ard 10
 im-medón Muman, miad ngle,
 uas Chliu Máil meic Úgaine.

Adaig luid Fergus mac Róig
 do thig Assail meic Umóir:
 ferais Assal failte fris,
 'Muchen duit, dia caemsimmis.'

He was a man of prowess unstinting, a king that roved unafraid, a cavalier mounted on splendid steeds, a champion disseminating the Church's Law.

When he joined in stubborn strife he would hurl a biting dart ; after Mass, it was his wont to show his skill in chess.

Thrice seven years, without poverty, the rule of Cerball . . . of Carman possessed our Leinster among us, till he came to the church's soil.

There are three names current throughout vocal Banba : the sage of Liamain, a right pleasant saying ; Caemgen, the high-born, who disciplines them ; Brigit of Leinster, from her great church.

DRUIM ASSAIL

They ask me why the bright-faced hill is called Druim Assail ? It was from one who settled there in his home, whose name was Assal, Umor's son.

And the Sons of Umor generally (they ask me next), what means their appellation ? whence springs their pedigree, unless they be a family of the Fomoraig ?

Tall Assal was one of them, who settled upon the hill, high and strong, in mid-Munster, bright in renown, above Cliu, Mal mac Ugaine's domain.

Fergus mac Roig came one night to the house of Assal mac Umoir : Assal gave him greeting, 'Welcome to thee—were it mine to give !'

‘Cid’, ar Fergus, ‘cid diatái?
 du menma cid araclóe?’
 ‘Innocht,’ ar Assal, ‘mu brath,
 itá i tucthin mo marbath.’

20

‘Ni rag-sa’, ar Fergus, ‘istech:
 ní maith aige anairech:
 rout, a gillai, dar druim sair,
 scuir in carpat iar sodain.’

Áth Carpait Fergusa itá
 aness do tháib na tulcha:
 dessid and ed bec ón rót:
 bai fer ocon forcomeót.

Im-medón aidchi tic dám
 assin tír dianid ainm Espán:
 suil dressed súas, fír raclos,
 báí tricha gae i Fergos.

30

Atnaig Fergus na ferga
 imna rennaib roderga,
 marbais tricha díb didu,
 rofaceib 'na chró-ligu.

Tiagait ass na slóig iar sain,
 gabait tall im thech nAssail,
 co rucsat cend Assail áin
 ó hÉirind co hEspáin.

40

Othrais Fergus ilair ngal
 i tig Conchind meic Dedad:
 tanic Cú Rúi d' fíis scél
 otá tír Franc cu fortrén.

Accaínis a imned fris
 Fergus fri mál Maige Mis,
 co ndeochatar dib línaib
 ir-rocheín dia rodigail.

'Why so?' said Fergus, 'what ails thee? what weighs upon thy mind?' 'To-night', said Assal, 'comes my betrayal: my death is fore-ordained.'

'I will not enter,' quoth Fergus: 'it is not good that a guest be careless. Forward, boy, over the ridge eastward; then unyoke the chariot.'

The Ford of Fergus' Chariot lies southward from the hillside: there he camped, a little way off the road, setting a man to keep guard.

At midnight comes a band from the land called Spain: before he could rise ('tis a true report) there were thirty spears in Fergus.

Fergus hurls himself in wrath upon the ensanguined points: thirty foes he slew, and left them weltering in their gore.

Then the enemy withdraw and encompass Assal's house yonder, and they carried off noble Assal's head from Erin to Spain.

Fergus of the many deeds lay sick at the house of Conchenn mac Dedad: Cu Rui came in his might from the land of the Franks, seeking news of him.

Fergus made complaint of his pains to the lord of Mag Miss, and they went together on a far journey to avenge him.

23.] ádar ms. 28.] forcomét (*with o under -ét*) ms. 30.] read diand
 36.] read cró-ligiú 40.] read óthá Éirinn 41. ngal] the ñ is added
 above: read ilar ngal or ilair gal 43.] read probably d' 'fis a scél

Cathir in ríg ruc in cend
 tanic dias trén 'na thimchell,
 muchsat marbsat immon ríg
 in slóg direcra dírim.

50

Co tucsat leo na da cend
 ó hEspáin co tír n̄hErend,
 cend in ríg ronert innair,
 cend n̄Assail co Druim n̄Assail.

D.

SNÁM DÁ ÉN

Snámh Dá Én cidh díá tá? Ní ansa. Nar mac Feic meic Imcadha meic Conaill cernaigh robáei i cóicedh Olnécmacht. Esten ban-fénidh is sí bá ban-chéle. Ba lendán di-sidhe Buidhe mac Dere a Crúachán Duibthíre. Nothathaighedh iarom Buidhi ocus a chomalta .i. Luán mac Lughair meic Luigheach ir-richt dá én co hEstin ocus nochantaís céol sirrechtach don t̄sluagh, conoseuredh a suán. IN tan iarom ba codludh dóibh notheightis ina rechtaib fén andsidhe, ocus nocodladh Buidhe fri hEstin. Rofiarfacht Nar díá drúidh can asa tigtis na heono út co hÉstin. Roinnis in drái do corb íat báí ir-rechtaibh na n-én .i. Buidhe ocus Luan. Tancadar iaromh arnamarach for Sinaind co mbatar oc snám fuirre. Luidh Estin na comdháil. Tic Nár fora culo ocus nosdibraic na heona, condaromarb d' áen-urchur. Conidh on t̄snamh sin dorónsat na heóin fair raiter Snam Dá Én de. Fágaibhther dano betha bec a Luán ocus luidh-sidhe lam fri sruth conérbailt oc Áth Luán, conidh uadh ainmnighther an t-áth. Luidh dano Estin co Magh n̄Estin co n-apadh ann, conidh uaidhe raiter Magh n̄Eistin. Marb dano Nar do cumaigh a mhná oc Móin Tíre Náir, conidh desin asbert an senchaidh :

IS de sin atá Áth Lúain
 is Snamh Da Én fri haen-uair,
 is Móin Tíre Náir, niamhdha an dal,
 is Mag n̄Estin re imradh.

No dano as de ata Snamh Dá Én fair .i. dia nderna Conán mil-bél mac an Daghdha ocus Ferdoman mac Ronáin, ocus Aedh

The two mighty men came unawares to the stronghold of the king who bore off Assal's head: they smothered and slew the king with his numberless unmatched host around him.

They brought with them from Spain to Erin the two heads, the head of the mighty king from the east and the head of Assal, to Druim Assail.

SNAM DÁ ÉN

Snam Da En, whence comes the name? Not hard to tell. Nar son of Fiac son of Imchad son of Conall *cernach* lived in the province of Connaught. Estiu the woman-warrior was his mate. Buide son of Derg from Cruachan Dubthire was her lover. He and his foster-brother, Luan son of Lugair son of Lugaid, used to visit Estiu in the shape of two birds, and sing a plaintive song to the host till it put them to sleep. Then while they slept the two would take their own shapes, and Buide would sleep with Estiu. Nar asked his druid whence came those birds to Estiu. The druid told him that they were Buide and Luan, in the shape of birds. The next day they came and swam upon the Shannon, and Estiu came to meet them. Nar came behind them and made a cast at the birds, and slew them both at one shot. So Snam Da En gets its name from the swimming of the birds thereon. But a little life was left in Luan, and he went along the river and died at Ath Luain, so that 'Luan's Ford' is named after him. And Estiu went to Mag Esten and died there, and from her it is called Estiu's Plain. Nar too died of grief for his wife at Moin Tire Nair. Wherefore the shanachie said:

'Hence comes the name of Ath Luain, and Snam Da En therewith, and Moin Tire Nair—glorious the meeting-place! and Mag Esten, for men to mention.'

Or again, this is why it is called Snam Da En: because Conan Honey-mouth, the Dagda's son, and Ferdoman son of Ronan,

rind ainmele dó, comrucand im Chelg ingin Ferrdomain rochuindigh Conán agus dobreth Ferrdomhan éra fair. Ar isedh rotairrngiredh dó bass d' fagbail an tan rofaífedh a ingen fria fear, conidh uime sin na tabradh-sam a ingen d' fír. Rofogair dano Conán comruc for Ferrdomhun ar dorad eiteach fair ma ingen. Tangadar iarom a dha chomalta do saidh[thin] Chonáin ir-rechtaib da én o Sídh Ban Fínd do chongnam leis .i. Remur agus Cael a n-anmann. Robatar iarom ic snamh na linne na fiadhnaise, agus comadh on tsnamh-sin adbertha Snamh Dá Én dhe. Lotar a sidhe ir-rechtaibh dá chon. Dorónadh iarom an comruc, agus dorochradar a cethrar comthoitim ann. Conidh desin adberar Snamh Da Én agus Ailén an Comraic agus Inber Cháil.

Snám Da Én, na éoin diatá
sloindfet duib can immarga,
senchas sár confeith in slúag
inní datá in Snam sir-buad.

Nár mac Féic meic Conaill chais,
n[i]rsat briathra fir anbais,
rob í a cheile, cáem in ben,
Estiu in ban-fennid bith-gel.

Buidi mac Deirg co nníri
a Cruachánaib Dubthiri
ba lennan d' Estin amra
Budi mac Deirg dath-calma.

10

Budi mac Deirg dian-garta
agus Lúan a chomalta
ir-richt da én, aebda sin,
tictis co hEstin imglain.

Andsin dochantais don tslúag
ceol seing sirechtach sir-búan
co cotlad in slúag uile
risin ceol na síd-chuire.

20

whose other name is Aed Rind, fought in combat there for the sake of Celg, Ferdoman's daughter, whom Conan sought to wed, and Ferdoman gave him a refusal. For it had been foretold him that he should die when his daughter slept with her husband; therefore he would not give his daughter to any man. So Conan challenged Ferdoman to combat, because he denied him the girl. Then his two foster-brethren came to Conan in the shape of two birds from the Sid of Fair Women to bear him aid: their names were Remur and Cael. They swam the water before his eyes, and it would be from that swimming that it is called Snam Da En. They came from the Sid-mounds in the shape of two hounds. Then the combat was fought, and all four fell there together. Hence the names Snam Da En and Ailen an Chomraic and Inber Cail.

I will tell you truthfully the names of the birds from whom Snam Da En is called: a tale of wrongs that confronts this course, the origin of the ever-glorious Crossing.

Nár son of Fiace son of curled Conall, whose words were not the words of ignorance, had to wife the lovely woman Estiu, the woman-warrior ever-white.

Buide son of Derg, by full right, from the hilly ground of Dubthir, was famous Estiu's lover—Buide son of Derg, bold of hue.

Buide son of Derg, ready in hospitality, and Luan his foster-brother visited bright Estiu in the shape of two birds, a lovely sight.

Then they chanted to the host a song, shrill, wistful, unceasing, till all the host fell asleep at the song of the fairy-folk.

Snám Dá Én. *Prose from S Verse from L I add some variants found in three late mss. OPQ (see Marstrander in Eriu v 248)* 3. sár] fire OP fior Q 6.] nrsat bría L 9.] conníri L go ndíre OPQ (*sic leg.*) 12.] dathām L with calma or talma in upper margin dathchalma OPQ

Trath nachotlad cách do chéin
tictis 'na rec[h]taib fadéin :
dobid Buide, nír deccair,
is Estiu i n-oenlepaid.

Andsin rosiarfaigend Nár
dia druid, ba dichra in comrád,
ca bale assa tecat na heóin
co hEstin alaind ard-móir?

IS andsin atbert in drúi :
' ní chélam-ní ort a rí ;
is iat na heoin dothaet and,
Bude ocus Lúan nach lán-mall.'

30

Andsin tecait forsin n-áth,
immar nathictis co gnáth :
ní-ma-tancatar 'na ndáil :
luid Estiu issin comdail.

Téit mac meic Conaill Cernaig
ara ndruim, ba mór d' erbaid,
co rodibairg, trén a cur,
corosmarb do en-urchur.

40

Facthair bethu bec il-Lúan,
cor-ránie in n-ath n-induar,
ocus 'conn áth túas atbath
Lúan mac Lugair meic Lugdach.

Luid Estiu lám frisin sruth
ocus nír garit in ruth :
is úadi sluinter in mag,
bail is marb im-maig Eisten.

Luid Nár co Tír innaír
ar cinniud ara comdáil ;
is marb do chumaíd a mná
Nár mac Feic, fer ná terna.

50

While all thus slept a long sleep, they came in their proper shape, and Buide (small wonder) shared Estiu's bed.

Then Nár inquires of them from his druid (earnest was their converse), from what part come the birds to beautiful stately Estiu.

Then said the druid: 'We shall not hide it from thee, O King! the birds that come hither are Buide and Luan—no sluggard is he.'

Then the birds come, as they were wont, upon the ford: in an evil hour they came to the tryst, and Estiu came to meet them.

Conall Cernach's son's son came on them from behind, heavy was the harm! and hurled his spear—strong was his cast—and slew them at one shot.

A little life remained in Luan, so that he reached the cool ford, and above by the ford died Luan son of Lugair son of Lugaid.

Estiu went along the riverside, and no short race she ran: from her is named the plain where she died in Mag Esten.

Nár went to Moin Tíre Náir, after their tryst failed, and died of sorrow for his wife—Nár son of Fiac, one that never fled.

25.] *read* nosiarfaigenn

27. *assa*] as O (*sic leg.*)

30. *ort*] fort L

40. *do*] *read* don

49. *co Tír innáir*] go Móin Tíre Náir OPQ (*sic leg.*)

IS desin ata Áth Lúain
 is Snám Da Én ri hoen-úair,
 is Móin Tíri Náir, niamda in dál,
 is Mag nEsten Sinna na snám. S.

Ata senchas aile dó,
 cia 'dera ní himargó,
 ocus is fir cechtar de,
 cia bether 'ca innise. 60

Aed mac Rónain cor-rathaib
 Find romarb a deg-athair:
 desin ba foglaid dond Féin
 Aed rind mac Rónain rogeir.

Aed mac Rónáin meic Aeda
 meic Imchada, ba haebda,
 is meic Laigsig, láthar ndil,
 meic Conaill meic Amairgin:

Cét n-armach n-álaind n-argda
 im thrí rígaib rogarga 70
 i torchair leis, mod cose,
 co cath Masten mór-gairge.

Trath romemaid in cath
 ar Aed am-Mastin immach,
 focraid comrac oen-fir úad,
 forin Féin, ba feidm fir-búan.

Aed is Fiachu is Cu Lagen
 rosmarb ar galaib dag-fer,
 ocus nír thairind a laím
 Aed mac Rónáin co rograín. 80

Da mbet co bráth forin chnucc
 Aed rind, ropo rigda a chucht,
 nocon fuair fer 'na agaid
 Áed mac Ronáin rorebaig.

Hence comes the name Ath Luain, and Snam Da En therewith, and Moin Tíre Nair—glorious the meeting!—and Mag Esten, by Shannon with its crossings.

The place has another legend: though I say so, 'tis no lie; and each of the legends is true, whoever has the telling.

Aed son of Ronan, rich in wealth, whose brave father Find slew, was thenceforth at feud with the Fianna—Aed Rind, son of fierce Ronan,

Aed son of Ronan son of Aed son of Imchad, fair to see, son of Laigsech, kindly of mood, son of Conall son of Amairgen.

A hundred comely valiant warriors, with three fierce kings, was the number that fell by his hand, his share so far, until the furious battle of Maistiu.

When the tide of battle turned against Aed from Maistiu onwards, he sends to the Fianna a challenge to single combat—right staunch was his gallantry.

Aed and Fiachu and Cu Laigen did he slay by deeds of valour, yet Aed son of Ronan, the terrible, stayed not his hand.

Kingly of form was Aed Rind: if he were till Doomsday on the hill, he had never found a man to stand against him—Aed son of Ronan, the man of many feats.

55.] *read* 's Móin 56.] *read* 's Mag 71.] *read* a torchair 73. *Trath*]
 anuair OPQ *read* In tráth 81.] *read* dia mbeth

IS and roerig Find féin
in trath rofemmid in Féin:
rogab a armu uile
Find mac Cumail Almaine.

IS and asbert Cailti cáid
'a Find tairind do throm-gáir!
comrac oen-tír, aidbilib ñgleo,
nitricfa céin beor-sa beó.'

90

IS andsin atrubairt Find
fri Cáilte ait bai asa chind,
'ní ferr lim-sa th' ascin marb
inna me féin tria chruad-arm.'

Asbert Cailti, cruaid a chrí;
'na geib-siu acut, a rí,
a chend for Áed co hellam,
is missi do dichennad.'

100

Asbert Aedán mac Deirg dein,
asbert Aed cul-dub cen chéill,
rodingebtais díb Aed rind;
is friu thanic a imchimm.

'Ciar maith Aedán, ciar maith Aed,
ciarb inmain let iat ar óen,
im ferr-sa re huair ñgaile
oc ascin na hirgaile.'

'Nach faeci na tri curaid?
dar lem is mor romudaig,
ní thanic im Féin cose
triar aile bud ágmaire.'

110

'Na hapair-siu sein, a rí!
ciarbtar inmain let-su th' úi;
im ferr-sa uair cinnim cath
indá ind ócbad amulchach.'

Uprose then Find himself, when the Fianna shirked the fight; he grasped all his weapons, he, Find mac Cumail of Almu.

Then spoke honoured Cailte: 'Stay thy loud shouting, Find! single combat, with peril of battle, shall not fall to thee while I live.'

Then Find answered Cailte, where he stood at his side: 'Rather than see thee dead I will die myself by his fell blade.'

Said Cailte, stout of limb: 'Be it not thy task, O King, to win Aed's head from him suddenly, while I am there to take it.'

Said Aedan son of swift Derg, and said Aed *cúl-dub*, the witless, that they would rid them of Aed Rind; their right it was to encounter him.

'Good though Aedan be, and good though Aed, dear though they both be to thee, better am I in the hour of danger, at facing the fray.'

'Seest thou not the three champions? great slaughter has he wrought, meseems; there have not joined my Fianna till now other three more warlike.'

'Say not so, O King! dear to thee though thy grandsons were, I am better, when I range the ranks, than those beardless boys.'

86.] *read ón Féin*
repeated in L

100.] *read da díchennad*

115.] *im ferr-sa*

'Narb aicnid duit Nectain nár?
narb aicnid duit lúas a da lám?
ba comlund céit cirthi cráeb,
arapa raforraig Áed.'

120

'Dard laim-siu, a Fínd aidbilib níad,
darm gae, darm [chla]ideb, darm sciath,
noco geib armu fri fec[h]t
láech frisimbria mo thig-lecht.'

Berid Cailte ceim neime
ina stuaign thruim tentide,
co tarla dó forsin maig
ocus mac Rónain raglain.

IS and atrubairt Cailte
'ina ndernais ní maítte,
rofaethais féin innossa
ma darónais erndmossa.'

130

IS and atrubairt Aed rind
'ní maith cath can choma tind:
gebat síd is erge de
da fagtha dam, a Chailte!'

Atrubairt fris Cailte cáid
'cuir uait t' armu, tair im dáil,
tairechi arm foesum, mad maith latt,
co raccillem in n-airecht.'

140

Andsin nostecat ar óen
Cailte coscrach ocus Aed:
rop ingnad ri fiannaib Fínd
damthain d' Áed d' fíir in hErind.

IS and atrubairt Fínd Fáil
'im fáilid frib cen rograín;
fota atáthi for sessam,
ní maith aicned anfossad.'

'Knewest thou not the noble Nechtain? knewest thou not the swiftmess of his hands? at lopping limbs he could match a hundred, yet Aed overcame him.'

'By thy hand, O Find, with thy might of captains—by my spear, by my sword, by my shield! he takes not yet his weapons for fight, the warrior that shall bring me to my grave at last.'

Cailte steps forth with vigorous stride, bent like a bow, strong and fiery, till on the plain he met with the radiant son of Ronan.

Then Cailte said: 'What thou hast done thou shalt not boast: thyself shall fall even now, though thou hast done bloody deeds.'

Then said Aed Rind: 'A battle without firm conditions is not good: I will accept peace and stay of battle, if thou wouldst get them for me, Cailte.'

Honoured Cailte answered him: 'Lay down thy weapons, come and meet me; come, if thou wilt, under my surety, till we parley with the host.'

Then they met together, victorious Cailte and Aed; Find's Fianna wondered to see Aed yield to any man in Erin.

Then said Find of Fal: 'I bid you welcome without fear: long have ye been afoot: a restless spirit is not good.'

118.] OPQ omit da: sic leg.

mbiadh OPQ read frisa mbia

rachad de OPQ

119. *cráeb*] caomh OPQ

134.] comhaidh OPQ

147.] cian atathaoi gan sosadh OPQ

124.] aga

135. *erge de*]

‘Ní súidiub,’ ar Cailte cáem,
 ‘ocus noco suidfe Áed,
 noco tartar a ferand do Áed,
 co fagba tuilled ré táeb.’ 150

Dorat a laim il-laím Find,
 is nir doraid dó, dar lind;
 is fuair a ferand uile
 Aed mac Rónáin in ruire.

Selat dó ‘sin tsíd rodnalt;
 sel dó ic Find i comaitecht;
 cor’ fer eter dá domon,
 corb ainm dó féin Ferdomon. 160

Masc ingen Maigni mfadaig
 robúi oc Aed isna Fiannaib;
 di ba cland, ba cáem in ben,
 Énán ocus Celg caem-gel.

Cach fer nochunged Cheilg cáemi
 ba dó féin a domaeni:
 an-nirt oen-fir cen omun
 rothuitted la Ferdomún.

Caraid Ossin mac Find
 Ceilg ingin Aeda alaind;
 ocus nocor lam a lúad,
 rop ecal leis Aed arm-ruad. 170

Conán mac in Dagdai déin,
 atrubairt riss Ossin fodéin
 ‘Cunnig Ceilg, ársit cara,
 na rabais i n-oentama.’

And sin érgis is’ tig óil
 Con[án m]il-bél, mó cech glóir,
 cor chunnig co tend Ceilg . . .
 for Aed ait imbái in mor-sluag. 180

'I will not sit,' quoth fair Cailte, 'and Aed shall not sit, till thou give him his land, and till he get somewhat more to boot.'

He struck his hand in Find's hand, and methinks it was no hardship for him; and the prince Aed mac Ronain obtained his land in full.

A while he spent in the Sid that bred him, a while in attendance upon Find, so that he was a 'man between two worlds', and Ferdomon was his name.

Masc, daughter of honourable Maigne, was Aed's wife among the Fianna; fair was the woman, and her children were Enan and fair white Celg.

Every one that sought the hand of lovely Celg, it was himself that was the loser thereby: by the force of a fearless warrior would he fall, by the hand of Ferdomon.

Ossin, Find's son, loved Celg, Aed's beautiful daughter, yet dared not speak of his love; he feared Aed of the red weapons.

Ossin himself spoke with Conan son of the mighty Dagda: 'Ask for Celg, since thou art a friend, that thou live not always unwedded.'

Then Conan Honey-mouth, glorious above all, hied him to the drinking-hall, and stoutly demanded Celg's hand from Aed, in presence of the general people.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 151.] <i>read</i> noco tarta a 'ferand d' Áed | 165. <i>Cach fer</i>] <i>read</i> cách cáemi] |
| chaoín OPQ <i>read</i> cáime | 166.] fa dho budhdhein a dhomhaoín OPQ |
| <i>read</i> domafne | 168.] <i>read</i> notuited |
| 169.] <i>read</i> Ossíne | 173-174.] |
| Conán lonndhearg (lonngarg Q) mac an Léith isbeartas arís tre cheíll OPQ | |
| 174.] <i>read</i> atbert | 175. ársit] órsad OPQ |
| 176. na rabais] L nach | |
| rabhair OPQ (<i>sic leg.</i>) | 177-196.] L is damaged here: words in brackets restored |
| conjecturally | 179.] gar chuingidh an ingean ócch OPQ Ceilg uad <i>Marstrander</i> |

‘Dober-sa duit,’ ar Aed rind,
 ‘com[rae o]enfir innisim,
 ocus nocon faigbe mnái
 a Chonaín [meic in] Dagdái.’

Noscoise Find ba ferr san tslúag,
con-nacharlaimed a lúad,
con-narchumnig nechtar de
 úair baeth briathra brócoite.

Bliadain i Formáil na Fían
 d’ Ossín cen dul sair no siar :
 issed nasfast, forom ngrind,
 [serc ingi]ni Aeda rind.

190

Tecaiseid Ossín co hán
 ar in cu[raid, ar Ch]onán,
 co tanic a ferg co trén
 do Chona[n mol]bthach mil-bél.

Atbert riss Ossín mac Find:
 ‘córu duit ferg fri Aed rind,
 rofócair fort ina thig,
 rotéastar mo ingin.’

200

Luid Conán, ba crúaid in fis,
 co fuair Aed rind ina liss,
 corochunnig fair cert claidib
 no ingin co imdemin.

Lotar bale ir-rabi ind Fían
 ocus Find féin i nGarbdfiad :
 leicid-sium dóib, feib ba gnath,
 comrac oen-fir forsinn áth.

Remur is Cael, na da cranna,
 da mac Medbi is Ailella
 oen-ben rostuargaib cen tár
 ’s in caur comramach Conán.

210

‘I will give thee,’ said Aed Rind,—‘single combat, I mean; and thou shalt not get the woman, Conan, son of the Dagda.’

Find, that was noblest among the host, restrained them, that they should not dare to speak of it; so that neither of them remembered the matter, since words spoken in liquor are but folly.

Ossin spent a year at Formael of the Fianna, going neither east nor west; this it was that kept him there, a pleasant quest, the love of Aed Rind’s daughter.

Ardently did Ossin reprove the hero Conan till his anger was strongly stirred in Conan Honey-mouth the songster.

Said Ossin son of Find to him: ‘Fitter it were for thee to be angry with Aed Rind: he challenged thee in his house and denied thee the maiden.’

Conan went (hard was the errand) and found Aed Rind in his dwelling, and demanded of him right of duel, or his daughter by sure promise.

They came to where the Fianna were with Find himself at Garg-diad: Find gave them leave, as was custom, to fight a duel at the ford.

Remur and Cael, who was not bent with age, the two sons of Medb and Ailill, were reared without blemish by the same woman as the valiant hero Conan.

183.] <i>read</i> in mnaí	186.] Conán nach lamhad a luad OPQ	192.]
searc inghine Aedha airmrinn OPQ	196.] molbthach OPQ	200.] <i>read</i>
'mon 203.] <i>read</i> cor' chunnig	204.] <i>read</i> nó in n-ingin	209.]
nach cranda OPQ <i>read</i> nad cranda		

Tancatar as Síd Ban Find
ir-richt da én os each dind;
snaft in sruth, súaire in dál,
is on tsnám atá in Snám. S.

IR-rechtaib da chon co Áed
dolluid Remur ocus Cael,
co rabatar 'ca mescad
is Conan 'ca chruad-tescad. 220

Nocor chomrac oen-fir d' Áed
Remur is Conán is Cael:
atrochratar a cethrur,
rop hí inn irgal imathlum.

Conan is Aed rind nar-ríad
rohadnaccit i nGargdiad;
ic Áth Chind Gargden cen gád
etarru siar issin Snám. S.

FERT MEDBA

Fegaid fert, forum nglinni,
Medbi fáeli folt-finni:
baí lá ní lecfaitis eich
ar ingin Echach feidlig.

Robaí d' allatas Medba
ocus d' febas a delba
co traethad da trian a gal
im cech fer ica fégad.

Dofaíd Medb, dofaíd a slúag,
is fata a ail, is cían . . . 10
apraid in fail de sin,
rádíd fír ocus fegaid. F.

They came from the Síð of Fair Women, in the shape of two birds, from place to place; they swam the river—a merry meeting! from their swimming Snam Da En is named.

Against Aed, in shape of two hounds, came Remur and Cael, and sought to perplex him, while Conan was hewing hard at him.

It was no single combat for Aed, against Remur and Cael and Conan: they fell, all four—that was the lively conflict.

Conan and Aed Rind of the races were buried at Gargdiad, by Ath Cind Gargden, free from danger, westward between the ford and Snam Da En.

FERT MEDBA

Behold the grave of Medb, the fair-haired wolf-queen, assured of port: there was a day when horses would not be loosed against the daughter of Eochaid *feidlech*.

Such was the glory of Medb, and such the excellence of her form, that two-thirds of his valour was quelled in every man on beholding her.

Gone is Medb, gone is her army; tall is her gravestone, far away her grave: tell ye the thing that comes thereof: speak truth, and behold!

216.] *read ón tsnám sin*

Fert Medba. 10-11.] *sic ms. : read perhaps is fata a hail, 's cían a húag : apraid inní fail de sín*

ARD RUIDE

Eochaid mór mac Luigdech meic Laisre meic Troitha meic Deirgthened cona brathrib, is acco báí int airechas mór i n-Ard Ruide, dia roraíd Find :

Trí tuili
bít i ndún Ardda Ruidi,
tuile ócán, tuile ech,
tuile mílchon meic Luigdech.

Trí ceóla
bít 'ca rí, ségda sodain,
ceól crott, ceól timpán, comaig,
dord Fir Thuinne meic Throgain.

Trí gáire
bít ann cen úair do therca, 10
gáir chetnata da faithche,
gáir graifne, ocus gáir erca.

Trí gáire,
gáir a muce ndronnmar ndega,
gáir a slúraig ós blai bruidne,
gáir muirne ocus gáir meda.

Trí cnúasa
bítis ann úasa slattaib,
cnúas ic tuitim, foram ngnáth,
cnúas fo bláth is cnúas abbaig. 20

Trí meic roíacaib Lugaid
cársat rulaíd a febda,
Ruide mac Luigdech lethain,
Eochaid is Fíacho ferda.

Ard Ruide. L LismFrRl *Preface from* L 1.] Tri tuile sin tri tuile
Rl 2. *bít i ndún*] ed. bít a dún L ticed a dún Lism tiedis do dun Fr
tigidís d'fis Rl *Ardda*] ard LismFr 3. *ócán*] macámh Rl macam Fr
5.] Trí ceóla sin tri ceola Rl 6. *bít 'ca rí*] L ac riguibh Lism bid

ARD RUIDE

(Eochaid *mór* son of Lugaid son of Laisre son of Troitha son of Dergthene, with his brothers : to them belongs the chief headship in Ard Ruide. Whereof Find said :)

Three affluences are there in the dun of Ard Ruide ; affluence of young men, affluence of horses, affluence of greyhounds of the son of Lugaid.

Three kinds of music hath its king—a glory this ! music of harps, music of lutes—attend ! deep tones of Fer Tuinne, son of Trogan.

Three cries are in it unfailingly : cry of the lamb from its lawn, cry of races, and cry of kine :

Three cries : cry of its broad-chined beetle-black swine, cry of its assembly upon the hall's green, cry of them that shout and them that drink mead.

Three crops of fruit there were upon the boughs in due course ; a crop just falling, a crop flowering, and a crop ripening.

Three sons did Lugaid leave ; whither are gone their riches ?—Ruide son of broad-built Lugaid, Eochaid and manly Fiachu.

garrigaib Fr ba gairid Rl *ségda*] *segda* Lism regda L séghainn Rl radh
 Fr *sodain*] ar *sodān* Lism séola Rl 7. *crott*] *cruiti* Fr *timpán*] *timpain*
 LFr *comaig*] L *comblaigh* Lism chain Fr *astigh* Rl 8. *dord* Fr
Thuinne] is *dord* *tuinne* Rl 9.] *Tri gáire sin tri gáiri* Rl 10.] *bít*
 and can *húair do therca* L *bid ann cech uair da therca* Fr *bidh ann ann*
gan uair fa terca Lism *gach nuair ann nír bo terca* Rl 11. *chetnata*]
ceachnata Lism *a cetnait* Fr *a geathnad* Rl *om. L da faihthe*] *da faihthe*
 L *da faihthe* Lism *da faihtheib* Fr *na faihthe* Rl 12. *graisne ocus*] *a*
grafni L *erca*] *echda* Rl 13-16.] *om. Rl* 14.] *gair a muc ndrondmór*
nega Fr *gair a muc ndornmhar ndegha* Lism *gair muc ndroghmar ndega* L
 15.] *so* Lism *gair a sluagh os blai bruindí* Fr *gair as bla brune* (*with gloss*
[i. ua]s faihthe in b[ai]le) L 16.] *g. mne 7 g. mheagha* Lism *gair mogh*
os findlind ena Fr *gair i éle aslú dena* (*with gloss i. gair moil in mulind over*
line, and i. usce after dena) L 17.] *Trí cnúasa sin trí cnuasa* Rl 18.]
bitis ann uasa slataibh Lism *bit ann tuas ara slataib* Fr *bís and ásuasaib*
slatta L *bid ann uasna slataib* Rl 19. *foram ngnáth*] *cnuas na bláth* L
 20. *fo bláth*] *gnáth* L 21. *roftaibh*] *forfacaibh* Lism 21-24.] *om. Rl*
 22. *cársat*] L *gersat* LismFr *rulaid*] L *rul* Lism *rulaigh* Fr *febda*] *fedma*
 etc LismFr 24. *Eochaid*] *ecaínd* L

Dobér-sa teist ar Ruidi
cus' tecat na trí tuili,
nech ní rér Ruide im ní ríam,
ocus ní ríarr ní ar duine.

Dobér-sa teist ar Eochaid
ná deochaid traigid madma,
nad epert ríam ní bad gó,
ná baí bad mó bad amra.

30

Dobér-sa teist ar Fíacho,
cársat rulaid a febda,
ná baí cen airfítíud gnáth,
ná baí tráth cen ól corma.

Tricha ruirech, tricha níad,
tricha tríath, ba foram rí:
ba hé lín a slúiaig thrétaig
tricha do chétaib fo thrí.

Trí.

40

I will bear witness of Ruide, to whom come those three affluences: never did Ruide refuse any one a boon; never did he ask a boon of any one.

I will bear witness of Eochaid that he never took a step in flight, that he never said a word untrue, that there was none higher than he in fame.

I will bear witness of Fiachu—whither are gone his riches?—that it was never his wont to lack music, that he was never long without drinking of ale.

Thirty nobles, thirty champions, thirty captains—a king's muster: thrice thirty hundreds was the number of his flocking host.

- 25-28.] *after* 29-36 LismFrRl 26. *cus' tecat*] L *custicdis* Lism
 da tiedis FrRl 27.] L *ruidhi nír ér nech im ní Fr nar erustar nech*
 um ní Lism *nir eitigh duine fa ní Rl* 28. *ocus ní riarr*] L 7 *nar iar*
 Lism *is nír cuingid Fr nír athchuingidh Rl* 30. *ná*] nach LismRl
traigid] troigh Rl 31-32] *interchanged with* 35-36 in LismFrRl 31.]
 nad ébairt L ní dubairt FrRl nocha nebairt Lism *ni bad gó*] guth bud ro
 Lism 32.] L *is ní báí laech bud amro Fr is ní bhídh budh mo calma*
 Lism *in ríogh is mo budh amhra Rl* 34. *cársat*] L *gersat etc cet.*
rulaid] *rul* Lism *rulaigh Fr febda*] L *faghla* Lism *forba Fr adhbha Rl*
 35. *ná bai*] ní bídh LismRl *gnáth*] *word erased in L* 36. *ná bai*] ní bídh Lism
 ní bí Rl 37. *niad*] tríath LismRl 38. *triath*] nía LismRl 39.
shúiaig] in tslúiaigh etc FrRl *thréaig*] L *cetaigh Rl ē. Lism co táí Fr*

ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED IN THE NOTES

Ac. na Sen.	= Acallam na Senórach.
Aisl. M.C.	= Aislinge Meic Conglinne, ed. K. Meyer.
Amra C.C.	= Amra Choluim Chille.
Anecd.	= Anecdota from Irish MSS., ed. O. J. Bergin and others.
Ann. L. Cé	= Annals of Loch Cé, ed. W. M. Hennessy.
Archiv	= Archiv für celtische Lexikographie.
AU	= Annals of Ulster, ed. W. M. Hennessy and B. McCarthy.
BB	= Book of Ballymote.
BNE	= Bethada Náem nÉirenn, ed. C. Plummer.
Bodl. Ds.	= The Bodleian Dindshenchas, ed. W. Stokes (Folk-Lore iii).
Br. D.D.	= Togail Bruidne Dá Derga, ed. W. Stokes.
Bruchst.	= Bruchstücke der aelteren Lyrik Irlands. ed. K. Meyer.
C. Cath.	= In Cath Catharda, ed. W. Stokes (Irische Texte iv. 2).
CGG	= Cogadh Gaedhel re Gallaibh, ed. J. H. Todd.
Chr. Scot.	= Chronicum Scotorum, ed. W. M. Hennessy.
CMR	= Cath Muighe Rath, ed. J. O'Donovan.
Cóir Anm.	= Cóir Anmann, ed. W. Stokes (Irische Texte iii. 2).
Contr.	= Contributions to Irish Lexicography, by K. Meyer.
Corm. (YBL)	= Sanas Cormaic, in Anecdota iv.
Dán Dé	= Poems of Donnchadh Mór Ó Dálaigh, ed. L. McKenna.
Dinneen	= Dictionary of the Irish Texts Society, by P. S. Dinneen.
Ds.	= Dindshenchas.
Edin. Ds.	= The Edinburgh Dindshenchas, ed. W. Stokes (Folk-Lore iv).
Fél.	= Féilire of Oengus, ed. W. Stokes.
Fl. Br.	= Fled Bricrenn, ed. E. Windisch (Irische Texte i) ; ed. G. Henderson (Irish Texts Society).
FM	= Annals of the Four Masters, ed. J. O'Donovan.
Fragm. Ann.	= Three Fragments of Irish Annals, ed. J. O'Donovan.
Gen. C.L.	= Genelach Corca Laidhe, ed. J. O'Donovan (Miscellany of the Celtic Society).
Heldens.	= Die irische Helden- und Königsage, von R. Thurneysen.
Hy Fiach.	= Genealogies of Hy-Fiachrach, ed. J. O'Donovan.

- Ir. Gr. Tracts = Irish Grammatical Tracts, ed. O. J. Bergin (supplement to Eriu viii *et seq.*).
- Ir. Nenn. = The Irish Version of Nennius, ed. J. H. Todd.
- Ir. T. = Irische Texte, ed. E. Windisch and others.
- ITD = Dictionary of the Irish Texts Society, by P. S. Dinneen.
- ITS = Irish Texts Society's publications.
- Keating = Forus Feasa ar Eirinn, ed. P. S. Dinneen (Irish Texts Society).
- KZ = Zeitschrift für vergleichende Sprachforschung.
- LArdm = Book of Armagh.
- LBr = Leabhar Breac (facsimile).
- L. Gab. (Macal.-MacN.) = Leabhar Gabhála, ed. R. Macalister and J. MacNeill.
- L. Hymn. = Liber Hymnorum, ed. J. H. Bernard and R. Atkinson.
- Lism. Lives = Lives of Saints from the Book of Lismore, ed. W. Stokes.
- LL = Book of Leinster.
- L na Cert = Leabhar na gCeart, ed. J. O'Donovan.
- LU = Leabhar na Huidhre (facsimile).
- Mart. Don. = Martyrology of Donegal, ed. J. H. Todd and W. Reeves.
- Mart. Oeng. = Martyrology of Oengus, ed. W. Stokes.
- Mart. Tall. = Martyrology of Tallaght, ed. M. Kelly.
- MC = Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish, by E. O'Curry.
- MDs = Metrical Dindshenchas.
- Misc. C.S. = Miscellany of the Celtic Society.
- MI = Milan Glosses, in Thesaurus Palaeo-hibernicus.
- MS. Mat. = Manuscript Materials of Ancient Irish History, by E. O'Curry.
- M. Ul. = Mesca Ulad, ed. W. M. Hennessy (Todd Lecture Series).
- O'Cl. = O'Clery's Glossary, ed. A. Miller (Revue Celtique iv and v).
- O'C. Transcr., O'D. Transcr. = Transcripts of Irish Laws, by E. O'Curry and J. O'Donovan (unpublished).
- O'Dav. = O'Davoren's Glossary, ed. W. Stokes (Archiv f. celt. Lexikogr. ii).
- O'Gr. Cat. = Catalogue of Irish MSS. in the British Museum (by S. H. O'Grady).
- O'Mulc. = O'Mulconry's Glossary, ed. W. Stokes (Archiv f. celt. Lexikogr. i).
- Onom. = Onomasticon Goedelicum, by E. Hogan.
- O'R. = Irish Dictionary, by E. O'Reilly.
- Oss. Soc. = Transactions of the Ossianic Society.
- Ot. Mers. = Otia Merseiana (University of Liverpool).

- Ped., Ped. Gr. = Vergleichende Grammatik der celtischen Sprachen, von H. Pedersen.
- P.H. = Passions and Homilies from the Leabhar Breac, ed. R. Atkinson.
- Pop. Groups = Early Irish Population-Groups, by J. MacNeill (Proc. R.I.A. xxix).
- Rawl. B. 502 = Facsimile of Rawlinson B. 502, ed. K. Meyer.
- Reeves Ad. = Adamnan's Life of S. Columba, ed. W. Reeves.
- RC = Revue Celtique.
- R.I.A. = Royal Irish Academy.
- Rennes Ds. = The Rennes Dindshenchas, ed. W. Stokes (Rev. Celt. xv and xvi).
- Sg. = St. Gall Glosses, in Thesaurus Palaeo-hibernicus.
- SG, Sil. Gad. = Silva Gadelica, ed. S. H. O'Grady.
- Side Lights = Side Lights on the Táin Age, by M. E. Dobbs.
- Sitzber. = Sitzungsberichte der königlich Preussischen Akademie.
- Sned.-MacR. = Snedgus und Mac Riagla, ed. R. Thurneysen.
- SnR = Saltair na Rann, ed. W. Stokes.
- Studies = Studies, An Irish Quarterly Review.
- TBC (or Táin) Str.-O'K. = Táin Bó Cúalnge, ed. J. Strachan and J. G. O'Keeffe (Eriu i *et seq.*).
- TBC (or Táin) Wi. = Táin Bó Cualnge, ed. E. Windisch.
- Th. P.-H. = Thesaurus Palaeo-hibernicus, ed. W. Stokes and J. Strachan.
- Three Hom. = Three Middle-Irish Homilies, ed. W. Stokes.
- Three Sh. = Three Shafts of Death, ed. R. Atkinson (1890).
- Thurn. Gr. = Handbuch des Alt-Irischen, I. Teil, von R. Thurneysen.
- Todd L. = Todd Lecture Series.
- V. Bran = Voyage of Bran, by K. Meyer and A. Nutt.
- VSH = Vitae Sanctorum Hiberniae, ed. C. Plummer.
- V. Trip. = Tripartite Life of S. Patrick, ed. W. Stokes.
- Wb. = Würzburg Glosses, in Thesaurus Palaeo-hibernicus.
- Wi. = Irische Texte i (Wörterbuch), von E. Windisch.
- Wortk. = Zur Keltischen Wortkunde, von K. Meyer (Sitzungsberichte d. Preuss. Akad.).
- ZCP = Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie.
- Zu ir. Hds. = Zu irischen Handschriften und Litteraturdenkmälern, von R. Thurneysen (Göttingische Abhandlungen, N.F. xiv, 2 and 3).

NOTES

ESS RUAID I

ESS RUAID is Assaroe at the mouth of the river Erne.

Of Aed Ruad, to whom the first seven stanzas relate, there is a brief account in LL 20 a 46 *seq.*, which is edited by Stokes in Rev. Celt. xvi. 279 as the dindsenchas of Emain Macha: cf. LL 128 b 18. He was son of Badurn son of Argatmár, and held the kingship of Ireland turn about with Cimbaeth and Dithorba: see also Four Masters a. m. 4470 to 4518. The prose ds. in BLc etc. says that he was drowned *oc faircsin a delba oc snám in essa*, but this detail, which may be a classical reminiscence, is omitted from the LL ds., and also from the account in LL 20.

3, 4. One might also read *indat léir . . . a scél* 'is its story clear to thee?' but this is less well supported and makes *co huiair fessa* somewhat awkward. With *léir i sceól* cf. Th. P.-H. ii. 314, 23 *ba léir*, (gl.) *i crábud*.

6. BM read *cía rochín ga chúan* 'who was born by its harbour?' but this is not supported by the other mss.

7. *in fer nó in ben?* cf. MDs. iii. 2, 17.

baillb 'mute', and therefore inglorious: cf. p. 130, 99, *na mná cen brig mbailb*.

10. Better: 'from him (is named) the cataract' (E K.): *ramuirn*, either 'clamour' or 'impetuosity'. Read *ar tír nó ar tuinn* (*ar = for*).

13. For 'lovely' read 'solid' or 'massive' (mod. *tiugh*): so at MDs. iii. 190, 9 and 434, 35; iv. 60, 47 (O.J.B.).

15. Cf. TBC (Eriu) 349 *seq.*: *Ní fairgēba-su ar do chind laech bas andsu . . . ná comlond aesa radsia co trian*: LL 250 a 46 *nocon facca ní rosaissed leth no trian do chruth*: and for the preposition in *for Aed* cf. Fl. Brier. § 91 *ní rabi láith gaile rosassad leth méite fair*.

16. Aed is said to be '(king) of Emain', although the place was founded by his daughter Macha: see Rev. Celt. xvi. 281.

26. A dead warrior was buried in his cloak.

27. *sáerda sin*: perhaps a parenthesis (E.K.).

30. Read *Maine*, not *Máine*: so 39. *Maine mil-scothach* is mentioned in TBC and elsewhere among Medb's seven sons. In the prose ds. of Ess Ruaid, however, he is called 'son of Donn Désa'. So too LL 137 b 36 *Ruad rig-ingen Maine milscoith meic Duind Désa*. The confusion arose no doubt from his association with the sons of Donn Désa in Bruiden Da Derga: see Stokes's edition §§ 42, 49, 50. In the old summary of the Bruiden from the Cin Dromma Snechta (see ZCP x. 219) he is called *Maine milscothach mac uae Aurbaithe*, but this does not seem to be a genuine patronymic.

31. The mss. have all different readings of this line, but agree, excepting L and M, as to *-somairn*, which is confirmed by alliteration and rhyme. I can only explain it as the preterite of *mairnim* with the prefix *so-*, though

rabapne?

I have not seen this used elsewhere as a verbal element. L's reading, which seems to be *rodofomairn* (but the *f* is perhaps *s*), suggests the correction *rodasomairn*: the other texts omit the infixed pronoun and add *sin* or *sun* as a stopgap. *Sil* is dat. of *sel*, as *-fir* of *fer* (32).

32. The story of Ruad can hardly have been invented expressly to explain the name Ess Rúaid, or she would not have been made a woman; Rúaid cannot be a feminine genitive.

36. *srónmár* rhymes with *mór-grád*: Stokes (Rev. Celt. xvi. 33), misunderstanding L's reading [*š*]*rónmar*, supposes the name to be Aed Rón. L makes Aed son of Imchad, but all other copies read *Labrada*; and all copies of the prose, including LL 165 a 6, give the name of his father as Labraid *less-brecc*. This, according to the Ban-senchas (LL 137 a 35), was the name of the father of Nechtain, husband of Bóand: cf. Sil. Gad. ii. 474 (vii) *b*; in the ds. of Bóand (MDs. iii. 27, 2 and 29, 41; Rev. Celt. xv. 315) Nechtain is called 'son of Labraid', but the epithet *less-brecc* is omitted. It seems, then, that Aed *srónmár* belonged to the Tuatha Dé Danann. Other authorities, however, call Nechtain *mac Námat*: so in MDs. ii. 18, 17; iii. 36, 47; LL 10 a 17.

37. Mag Moeín = M. Maín = Maenmag: see Onom. and MDs. iii. 538.

41. For *tibim*, used of water, see Meyer, Bruchst. i. § 154, and cf. *is mairg frisi tibi gen in ben di thonnaib túli* LU 40 a 4.

42. 'Abcán the poet' must be the *Abcán mac Bic Felmais meic Con meic Deinécht*, 'poet of Lug mac Eithlenn' mentioned among the Tuatha Dé Danann in LL 10 a x, 11 a 49: cf. ZCP xiii. 132 § 8.

50. *sáeb-chúan*: cf. *sáeb-choire*, *sáeb-chuithé*.

55. *bluga* seems to mean something like 'spell' or 'charm': cf. p. 332, 54.

56. The prose has *co cuala dord na samguba isinn inbiur nach cuala nech riam*, rendered by Stokes, 'she heard the mermaid's melody' etc. His authority for the 'mermaid' is no doubt O'Clery's *samhghubha* .i. *anmanna na murádhuchan bhios istin b'fuirge*. But it is quite likely that O'Clery's rendering is drawn from this very passage, and there is no reason why the word should not be a compound of *guba* with the prefix *sam-* (= 'joint', cf. *sam-therc*, *sam-thodáil*, *sam-thuille*, *sam-ildánach*) meaning 'chorus of wailing'.

57. *daib ndét*, 'falsehood of the teeth' instead of the commonplace 'lips'.

59. *dúalus* means 'hereditary or natural right'; the poet has no special family claim to speak of Ess Ruaid.

ESS RUAID II

This tale (both prose and verse) is found only in the Book of Lecan. The Aed Ruad to whom it relates is called in the prose of Ess Ruaid I the son of Badurn (Rev. Celt. xvi. 31), so that there can be no doubt about the emendation proposed in line 10.

4. *roriaraíd* for *roriaraig*, 'satisfied (him)': cf. Anecd. ii. 64, 13.

5. *re lind*: either for *fri lind* (*prainde*) 'at meal-time', or for *ria lind* 'during his time (of service)': or possibly for *fri lind* 'as well as drink'.

6. *imrind* as a substantive means something like 'points of weapons', as in *cath n-imrind* Ir. T. i. 212, 3: *ri Uladh gusan imrinn*, Ir. T. iv. l. 1049.

22. The ms. has *aenā*, apparently for *aenán*. This word glosses 'ullus', Ml. 37 b 10: O'Dav. 127 explains it by *aonur*, quoting *ó athair éenan in coibche sin*: and at 159 he quotes from the Laws *féenan cuma* (i. e. *fo éenan cuma* 'in the same way'): cf. *ibid.* 1435 *faenan scor scothas*. Cf. Laws Glossary. But perhaps we should read here *éan do lá*, which occurs = *éan do laithib.* See note on Bile Tortan 73, p. 441 *infra*.

35. I refer *gailh* to *gáeth* 'sea-water, estuary'. Cf. p. 68, 151 and MDs. ii. 38, 30: O'Cl. has *gaeth* i. *fairge*: so Eriu vii. 224, st. 39: cf. *goithlach* 'marsh'. But the rhyme is faulty.

37. The form *uirri*, referring to masc. *ess*, seems due to confusion between masc. *airi* and fem. *fuirri*.

40. For this use of *is* in pedigrees, see MDs. iii. 515, note on Carn uí Néit, 5, and p. 442 *infra*, note on Lége 8. Read *meic . . . meic*.

42. Read perhaps *cor 'na thuaristol* 'security for his wage' (E.K.).

DRUIM CLIAB

This name survives as Drumcliff, the name of a river, a bay, and a parish a little north of Sligo town. This legend is evidently drawn from the lost *Forbais Dúin Barc*, which is mentioned in the list at L.L. 189 c 52. Stokes identifies Dun Barc with Dunnamark in Bantry Bay.

7. *ós cach rainn* should be rendered 'above every province'.

12. The metre compels one to treat *corr-deibig* as a compound, tr. 'C. of the uneven fight': but possibly it is an adjective agreeing with *Caurnáin* or *Caurnán*, and *tarchlaim* is a verbal noun: O'Reilly has *tarchlaim* 'a gathering, muster': cf. CMR 60 z, *targlamh* (: *Alban*). There was probably a confusion of forms derived from the stems *ell-* and *glenn-*: cf. Ped. Gr. ii. 510. Translate then: 'the gathering of Caurnan, the lone fighter' (or 'prominent in fight').

13. *Leó*. The Lecan text of the prose, printed RC xvi. 33, has *Loga lam-fhota*, confusing Leo with Lug mac Ethlenn: but the other prose copies have *Loai* (LBodl.) or *Leo*, and all copies of the poem read *Leo*.

15. Read with L (margin) *fer tréith* 'a weakling': Ainle was effeminate, cf. 23. In the modern language *trácht* means 'talk', and perhaps that is the sense here: Dun Barc was so strong that the possibility of its being attacked was never mentioned in Ainle's house.

16. *beó-choraig*. Meyer, Contr., gives doubtfully '*corach* = *corrach*, eddying?': but in MDs. iii. 338, 15 and 352, 68 *coruch* and *mór-chorach* probably mean 'skilled in spear-throwing'; so also *Faílbe il-chorach*, ZCP x. 85. The force of *beó-* is the same as in *beó-gonim* Contr.

17. *glac im gail* 'a grasp round smoke' (Bergin): cf. *dorn im diaid* O'Dav, 1586 (so Marstrander, RC xxvii. 88) and ITS xii. 167. The capture of Dun Barc was no futile achievement.

18. I have printed *lámaid*, supposing it to be a *nomen agentis*, but one might read *lámaig*, g. of *lámach*.

19. *fo dígail*. From this phrase and from line 23 it appears that Caurnan's raid was a reprisal for an attack on Druim Clíab, made probably by Leo *lámfhota*, since Ainle is described as unwarlike.

24. *cen scarad*, i.e. 'we have left no dead nor prisoners behind us'.

25. *Lc's ar n-uaitl* is perhaps right: 'C. who has increased our pride'.

31. *cen bél-gus mbla*. I take *mbla* to be a substantive, and *bél-gus* gen. pl. dependent thereon. Meyer, *Contrib.*, gives *blá* 'shout, din' with long vowel: but it is short in *uath-bla* (MDs. iii. 396, 5; iv. 236, 15), *serc-bla* (iv. 84, 63), *rót-bla* (ii. 26, 5), *sid-bla* (iii. 336, 35), which seem to be compounds of this vocable. If *bél-gus* is a compound of *bél*, the rhyme (: *delbus*) is imperfect; there are other defective rhymes in MDs. iii. 322, 67-68, *traig-se* : *maig-se*; 344, 83-84, *cró-derg* : *rogerg*. Cf. Sitzber. 1918, 882.

40. *dorinded*: one would expect the plural. This stanza is found only in *Lc*.

LOCH GILE

Now Lough Gill in Sligo. This poem is only in *Lc*; *S* has a second copy of the prose, which differs in phrasing from *Lc*, and adds two quatrains:

Teid Gili . dia fothrugad i snighi :

do deoraib muimme co moch . díb dorigned Loch Gile.

Carnn Romra a carn airtherach : 7 Carnn Omhra in carn ele :

dias nach denann ní do bairc . intib sin aít a tige.

4. *or moch* seems = *ór'bo moch*.

6. Read *far' chuir socht* 'whereby she imposed silence' (O.J.B.).

13. *ingen* is subject: cf. MDs. iii. 94, 13 *rogab ét ingen Roduib*, with note *ad loc.*

22. I have suggested altering *on* to '*mon*', on the ground that the foster-mother would not be called *ingen*.

30. Translate: 'of sorrow for her' (E.K.).

32. After this line a couplet has fallen out.

NEMTHEND

The name of Nemthend survives as Nephin, a mountain in Tirawley, overlooking Lough Conn. Fergus Lethderg was one of the leaders of Clann Nemid; see LL 6 a 18. Besides the twenty-four victims of Dreco (who no doubt was a Fomorian sorceress), there was, according to *Lebor Gabála*, another son Britán, who escaped from Ireland and became the eponymous progenitor of the Britons: LL 6 b 25. I have found no other reference to the fight at Bregross. The only Bregross noticed in Onom. seems to be in Louth: see TBC (Wi.) 3323, MDs. iv. 182, 3.

2. The mid.-Ir. gen. of *mac* is *meic* (: *gleic* etc.) (O.J.B.). Yet cf. p. 34, 47-48 *glaiicc* : *maicc*.

7. The rhyme requires *beirg* (not *berg*). The noun *berg*, which means (1) 'brigandage', (2) 'a brigand', is feminine, and the genitive should be *beirge*: perhaps when it acquired the concrete sense, and denoted a person, it sometimes changed gender and declension. Meyer, *Contrib.*, quotes from SnR an adjective *bergy* of undetermined meaning.

13-20. Only twenty sons are enumerated, unless one is to treat *Mál* in 13, *Cass* in 17, *Temenglass* in 18, as proper names, and make two of *Saebdercán* in 14.

22. The texts vary; I take L's *der* to be the word that enters into names like *Der Forgaill*. See, however, Wortk. 173.

31. *cen mimes mail*, literally, 'without the reproach of a sluggard'.

32. *Dreco* is here evidently identified with 'the old dragon', Satan.

DUBTHIR

There were many places so named. This one is presumably to be sought for near a *Daminis*, but this again may be any one of several islands of the name: see *Onom.* As the previous legend was concerned with *Nemthenn* in *Mayo*, perhaps we have to do with *Daminis* in *Clew Bay*, or with the *Daminis* near *Ballinrobe* mentioned by *Onom.* s.v. *Dubthar*. The poem has been edited by *Crowe*, *Irish MSS. Series* (R. I. A. 1870), 184.

9. *allim for (ar)* sometimes means 'I fail (a person)': here perhaps 'betrayed'; or else 'turned upon, attacked'; cf. a *n-impódh fort*, p. 268, 13, *supra*.
23. *Rí na síne*, more exactly 'King of the weather', or 'of the storm'.

12. *áile* is probably the abstract of *ál* 'timid': cf. TBC (Wi.) 3276 *ni dlegar din(n) ále*: in the corresponding passage YBL has corruptly *nocho dluig ali*. The meaning here may be 'ruth'. Cf. MDs. iii. 342 *ba gnim áile is imomain* (sic leg.)

14. *dichron* is the contrary of *cron* 'fault'.

19. *cen chosnam de*, 'without dispute therefrom'; that is, nobody disputes the truth of this; or else, nobody disputes possession of such a worthless country.

MAG SLECHT

This is a plain in the north-west corner of co. Cavan: the branch-line of railway connecting *Belturbet* and *Drumshambo* crosses it. The worship of *Crom Crúach* or *Crúaich* is discussed by *Nutt*, *Voyage of Bran*, vol. ii, and more recently by *J. P. Dalton* in *Proc. R. I. A.*, Feb. 1922. The latter writer discusses the topography very fully, and collects the local legends connected with *Crom Dubh*, whom he identifies with *Crom Cruaich*. The principal *loci* in Irish literature bearing on *Crom* are those which connect him with *St. Patrick* (see *V. Trip.* i. 90, *RC* i. 259, *Vita Tertia* c. 46) and with *Tigernmas* (*LL* 16 b 30, *FM* i. 43, *Keating* ii. 122, *RC* xvi. 163, etc.). I am willing to believe that the legend of *Tigernmas* is a reminiscence of an old superstition, but as to the story of *Patrick's* attack on the idol, I share the scepticism expressed by *Professor Bury* in his *Life of Patrick*, 125. It seems to me to have been, if not invented, at least magnified, like so many other legends, under the influence of Biblical models, such as *Elijah's* victory over *Baal* and his priests. The name of *Mag Slecht* is no evidence for the story; the interpretation 'plain of prostrations' (*RC* xvi. 35; cf. line 24 of the poem) is invented for the occasion: *sléchtan* (not *slecht*) is a loan from the Latin *flectionem*.

In the glosses on *Mart. Oeng.*, Aug. 15, there is a notice of an idol very similar to *Crom Cruaich*. *Clochar .i. cloch óir .i. cloch ima raibe ór ag na*

geinntibh oca hadradh, 7 demhon nolahradh eisti .i. Cermand Cestach a ainm-sidhe, 7 ba hi sin ard-idhal in tuaiscirt: 'Clochar, that is stone of gold, that is a stone encased in gold which the heathen had for worship; and a demon, Cermand cestach by name, used to speak out of it, and it was the chief idol of the north.' The fragmentary Register of the diocese of Clogher makes St. Patrick expel this demon: *Beatus Patricius eiecto demone qui praestigialia dabat responsa de lapide aureo illo existente in Ciuitate Clochorensi, a quo ipsa Ciuitas denominatur . . .* (Lawlor, in *Louth Archaeol. Journal*, iv. 3, p. 245). This looks like another version of the Mag Slecht story. Cf. p. 416 note on Taltiu 97.

Meyer has edited and translated this poem in his *Voyage of Bran*, ii. 301. The copy in L has suffered by being in places obliterated, and in others retraced and ignorantly altered.

7, 8: i.e. before praying to the idol for the pleasures of life they propitiated it with tribute.

10. The reading of LL, understood by the facsimilist (whom Meyer follows) as *arm*, with the usual symbol for *ar*, is perhaps really the contracted form of *quia* (= *cia*).

48. *dodechaid*. The nearest parallels to this use of the verb that I know of are *dotháet óinmit deseom* 'he is turning into an idiot' (Eriu v. 28 y); *is don brattán dothaet é* 'of the peel comes the salmon' (Eriu ix. 49 z).

55. *gallacht* seems to be the abstract of *gallda*, which means (1) foreign, (2) barbarous, fierce, (3) valiant. Cf. L. na Cert 230 *Is mór gallacht a gaile* and MDs. iv. 70, 10 *gáibit ngalla*. Most mss. have *co ngallacht ngann* 'with rude violence', which is perhaps right.

CRECHMAEL

Hogan, *Onom.*, places Crechmael 'in Leinster', presumably on account of the reference to Enna Cennselach.

3. *ós Brega blaid*; Hogan quotes this from B as *ós Bregaib*. The reading of B, as of the other texts, is, however, *Brega*, and this is presumably a gen. sing. from a nominative *Breg*. The same form occurs in *cath Brega* (*Onom.* 124), but the locality has not been identified. Perhaps we should read *ós Brega blad* 'a fame above Brega' (taking *Brega* as = *Bregaib*, metr. gr.), with *tancabar* in 4. Sempait occurs as a place-name (not identified).

7. *gnim* is here used in a sexual sense, cf. *oipred* Sg. 190 b 3 (this is not the sense in Wb. 10 c 22: cf. 21 a 7).

11. Read *re cach sogairm*: i.e. his name was more honoured than a noble title.

17-20. The prose version printed by Stokes, RC xvi. 36, follows the verse closely; but the copy in LL 167 says that Sempait (*sic*) gave Crechmael a blow on the skull with her spancel and smashed his head to fragments, *co tarat beim dia buaraig ina chloend, co ndernai slicrig dia chind*.

LIA NOTHAIN

I know nothing as to this place beyond what may be inferred from the reference to Cruachan in line 12. Nothain seems to be a mad woman who has wandered from her home like Suibne Gelt. To judge from the prose

version edited by Stokes in the 'Bodleian Dindshenchas', which is much the same as that in LL 167 b, her story was told in an old poem, of which Cormac (s. v. *prúll*) has preserved one stanza to illustrate the word *sentuinne*.

3. *immasech* = per contra, to make up for her misfortunes.

6. The rhyme with *Conmair* shows that *-dail* is to be regarded as dat. of *dáel*, which is used of any savage dangerous creature.

6-8. Remove the stop after 6, and translate: 'C.'s daughter [dwelt in] the underwood (or, in Dubthir)': line 7 is a parenthesis, and *dét deg-caille* amplifies *cuit prainde* (E.K.).

22. Translate: 'the aged man and the lady' (E.K.).

27. Cf. LL 19 a 13 *conid uad, fri saere son, gabsat Ulaid ainmnigod*.

35. *i tresse treb*: literally 'in strength of homes': cf. MDs. iii. 316 *co tresse threb*.

42. Literally 'no surplus (beyond 150), no over-estimate', i.e. neither more nor less.

46. *mag n-Árach* 'plain of biers': either a place-name or an euphemism for the graveyard.

CARN FURBAIDE

This monument is placed (line 40) on top of Sliab Uillenn, which according to Onom. is the same as Sliab Cairbre in Annaly, barony of Granard, co. Longford. For references to Furbaide see Thurneysen, Heldensage, and Stokes, Rev. Celt. xvi. 39. In Aided Medba (LL 124) Furbaide is son of Clothru, not Ethne; and his mother is killed not by Lugaid but by Medb, on whom Furbaide's vengeance falls.

24. The river Ethne is probably, as Stokes says, the Inny, which flows from Loch Silenn (now Lough Sheelin) south-westwards into Lough Ree. Ethne, travelling from Emain westward to Cruachan in Roscommon, would naturally make for Athlone in order to cross the Shannon, and Loch Silenn and the Ethne river would be directly in her way: that is why Lugaid intercepts her at Bun Silenn. But I have tried to show (MDs. iii. 547) that there is another Loch Silenn, also called Loch Cairgin, and a Bun Silenn (or Silinne), close to Rath Cruachan: so perhaps Hogan is right in assuming a second river Ethne in that region; or else the existence of two lakes called Loch Silenn has misled the poet.

30. This line seems corrupt; I give what seems to be the sense intended: one would, however, expect instead of *rosilad* a verb meaning 'excelled' (with *Érinn*).

36. Lugaid's cognomen is generally written *sriabnderg*, but also frequently *riabnderg* or *reoderg*. In ZCP viii. 337, 25 he is called *Lugaid tri riab*.

37. *ar chacht* 'fasting', like *ar mesce*, *ar scis*. For *cacht* in this sense see Contrib. and add *corp cacht-bán* in Meyer's *Early Irish Poetry*, no. 6, st. 3. Lugaid would not eat till he had slain his enemy.

41. Render: 'A stone for every man who divided the spoil': the prose says, *cloch cach fir robái la Lugaid*. Sometimes the stones of a cairn thus raised represent the number of the slain, not of the survivors: e.g. RC xv. 330, *facbait cloch cach mairb ann* (cf. MDs. iii. 118). For this reason I translated as

in the text, being misled by Stokes (RC xiv. 441) as to the meaning of *fadb*. But his interpretation of the phrase *mar thregdas fodb omnaid* will not do, if only because an axe does not 'bore'. Windisch TBC p. 542 renders *fodb* by 'tool', but I suspect it means the 'knot' (*odb*) in the wood, which has the appearance of causing a split.

48. I print the reading of LB, but the repetition of the definite article is at least suspicious. The variants which substitute *étan* for *dét* must be rejected: how could the frontal bone drop from the head? Read, I think, *détán in meic* (or possibly *détín in meic*): cf. *detan* .i. *ó detaib : dorralla detan fris .i. fiacuil*, O'Mulc. 299. (Meyer, *Contrib.*, renders 'food', but the glossator clearly meant *fiacuil* to explain *détán*.)

51-2. The variety of readings points to early corruption of the text.

ATH LIAC FIND

First Version

O'Donovan (Hy Many, 83) identifies this place with Ballyleague on the Shannon, near Lanesborough, at the northern end of Lough Ree.

There are two recensions of this poem, differing so widely that they must be printed separately. The first is found only in the Book of Leinster and the Book of Ui Maine. The latter has also a copy of the second version, and it presents the first in a different order from L. The LM recension is clearly the older, as is proved by such forms as *liac* (disyllabic, 1), *cissi* and *roddall* (3), *torpart* (17), *Umail* (29 and 32), *danarlaic* (41), *donnánic* (42), *diú* (disyllabic, 48), *buith* (55): see also notes on 34, 35. It must be owned, however, that the text of this version is in some places corrupt, and the story difficult to follow. This is not surprising if the poem is really the work of Maelmuru, that is, presumably, Maelmuru of Fahan, who died in 887 (AU). This ascription is found only in L.

The story may be reconstructed somewhat thus. After the defeat of the northerners in the battle of Samain (see note on line 8 of the second version), Finn makes a raid in reprisal as far north as the upper end of Loch Rí. He kills Mac Connad (whoever he may be) one morning, and is resting after the fight, probably asleep, when he is surprised by a northern band under the three sons of Cerb, coming down the river. At the same time he is attacked in flank by Fland and three other sons of Eochaid *abrat-ruad*. He is hard pressed (i. 14, 27) and all his weapons are spent (says the prose) when the river-fairy Sinann comes to his aid with the Stone. He makes a cast and kills three chiefs of his foemen, swearing as he does so that he will never again use any weapon but the orthodox spear and sword, and never lie down again to rest (lest he should be again caught napping). The stone falls in the ford, and will there remain until a maiden finds it by accident, and that will be a sign that the end of the world is near.

For a different interpretation of 37-40 see below.

4. *ailig* is acc. of *ail* (pl. *ailche*).

7. Perhaps *maccu cirb* is not a proper name, but a synonym for 'swordsmen'; cf. LL 148 a 14, *mac in chtrb, is é a bés, guin*.

13. As the stanzas which precede and follow begin with *dia* (*da*), perhaps we should read *diar' sui*.

17. For *torpart*, see TBC (Wi.) p. 715 n. 4; Ir. Text. iii. 266.

18. *Finde* must be a blunder for *Echdach*: cf. p. 40, 18.

19. Read *coicail*: L has .i. which I have expanded wrongly.

20. The other version has *trén-chonchend*: perhaps we should read *tre-chonchend*; 'Flann may have been a three-headed giant (E.K.).

21. I do not understand *foichne*: perhaps we should read *foichle* 'give heed!': but this would leave *dia n-éccid* (prototonic of *inciaid*) without an object.

28. Meyer has shown (Todd L. xvi, p. xxi) that *Umall* is the original form, not *Cumall*.

29. In all copies of the second version, except S, Sinann is called Sideng (for this name see Misc. C.S. 41). Sinann is the nymph from whom the Shannon gets its name; cf. MDs. iii. 286, 33. L's reading *rugais* is impossible; M's *raigis* seems = *rigis*, which is supported by *sinid* at p. 40, 21.

34. L reads *don licc trén treochair*, which wants a syllable. M's *rotren* is an obvious attempt to mend the metre, at the expense of alliteration. I write *liicc*, disyllabic like *liac* in line 1: in 31, however, *lic* is a monosyllable.

35-37. If L is right as to the order of stanzas (in M 33-36 follow 8), *ná mella* must depend on *tuc a cend*. For the meaning assigned to this phrase cf. Beth. Náem nÉr. i. 189, § 36 *do tabairt mionn* 'to take an oath on the relics': cf. Dinneen, s.v. *mionn*.

36. *Gúaire goll* = Ossin: see RC vii. 289.

fothroelagair is for *fodróelagair*, from *folongim*. In Old Irish this verb takes the perfective particle *com-*, and the perf. 1 sg. is *focoemallag-sa*, 3 pl. *focoim-lachtar* (Ped. Gr. i. 324, if. 569). In Middle Irish we have (without *ro-*) *foelangtar*, *foelangatar*, Ir. T. ii. 1, 140; (with *ro-*, enclitic) *ní forlangair* ITS vi. 2144. The perfect stem has no *n* in Old Irish: it has intruded into the Middle Irish forms.

37. The verb *melim* is used of wearing clothes in the Caillech Bérré poem, line 8: *ní melim cith athléne*. But one would expect *leis* for *riss*. Miss Knott suggests a different explanation of this stanza: she would render 'that no implement should be whetted against it (the Stone) except spear or sword: it was moreover one of its *gessa* that its side should (not) touch the ground'. The Stone was too honourable to be used for sharpening a common tool; and its *gess* was observed, seeing that it remained under water till doomsday.

47. L's reading *conatorchratar* is probably influenced by *darochratar* in 44. I emend *conid-tochrathar*, from *docuirir* with reflexive infix; cf. Eriu ii. 152, Br. D.D. § 53: *condatochrathar* would be nearer the ms. and *lia* is sometimes feminine, e.g. LU 130 b 39, Féil. Oeng. Oct. 5, *liic móir*, but in 41 it is masculine (*danarlaic*), as usually in Old Irish.

49. *de* is not very satisfactory, but may mean 'thereby' (owing to its being washed up).

fagaib and *focaird* have here a future sense, as in Welsh: so Stokes, RC xvi. 148; cf. p. 332, 61 *supra*.

52. *arind* implies that she finds the stone by stepping on the ring which secures the chain. But the reading of the second version *tresin* certainly

gives a better sense. The stone is of heroic size so that a woman's thigh can pass through its ring.

53-56. This stanza has a different rhyme-scheme from the rest; *merthas* is guaranteed by the rhyme with *senchas*. It is formed like *derbthas*, MDs. iii. 336, 31; *trebthas*, iii. 396, 1.

Second Version

Many things show that this recension is later than the first, and further from any possible ninth-century original. The noun *lia*, with its oblique cases, occurs eight times and is always scanned as a monosyllable, whereas in Old Irish it is regularly disyllabic. Such forms as *adrochratar* (25) and stop-gap lines such as 36 and 47, which are common to all copies of this version, also show the hand of a late adapter. He has omitted the second, fourth, sixth, seventh, and tenth stanzas of the L text, probably on account of the difficulties they contain; on the other hand, he has added stanzas 2, 4 of his own invention in order to clear up the story, as he understands it. His ninth and tenth stanzas are an expansion and alteration of L's stanza 12. Finally, he has rearranged the whole poem so as to present a connected narrative. The general result is that this version is much easier to construe than the other. But though he has thus smoothed away most of the difficulties, he has left the crux in lines 23-24 unexplained. O'Curry has translated this version, M.C ii. 283.

8. Eochaid Red-brows was, according to Ac. na Sen. (ed. Stokes, line 1167), a king of Ulster who was killed by Cormac Cass in the battle of Samain, where Cormac also got his death-wound. The encounter between Finn and Eochaid's son is no doubt a sequel to that battle.

9. S here agrees with the first version in giving the name of the water-sprite as Sinann: all other copies of this version call her Sideng.

15. *airmed*, inf. of *armaim*, here used concretely. The prose paraphrase has *co tairnic airm Fhind do chaithim*.

17. Fland's laughter is 'sardonic' or demoniacal, causing terror, like that of the *geniti glinne* in the Táin: see Windisch's index *s.v.* and Meyer's Wortkunde, § 109.

23. Most of the mss. have here *cend*, as in the first version. S (usually a very bad guide) alone has *oind*, apparently the accusative of *onn* 'stone', a rare word which might easily be corrupted: and Lc's *enn* gives some support to this reading. Windisch's lexicon gives the word as neuter, but quotes from Cormac's Glossary the genitive *uinde*.

DRUIM CRIAICH

This place is now Drumcree, about half-way between Kells and Mullingar, and some twenty miles west of Tara.

The fight between Eochu Feidlech and his three sons is mentioned in Airec Menman Iraird Meic Coisi under the title *Orgain Echach for a macaib*, Anecd. ii. 47; in the late version of Compert Conculainn in D. 4. 2 it is called

Cath Droma Criaich, nó *Cath Átha Comhair* (Thurneysen, *Zu Ir. Hds.* i. 44). There is a modern version of the tale, called *Cath Cumair*, in R. I. A. 23 K 37, p. 1 seq.: this is a ms. written about 1715-17 by John MacSolly. (Cf. O'Curry, MC ii. 146, 262). The modernizer was acquainted with our poem, and borrows lines 77-80, somewhat altered. He supplies a motive for the rebellion of the Finn-Emna by describing a quarrel between Eochu and their mother Clothfhinn. She leaves Tara in anger and seeks Emain Macha, where her sons have been nurtured by Eochaid *sál-buide*. They resolve to avenge their mother's wrong by dethroning their father, and the story proceeds as in our poem. The author has not Cuan ua Lothchain's local knowledge, and his bombastic description of the fight throws no light on the topography.

This must now be examined. Instead of marching direct on Tara, the Finn-Emna make a wide detour, presumably intending to catch the king unprepared. They set out across the Foyle, proceed to Ess Ruaid and thence southward along the coast, crossing the Dub, which divides Ulster from Connaught, the Drowes, the Dall (probably the Drumcliff river), and the Sligo river (17-20). Thence they turn southward, through the territory of Corann, crossing the Segais near Boyle, traversing Roscommon from north to south (21-24), keeping along the western shore of Lough Ree, and fording the Shannon at Athlone (38). We have now to determine the points which they pass on their march from Athlone to Drumcree.

The first of these is Ath Féne. Hogan has five entries under this name (including Ath Fénne), and all except the fourth relate to Ath Féne in Westmeath: there is no Ath Féne in Ulster as Hogan supposes. He places our Ath Féne on the river Gaine, which runs east of Lough Owel into Lough Darryvarragh. His references show that Ath Féne was (1) in Corco Raide, (2) in Ui Tigernain's territory. The latter name is now represented by Magheradernan, 'which with Magh Asail (now Moyashel) forms a barony extending nearly equal distances east and west of Mullingar' (P. Walsh in ZCP viii. 580). Corco Raide is now Corkaree, a barony immediately north of Magheradernan. If the old names are mutually exclusive, like the modern equivalents, Ath Féne cannot be in both. But Corco Raide is a name of an older type than Ui Tigernain (see MacNeill, *Pop. Groups*, §§ 29, 52; *Clare I. Survey*, pt. 3, 12), so that the latter sept may have occupied ground which once belonged to the former: it is therefore more likely that Ath Féne was in Ui Tigernain territory, formerly belonging to Corco Raide, than *vice versa*. I think, therefore, that it must have been a ford on the river Brosnach (now Brosna), which flows from Lough Owel to Lough Ennell; Mullingar, which is on the road from Athlone to Tara, probably stands on the old ford. I take it that the Finn-Emna were following the Slige Assail, the western road which started from Tara and had its name from Mag Assail. It must surely have run to Athlone, the main doorway into Connaught. At all events, Ath Féne was on Slige Assail: see the passage quoted in notes on *Irarus*, *infra*, p. 433. The other places mentioned in lines 40-42 will lie successively along the road eastward. Findglais must be one of the small streams east of the Brosna: the name (Gort) Druing is perhaps kept by Lough Drin and Knockdrin. In the itinerary of the Tain (*ed.* Wi. 330 seq.)

we find Findglassa Asail (*Fionnglais Asail*, Stowe MS.) and Druing in the same order: no doubt Medb had struck the Slige Assail at this point.

Another passage which throws light on the topography is found in the Life of Fintan, also called Munnu (Plummer, VSH ii. 227; Vit. SS. Hib. ex Cod. Salm. ed. de Smedt and Backer, col. 395). Comgall, coming from Connaught (no doubt through Athlone), finds Fintan at Usnech Midi (Usney Hill, in Killare parish, is half-way in a direct line from Athlone to Mullingar). 'Puer autem voluit exire cum Comgello ad legendum et exiit cum eo. Cumque in via ambulassent et horam terciam diei celebrassent juxta vadum Fene . . . Cum autem horam mediam diei celebrassent *uc Glassaib Assil* (sic leg. Plummer). . . . Celebraverunt autem nonam *uc Combur de Glass*' (text of Cod. Salm.). Three hours' walk along Slige Assail from Ath Féne to Findglassa Assail, three more on to Combor Dá Glass, the scene of the battle (line 62): from Mullingar to Drumcree, as the crow flies, is eleven miles. The exact position of Commar (Combor) Dá Glass is uncertain, but I think O'Curry (MC ii. 262) is right in placing it on a little stream which passes Drumcree on the west and flows into Lough Darryvarragh. The ordnance survey map gives it no name, but shows that it was protected in front by a tract of marsh. The ford would be somewhat above Taghmon bridge, anciently Tech Munnu, which was on or near Slige Assail; cf. the passage from LBr preface to Amra C.C. quoted p. 433 *infra*. See also p. 438, note on L. Aindind, 2. It will not do to identify Commar Dá Glass with Commar Mana, the old name of Navan, often called simply Commar.

The poet Cúán ua Lothcháin was the friend and partisan of Maelsechnaill: see notes on ds. Taltiu, p. 413. He came of a North Meath family: hence the local knowledge which he displays (O'Curry, MC ii. 139). For a considerable part of the poem L is our only authority: this part is printed as it stands in the ms., except for the expansion of contractions.

2. *ciasa* = O.Ir. *cesu*: L's *cen cop* does not give good sense.

4. Perhaps *ón den-ló* (LS) is the right reading: the hill was called 'the hill of gore' as well as Druim nAirthir, its older name, in memory of the battle.

9. Does *dorochair* here mean 'befell'? or is *écht* used in a concrete sense = 'a slain man'? or does L's *darrochair* point to *d(i)a-rrochuir* 'of all the slaughter he wrought'? cf. *cuirim ár, cath, gleic, gliaid*, etc.

22. Three texts (LBM) treat *Ái* as a disyllable: LcS write *is for Mag nÁi*, and S₃H alter *ercatais* to *ercadais*. Cf. 122.

ercatais fuidb, literally, 'which spoils filled'—if that is the true meaning of *ercaim*.

33. Lugaíd *riabnderg* was the offspring of this incestuous union.

43. For the term *telcud* see Laws, Glossary.

49. *gabáil etna*: cf. Thes. P.-H. ii. 333 e, and Wortk. 134.

50. *immar tharras*, from *to-air-rethim*, Ped. Gr. ii.598: cf. RC x. 64 z, *an áes in(d)obtharras* 'the age in which ye have been overtaken'.

56. See Hogan, Onom. s. v. *colamhna*, which he treats as a 'tribal name': but I do not think that the passages he cites bear out this assumption. He misquotes the locus in CMR 4, *rudílsi Temrach cona colamnaib, ocus sen-tuatha Temra 7 Mide dogres oca chloind-sium co bráth*. This passage and that in C. Ruis na Rig 68, *go tréan-fhearaibh chóigídh Laighean, 7 go collamhnaibh Chriche Breagh*,

and still more clearly the passage in Hy Fiach. 170-2, about the Colamhuin na Sgríne, seem to me to show that we have to do, not with a 'tribal-name', but with the loan-word *colomain*, used as a title distinguishing certain families who gave military service to the king. Very likely they had a privileged position and held their land on a special tenure.

60. This line wants a syllable: read *Ní tarat*. For the phrase *ní tart i n-éisleis* cf. Thurneysen, KZ, 1917, p. 48.

65. Eochaid 'fasted against' his sons; they disregarded this quasi-magical procedure (as to which see Plummer, VSH I, cxx, cxxxi), and so brought their fate on their own heads.

67. The Delt is mentioned among the rivers of Conaille Murthemne in TBC (Wi.) 4216 seq.; also in the itinerary, *ibid.* 333. The territory of the Conaille must therefore have once extended as far south as Drumcree.

81-92. The texts vary as to the order of these stanzas; I have adopted an arrangement of my own.

84. *Lothur* may mean (1) a trough, (2) a clout, a rag: the latter meaning seems to be played on here.

85. *nél*: perhaps 'a swoon' (E. K.).

96. *tórand* 'ground marked out', 'limit', later *teóra*: Bergin, Eriu vii. 27.

110. *co lár* = *co lór*, mod. *go léor*: hardly, 'to earth', like foxes.

114. Mag Find, in Roscommon, Onom. Ath Fir Fén is presumably a ford of the Shannon; it has nothing to do with Ath Féne.

118. Loch Dechet (or Techet) is now Lough Gara, on the confines of Sligo and Roscommon.

119. I do not understand *ósin tur*: can it mean 'above the wave'? Cf. *ota toraib in mara Adredcái* LL 232 a 43 (= *othá tonna in mara Aratacdai*, Ir. T. ii. 1, 21): also, perhaps, ZCP vi. 269 st. 13, *itir tuile 7 traig is tor*.

120. *Tír in Náir*: cf. *Móin Tíre Náir*, *supra*, p. 178.

122. LB again treat *Ái* as a disyllable: the other texts make it a monosyllable, reading *indúair* for *úair*: cf. note on 22.

123. Cera, now Carra, a barony in Mayo, Onom.

133. *gembad*: *ge* for *cé*: the writing of *g* for pretonic *c* is extremely rare in the LL dindshenchas.

139, 140. These lines seem to refer to the year 970, when AU record: *Domnall úa Neill, ri Temhrach, do innarbu a Midhe do claind Colmain*: (FM 969 add *tar Sliabh Fuaid fothuaidh*.) He reasserted himself for a time, but in 976 (so FM, but the date is doubtful, cf. CGG xcvi) was disastrously defeated by a combination of his rival Domnall mac Congalaig, of the line of Aed Slane, and the Danes under Amlaib. After this defeat, though still regarded by the annalists as High King, he seems to have suffered eclipse, and died (in exile?) at Armagh in 979 (AU). Two of his sons, Muirchertach and Congalach, were slain by Amlaib in 976 (AU), and this event apparently cleared the way for the succession of Maelsechnaill, who was their first cousin, his mother being sister to King Domnall; see CGG clii, note 3, and cf. line 144 of our poem. The fight between Maelsechnaill and Ua Duban must therefore have taken place between 976 and 979.

144. *deg-bráthar* 'first cousins', as above.

148. Maelsechnaill was son of Donnchad son of Fland Sinna.

151-2. Translate: 'so that Ua Duban sought spoil from him'; *cunad* = *conid*, *u* = *úa* (E.K.). Ua Duban's land was in the barony of Fartullagh, south of Mullingar, ZCP viii. 579, cf. Studies, i. 190: Druim Dairbrech is east of Brí Ele, which is now Croghan Hill, a few miles across the border of King's Co. (Onom. Druim Dairbrech and Bri Ele).

156. It is clear that Goll must be Malsechnaill, and Gotán (*in Got*, 163) must be Ua Duban. This is curious, because *got* was a common sobriquet among the family of Ui Maelshechlainn (AU i. 552, note 3).

163. This line may mean that Ua Duban escaped from the scene of combat, but did not live to get far. The wood is very likely that now known as Crooked Wood, near Taghmon.

180. This line is hypermetric, but the names are all in the pedigree as given by Keating iii. 245, 191, 149, etc. One might read *maic Conaill maic maic Colmáin*.

187. *ercad graig*: does this mean simply that he kept horses, or, metaphorically, that he was the father of many sons? He had seven: ZCP viii. 292, 21.

197. *Tuatha Temra*: these may be the 'four tribes of Tara', see CMR 9, note *d*: the next line should be rendered 'the Ui Fiachach neighbour its stony flank': *re* for *ria*: *cness* is used of hills, e.g. MDs iii. 104, 6: Ui Fiachach (spelled Ui Fiachaid) were settled in Cúil Fabhair, in the barony of Fore, somewhat north of Druim Criaich (McFibis, quoted in Onom.). Loch Lebind is Lough Lene, between Fore and Druim Criaich.

202. I know nothing of this young O'Gara: his family belonged to the O'Maddens of Roscommon.

206. As to Fechin of Fore, see the life edited by Stokes, RC xii. 318. Lonan may perhaps be Lonan of Treoit in Meath, Mart. Oeng. p. 239.

TUAG INBIR

This name, wrongly printed Tuag Inber in my text, denotes the estuary of the Bann, so called, presumably, from its wide bow-like curve of sand. The poem falls into two parts, of which only the first is concerned with Tuag Inbir: the rest is really the dindshenchas of Lough Neagh, where the Bann begins its course. Two copies of the poem contain only the first part: these both belong to mss. in the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, classed as Kilbride xvi (here called 'Ed.') and Kilbride v ('K'). The Rennes MS. no doubt once included a copy of the poem on one of the lost folios, in the same order as in B; traces of another copy may still be discerned on its last folio, written probably by some one who had noticed the loss of the poem at its proper place, but the whole page is now almost entirely illegible.

The tale of Fer Fí and Tuag is very similar to that of Iuchna (Ciabán) and Clidna in RC xv. 437, MDs. iii. 207. Cf. also the story of Abcán and Ruad, MDs. iv. 4.

Nothing seems to be known of Bard Maile, to whom the poem is attributed in L.

1. *gáeth*: see note on Ess Ruaid ii. 35, p. 377 *supra*. Perhaps we should read *gaeth-glass*.

6. For Conall of Collomair, son of Eterscéol, see FM*i*. 82.

7. *lige siúil* 'birth-bed': cf. *ben siúil*, Ir. T. iii. 226.

13. The use of *des* for a period of time is unusual: the two Kilbride mss. substitute *rē*.

17. *rig rige*: cf. MDs ii. 32, 78 *Rúad rogarg rige*, iii. 342, 69 *a ri rigi*; *rige* is verbal noun of *rigim* 'stretch, rule'.

26. Fer Fi plays a part in the story of Ailill Ólomm's quarrel with the Sid-folk, which led to the battle of Mag Mucrimé; see RC xiii. 438, and Atkinson's introduction to LL, p. 20. In the prose ds. he is called Fer Figail, but in the Ban-shenchas of Gilla Modutu, LL 137 b 34, the stanza referring to Tuag's fate should read as follows:

*Tuag ingen Chollomrach Conaill, Conaire ro(s)nalt, glan grés:
Fer (Fí) rostuc asin Temraig, gel hí 7 genmnaid a bés.*

In the prose Ban-shenchas, BB 283 b 8, Tuag is called *ben Fíir Hí (meic) Eogabail*.

34. L reads *théith-bind*: there was perhaps a confusion between *téit-* and *théith-* in compounds: see note on Ard Macha 58, *infra*, p. 408.

47. *tig* should be rendered 'massive' or 'copious': cf. note on Ess Ruaid i. 13, *supra*, p. 375.

49-52. K's reading of 49 must be preferred, as it alone observes the alliterative connexion of stanzas (*conachlann*) which runs through the poem. The exceptions are lines 29, 57, 105, 117, 129: in 41, 45, 101 we have partial alliteration of *t* with *d*, *b* with *f*, *g* with *c*; see Meyer, Sitzber. 1918, 884.

57-60. This stanza is placed in K after 52; in MS₃H it follows 64; in L it stands last but two, and the remaining mss. omit it altogether. If it belongs to the poem as originally composed it should certainly come where K has it, but it interrupts *conachlann*, and may be a late addition. The next stanza (61-4) is also probably an interpolation: it is unnecessary, and in LLc it ends the poem, although it refers to the story of Tuag. It seems likely that these two stanzas, being added *après coup*, were placed by the scribe of L at the end, while later copyists transferred them to the positions which they judged most appropriate.

58. *dímoir* follows the usual gender of *dalta*, though the girl Tuag must be meant.

59. Elle and Lé form the district on either side of the Bann: see Onom. s.v. Eilne, Elle, Lae, Lée.

65. Here begins the dindshenchas of Lough Neagh. It corresponds so closely with the story of Eochu's death in Aided Echach mac Maireda, edited in SG i. 233 *seq.* from LU, that one version must be directly taken from the other. Compare 85-88 of the poem with SG 234, 13 *táinic fer mór chuca ocus dlomaid dóib asind fherunn*: 97 with 234, 17 *dorignis mór d'ulc frinn chena*; 113-116 with 234, 21-22 *imthigit iarsin dia domnaig isin mis medónaig ind fogomair co ráncatar Liathmuine*; 119-120 with 234, 24 *ni rosói nech díb aiged ind eich in frithlorg*: 123-4 with 234, 24 *silis in t-ech oco iar sin combo thipra*; 138 with 234, 26 *ocus oen-ben oca haithigid*; 145-148 with 234, 31 *is ón Chonaing sin dana rochinset dál mBuain ocus dál Sailne*. The Dindshenchas is much fuller than the Aided; and, on general grounds, it is much less likely that a versifier,

expanding a brief prose account, would take the trouble to work into his stanzas the exact phrases of the prose, than it is that a writer summarizing a story from a poem would do so by selecting lines here and there. But there is more precise evidence. The form *lessed* in line 107 (found only in L) is an old sigmatic subjunctive from *laigim* (Ped. Gr. ii. 560), and belongs to an earlier period than that of Bard Maile. He must have borrowed it from the original on which his poem is based; but the word does not occur in the Aided Echach, which is therefore not his original.

It is pretty clear that Aided Echach is a conflation of the ds. of Lough Neagh, as told in this poem, with the ds. of Lough Ree, for which see MDs. iii. 450, 560. The two dindshenchas stories must be variants of the same legend. The meeting with Oengus and the fateful horse duplicates the meeting with Midir and his horse: the horses of Eochu's men are actually killed twice over in Aided Echach, SG 234, 8 and 14. The latter part of the Aided is drawn from a third source (SG 234, 32, onward). Our poem, like most of the collection, is no doubt based on an early tale that has perished, perhaps that which is referred to in LL 190 a 43 as *Tomaidm Locha Echach*. That there was such an early tale, which in its original form differed widely from the Dindshenchas, we learn from the old tract *De Causis Torchi Corco Ché*, which is embedded in the Laud genealogies; see ZCP viii. 307. Here we find that Corco Ché, the tribe to whom Eochu belonged, were at first settled on land that was submerged by the sudden breaking forth of Lough Neagh, and that it was this event that caused them to migrate to Cashel. Eochu himself was drowned in the flood. All of which is quite inconsistent with the Dindshenchas, which makes Eochu son of a king of Cashel. It may be noted that the saying *luid Lindmuine tar Liathmuine*, quoted in the prose ds. (RC xvi. 152) is found also in the old migration story, ZCP viii. 307, 22 and 308, 1. It is evidently proverbial; it occurs also in Aided Echach, in a poem quoted in O'Mulconry's Glossary, 808, and in Todd L. iii. 306, 9: also in Tigernach, RC xvi. 413. This entry in Tigernach agrees with *De Causis Torchi Corco Ché*.

65-84. These lines are edited in Silv. Gad. ii. 484, 532.

76. Sliab Eblinne (spelled *Ebline* to mark the rhyme) = Slieve Phelim in the north of Co. Limerick: they are called Sliab n-Eblinni ingini Guaire in *Mesca Ulad* (ed. Hennessy, 14).

77. *ena* 'of the wave' O'Grady *ut supr.*, regarding it as gen. of *en* 'water': but *ena* is used adjectively in other passages where this sense will not fit, e.g. BB 17 b 7, SnR 4431.

104. Read, perhaps, *nonagtais* 'should drive him', to restore *conachlann*.

111. L has *suil*; cf. modern *sul* and *sar*, developments of *resiu ro* (Ped. Gr. ii. 672).

116. *fescor hiain* like *aidche luain* = Sunday evening.

117. As to the verb *ataig* or *atnaig* (both forms are found, sometimes as variants in the same passage, and both no doubt arise from *ad-aig* with a stereotyped infixed pronoun) see Strachan, *Stories from the Táin*, 32, note. It has a wide variety of meanings, developing on two lines: (1) 'advances'; cf. 129, 135, and see Ot. Mers. ii. 86, 14; (2) 'puts', 'brings', etc. L's reading, *ataig cách 'cá ord*, might mean 'each in turn approaches (the horse)'; but then

we should have no object for *gatsat*. So I take *cá ord* to be an error for a *chrod*: the other texts point to *atagat a crod*. L is undoubtedly right in the order of stanzas, though all other texts place 113-116 after 120.

121. I prefer L's *refuirged* (from *forigim*) to *dellig*, the reading of all other texts, and of the corresponding prose versions.

122. O'Clery explains *iomarchur* by *mea rugad*, quoting this line. Cf. ZCP v. 523, *imarcora .i. mearaighthi*; Three Hom. p. 70, 29 for *imma(r)chor*, rendered at p. 139 'astray'. But perhaps we should read a *n-immarchor* (*animochar* Le), and render 'the horse that carries them' (E. K.).

134. *sáegul noidecdaí*. This is the decem-novennial period of the Calendar: the line looks like an attempt of some synchronist to reconcile inconsistent lists of the kings of Ulster: but I have not found mention of this Muiredach *menn* elsewhere.

135. Line, a territory in Antrim 'extending from Lough Neagh to Carrickfergus', Onom.

140. If Lindmuine is a genuine name, the story is founded on its interpretation as *lind mûne*.

154. Only L has *cét mbliadna*: the other texts omit the noun: cf. p. 346, 95.

159. Niall may be Niall mac Maelsechlainn, king of Ailech, 1044-1061, AU: hardly Niall *ghín-dub*, who was king of Ailech and then king of Ireland, † 918, AU.

BEND BOGUINE

Hogan, Onom., identifies Benn Boguine with Binbane, also called Benbawn, in the extreme south-west of co. Donegal. This will do very well for the passage which he quotes from a Stowe ms., but not for our story. The reference to 'Tuag' (line 2), no doubt Tuag Inbir, and to the cow's straying across the Bann (line 12), show that we must look for another Benn Boguine in that neighbourhood. Now there is an episode of the Táin (Str.-O'K. 1314 to 1345) which describes a foray made by Medb along Slige Midluachra through the territory called Cuib or Mag Coba (see p. 407 *infra*) as far as Dún Sobairche. Cuchulainn follows the raiders and kills, among others, 'Bogaine in his marsh (*grellach*)'. This implies that there was near Dún Sobairche a place called Grellach Bogaine. Dún Sobairche is now Dunseverick, 'an isolated rock on which are some fragments of the ruins of a castle near the centre of a small bog, three miles east of the Giants' Causeway' (O'Donovan, FM i. 26, note o). Close by is Benbane Head, and this I would identify with our Benn Boguine. The 'small bog' may very well be the old Grellach Bogaine. The distance from this Benbane to the Bann is about 13 miles.

As to Flidais, see Táin Bó Flidais, Ir. T. ii. 2, 206; Heldensage 317.

The metre is *rind-aird*.

1. I take *áige* to be the word which usually means a 'pillar', here applied to a hill: there may be a reference to the columnar basaltic formation of the cliffs near the Causeway. I doubt if the word is really different from *áge* 'joint' and *áge* 'period', and I suggest that the Gaulish *Agio-marus* means 'big-jointed': cf. Kuhn's *Zeitsch.* xxxviii. 458.

2. The weight of ms. authority favours *hi taichme*; this may be only a miswriting of *taithme*, which seems to be a by-form of *taithmet*: cf. MDs. ii. 66, 4, iii. 486, note on Ceilbe 3. The variant *taichme* occurs also MDs. ii. 66. Anyhow the meaning seems to be something like 'commemoration'.

3. I read *báire* against the mss. The scribes no doubt regarded it as a dependent genitive and so nasalized the initial, but I can make no sense of this collocation. *batre* perhaps = 'lordship', cf. Bruchst. no. 19.

4. The long *ō* of *Bóguine* is, I think, merely etymological: as to its form cf. Marstrander, Festschr. A.Torp, p. 249. But see also Wortk. 146.

10. For *galla* = *gallda* cf. note on Mag Slecht 55, p. 380 *supra*.

11. Literally 'without leanness of price': *lúaig* for *lúaige* (*lôge*) to rhyme with *búaib*. Or 'without price of leanness', i. e. such as a lean beast would fetch.

17. Four texts have *rothóe*, *rothae*, *rothai*: L is unfortunately illegible. But the rhyme with *lôeg* favours *rothóed* (S): S₃ has *rothaoth*. The prose versions have *co rothae* etc. except S₃ *rotháeth*, and S *rothuismhes*. The meaning is obviously 'peperit', and *rothóe* seems to belong to the verb of which the infinitive *tóud* means parturition (especially of animals): see Laws Glossary, O'Dav. 1498, 1499. Pedersen ii. 637 inclines to refer it to *dosóim*. But cf. FM i. 508 z, *an brú dodonnóe* 'the womb that bore him': this points to a compound *to-óim*. In MDs. iii. 186, 29 we find the same verb with the same variety of readings: R, *corte a bru oeningin*; B, *cortae ar bru ainingin*; H, *gurtaoi a bru aoningin*; Lc, *curtho a bru oeningin*; M, *cortho a bru anaengin*; S, *gurthóth a bru aoningin*; S₃, *rothaoth a bru an aoininghin*.

In both passages the rhyme (: *Da Cáech*, : *lôeg*) is in favour of reading *-tháeth* or *-thóed*: and I am inclined to think that there is a confusion between *rothoi* 'peperit' and *rotháeth a brú* 'her womb fell' (RC xv. 41). Thinking that this latter phrase was intended at MDs. iii. 186, I formerly supplied *ruc* to mend the defective metre of most copies; but I should now read (after S₃) *rotháeth a brú in aén-ingin*, rendering 'her womb bore a single daughter'. The prose version has *rotuism oen ingin* (RC xv. 432).

18. I take *lúth* as = *lúd*, O. Ir. *lúid* 'quick motion', which caused the cow to drop her calves: cf. *lúth*, RC xii. 122: *amal bis rothmol for lúth*, SnR 199.

20. *tír* seems here to mean 'scouring the country': cf. FM vi. 2196 z, *ac tír 7 ac taistel na tíre*. Cf. note on the simplex *sirim*, p. 432 (Cloenloch, 9).

23. *-fóelad* seems a mid.-Ir. form of the conditional of *fologim*, based on 3 fut. *-fóel*; for O. Ir. *-foilsad*.

27. *oca mbáig* 'fighting for them': cf. TBC Wi. 3497, *inn ingen asa táí oc báig* 'the maiden thou fightest to win'.

28. The dat. and acc. forms are used indifferently as the metre requires.

29. *nísblihtis*: to satisfy assonance we ought to have a verb with a long vowel.

30-32. The variety of readings indicates corruption: the best-supported, *-báigtis* : *-baitis*, gives a faulty rhyme, and none of the variants satisfies alliteration in 30. I am tempted to conjecture *fir dremuin nísdaítis* 'savage men could not burn them': *daítis* for *dóitis*, from the rare verb *dóim*. As to the killing of cattle and burning of byres, see p. 156, 135-6.

36. The reading *risin* may have arisen from *richtin* written with *ṣ* for *cht*.

38. *brogda* 'thriving, prolific'.

40. In the Laws *tarba* seems to be specially used of the produce and increase of cattle. See e.g. v. 404, 22, where it is glossed by *sílad* 'breeding'.

42. *treb tuistil* denotes the half nomad life of an owner of herds of cattle. Cf. Spenser's 'View of the Present State of Ireland' (Globe ed. 630): 'There is one use among them, to keep their cattle and to live themselves the most part of the year in bolyes (*buaileada*) pasturing upon the mountain, and waste wild places, and removing still to fresh land as they have depastured the former.'

43. *Echtgal*: so L: B calls her *Echtach*, Lc *Ec(h)da* (verse) or *Echdar* (prose). *Úatha* is not a good rhyme for *briachda*; read *Úathga*, gen. fem. of *Uathach*, which may have been her mother's name. Stokes treats *Briachda* as a proper name in the prose.

45. It seems better to take *altrom* here in a concrete sense, on account of the nom. *Fíach* in 48: see Dinneen.

47. *agair* is used again as a cheville, p. 214, 51, perhaps = 'fertur'.

48. *cadail* can hardly be a place-name (Codal): as a noun meaning 'hide' it is usually feminine (the gen. *codle* occurs in the poem on Snedgus and Mac Riagla, st. 5), but masc. at ZCP iii. 42, 2: Dinneen has *cadhal* 'skin', g. *cadhail*. The collocation with *cruille* suggests that a musical instrument is intended, presumably the bag-pipe. A sorcerer like *Fiachra* would naturally be also a musician.

52. *rosbróena*: literally 'she dropped, distilled them': cf. p. 124, 9, *robráena cach mbúaid*.

56. *Fiachra* is also called *Fiach* and *Fiachu*, as best suits the metre: in LL 165 a z and 165 b 8 he is Find, or Findchad, and the woman is Áne.

66. If *fer dar fuile* is right it must mean 'a man beyond blood-sheddings', that is, I suppose, renowned beyond others as a fighter. It would be easy to write *ferais fuile*, but why should this be corrupted in most texts?

70. The regular dative of *bri* is *brig*, which some texts give, but this would not rhyme with *ní*.

71. I suppose *samlaib* to mean 'seemings', 'spectres', but perhaps we should render: 'of fairies or things like them'.

82. This line seems corrupt: there is no rhyme to *mart-gail*, no alliteration, and L reads '*sind uair-sin*' against all the other copies.

83. *báin* sometimes means 'bloodless': see Wi., and add *bán-gleó*, SnR, *bán-béim* Cath Ruis na Ríg, index: but here there was plenty of blood spilt, though only of cattle.

SLIAB BETHA

As to Bith, son of Noah, and his wives, see O'Clery's *Leabhar Gabhála* (ed. Macalister and MacNeill), pp. 13, 19; LL 4 b 34, 48; other references are given by Stokes, Rev. Celt. xvi. 155. His mountain, Slieve Beagh, is in the parish of Clones, in northern Fermanagh (FM i. p. 3, note).

6. The precise meaning of *snéa-búan* is doubtful: *snéid* sometimes means 'swift': at LU 9 a 25 it is glossed *súail* vel *bec* vel *diríuc(h)*: cf. Todd L. xvii index, ZCP xi. 57, st. 6.

8. *nderb-chuirib* perhaps 'trusty bands' (E.K.).

18. *balar* is no doubt the name of the mythical Fomorian hero, generalized in the sense of 'champion' or 'chief'.

17. *retha* for *rethaib*, to rhyme with *Betha*.

19. The adjective *danar* means properly 'Danish', and then generally 'foreign, barbarous'.

diu is perhaps the Latin *diu* treated as an adjective: see Thurneysen's edition of 'Snedgus and MacRiagla', note on st. 27. Or else it may be = *de-siu* 'hence', Contrib.: if so, *narbo diu* means 'who was not from hence', i.e. 'who was a foreigner'.

21. *cen chrith* refers to Bith's fatal sickness, line 14.

22. Literally 'did not let him go': cf. TBC (Wi.) 2054, *ní arlaic a bíachail dóib-ide Dond Cualnge*: from *arléicim*. Miss Joynt suggests a play on *bith* 'world'.

ÁTH GRENCHA

This poem occurs in the LL recension of *Táin Bó Cúalnge*: see Windisch's edition, p. 89. The tense of *coimchlóifid* in the first line shows that it belongs properly to the tale, where it is thrown into the form of a dialogue between Fergus and a druid.

Ath Grencha is said by the compiler of the *Táin* (Windisch, line 671: cf. gloss on LU 58 a 32) to be 'north of Cnogba', i.e. Knowth, which is on the north bank of the Boyne. It cannot, therefore, be a ford of the Boyne, as Hogan says, s.v. Ath Grena. It seems to have been a little east of Slane, TBC Wi. 354; probably it is to be sought on the little river Mattock, which flows into the Boyne at Oldbridge. The original name of the ford is given at LU 58 a 28 as Ath Grena.

4. Cf. *Táin* Wi. 606, (*id*) *do chur chesta for cethri cóiceda hÉrenn*.

19. as *mo chin*. Most of the texts, including LL, read *ar mo chin*, which Windisch translates 'zum Willkommen'. But *mo chin* (or *mo chen*) has always, I think, the force of an ejaculation, and is not used as a substantive. Cf. Eriu iv. 17, *is mo chin dobeir biad ocus dig* (so Meyer); MDs. iii. 181, 183, *do nert-su ós chách*, *is mo chen*; Féilire lxxv, *epscop Sanctán*, *is mo chen*. For the negative form, *ní mo chin*, see MDs. iii. 502, note on R. Cnamr. 23.

25-36. These stanzas are not found in the *Táin* poem, and are clearly added by the compiler of the Dindshenchas. The corresponding passage in the prose is mistranslated by Stokes (Rev. Celt. xvi. 156), and should run thus: 'When Fergus led the hosts of Erin astray at Duma Granarda eastward (lit. "from the west") over Grellach Sruthra (i.e. Sruthar Cuillinne and Sruthar Gartchon), and when the four sons of Aurard came eastward over southern Tethba, then Aurard came on the west side of Bri Leith, and saw the dust of the 'road raised by his sons' chariots. And he supposed that the Connaughtmen had been defeated and that Ailill and Medb and his four sons were slain', etc. This is based on a passage of the *Táin*, ed. Str.-O'K. 214 seq. = Wi. 467 seq. Cuchulainn is on guard at Irard Cuillenn; the invaders have reached Granairét in northern Tethba (later Granard in co. Longford): and here LU 57 a 31 adds a sentence not found in YBL: *iar tabairt inthusa*

fordallaig forsin sluag dar grellacha 7 dar sruthra. This is evidently the origin of the words for *Grellach Sruthra* in the prose translated above. Fergus is set to guide the army, but out of his tenderness for Cuchulainn he deliberately leads it farther astray in a southerly direction, until Medb detects the trick. At last they reach Irard Cuillenn, and here Cuchulainn's four victims appear: LU gives their names as *Eirr 7 Indell, Foich 7 Fochnam a dá n-ara*, and adds *cethri maic Iraird meic Anchinne*. This note (with the marginal variant *nó cethri maic Nera*, etc.) is not in YBL. It is interesting to remark that two notes peculiar to LU have been used by the Dindshenchas compiler. The corresponding passage in the LL recension (Wi. 575) gives the four names as in the ds., but agrees (nearly) with the marginal variant in LU as to their parentage. The four are described in LU-YBL as driving in front of the host: *do imdídnad a mbretnas 7 a fortcha 7 a mbrat arnacha-salchad dendgor in dirma*. This has suggested the *dendgor na sliged* in the prose ds. There is nothing further in the Táin about Irard mac Ánchinne, and one is tempted to suppose that he has been developed from the place-name Irard Cuillenn. Where was this place? Hogan says vaguely, 'in South Ulster', 'south of Armagh'. But two glosses in LU 57 a 37 and 57 b 18 identify it with Crossa Cúil, which is no doubt = Crossa Cáil, now Crossakeel, about two miles east of Slieve Gullion, one of the Lough Crew hills, the Irish name of which is presumably Sliab Cuilinn. The Connaught army, starting from Granard in Longford, is led southwards by Fergus; it must therefore cross the river Inny between Lough Sheelin and Lough Derravaragh: keeping east it passes successively Slieve Gullion, Crossakeel, and Kells (Cennannus, LU 58 a 9). The object of Cuchulainn (and Fergus) is to shepherd it southwards, so as to keep the line of Boyne and Blackwater between the invaders and their objective.

26. The prose ds. says that the names of Aurard's horses were Cruan and Cnamrad.

29-32. How Cuchulainn surprised Orlam's charioteers is told in the Táin (Str.-O'K. 770 seq. = Wi. 1393 seq.). He killed one of them with a sling-stone (Str.-O'K. 809). It does not appear that they have anything to do with Ath Gabla.

COIRE BRECCÁIN

Reeves has shown, Vit. Adamn. p. 29, that Breccan's caldron is to be sought in the 'turbatum et formidabile pelagus' near Rathlin island.

Longes Breccáin is one of the list of tales in MS. Mat. 587, but it is not clear whether the title refers to Breccán son of Partholán or Breccán son of Maine. Cormac's Glossary s.v. refers to the latter but not to the former. The prose ds. is drawn direct from Cormac (or his source).

2. *ettáil*: Miss Knott refers to ZCP vii. 306, 23, *a dhëra uadh cen ettáil, buaid Bëggáin cen cuid criad* 'his tears flowing without cease (?)'. Meyer writes *ettáil, Bëggáin*, but cf. Sil. Gad. i. 35, 2, *dias naomhdha gan dochta n-edráin, Mochta ocus Becán mac Cúil*. *ettáil* perhaps <ess-dáil.

3. *ar mesca* 'intoxicated', metaph. 'astray': cf. *ní rosmairn mesce*, MDs. iii. 460, 23.

7. *ecraim* 'I range in order' is here used intransitively.

9. *ettal* seems to mean 'a gust, an impulse': *etal gáithe* O'Cl., *etal báide* Todd L. xvii. 36, 8: *ní bhí a fhearg acht ina heatail*, Dáin Dé xix. 23 (cf. Ps. 30, 5).

10. The 'cold Britons' are the northern Brythons of Scotland.

11. *im garg-blaid*, lit. 'to win renown for fierceness'. I follow the mss. in writing *condrecat* instead of the more correct *condrecat*.

17. *co rige*: cf. note on Tuag Inbir 17, p. 389.

29. *cen sam-thodáil sláin*. Nearly the same phrase is used of Breccán's father Partholán, when he and his people died of a plague, *ní sláin sam-thodáil* LL 6 a 3: cf. L. Gabála, ed. Macalister and MacNeill, p. 68, with O'Clery's explanation of the phrase, *nír bo sláin 7 nír bo sáimh iad on sgaoileadh marbthach do dáileadh co tostanach forra ina ccoraidibh isin samradh*. *Sam .i. corait*. O'Clery seems to hesitate here between *sáim* 'easy', *sam* 'summer', and *saim* 'a yoke'. The final gloss is evidently borrowed from Cormac, who has *saim .i. cach corait*, *cíd iter dá duine*, *cíd iter di eoch*, etc. (O'Clery's modern editors confound *corait* with *córaid* 'champion'.) The compound is in both cases invented to furnish a rhyme to *Partholán*. I take *sam-* to be a collective prefix (probably identical with *saim* 'yoke'), as in *sam-ildánach*: cf. notes on *sam-therc*, *sam-nár*, MDs. iii. 479, 531; the other element, *todáil* 'a draught', 'haustus', may be used with reference to such phrases as *bíd sochaide forsan-dáilfe deoga tonna*: Breccán and his ship-mates drank a 'general draught' of death.

31. For 'le = *ale*, *ille*, cf. p. 138, 67, *supra*.

39. The literal meaning may be: 'he earned (wealth) for the Ui Neill, every household (of them)'; or possibly we have to do with a different verb, corresponding to *tuillead* 'increase'. We must then render 'he increased (the wealth of) every household'. Cf. *Sliab Callann*, 17 (*supra*, p. 170), and *Laws Glossary*.

49-52. One manuscript, S₃, places this stanza after line 24, which certainly is a better arrangement. The grammar of 50-1 is unusual: *a cur*, literally 'their placing', governs the genitive *in tsluaig*: the use of the verbal noun to replace a hypothetical clause is more characteristic of Welsh syntax than of Irish.

53 *seq.* This is an expansion of the story told in one of the Latin lives of S. Ciarán. When Colum Cille heard of Ciarán's death he composed a hymn in his honour and recited it to the monks of Clonmacnoise. Being asked what reward he would accept for this compliment, the saint replied: 'Date mihi duas manus meas plenas de humo sepulchri sancti patris vestri Kiarani: illud enim plus volo et diligo puro auro et gemmis preciosis.' See Plummer, *Vit. Sct. Hib.* i. 215, and as to the hymn compare his *Introd.* p. 1, note 2. The life of Ciarán goes on to tell of Columba's throwing the hallowed clay into Coire Breccáin, but says nothing of the other two handfuls. Adamnan mentions Colum Cille's danger in the Caldron, but not the miraculous calming of the waters (Reeves' ed. 120). Cf. ds. *Mag nUra*, *supra*, p. 276.

59. The texts read *agair* etc., which I suppose to be a miswriting of *adair* = *odair*, so spelled to mark the rhyme with *ragaib*. Cf. the names *Adarchu*, *Adarmag*, *Contrib.* (*addenda*). But perhaps *agair* is a cheville 'it is said', cf. note on *Bend Boguine* 47, p. 393.

62. *muirn* means 'spirit, courage': hence perhaps 'potency'. Or, as in

modern Irish, it has the sense 'affection', so it may here signify 'mark of affection, favour'.

63. I take *serc-bla* to refer to Iona, but one would then expect *dia*, not *fria*. Perhaps *serc-bla* = *serc-blad*: cf. MDs. ii. 26 *rót-bla*, iii. 410 *rót-blad*.

69. *ittech* = *ettech*, written also *ítech*, Ml. 40 c 9.

82. I take *-falaig* to be gen. of *folach* 'hiding-place', 'grave': cf. MDs. iii. 140: Mag Odráin is a lucky place to be buried.

83-4. O'Clery twice quotes these lines, under *cía* and *comlár*, explaining *cía* as = *fear* and *comlár* = *comhshocair*. As to *cía* see Meyer, Wortkunde, § 103, but Mo Chia seems to be a hypocoristic for Colum Cille.

87. I write *mongáir*, as the word seems to be intended to rhyme with *Odráin*, though the second syllable is properly short: the form may be influenced by *gáir*.

88. There seems to be a confusion here between Mag Odráin, now Moyoran in co. Roscommon, and Relec Odráin in Iona. See Onom., but the reference to Hy Fiachrach is mistaken: see O'Donovan's ed. p. 220 n.

91. *ar talmáin* for *iar talmáin* 'after this life'. But perhaps the poet means that he wishes to be buried in Iona: if so *ar* = *for*, and the *flaith* is Columba.

BENN FOIBNE

Identified with the hill Benevenagh in co. Derry, overlooking the entrance of Lough Foyle. The second entry in Onom. under the name should be deleted.

4. *iarmoracht* 'inquiry' sc. as to its legend.

8. Eochaid *alt-lethan*: see FM *a.m.* 4787.

16. The name of Sliab Moduirn is preserved by the Mourne Mountains.

19, 20. All texts except M have *feithem* and *-theiched* (variously spelled), but *feithem* is feminine. I take *gnó-theichid* to be a genitive.

21. This Fergna is (in spite of chronology) probably identical with Fergna m. Finnchaime: see p. 423 *infra* (Inber Cichmaine).

23. This is an obscure line: *táth* generally means some sticky substance, as cement, glue, soft cheese, heavy soil: here perhaps metaphorically 'hesitation'. The sense of *tur* is doubtful; perhaps it is dative of *tor* 'fatigue'.

26. *co*, properly 'as far as': Fergna chased Foibne to Benn Foibne and there got his opportunity of killing him.

28. *úairchiss* is adjectival gen. of *úarchess*: cf. MDs. iii. 370, 54.

29. Foibne's fate does not excite the sorrow felt for a real fighting man.

ARD FOTHAID

There seems to be no reason why we should not identify this place as the Ardd Fothid mentioned in the Book of Armagh, and Tripartite Life, which is located on satisfactory evidence in the extreme south-west corner of Donegal: see Reeves's note, Vit. Adamn. 38. (Note that Patrick proceeded from Ardd Fothid to Mag Itha, our next station, according to V. Trip. 148-150; cf. L.Ardm. f. 18 b 2, ed. J. Gwynn, lxxii seq., 458.) Neither need we hesitate

to identify Boirche, the owner of the Hen, with the gigantic cow-herd who sits on Benna Boirche (the Mourne Mountains) and calls his cattle as far as Dunseverick and the Boyne: see ds. of Benn Boirche. His hen is referred to in the prose ds. of Loch Derg, Rev. Celt. xv. 461. His pedigree is given in a note in H. 3. 17: *Aed mc Dubthaich mc Luigdech mc Bresail mc Luchta mc Fiachna mc Rudraigi 7 ruc Mumain* (leg. *Mugain*) *mac dō tar cenn Conchobair i. Bairche mc Aeda, 5 n-abar cerc Boirche.* 'Aed, etc.: Mugain (*sic leg.*) bore him a son in disregard of (her husband) Conchobar, namely, Boirche from whom "Boirche's hen" had its name.'

As to Fothad *airgthech* see FM i. 120, note; V. Bran i. 49; Ir. Text. iii. 378.

In this poem there is both end-rhyme and internal rhyme between 2 and 4 of each stanza, with end-rhyme between 1 and 3; also internal rhyme between 1 and 3 in st. 3. This metre is called *ae freslige* (Meyer's Primer, p. 20, 41).

3. *etamain* is the opposite of *tamain* (O'Dav. 1560).

5. *etarnad* (older *etarnid*) seems a compound of *nith*.

6. *foa tudchaid gleic*: the relative here has a genitive function, as in *foa mbiaí máim*; see Thurneysen, Gram. § 502 d.

7. Fothad (not Fothaid) is usually the son of Mac Con, *alias* Mac Niad: see Ir. Text. iii. 376.

8. *Lugdaig* (: *tudchaid*): for this form of the dat. cf. TBC Wi. p. 681 note, and index.

11. The reason of Fothad's sleep being unknown, the meaning of this line is uncertain. Perhaps *báeth-bíne* means 'a crime of lust', as at p. 102, 20. Fothad may have been under the spell of some Dalilah.

15. *rothocair*: cf. Ir. Text ii. 1, 35 (1091) *toçraitis* 'proceeded' (?). The non-aspiration of the *c* and the short *o* indicate that we have to do with a *to-ad-* (or *to-od-*) compound, probably *to-ad-cuir* -: cf. *tacur* 'approaching' (?), Laws Gloss. If so, *rothocair* is for *rothacuir*, the spelling being altered to suit the rhyme.

MAG ITHA

This is a plain in the south of Donegal, barony of Raphoe, where the rivers Finn and Dee converge to meet the Foyle near Strabane. It is mentioned in L. Ardm. f. 15 r^o. 2, 'in campo Itho', and f. 18 v^o. 2; cf. my note on Ard Fothaid. The Ds. versifies the story of Ith and the sons of Cermait, as told in Lebor Gabála, LL 12 a 19-22: a later conflate version in BB 38 a 46 seq.

7-8. Three mss. read *fill* or *feill* and *rothinn*: according to Dinneen *réim* is feminine in modern Irish.

9. As *ail* 'rock' is fem. (gen. *ailche*), we must construe *in ail* as in apposition to *Ailech*.

11-12. One expects *co rigú . . . co trí maccu* 'to meet the kings', etc. Ith found the kings assembled at Ailech, LL 12 a 4, 14. The dat. pl. is often written for the acc. pl. in these texts.

15. *indse* must be a 'material' genitive, as in *fomaire fir*, MDs. iii. 128, 9; *amra tíre* Ir. T. i. 133, 2; *garmnach caillige* V. Bran i. 67, 81. LeS read *maith an indsi atail cen cheas, maith in indsi atái gan ches*, and the prose has *Is maith in*

inse atathi, as if *inse* were a by-form of nom. *inis*. So LL 13 a 20 *bud lib co brath ind insi-seo* : *ibid.* 38, *Lecar dóib ind insi-sea*.

19. *enim sniad* 'weaving, blending of hues'.

21. I have taken *ord* as referring to the conference where Ith acted as arbiter; but the word is constantly used in *chévilles* where it is hard to fix the precise meaning. Here perhaps it refers to his journey, 'no ill proceeding'.

22. Mag Bolg is identified in line 3 with Mag Itha; the poet assumes (27) that it was called after an unknown Bolg, who was lord 'not of one plain only'. Mag Bolec in Meath is a different place.

AILECH I

Of the three poems on Ailech, the third has already been edited by O'Donovan, in the Ordnance Survey of Londonderry, 1837. That volume contains a full description of this ancient stronghold of the northern Ui Neill, whose site is still marked by the remains of an old castle, partly restored in modern times. It is about seven miles distant from Londonderry, and is now known as Greenan Ely.

The stanzas of this poem and the next are bound together by the device of *conachlann*, that is, the last word of each stanza alliterates with the first (or first accented) word of the next. Lines 48-9 and 92-3 do not conform to the rule; nor do lines which end with the initial syllable of the poem (44, 60, 100). The metre is *rannaigecht dialtach* (Meyer's Primer, p. 13). The reference to the story of Corrgend in Fland Mainistrech's poem at LL 11 b 10 adds nothing to the dindshenchas. The tale of his bearing Aed's body resembles that of Cend Berraide, see p. 421 *infra*.

2. Read *sir-thinn* (: *Imchill*) and translate 'home of the ever-strong host'.

3. If *doine*, used as plural of *duine*, is properly an abstract noun, as Strachan somewhere suggests, we may here have the dat. sing. If not, we must read *dáenaib*; the *b* would easily fall out before *Banbai*: but then how explain *mbáin*? besides, *dáena* seems intended to rhyme with *Aeda*.

6. *fodla* (often written *fadla*) rhymes with *Dagda*. To make fair divisions is one of a chieftain's duties.

7. Read *maraid a síd, is céin mair*. The Dagda was buried under Síd in Broga; see FM a.m. 3450, with O'Donovan's note, and MDs. ii. 18.

10. Read *féig-seng* 'keen-slender' (: *Érenn*). *fael* 'wolf', like *cú, bethir*, etc., is used figuratively for a fighting man.

11. The meaning assigned to *toebnius* is conjectural.

13. The 'peak of the fair wanton' is so called from Aed, who had seduced Corrgend's wife.

15, 16. *idnu* should be *idnu*, and *bidba* is for *bibdu*.

18, 19. Cf. MDs. iii. 246, 51-2.

22. *tren-seing* must refer to *mathi*. With *as cach thir co tráig* cf. MDs. iii. 4, 39 *torad cach thalman co tráig*.

23. The rhyme with *dún* shows that we must read *a thir* (nom.). I take this to be *tír* 'pursuit' used in a concrete sense, as a collective noun, with plural verb and predicate. As to *tlaitheanaid* I can only guess that it is written

for *tlaitheanig* from an adj. *tlaitheanach*, formed from a verbal noun **tletiu* (stem *tle-* 'steal'), like *tuistenach*, *carthanach*; see Ped. ii. 47 and 649. The meaning would be that Corrgend's foes were bent on fighting, not pillage.

24. At p. 100, 15, Corrgend is called *mac Flathemain* (or *Fathemain*) *ó Chruaich*. For the name cf. Rochad m. *Fathemain*, an Ulster hero mentioned in the Táin and in Fled Bricrenn. Cruach = Cruachan Aigle, cf. p. 108, 22.

26. *bráu borb-leng*: cf. Fl.Br. 27 *rogab imbrí[th] bró[n]*.

29. Literally, 'enough of a bright grave': cf. note on 46.

36. Literally, 'without a dead man's grave-stone', etc.

37. *līa* is a disyllable; cf. p. 382 *supra* (Ath Liac Find.).

38. Literally, 'under death-pains of a doomed man', etc.: cf. Corm. *tinne*.

41. *fo chlóí*: see Contrib. 2 *cló*: the word seems to mean here 'calamity'.

45-52. These two stanzas are not connected by *conachlann*, and seem out of place in the story of Corrgend.

46. With *día do báirc* cf. *día do chumail*, MDs. iii. 62, 106; *día do chléirceacht*, *día dhoghra*, Studies, 1918, pp. 98 n., 281, st. 8. The adj. *bir-chenn* seems to mean 'conical', cf. note on Ailech iii. 78.

47. *Dé dremuín dúaire*: here Danu seems to be a male god.

48. As to Nét and Nemain cf. p. 102, 35; LL 9 b 30, 10 a 45; Corm. *Neit*, O'Dav. 1289; Tain (Wi.), p. 338.

51. *Coblán* for *Gablán* (or *Garbán*), p. 100, 8.

52. *rodfáig* is perf. of *figim*, here used of building: cf. p. 100, 8.

56. *ailt*, gen. of *ait* 'fostering', depending on *fert*: but the repeated article (*in fert ind aill*) is suspicious: *rodechlaid* seems a compound of *claidim*; or is it an error for *rocechlaid*?

57-60. The reason for dragging in this irrelevant stanza is that Ailech was built in the 'third age of the world' (Ailech ii. 46), that is, in the age from Abraham to David. The prose says 'it was built in the time of Abraham'. There are three ages from Abraham, who begins the third age, to Christ, whose birth begins the sixth and last. 'The strong ones who dwell in silence' are the Tuatha Dé: *toi* is an euphemism for death: cf. MDs. iii. 456, 95 *fo thráig thai*.

63. Cé was one of the seven sons of Cruthen, eponym of the Cruthnig; a division of Pictland was named after each of the seven: Irish Nennius 50, 51 n. Cruthmag = Cruthenmag.

The story of Frigriu is told more intelligibly in the second and third poems and in the prose. Fiachu Sroptine protected Frigriu and the girl: the latter became the wife of Fiachu's younger brother Eochu Domlén, and mother of the three Collas, according to Keating (cf. 80); but in the older genealogies (ZCP viii. 319, followed by Cóir Anm. § 142) Frigriu is called Criniu, and only Colla Fo Chrí is son of Ailech, also called Elech, as in line 77 of our poem; cf. notes on Ailech ii. 51, iii. 103. Elsewhere Frigriu appears as 'Ringin or Rigrin'; see MS. Mat. 222. Alech (dat. Alig) occurs as a woman's name in L. Ardm. f. 17 a 2.

70. Why 'Frigriu of Fál', if he was a Scotch Pict? or, as the prose says, came from the Isle of Man? In Ailech iii. 93, however, he is called a Gaedel. Ought we to regard *fáil* as = *fál* 'hedge', here 'defence'? Cf. note on *aire* in 107 *infra*.

71. The 'two salt waters' are Lough Foyle and Lough Swilly.

78. *cen luing*: cf. p. 104, 54. Luchraide is a district in the Ards of Ulster (Lugraige, Onom.).

81-84. Apparently Fubthaire's ships were attacked and sunk. The prose version speaks of a Tairbert, servant of Frigriu, from whom Snám Maige Tairbirt was named; but I suspect that this personage owes his existence to a misunderstanding of lines 81 and 84, which indeed are far from clear: *tairbert* may be a concrete noun = 'invaders': it usually means 'compulsion, subjugation'. Or it may mean 'pregnancy': though his daughter's condition was plain to see, Fubthaire's attempt to recover her ended in defeat. I take *gléthe* to be pret. pass. of *gléim* 'I settle, dispatch', but possibly it is the gen. of the verbal noun, having the force of a relative clause, with *sluaig* gen. sing. In 83 read *rothréin*.

86. *grenchas* might be = *grenn-chas* 'curly-bearded', but this gives no sense. I take it to be formed from an adj. **grennach*, from *grenn* 'mirth'.

87. *grin-gen*, for *grinn-ge(i)n*, rhyming with *Frigren(n)*.

93. *ronecht*, from *nigim*, doubtless refers to Patrick's baptizing Eogan; see V. Trip. 152 for their meeting, and for the blessing of Ailech.

95. *ellach* 'assertion of a claim', sc. to Tír Eogain: see Laws, Glossary.

103. For *mid* 'estimation' cf. Lism L. 3471 *dligid mid*; L. Gab. (Macal.-MacN.) 168, *fe fuair miodh. fátha*, 'subjects of poetry'.

104. The poet calls Colum Cille 'brother' as a member of Uí Neill.

107. For *aire* 'hedge', figuratively 'defence', see Meyer, Wortk. viii. 181 (E.K.).

109, 110. These lines probably refer to the battle of Cuil Dremne, for which Columba was responsible. Cenel Eogain under Domnall and Fergus fought there side by side with Cenel Conaill under Ainmire (Reeves, Adamn. 33 note f.). The genitives *Conaill*, *Eogain*, depend on *seolaib*. The meaning of this word is not easy to fix: it seems to be used = 'array' or 'host', e.g. *diairimh in seol-sa*, LL 408 a 39; *ba sepmach a seol sein*, CMR 214 z; *tri caecait bocht, seol sairthe* Sil. Gad. i. 388, 6. Or perhaps 'expeditions, marches'.

111. Columba was grandson of Conall Gulban. The title *ri Codail* can hardly refer to either of the places discussed in my note on Benn Codail, p. 425 *infra*. But cf. p. 447 *infra*.

AILECH II

The copy of this poem in LL 181 does not form part of the Dindshenchas collection, but introduces a series of historical compositions by Flann Manistrech. One of these, beginning *Cind cethri ndíne*, is included in the Lecan Dindshenchas, but as its contents have nothing to do with the proper subject of the collection it is not included here. It may be noted, however, that this poem was written in the reign of Niall mac Maelsechnaill, king of Ailech, who succeeded Flaithbertach († 1036) and was still reigning at the time of Flann Manistrech's death in 1056. It was therefore written between these dates, and so, probably, was Ailech II. The Ua Maelcholuim mentioned in line 3 is no doubt Muireadach ua Maelcholuim, *airchinnech* of Daire (Calgach), who died in 1061 (FM). O'Curry (MC ii. 153) assumes that the compliment

in line 2 is addressed to Eochaid *éolach* ua Ceirin; and that the poem referred to is our Ailech III. The former supposition would in itself be plausible enough, seeing that Eochaid *éolach* and Flann *manistrech* collaborated in compiling *Senchas na Relec*; see LU 39 a 15. But the author of Ailech III calls himself Cú Arad: see my introductory note. If Flann is thinking of Ailech I, that poem can scarcely be the work of Eochaid *éolach*, if we may judge of his style from the poem on Loch Garman in MDs. iii. 168, which is quite unlike the confused allusive manner of Ailech I. Flann may be referring to some poem by Eochaid *éolach* on Ailech which is no longer extant: or Ailech I may be the work of a different Eochaid.

The metre of the poem (as also of Ailech III) is *dechnaid aicclech cummaise* (Meyer's Primer, p. 23, 60). In each line there is a caesura after the eighth syllable, pretonic particles not counting as part of a word: thus in 5 the caesura divides *do|-róni*: in 56 *co|-nici*. Besides the end-rhymes there is in nearly every line one internal rhyme, and frequently a second rhyme, or assonance. (Proper names as usual upset the rhymes.) Thus in 4 *cund*: *sund*, and *-sluind*: *druing*; in 6, *arm-slán*:- *Garbán*, and *airech*: *graigeach*; in 18 *opair*: *cotaig* (rhyme): *-chetaig* (assonance); in 24 *dúth*: *bíth* (rhyme), and *Dagda*: *Temra* (assonance); so in 26, *ferr*: *trell*, and *thoil-seom*: *guin-seom*; 28, *bert*: *lecht*, and *biada*: *Aeda*; 31, *breith*: *sreith*, and *eire*: *slige*; 34, *ainm*: *airm*, and *dindgna*: *taria*. Rhyme is more frequent in the second line of each couplet than in the first. The couplets are connected by *conachlann*. Alliteration is very frequent, but irregular.

1. *Cia* is here a monosyllable: in the last line of the poem it is a disyllable; in 5, 7, 9, 11, it may be either, according to the reading adopted.

4. Doball is the northern Blackwater. In a poem cited FM ii. 582 a king of Ailech is called 'Domnall of the Doball'.

7. For Imchell and Garbán cf. p. 96 and p. 114.

The reading *ar cáe* is given by most texts: it seems to be for the older *for coi* 'on the way', here 'on the spot'. L's *aice* gives good sense, but it is unlikely that *aice* would be corrupted to *ar cáe*. The rhyme supports the reading *finer* against *findfer*: it seems to be written for *fin-fher*, formed like *fin-gal*.

8. If *fáel* is right, it must be gen. pl. of *fáel* 'warrior': cf. note on Ailech i. 10. Most of the texts have *saer*.

9. I print L's reading, writing *lasa ndernad* for *lasndernad* as *cía* is probably monosyllabic; but I suspect that the true reading is *Fég cía lasa ndernad in gním gribda glanbda*: the precise meaning of *glanbda* (found also in SnR and TBC) is unknown to me.

10. *del Dagda* = *Aed*.

14. The reading is doubtful: rhyme is in favour of *torgenn* or *torthenn* (: *Corrgend*). But the meaning of either and also of *cicuil* is obscure: the latter may be a place-name. O'Clery has *coirrcheann ciogail* i. *coirrcheann ghabhas fa gcuairt* and *toirtenn gleidin* i. *as tóirtheann a ngleadh é*.

15. Some copies write *Corrcend*, others *Corrchend* and *Corrgend*. He is called in most copies *mac Flathemain*, but in Ailech i. 24 the name is *Fathemain*.

20. *iar n-óelh aire* might mean 'in accordance with an oath that bound him', sc. to avenge his dishonour. The meaning seems, however, to be that he

was bound by allegiance to Aed as the king's son: and perhaps in 18 *fer cotaig* means 'liegeman', not 'husband'.

22. *iarsind ulc-sin*, the reading of LeS, is supported by the *conachlann*.

24. *Nitha* as in Wb. 5 b 10 'il ne s'agit pas de sa mort'. Several texts have *ni'n'ta'ne*, which is preferable, as otherwise the line wants a syllable.

27. The rhyme with *Aeda* and assonance with *méla* suggest that *caemna* is a corruption of *caema*, put for *coime* 'tenderness'.

30. I write *tórgab* for *tuurgaib* of most copies, to mark the rhyme with *chórad*.

Alliteration and *conachlann* suggest my reading *int én-fer*.

38. *inis* = Inis Eogain (Inishowen). The word *gibis* is glossed by O'Clery i. *gleann* (Leabhar Gabhála (Macal.-MacN.) 64, note 10): I think the original meaning was 'jaws' (cf. MDs. iii. 553): here a 'defile', 'pass', or 'neck of land', like Latin *fauces*.

42. I follow L, as its reading cannot be a corruption of the line as presented by all other copies. But this involves treating *gáib* as a disyllable.

44. The reading of L and most copies, as printed, has a foot too many: either R's reading or Le's satisfies the metre.

46. *toinsech trebaid*. O'Clery explains these words by *treabh no baile da dtoim-sidhs cíos*. But *trebaid* seems to be a 'material genitive', from *trebad*.
amser toirsech, because the world was still pagan.

48. *airmenn, fairmenn* (= *formenn*) seem to be both compounds of *menn*: *Frigrenn* is a genitive form put for the nominative, like Cathbad for Cathub. Such substitutions arise naturally from the use of patronymics: so *Derbrenn*, *Eiblen*, *Etadon*, in Rennes Ds. index; other examples in ZCP viii. 291 seq., as *Smritho*, *Duach*.

51. *Ailech*: B reads *Elech*, and at 58 R and B both have *Eilech*: cf. note on *Ailech* i. 63.

54. Was there a legend, like that of the Giant's Causeway at Portrush, about a crossing built from Scotland to Ireland? Cf. *Ailech* i. 78, *cen luíng*.

59. *uamon* seems to be used as an adjective; unless the meaning is that 'Frigriu was a terror to Fubthaire', because the king of Ireland took his side.
Fothart: see Onom., *Fotharta Maige Itha*.

64. *garg-brut* is a compound of *brat* 'cloak', here used of metal plating.

65. If *ronglen-ón* is right, it may mean that the ornamentation kept firm in its place (*roglen* for *rogiúil*): but the variety of readings indicates corruption. For *ón* suffixed cf. Mart. Gorman, 286.

67. In *madngiúil*, contrary to Old-Ir. usage, *ma* is followed by the enclitic verb. In the next line it seems best to make *Ailech Imchill* subject to *tréic*: the point is that the oldest name is still remembered.

AILECH III

It is natural to assume that lines 144-153 of this poem are intended to give the name of the author and the date of its composition. I cannot believe that O'Donovan is right in supposing that they refer to an earlier poem (see Ordn. Survey, *ut sup.* 229). But I know nothing of Cú Arad, and the

dating presents difficulties. The reading of Lc in lines 151-152 gives 5,156 years, that of M, 5,146, that of S₃HV, 6,147. These numbers must mean the years from Adam. If we follow the chronology of *Saltair na Rann* 2533-2536 (counting 5,196 years from Adam to Christ), the date 6147 A.M., which alone is possible, is equivalent to 951 A.D. This date, however, does not agree with the internal data. In S₃HV line 140 refers to sixteen kings of Ailech who were also kings of Ireland. The names of the sixteen are given in Flann *manistrech's* poem *Cind cethri ndíne*, and the last is Domnall ua Néill (LL 182 a 10, 16), who was High King from 956 to 979 (AU and FM). Apart from this disagreement, it is difficult on linguistic grounds to put the poem earlier than the twelfth century. The only resource is to adopt the chronology followed by Gilla Coemáin (V. Trip. 336), which counts 3,952 years from Adam to Christ. Deducting this number from 5,156 (Lc) or 5,146 (M) we obtain 1204 or 1194 A.D. as the date of the poem, which would agree very well with the linguistic evidence. We must then also follow LcM in line 140, reading *Secht n-airdrig déc*: the seventeenth Ard-Rí will then be Domnall mac Lochlainn, king of Ailech, whose claim to the High Kingship is mentioned in AU 1121.

6. For *emer* 'granite' see Dinneen *eibhear* (O.J.B.).

9. This line is defective in all copies.

18. I alter the reading *rosfuaig* to *rofiuaig* (from older *úagim*), which seems to denote the leader's power to keep his men together: *figim* and *sníim* are similarly used. The reading of S₃HV will not do, as it would require the genitive *deibtha*, spoiling the rhyme.

22. Túath Tuirbe, a district in Meath and North Dublin, not far from Tara.

23. My reading *séim-seing* has not much support in the mss., but gives a better rhyme than *cáem-seing*, which may have been substituted to alliterate with *chuirp*. The poet, however, seems to prefer in the first line of his couplet the kind of alliteration known as *úaimm ngnúise*, reserving the *fir-úaimm* for the second line: see Meyer's *Primer of Metrics*, § 22.

26. *reime* 'before her', 'in her presence' (O.J.B.).

29-30. This couplet, as also 33-34 and 37-38 are found only in MEd., but they are required by the narrative. The omission of the first two in the other mss. may be due to the repetition of *Dochriaid*.

34. *chomole* is a bad rhyme, and perhaps corrupt.

47-50. I can make nothing of *dohimairged* (or *dotiomairged*), the reading of all texts but Ed. in 49. If we adopt Ed.'s *dohimcaireadh* it must mean that Eochaid himself carried the body from the house where Aed was slain to Tara where it was hoisted on Corrgenn's shoulders (51). If this is right, 47-48 must be spoken by Eochaid.

53. Mag Senaig was the older name of Mag Slecht; cf. p. 252, 10.

55-56. Lough Foyle was called after Febal, who was drowned when it 'broke forth', Keating ii. 122. Apparently the lough rolled a stone over him, which Corrgenn appropriated.

59-60. The repetition of *úabair* is inadmissible; *ndúabair* is an obvious correction.

62. I take *tairm 'na thigib* as = *fama est in habitationibus ejus* (sc. oppidi).

64. Why is Tara called 'silent', when it was still the seat of the kings?

66. If *ní bo chaise* is right, this may be adverbial comparative of *cass* 'quick'. Or else read *ná laige*, and render 'it was no quicker work to bury him than to fell the bole of some old tree'.

67-68. Reading *side*, we must also keep *bíthe*, which can only be participle of *benim*; this would imply that Corrgenn was wounded before his capture. This, however, gives no assonance in the second line. If we write *bíthe* we must render it 'uxorious' and read in 67 *ech side* 'horses of the *áes side*'.

74. Whether we read *co nderntais* or *nocha nderntais*, the sense seems to be that Néit thought it would take the whole world to build such a fortress: whereas the work was done by two men.

76. Perhaps *aire* has here its original force as verbal noun of *arsenim* = 'fencing': or we may read *fhige* (*fide* HV) in the sense of 'building'; cf. Ailech i 52, ii. 8.

78. This refers to a house with a conical roof.

79. In Ailech ii. 42 all texts but L read *im Néit mac Indúii in allaid*: therefore I follow M in this line; but I can only guess at the meaning of *allaid*.

87. The reading is doubtful: for *cartaim* 'I pour, spill', see O'Dav. 419, 1474.

95. *rogreimm roban* may mean that Ailech's elopement was aided and abetted by her ladies.

102. Why should the king of Tara be called 'king of Femen'? Hogan, Onom., cites a *cath Femen i mBregaib*, so there was presumably a Femen not far from Tara which may have supplied a secondary title.

103. The rhyme suggests that the lady's name may have been originally written Elech here as in Ailech i. 77: but all copies of this poem give the name as Ailech.

107. *as* is probably written for *ós*; cf. note on Carraic Lethderg 7, p. 406 *infra*.

111. O'Donovan takes Dromma in Domain as a place-name, and Onom. has a *Druim Domain* (in co. Cork). It is also used as a rhetorical expression.

115. *dothéiged le*: cf. Ailech ii. 33, *doraga leis*.

117. Is Néit called *colach* simply as being a pagan: or was his marriage with Nemain incestuous?

Obach = Less Obaig, 'opposite Ailech', Mart. Oeng., p. 6, note 5.

118 *seq.* These kings may all be found in FM except Eochaid *búadach* (for whom see Cóir Anm. 176; he was son of Fergus Black-tooth, see O'Dav. 223, 1064, 1563) and Eochaid *mór*, who was son of Lug m. Rossa, and king of Ulster, see O'Donovan, Ordn. Survey, 229. I do not understand the allusion in 123.

126. Inis Senaig seems to be another name for Ireland.

127. *nár'muid* is probably corrupt, as there is neither assonance nor alliteration with *debaid*, and the line wants a syllable. Read *nár'memaid*.

128. This line refers to Niall's conquests overseas: *dhuigthech* may mean 'divided among different empires', or perhaps 'divided by the sea, remote'; or 'half the world'.

129. As to Cairenn, cf. Cuan O'Lochain's poem, LL 33 b 24. Other authorities make her 'daughter of the king of the Saxons', e.g. second fragment of 'Tigernach' in Rev. Celt. xvii. 32; Echtra mac nEchach (Sil. Gad. i. 326).

136. This line is aimed at the rivals who have excluded Cinél Eogain from the High-Kingship. But it wants a syllable. *S*₃'s reading may be right.

147. The vague cheville *gním re graigib* suggests a conqueror riding across the world at the head of his cavalry. Or *graiuib* may mean 'throngs of men'. As the line stands, it wants a syllable: this may be cured by writing *for* for *ar*. LeM read *domain*. The metre of the stanza is upset in *S*₃HV by the insertion of the words *derg ba doiligh* in 146: Le inserts *derg* only.

155. *áille fethail*: both reading and sense are doubtful. The alliteration of vowel with *fh*- is allowable; see Meyer, *Primer of Metrics*, p. 4 (3).

CARRAIC LETHDERG

The final stanza shows that this was a stronghold on some lake or seashore, but the place has not yet been identified. The prose tells us that Lethderg was Conchobar m. Nessa's daughter, and that her seducer was Fothad Cananne, who was something of a Don Juan: see Reicne Cananne (Todd L. xvi).

1. *taidbrim* meant originally 'I show, exhibit'; later, 'I gaze upon, admire', as in LU 81 a 1, *do thaidbriud in tísóig*. Here it may have the modern sense, 'I see in a dream' (Dinneen).

4. *aislingeó* is apparently written *metri gratia* for *aislingiu*. RB have *aisling theó*, as if *theó* = *thé* 'warm': but this spoils the alliteration.

7. Cormac (Anecl. iv. 23) has '*callait ab eo (quod) est callidus i. glic*': and a gloss in H 3. 18, quoted in Contrib., gives *callait i. glicus*. The word occurs at MDs. iii. 258, 39 *roiaig cach riún in callait (challait L)*. The word cannot be a loan from *callidus*, but may mean 'cunning'. In our passage aspiration is marked only in RLe, but the omission in other texts counts for little, as most mss. of the Dindshenchas are quite casual in this respect. I take *as cach ceird* = *ós cach ceirn*: cf. O'Rahilly in Gadelica i. 157, note: 'the sinking of *ós* in *as* is general in the spoken language'. *cern* means (1) victory, etc., (2) champion, and seems to be feminine.

12. The description of Irnisech in 11 suggests that his name should be Irmaisech 'well-aiming'.

14. *ard-less* can scarcely mean 'a fortress': Carraic Lethderg is clearly a natural stronghold. The immediate business is to surprise Tromda, and Corr Derce's role is to be guide, chosen, as his name suggests, for his sharp sight. The true reading is perhaps *ardmess (airdmius)*, a word specially used of warriors who have a gift for reconnoitring the enemy's numbers and position.

15. *eólas* 'guidance' must be connected closely with *co Tromda*, so that *ertha* cannot well be a dependent genitive of the verbal noun, but must be regarded as pret. passive. This verb certainly means 'fill', e.g. TBC (Wi.) 5042, *raerce in comás etir nem 7 talmáin*. In *andar lat batar frossa find-némand erclais ina cend* (ibid. 208) the passive seems to mean 'were packed': so Ir. T. i. 79, 20 *i ndáil lendo, erclar sair* (sic. leg.) 'at the carouse where nobles are crowded'. R here reads *ertha thuir*.

22. *doruilli* seems to mean 'added', 'procured in addition'.

23. *fallait* may be for **falnait*, a derivative of the stem *foln-*, meaning perhaps 'commando', here a 'crew'.

MAG COBA

Now the barony of Iveagh in co. Down : see Reeves, *Ecel. Antiq.* 349. In the older records we get *Cobo* for *Coba*, so that it seems to be the genitive of the *i*-stem *Cuib*. If so, the territory so called must have extended originally much farther north than the *Uí Eachach Coba*, since it included (or at least approached) *Dún Sobairche* on the north coast of Antrim : see *Táin* (Str.-O'K.) 1314, 1352. Remark that *Conchad mac Cuanach*, whom AU (734) style *rex Cobo*, is in O'Donovan's *Fragmentary Annals* (p. 59) called *rí Cruithne*, as if *Cuib* were co-extensive with the Pictish kingdom. In *Lebor Gabála*, LL 12 b 12, *Cuib* is one of the twenty-four slaves who attend the Sons of Mil : he is no doubt the *Coba* of our poem.

The rare words used in the prose version show that it is drawn, independently of the verse, from some lost story.

9. *fo chrú cacht* 'imprisonment under a pen' : see *Contrib.* 1 *cró* (probably the same as *cró* 'socket').

11. *doith* seems to be written for *daith* 'ready' ; it is curious that the prose has the same form.

rosdell : I have no instance of *dellaim*, but cf. *ar deil* 'in working order', *Dinneen*.

ARD MACHA

Macha, wife of *Nemed*, is mentioned in *Lebor Gabála*, BB 26 b 35 (not in LL). The story of *Macha mongriúad*, daughter of *Aed mac Baduinn* and wife of *Cimbaeth*, is told at length in LL 20 a 46 seq. : her death at the hand of *Rechtaid rig-derg*, LL 21 b 31.

There are three versions of *Macha's* race : two edited by Windisch from LL and Harl. 5280, the third by Thurneysen, ZCP xii. 251 (*Tochmarc Cruinn*). The poem is nearest to the Harleian version (see notes on 39 and 80), and may very well be derived from it. The prose ds. seems directly founded on the poem ; it gives to *Macha* the sobriquet *Grian Banchure*, which seems a misunderstanding of line 52. *Cruinn* is called in LL 'Crunniuc', in Harl. 'Cruind' and 'Crundchu', in *Tochm.* 'Cruinn'.

3. *tacha* : this word is used four times in the poem to supply a rhyme to *Macha*. It seems to be *tacha* 'scarcity' : cf. MDs. iii. 368, 37 *i tacha in tairb* ; LL 46 a 34 *ní scéla co tacha*. In 47 *cen tacha* = 'not rarely'. Here and in 95 the sense is rather 'loneliness, isolation'.

6. The twelve plains are enumerated in BB 26 b 44, among them *Mag Macha*, cf. LL 6 a 37.

9. This line might mean 'who made every victory drip (with blood)' i. e. 'who gained bloody victories'. But cf. p. 72, 52 *secht mbíada rosbriéna*.

11. It can hardly be the poet's intention to identify our *Macha* with *Macha the Badb*, or war-demon, as to whom see RC i. 40, *Táin* (Wi.) p. 840, note, LL 10 a 43.

16. Four texts read *eomuin*, etc., and no doubt a reference is intended to

the derivation of Emain from *éó* 'brooch' which is found in Cormac (YBL) § 502. I write *Eómain* to mark the rhyme with *déolaid*. For in *maige* S alone has *lamhraidhe*, i. e. *Lámraige*, the name of a territory in Ulster (BB 284 b 48). This gives alliteration.

17. *bunad*, i. e. origin of the Oenach.

27. *tair*. Cruinn belonged (according to Tochm. Cruinn) to Dál Fiatach. Cf. line 43.

37-40. Cf. Harl. '*Aurgabaid an fear*', *ol ind ri*, '*co ti a beun frisan imarbaig*'.

37. *fir* is a material genitive: see note on *Maith inse*, p. 398 *supra*.

44. O'Cl. has *crín-briathrach* i. *brisc-briathrach*: dry wood is a figure for futility.

51. *cen tuige*: because the *aés síde* do not live in houses such as men build.

52. The prose treats *Grian Banchuire* as a double name. Adopting this view, the compiler of the *Bainshenchas* in BB 284 a 16 goes farther and treats *Macha* and *Grian Banchuire* as two persons.

58. The meaning of *téith-mer* is doubtful. The first element is sometimes explained as 'smooth' or 'soft', in such compounds as *téith-milis*; see AMC, index. But it is also explained as 'warm': cf. Corm. (YBL) 102 *lem* i. *cach téith*: so Stokes, index to Br. DD., *téith-bláith*. There is perhaps a confusion of forms compounded with *tée* (pl. *téit*) and with *téith*. In MDs. iii. 112, 35 we have *téitmer* rhyming with *cét-fer*, but here and at LL 364 m. sup. line 2, *téith-mer* is found: so too *téith-mire*, MDs. ii. 66, 14. At p. 228, 23 *supra*, *co téith* seems to mean 'quickly' or 'suddenly'. I am inclined to think that this gives the proper sense of *téith*, and that *téith-mer* means 'quick, eager', while *téit-mer* and probably *téit-milis*, *téit-bláith*, should be referred to *tée*.

thúachail-chniss is another compound of uncertain meaning. Besides *tuachail* 'wary' there is a homonym which is found as a noun at BB 269 b 18 *cét mbó ag taidbi 7 tuachail*, but I can only guess at the sense.

57-60. The stanza apparently answers to the line of Harl.: '*Gaibid claidbi don atheuch on, ol in ri*'. I follow Bergin's interpretation of 59-60. *Line* = *Mag Line*. Bergin would read with S₃ *re cath* in 60 (*re* = *fri*).

63. I take this line to mean that she was not encouraged like the horses by the cries of the driver, *áine* being gen. of *áin* (*agim*). Or else 'cry of sport' (Bergin).

65. Cf. Harl.: *Telcid tra, ol sise, na heucha frim toeb*.

72. *romaille* is a noun: literally, 'it was too much slowness'.

74. *gell* is her stake, what she risked, namely her life: hence such phrases as *acht mína be gell de anmannab* 'unless there be risk of life', Reeves' *Culdees* 85, 24; *go ngell dó áia anmain* 'upon peril of his life', ZCP v. 524, 9.

88. So Harl. *biaid forib co nomadh nao* i. *co haimsir nonbair*. See Thurneysen, ZCP xiv. 2. But alliteration favours Stokes's explanation of the phrase as *co nómad n-ó*, supported by O'Brien, ZCP xiv. 320.

89. Read probably *cherná* and render 'victorious C.'. *Conchobar* would hardly be associated with a place in Meath.

99. *cen brig mbailb*: cf. note on Ess Ruaid i. 7, p. 375.

102. *prim-chretim*: perhaps 'chief Faith': this is the usual force of *prim*: but Dinneen gives compounds such as *primh-gheinte*, *primh-pheacad* 'original sin', *primh-thús*, in which it means 'first in time'. Cf. PH Glossary.

LECHT OEN-FIR AÍFE

Aided Chonlaich, the story of the death of Conlaech by his father's hand, has been edited in its oldest form by Meyer, in *Eriu* i. 113. Conlaech's grave was at Airbe Rofhir, as to which name see P. Walsh in *ZCP* viii. 555. Cúchulainn was slain and buried at the same spot.

7. The little river Dall flows into the sea at Cushendall on the coast of Antrim. Is *dithraib* here an adjective? or does *dithrub dall*, 'the blind desert', mean the sea?

16. *écond* means properly one who is incapable of managing his affairs, through youth or imbecility.

18. The asyndeton is awkward: read *is imserntais* (*simserndais* R); or possibly divide thus: *dia rista is immuserntais*, taking *rista* as past subj. pass., used impersonally: but the mixture of passive and active seems unnatural.

21, 22. The rhyme is unsatisfactory, and the variants suggest corruption.

28. Most of the mss. have *ar bith* or *arbith*, which has probably intruded from the next line. A derivation from *airbe* 'cutting' seems intended. In *LL* 122 a 26 (*Brislech Mór*), quoted *ZCP* viii. 556, the name is derived from *airbe* 'foot-print'.

CARN MÁIL

This poem has already been edited by O'Donovan in the Miscellany of the Celtic Society as an appendix to the *Genelach Corca Laidhe*, p. 66 *seq.*

It falls into two parts. Only the first nine stanzas are concerned with Carn Máil. The second and longer part has nothing to do with the Dindshenchas, and seems to have been written in imitation of Cuan ua Lochan's poem on the adventure of the sons of Eochaid Mugmedón: see Miss Joynt's edition in *Eriu* iv. 91 *seq.* What then was the subject of the poem as a whole? Was it intended to be an account of the sons of Daire Sirchrechtach? If so we must say, with O'Donovan, that Lugaid Mál was one of them. There are, however, several objections to this supposition. The sons of Daire are enumerated by several authorities, and there is much discrepancy as to their names and their number. The genealogical tract in *Rawl. B 502* (facs. p. 143 a 44) says there were three of them, 'Lugaid Cal a quo Calraige, Lugaid Leog a quo Corcco Loegdi, Lugaid Orc a quo Corc Oirethi'. But the compiler adds that others recognize five sons, whose names are given. The same source, at p. 155 a 8, says that Daire had five sons, and proceeds to name six! The same list is given in another copy of this tract in *LL* 325 f 10, *H. 2. 7* (TCD) col. 85, and *BB* 196 e 11 (without ambiguity as to the number). The *Lecan* tract on *Corca Lai(g)de* edited by O'Donovan *ut supra* hesitates between five and six (pp. 24, 30, 32). Five are named in *Lebor Gabála*, *LL* 14 a 33. *Cóir Anmann* (Ir. T. iii. 318) also gives a list of five, but on the same page mentions two more: the compiler, no doubt, was using more than one authority. So far as I know, however, it is only in our poem that the number is definitely stated to be seven (line 37). Only four of them are named besides Lugaid Mál, and it is not stated nor implied that he is a son

of Daire. His name does not appear in any of the other lists, and the only other places that I know of where he is mentioned under this name are: (1) the prose ds. of Dun mac Nechtain, RC xvi. 83, and (2) a sentence in the Genelach Corca Laigde (p. 6) where he is spoken of as one of the heroes of the tribe: *Lughaidh Mál in miligh righ roghobh in domhan ó Bhreatain Leatha co Lochlaind acus ó Indsiú Orc co hEspain acus is é thuc cath Cairn Mál a Muirthemhne do chloind hIr mic Mileadh acus do chloind Ebhir acus' do chloind Eremhoin acus mebhaidh re Lughaidh Mál in mor-dheabhaidh acus aithrister corghobh Eri co himshlán.* The statement that he became king of Ireland tells against regarding him as one of Daire's sons, for none of them has a place among the High Kings, with the possible exception of Lugaid Láigde (see note on line 65).

The passage last quoted is evidently related to lines 9-36 of our poem: either the poem is an expansion of the prose sentence, or conversely the prose is based on the poem. I believe that the latter is the case; and I further hold that Lugaid *mál* is merely another name for Lugaid Mac Con. What we are told of Lugaid *mál* answers to the main points in the story of Mac Con as we have it in Cath Maige Mucrimme and in the other version of the tale which Meyer edited in his *Fianaigecht* (Todd Lect. xvi. 28 seq.). The accounts of Mac Con vary greatly in details, but they agree that he was exiled from Ireland and fled to Scotland (cf. lines 10-12 of our poem); that he came back with a host of foreigners and offered battle to the old king Ailill Olomm, who according to one version (Todd L. xvi. 28) was his putative father (cf. lines 13-24). In this battle he defeated Ailill, who was supported by Art mac Guinn, as Lugaid *mál* with his foreign levies defeats the men of Ireland (line 32). Only the place of the decisive battle is far different: Carn Máil is on the coast of Down or Louth, whereas Mag Mucrimme is in Connaught.

It is my belief that the original subject of the poem was the adventure of Daire's sons with the hag, and that the stanzas on Mac Con, *alias* Lugaid *mál*, followed as an afterpiece describing the fulfilment of Daire's prophecy in 139-140; lines 5-36 should follow 140. Note that 'Cnoc Breg' in 139 corresponds to 'il-lius Breg' in 33. The compiler of the Dindshenchas, finding the *airía* of Carn Máil appropriate to his purpose, put this part of the poem in the place of honour, and perhaps did not intend to include more than this in his collection. Other poems not originally written for the Dindshenchas have been treated in this way, and we find in one codex the entire original poem, while others have only an extract (e.g. ds. of Sliab Fuait: see p. 419). Some later copyist, not understanding the identity of Lugaid *mál*, regarded him as a seventh son of Daire, besides the six whose names he knew from other sources, and therefore wrote *secht* for *sé* in line 37. Finally the compiler of the Genelach Corca Láigde added the newly discovered conqueror to the glories of the tribe.

The exact position of Carn Máil is unknown: it was somewhere in the territory of Murthemne (see Gen. C. L. p. 6).

1-4. With this exordium compare MDs. iii. 110, 1-8.

18. Apparently *shiaig* is put for *shiaigu* and *na sochraite* is genitive.

23-24. i. e. he gave them the choice of fighting him, or joining him in his march against Ailill and Art: *la hadbur a n-ard'latha* is epexegetical of *leis*.

26. *fo chomiath* 'under equal terror': the risks were even.

27. As to the cairn built before battle, see note on Carn Furbaide 41, p. 381 *supra*.

33. Less Breg is perhaps merely a by-name for Tara. Mac Con took the High Kingship after his victory. LLc read *alluss*, *alos* = 'by means of' or 'for the sake of'.

37. *secht-mac* is a compound like *secht-chaindel*, etc.: see Wortk. no. 113, and add *secht-bairgen*, ZCP ix. 174, st. 82, Todd L. xvii. 50, 1, O'Don. Transcr. 1628. At p. 190, 12, *secht-mac* seems to mean 'one of seven sons'.

38. *ria mess* 'with honour to him': cf. MDs. iii. 464, 57. Dáire called all his sons Lugaid on account of the prophecy 'that a son of his would obtain the sovereignty of Erin and that Lugaid would be his name': Ir. T. iii. 819.

46. If the text is right, Sinann is here not a river-name: I do not know what place is meant. According to Cóir Anmann, the fawn was killed at Dál Moscorb (or Messcorb) in Leinster. Cf. l. 56.

61-64. This Lugaid is called in Rawl. B 502 Lugaid Ore, in Genel. C.L. 31 Lugaid Oirche. In Cóir Anm. he is called alternatively Lugaid Core and Lugaid Orode, the latter name being apparently derived from a word *ore* meaning 'pitcher' (cf. *oircé* 'trough', Laws, Gl.). In 64 the mss. vary between Corca Oche and Corca Oirce (or Oirche): these are distinct tribes; see Mac Neill, Population Groups, § 35.

65. O'Donovan writes *Lugaid Mór, athair Miccon*, which spoils the alliteration and introduces fresh confusion, as Mac Con's father is Lugaid Láigde. This brother seems to be called Lugaid Loig (for *Loíg*?) in 67; but here again the texts vary, four giving *leog*, *leogh*, or *leodh*. This is an unlikely corruption of *loig*, and suggests the possibility that the line originally ran: *Conid ó leód loig ille* 'it was from the killing of a fawn, till now'. It was Lugaid Láigde who killed the fawn and thus earned the reward foretold (Cóir Anm.). Hence it is said that 'all Ireland belonged to him', although according to most authorities it was not he but his son Mac Con who became High King: cf. lines 129-132. Keating notices the discrepancy of tradition (ed. Dinneen ii. 150).

85-86. The rhyme is faulty: LB write *achsalab*.

87. *cnocc-remur*: see Contrib. for *cnocc* 'a wen'.

89. L's reading *rosfuachtastar* may be referred to *fosaigim* 'I distress, annoy': the *ro-* pret. would be *foruacht*, in Middle-Irish *rofuacht*, or with deponential ending added *rofuachtastar*. Or it may come from *fosichim* 'I inflict injury', of which the pret. 3 pl. *forruachtatar* occurs in Cormac (YBL) 876: cf. Laws iv. 178, 17, where Atkinson proposes *foruachtatar* for the printed *foruchatatat*. The other texts have avoided the unfamiliar word.

91. *bloscaid* is written in L *metr. gr.* for *bloscad*, as conversely in 86 *achsalab* for *achsalaib*.

94. L alone has *mnae* (for *úath*) followed by a blank as if a word had been erased. Most texts read *olor*, which I do not understand. L has *clair*, which may be adjectival genitive of *olar* 'grease'.

104. *roforníss* is fut. of *ithim* with infixed *-forn-* (for *-b-*).

111. *molta* is probably adjectival genitive of *molad*.

114. If *brath-tecoisc* is the right reading, it must mean 'teaching in the arts

of illusion': *brath-ecoisc*, which has not much support, would mean 'illusory semblance'.

119. I should prefer H's *frigit*, if it had any support.

RATH MÓR IN MAG LINE

Mag Line, now Moylinny, covered a large area in Dál Araide, to the south of Larne. Bresal appears in the genealogy of Sil Fergusa of Dál Araide, with the note '*qui subintravit Loch Laíg*' (ZCP viii. 335. 19; LL 332 a 40). This refers to the lost Echtra Bresail, mentioned in the prose ds., no doubt one of the many stories of adventure in the *tír fo thuinn*. Loch Laíg is Belfast Lough. The genealogy makes Bresal father of Tipraite *tírech*, '*qui occidit Conn céthathach*'. He is omitted (with two more links in the chain) by FM, who make Tipraite son of Mál. Pseudo-Tigernach (Rev. Celt. xvii. 7) has: *Bresal mac Briuin regnavit a n-Emain annis xix qui Loch Láigh subintravit. Cuius coniunx Mor a ben issi adbath dia chumaidh . a quo [sic] nominatur Raith Mór Muighe Line*. The last sentence of this entry is found (with slight variations) as a scribal note in the upper margin of L. Breac, p. 10.

6. I treat *áith-rind* as = *rind-áith*, but none of the mss. marks the long vowel, and the repetition of *áith* is awkward.

BENN BOIRCHE I

This is the Irish name of the Mourne Mountains in co. Down. D n Sobairche is Dunseverick on the northern coast of Antrim, and Inber Colptha is the Boyne estuary.

2. Perhaps we should write *rig-buidnig*: the prose has *Boirche boaire m̄c Rigbuidē*; but the Edinburgh version (ed. Stokes in Folk Lore, vol. iv) has *Bairche boaire Rosa ruaidhbuidhi*; Stokes says that Ross *ruad-buide*, or *rig-buide*, was 'King of Ulad in the third century': this assertion is probably based on a gloss on Fiace's hymn, 29, found in the Franciscan Liber Hymnorum: *Bairche boare Rossa Rigbuidē rig Ulad, is uad anmnigter na Benna, quia ibi habitabat frequenter cum pecoribus suis*. This, however, may in turn be taken from the Dindshenchas. I find no such king in the regnal lists of Ulster. Perhaps in the original legend Boirche was son (or, more likely, herdsman) of Ross *riad*, who was Conchobar mac Nessa's grandfather. If this Boirche is the same as the owner of 'Boirche's hen', mentioned in ds. Ard Fothaid, his father's name was Aed; see p. 398.

3. Only R has *co mbennaib*: the other texts read *co bennaib*, as if for *co Benna* (*Boirche*).

12. Boirche's name is here used with reference to its meaning as a vocable, which seems to be 'the bull or stag that leads the herd': O'Clery's derivation from *borr-ag*, though in itself absurd, shows that he understood the word in that sense.

BENN BOIRCHE II

The incidents recounted in this poem are also referred to in Flann Manistrech's poem at LL 11 b 16.

2. I follow the reading of RM: the legend certainly relates to the sea rather than to the mountains, and this interpretation agrees with lines 3-4. Yet the three loughs mentioned in 11-12 are not in the immediate neighbourhood of Benna Boirche; and there is the further difficulty that we must take Boirche in 2 as = Benn Boirche. And *risa mben Boirche* can hardly mean 'which B. opposes'. So perhaps it is better to read *már-airis Benn mBoirche* 'the great story of B. B.' *Benn* must be taken as rhyming with *sen*.

11. Loch Ruide is said by Hogan, Onom., to be the name of a wide reach of the lower Bann. Loch Cuan is Strangford Lough and Loch Da Chaeach is Waterford Harbour.

15-16. According to the prose, the lady's name was Lecon: one infers from these lines that she killed herself by a leap (from the top of Benn Boirche?) and that some name such as Léim Leena preserved her memory.

Only S₃ reads *már* in 15, but it seems to be required by the metre (:án).

TALTU

The site of the Oenach of Teltown is fixed by a mound near the road, about half-way from Navan to Kells. Donaghpatrick Church, about half a mile distant, is supposed to occupy the site which was given to Patrick by Conall, brother of King Loegaire mac Néill: the gift is recorded immediately after Patrick's visit to Teltown in L. Ardm. f. 10 r^o 2: cf. Westropp in Trans. R. I. A. xxxi. 714. For a discussion of the legends connected with Teltown see Westropp in Folk Lore, June 1920.

The poem is attributed to Cúán úa Lothcháin in L. It is evidently written to celebrate the holding of the Fair by Maelsechlainn in 1006, for the first time after an interval of seventy-nine years; see line 189. Maelsechlainn died in 1022; Cúán survived him by two years.

Most copies of the poem shorten it by omissions, and in several passages diverge widely from L. These variants are as a rule to be explained as attempts to get rid of difficulties in the older text. It must be noted, however, that the connexion of the stanzas by *conachlann* tells against L at some points: see notes on 25-28, 41, 49-56, 157-160, 189. The last forty-eight lines of the poem are found only in L and H. Does this mean that other copies have deliberately shortened the poem, as in several other cases? or that Cuan has worked up a poem by another hand, adding this panegyric on his friend and patron, Maelsechlainn? It is noteworthy that connexion by *conachlann*, which is carried through the rest of the poem with the few exceptions noted above, is wanting after 208, 212, 216, 228, even if we admit the quasi-alliterations after 204 and 220. Perhaps the *conachlann* was felt to be superfluous in 209, 213, 217 on account of the rhetorical repetition of *Bec leis*. As to such licences see Meyer, ZCP xi. 108. I have, as usual, relied on L, except in some places where it is illegible. The spelling of the name varies in L between Taltiu and Taitiu.

2. Cf. MDs. iii. 16, 192: *ar bar serc-blaid sir-éistid!*

- 5. I print L's reading, but no authority, so far as I know, puts the Fir Bolg so late as 303 B.C. The chronological tract in BB, edited by MacCarthy in Todd Lect. iii. 293, dates the battle at Mag Tuired about 1390 B.C. Of course the synchronists differ widely, but none of them, I think, puts the battle so late as L's reading, or so early as the reading of the other manuscripts would imply. The prose version, however, has *cóic cét bliadan 7 míli*, which is nearer the mark. Perhaps the variants of the verse arose from mistaking *m.* (= *míli*) for *iii.* in line 6, and we should read *ocus míle*.

fodagaib is perhaps imperative: 'note them!'

9. Much the same account of the lady Taltiu is given in LL 9 a 35-50, where the phrase *sleatáithir lé in chaill corbo mag scoth[s]emrach* suggests that the compiler borrowed from our poem (line 32): if so, this would help to fix the upper limit of date for this version of Lebor Gabála.

12. *iar cath chomard* refers to the first battle of Mag Tuired: cf. LL 9 a 36.

After this line S₃ adds the following stanza:

Taillti ingen Mogha mhoill . as í ben doben (?) an choill
muimmi Logha, luaidhit fir . ba le an teidi-si um Thailltin.

13-24. These localities are presumably to be sought not very far from Teltown. Escir may mean Escir Ríada, the line of gravel hills which runs from east to west across Ireland, beginning near Lucan (co. Dublin). Seil (the reading of L in 16) probably = Sele or Saele, the old name of the Meath Blackwater, on which St. Patrick laid a curse; cf. line 77 and see L Ardm. f. 10 r^o 2. And Commur may = Commor Manai, the confluence of Blackwater and Boyne (cf. Ard Manai in 22).

19-20. These lines are printed as they stand in L; the variant readings of the other texts do not give much help towards an interpretation. I take *cend carbaig* and *athbéim* to be hunting terms; the former recalls the phrase *arpetend carbach* which occurs in the cryptic poem '*Ogum il-lia*' (Ir. T. i. 158). There also it is an incident of the chase. Perhaps the *carbach* was a horn, and the meaning is that the first call was sounded in the wood and the second on the edge of Clochar. The words *for brú* do not accord with Clochar, which should be a 'stony place'; on the other hand, they would be in place in 24, where S₃ has *for brú*, and RMH *ar bru*. I suggest that L's *tir* in 24 is an old corruption (due to the following *tiprat*) and that *for brú* was a marginal correction (in the archetype of L) which has been inserted in the text in the wrong place; so that we ought to restore in 20 *hi cúl Chlochair* and in 24 *for brú tiprat*. (Yet cf. p. 262, 40 *co brú Bri Dam*.)

23. Cairpre Lifechar is probably meant: if so, his 'hounds' are the warriors of his tribe. Or does this refer to Cairpre mac Néill (brother of King Lóegaire), who maltreated Patrick's men when he visited Teltown? see L. Ardm., *ut supra*.

25-28. In this stanza only H agrees with L: the other texts substitute the following stanza (which has the advantage of keeping the *conachlann*):

Mór do gressaib, do geintib : do thresaib, do throm-teintib,
a cor Chaille Cuan dar cend : ba sáethrach slúag for nErenn.

35-36. Reading and sense are doubtful. As L's text of 37-38 is certainly corrupt, I fall back on the other mss. : but it is hard to extract any meaning from *fir na (nach) fallain* : is the line a description of the grief of the men of Ireland for Tailtiu's death? If we read *fir nach follán* the meaning may be that it was not worth Tailtiu's while to kill herself with the labour of wood-cutting (*ar feda = ar fedaib*). Perhaps 35 is a proverbial saying.

39. *i cacht* 'in bondage', as one of the conquered Fir Bolg. But one would expect *ica* for *dia*. Bergin would render 'when she was in weakness', comparing SnR 1525 *Roráid Eua, ar baí hi cacht*.

41. L's reading *Roráid-si* breaks the *conachlann* : most copies have *co n-epert*, which restores it.

46. Perhaps we should punctuate *dia luáin Loga, Lugnasad* : 'on the Lugnasad, the day of Lug's moon', i. e. the first day of the lunar month dedicated to Lug. Only L reads *Loga*.

49. This stanza, found only in LH, again breaks the *conachlann* : it also interrupts the sense.

54. What is meant by *ceól charput*? is it a compound?

57-60. Cf. MDs. iii. 18, 221-224.

58-59. Cf. Bethada Naem nEreann, 130 : *gan dáil gan cheist gan chaingin gan breithemnus gan accra fiach*.

63. All texts except L have *cellach* 'strife' : but *ellach* is a legal term (see Laws, Glossary) ; also it gives alliteration.

65-68. Quoted by Keating, *Forus Feasa* (ed. Dinneen ii. 248) : cf. MDs. iii. 18, 225-228.

67. *ó thaig* : the house he lived in marked his social standing.

75. The Tuatha Dé came originally from Greece.

77. *din tSéil*. Here and in 16 this name is monosyllabic. It must be the same as the 'fumen Sele' of L. Ardm. quoted above ; elsewhere the name is written Sale, Saele, or Saile ; see Onom. Perhaps the true nominative was Séil (Sial), and in *fumen Sele*, *sruth Sele*, we have the genitive which later replaced the nominative.

79. The epithet *slúag siabra* applies especially to the Tuatha Dé, on account of their magic powers (cf. ZCP xiv. 174), but here is extended to all pagan inhabitants of Ireland.

80. *Conachlann* is again broken, this time in all texts : só too at 84, 112, 116, 132, 184.

85-88. I give the rendering suggested by Bergin. The stanza describes the relations between *recht aicnid* and *recht lítre* which are represented in the Senchas Mór as agreed on between Patrick and Dubthach maccu Lugir (Laws i. 16, iii. 30-32).

90. *tróeta* is gen. sing. of *tróethad*, verbal noun of *tróethaim*.

92. If L is right in writing *ráth* for *fert* in the next stanza, it would be better to read *ráth-Féne* here.

93-96. In this stanza I have felt obliged to abandon L ; it is clearly wrong in reading *combái* in 93, and its version of 95 is unintelligible to me. This line seems indeed to be partially corrupt in all copies : *drena* is unknown to me, and the other readings seem to be attempts of the scribes to restore sense. In 96 one would expect the datives *maccaib*, *ingenaiib*, as in L, rather than the

accusatives. I think that L is probably right in reading *ráth*, *rátha* for *fert*, *ferta*. Keating quotes this stanza, along with lines 99–100, in his *Three Shafts* (ed. Atkinson, p. 161): his reading agrees with S₃H.

93. We might read with B *co ndói* (see Wl. *dóe* (2) and ITD *daoi* ‘a grassy bank’), only that this would spoil the alliteration. In favour of *fir co n-ái* there is the passage in LU 39 a 3 (quoted by Petrie, *Ecel. Archit.* 106), enumerating the poets of Connaught who received burial at Oenach Cruachan.

97. *fert fadb*, because a warrior’s accoutrements (*fuidb*) were buried with him.

Aisneis do chorthib: does this refer to inscriptions on memorial stones or to the belief in spirits who spoke from stones? cf. p. 296, *supra*. Or should we read in 98 with most mss. *d’fulang* and render ‘[I could give] a description of pillarstones . . ., of bearing candles, of watching the dead’? As to the lighting of candles over the dead, cf. Joyce, *Social History* ii. 550.

103. All texts except L read *foluing* (*fulaing*, etc.). But why should the *mír* be said to ‘support’ the dead? I take the *mír* to be an embankment of stones and earth *under* which are the burial chambers and *upon* which are arranged the seats (*forada*) occupied by the assembly at the *óenach*, according to their rank, sex, and province. Cf. Sil. Gad. i. 82, 28: *Rohordaigit tra fir Erenn for foradaib ind oenaig .i. cách ar miadaib ocus dánaib ocus dlestanus ann, amail ba gnáth cossin*. See also p. 262, 59–60 *supra*, and Bruchst. 146.

104. Eochu *garb* mac Duach *daill*, king of the Tuatha Dé, was Taittiu’s second husband: see prose ds. and LL 9 a 42.

105–120. These lines describe the arrangement of the graves of the kings of Ireland, and of the four provinces. They are enumerated first from the left of ‘the King of Ireland in this order: Munster, Connacht, Leinster, Ulster; then from his right in reverse order, Ulster, Leinster, Munster, Connacht. This is inconsistent, and one must presume that the difficulties of metre have caused the poet to confuse the places of Munster and Connacht. As the poem is addressed to Síol Cuinn it is only natural that Ulster should have the place of honour: and considering the recent importance of Dóllais it is equally proper that Munster should come next; Leinster, of course, takes precedence of Connacht. In 116 Ériu is put instead of Temair for the High Kings. Compare the arrangement in CMR 28: *ro suidh in righ ar tus isin imscing órdai: ocus is é ba bás 7 ba dligead acu-sum, in tan bud rig o Uibh Neill in Deiscirt nobiad for Erin, cumad he rig Connacht nobiad for a laim deis: mad é Uibh Neill in Tuaiscirt umorro in rigi, rig Ulad nobid for a laim deis, 7 rig Connacht for a laim cli*.

Perhaps, however, the meaning of 117–120 is rather that the four provinces held games in turn on successive days in the order mentioned. At Carman seven games were held; see MDs. iii. 14–16 (169–192).

105. *uaigthe* is gen. of the verbal noun of *uagim* ‘sew’, here applied to masonry; cf. *figim*.

111. As to the three divisions of Connacht, see Onom.

112. *Fir Ólneemacht*, the old name of Connacht.

121–124. I can find no other reference to these monuments.

125. Literally ‘a throw which does not get profit’, i.e. ‘purposeless’ (and dangerous).

130. The story of the headless man, Abacuc, or *an bacuc*, will be found in Sil. Gad. ii. 78 and 453, Ir. Nenn. 206, FM 539. The child of a seven-year-old boy is one of the wonders of Tara (not Teltown) in Ir. Nenn. 198. I keep L's *for meór*, which I take to mean that the infant was a 'hop o' my thumb' (as might be expected). The reading of the other texts, *for feór*, is quite pointless.

The third marvel is surely the same as the story of the priest who was carried off by demons and dropped from the air at the feet of Niall Frossach at Teltown: see LL 273 b 28 *seq.* But, if so, why have we not *tothaim sacairt* in 132? Is *táim* 'swoon' properly the simplex corresponding to *tothaim*?

133. The meaning of *filte* is doubtful: if it is to be referred to *fillim* 'I turn, fold', it may have the sense of 'complicated, doubled', and so, 'aggravated'.

134. For *asrogart* we should perhaps read *arrogart*.

136. Thanks to a misreading and misrendering of this line by Sullivan in the first volume of O'Curry's *Manners and Customs* (p. dxxli), it has been often quoted as evidence of human sacrifice. The weight of ms. authority is heavily for *ní* as against *im*: and as *ní prim-icht* ('not a chief progeny'?) gives no satisfactory sense, I prefer L's *ní prim-slicht*, understanding this to mean that Patrick's humane injunctions contrasted with the cruelty of pagan times. For *prim* = 'first, primal', see note on Ard Macha 102, p. 408, *supra*. Yet the burning of *empty* byres seems pointless, and one is tempted to read *toscad lés fós im prim-icht* 'burning also of byres round the chief increase', sc. calves: (*lés* = *llas*, O. J. B.).

138. *doneth* is written for *dogneth* to mark the alliteration.

150. This Mac Eirc is presumably the 'filius Ercae filii Dregin' mentioned as a disciple of Patrick, and a bishop, in L.Ardm. 14 b 2, 15 a 1, 15 a 2. In AU 733 is recorded 'aduentus reliquiarum filii Eirc ad ciuitatem Tailten'. (Reeves in Vit. Adamn. 387 seems to have misinterpreted this notice.) The privileges granted to Mac Eirc must be understood as miracles performed after his death by the virtues of his relics.

153. All texts give *giall-cherd*, which I regard as an error, due to confusion between *gall-cherd* and *giall-cherda*. Meyer has tried to show, in his *Wortkunde*, § 36, that the latter word, which properly means 'homage', acquired by metaphorical extension the same sense as *gall-cherd*, which is the name for the Viking game of tossing infants on their spear-points. But Meyer ignores the fact that the word for 'homage' is *giall-cherdae*, not *giall-cherd*; and I find it hard to believe in the co-existence of two words for this barbarous practice, of different origin and yet distinguished only by a single letter. It seems to me much more natural to suppose that *giall-cherd*, both here and in the Life of St. Caimnech (which he quotes), is due to mere confusion; or else that the form *gall-cherd* was perverted by a false etymology, under the influence of *giall-cherdae*.

I refer *condaigthe* (written in full in L) to *taigim* (inf. *táim*), cf. *adised*, Wb. 25 a 6 (from *tiicim*); *condoethais*, Táin (Str.-O'K.) 1619, from *tuitim*, etc.

154. I do not know what event is here referred to. Can *ar Bregmag* mean 'off the coast of Brega'? One may conjecture that Mac Eirc was credited with the sinking of pirate ships coming to raid the Meath coast.

155. The two sons of Aed Sláne perished in the pestilence known as the

Buide Chonaill: see FM and AU, 663, 664, 666, 667. It may be noted that this pestilence broke out on the first day of August, which is the date on which the Fair of Teltown was held. Apparently Mac Eirc had the credit of putting an end to it, though the Annals do not mention this. It is true that the relics of Mac Eirc were not brought to Teltown till 783, but an anachronism of a hundred years is a trifle in the legends of the saints.

157-160. This stanza is found only in LH. It interrupts the *conachlann* (*imnáire* 156: *imráidem* 161), and is probably interpolated from some other source. In 158 *cairde* perhaps means 'alliance'.

159. At FM 687 a Beccán of Cluain Iraird (Clonard in co. Meath) is mentioned. O'Donovan gratuitously assumes this notice to be an erroneous doublet of the obit of Dabecóc of Cluain Aird (in co. Tipperary) in FM 689. There were countless homonymous saints in Ireland, and the patron of Teltown is much more likely to have been a Meathman than a Munster saint.

160. *Eithne*: no doubt Colum Cille's mother.

Reeves assumes that Adamnán was a Northerner by birth; but in Cáoín Adamnáin (ed. Meyer, § 6) we find him with his mother in Bregia.

163. O'Cl. has: *trena Tailltean* i. *bualadh bas no égcóine do bhíodh a dTaillín*: but Bergin is no doubt right in taking *trena* as pl. of *trian*. It may perhaps mean 'triduum': cf. *trénæ Samna*, Ir. T. i. 205 § 1: it seems, however, to refer to the following stanza (163-168), which I understand as a description of the ceremony observed each time the Fair was held. The actions are symbolical: three parties are sent, to ascertain that the *dún* is not held by any enemy, to search the ground, and to proclaim the solemn truce.

171. *Cairn don maig* = Mag Cairn, Roscommon: Ciarán was born in Mag Ái.

174. The phrase *cintech ar écintech* is quoted in Contrib. from AmraC.C. (RC xx. 270) with the meaning 'taking certain with uncertain', 'approximately'. Whatever the exact date of Patrick's visit to the Fair may have been (see L. Ardm. f. 10 rº 2), it was something less than 500 years from it to the 'Black Fair', which was interrupted by Muircertach mac Néill in 925 (FM) or 926 (AU).

177. From the accession in 459 of Ailill Molt, who succeeded Loegaire mac Néill *noi-giallaig*, to the year 1006 the Four Masters and other authorities count forty-seven kings. Cuan recognizes forty-four *plus* Ailill Molt (S₃ alone says forty-six). He pointedly ignores the usurper Brian, and he also seems to omit Diarmait mac Fergusua *cerrbeól* (539-558 FM), I know not why. His list is made up as follows:

Ailill Molt, who was the only king in the list not descended from Niall:
one son of Loegaire mac Néill (Lugaid, acc. 479):

one son of Cairpre mac Néill (Tuathal, acc. 528):

nine of the 'seed of Aed Sláne', viz. Aed himself (595), Diarmait and Blathmac (657), Sechnasach (665), Cennfaelad (670), Finnachta (674), Fogartach (719), Cinaeth (720), Congalach (943):

seven kings of Clann Cholmáin (cf. MacNeill, Celtic Ireland, 129), viz.:
Domnall (739), Donnchad I (766), Conchobar (818), Maelsechlainn I (845), Flann (877), Donnchad II (918), Maelsechlainn II (979):

sixteen kings descended from Eogan mac Neill (Cenél Eogain), viz.:
Muircertach (504), Domnall and Fergus (559), Eochaid and Baetán (562),

Colmán *rimid* (595), Aed *uairidnach* (601), Suibne (611), Fergal (709), Aed *allán* (730), Niall *frossach* (759), Aed *ordnide* (793), Niall Caille (832), Aed *findliath* (861), Niall *ghín-áub* (915), Domnall (955):

ten kings descended from Conall *gulban mac Néill* (Cenél Conaill), viz.: Ainmire (564), Baetán (567), Aed (568), Maelcoba (608), Domnall (624), Conall *cael* and Cellach (640), Loingsech (694), Congal (702), Flaithbertach (723).

I give the dates as in FM; the pedigrees will be found in Keating.

189. From the Black Fair, which FM place in 925, to Maelsechlainn's Fair in 1006 would be eighty-one years, not seventy-nine, so perhaps for *acht* in 190 (which L writes *ā*) we ought to read *is*.

191. *taichned* means properly 'starving'.

194. Maelsechlainn was son of Domnall, son of Donnchad, the high king, † 942 (FM). His mother was Dunlaith, or Donnfhlaith, daughter of Muircertach mac Néill (LL 141 b 4, Keating iii. 244). The words *domeil mid mesc* are a punning reference to her name ('brown ale').

198. Slemun in West Meath, near Mullingar.

200. Read *óen-míled* (gen.), and cp. ITD *éirghe i n-áirde* 'pride, presumption'.

202. There may be some special point in comparing Maelsechlainn with Cormac; in line 192 Taitiu is called *céte Cormaic*.

213, 217-219. The translation of these lines is due to Bergin.

215. My rendering of *ri cond crúaiche* is a guess; *cond* 'head' might very well mean 'completion' (as *ceud* does). The rule of Maelsechlainn is so beneficent that every parish can celebrate its harvest-home and hold its own little fair in peace.

231. Of these kings, Flaithbertach was king of Ailech: AU 1006, 1008; Cathal was king of Connacht († 1009 FM). The others I cannot identify with certainty. Donnchad *mael-na-mbó*, king of Uí Cennselaig, and Domnall, king of the Ulaid, both died in 1006, the year of the Fair: see FM 1006 and Mac Neill, *Celtic Ireland*, 142. Maelruanaid may be the chief of Muintir Maelruanaid who fought at the battle of Clontarf, CGG 169, or else Maelruanaid *na paidre*, lord of Aidne, who fell in that battle (FM 1013, cf. CGG index, Hy Fiach. 398); or, finally, Maelruanaid ua Maeldoraid, lord of Cinél Conaill, mentioned frequently in FM 1010 *et seq.*

236. Literally 'so long as it is an observance' (Bergin).

SLIAB FUAIT I

We have the legend of this place in three forms. First, that which is represented only by L. Second, the independent version in RBM, which gives the story of Fuat mac Bili concisely in three stanzas. Third, that in LeSS₃H, which extracts from L's version the last seven stanzas, dealing only with the ds. proper of Sliab Fuait, and combines with these the second version, regardless of sense and sequence. I have thought it sufficient to print the first and third forms, distinguishing in the latter the three stanzas which it takes over from the second. The compiler of the complete version has altered or rewritten any lines in L which he found difficult to understand:

see especially his fourth stanza; and compare lines 3, 13-14, 35-36, 37-40 with the corresponding passages in L.

Sliab Fuait, now the Fewes, north of Dundalk, is called in AU 962 *Slíab n-Uait*. Fuait is mentioned in LL 16 a 11, etc., as one of the 'sons of Míl'. The first seven stanzas enumerate the points visible from Ard Asse, which is presumably one of the highest points of this group of mountains: it can hardly = *cacumina Aisse*, LArdm. f. 10 a 1 (in campo Breg).

3. Nemed's wife was Macha, one of the eponyms of Ard Macha, where her grave was: see ds. Ard Macha, p. 124.

4. Eithne d. of Balar was Lug's mother, LL 9 a 45, so this line = *med Loga*, = Lug-med or Lugmad, = Louth: cf. marginal note in L. I know of no legend as to the origin of the name. Has it perhaps something to do with the *med Lugbae* or *láithe Lugbae* mentioned by Cormac? (Anecd. iv. no. 811; cf. no. 585).

5. The reference to 'the Lugair' is obscure. Are they the same as the *Luguirne* mentioned in LL 134 b z? (see MacNeill, Population Groups, pp. 70, 79). Descert Maige ind Oendruind, 'the South of the Plain of One Hump', may be the region comprising Oenach Descert Maige, where Maeldúin, son of Fiachna m. Demmáin, was killed (ZCP viii. 329, 17 = LL 330 a 52).

7. Snám in Tuirc and its legend are unknown to me: *iar tráth teirt*, i. e. when the morning mists are gone? As to the string of place-names that follows, I have nothing to add to the data in Onom.

10. Sliab Bairche no doubt = Benn Boirche: the entries in Onom. under this name probably refer to Sliab Mairge.

27. *ní col ceirt*: because the Collas, being Connaughtmen, carved themselves 'sword-lands' in Ulster, where they were regarded as intruders: Keating ii. 100.

34. *treboind* may be an adjectival genitive: the other version has *trebann*, which seems an intensive of *bann*: cf. *talman treband*, LL 311 b 37.

39. Cf. *eirim nglindi*, Snedg. and Mac Riagla (ed. Thurneysen, st. 45).

48. This line is quoted by O'Clery, s.v. *faescal*.

49-56. The story of Patrick's *gerrán* and the origin of the name Nemed are given in V.Trip. 240, but without any reference to the magical sod.

56. The line has a syllable too much, and *céin* can hardly be right: read perhaps *duib*, *cen cop follus*, *foderc*: 'plain to see, though not plain for you to understand.'

SLIAB FUAIT II

6. *a hindsib Maigden*. The prose (RC xvi. 52) has *inis Magdena nó Moagdeda id est mor-óc diada*. The name has perhaps nothing to do with *maigden* 'maiden'.

41. This stanza is added by the compiler of the conflate version. *Doáirim* seems to be an *ad*-perfect of *dorimim* instead of the usual *doruirim*. Ua Duinn may be the Gilla na Naem ua Duind of LL 32 a 34 and 33 b 7, identified by Atkinson (Contents of LL, p. 21) with G. ua Duinn, *fer léinn* of Inis Clothrann, †1160 (FM).

42. The reference to Cenn Berraide is explained by a paragraph of the prose ds., not included in the versions printed by Stokes (RC xvi. 51) or

O'Grady (SG ii. 475). It is found only in S and H, and comes before the short final paragraph, which is as in RC xvi. 52. I give it from S, which is rather fuller than H: Uel ut alí dicunt, comadh don fott doradadh for Chend mBerride, dia roimarchuir corp Conchobhair meic Nesa a aenur. Ar rogellsat Ulaidh righe don aenfer doimarchuirfedh a chorp otá Magh Lamraidhe co hEmain cen a fuirmedh for lár 7 cen tairisim foa. Dosfucc iarom Cend Berraide cen airisim cen fuirmedh for lár co toracht Sliabh Fuaid. Foruirim a dha bonn in righ for lár andsin 7 adbertadar Ulaid ní budh leis an righe ar fuirmedh for lár do bonnaibh Conchobair. Adbert-som fod budh comlethan frisna dá bond do thabairt fair. Dobreth dono fuirsim, 7 is on fód sin rohainmnighedh Sliabh Fuaid, ut dicunt quidam. Marb imorro Cend Berraide íar cur an fir de. Et is de sin ata an derb-arusc Gáaidhelach .i. righe Chind Berridhe. 'Or, as others say, it would be from the sod that was laid on Cend Berraide, when he carried the body of Conchobar mac Nessa unaided. For the Ulstermen had promised the kingship to the man who should carry his body from Mag Lamraide to Emain, without letting it rest on the ground and without standing still under the burden. Then Cend Berraide bore it, without halting or allowing it to rest on the ground till he reached Sliab Fuait. There he let the king's two soles rest on the ground, and the Ulstermen said the kingship should not be his, because Conchobar's soles had rested on the ground. He bade them lay upon him a sod as broad as the two soles. Accordingly it was laid upon him; and from that sod Sliab Fuait had its name, as some say. So Cend Berraide died after laying down the dead man. And hence comes the Gaelic byword "Cend Berraide's kingship".'

This is borrowed from an incident in Aided Chonchobair (as told in LL), slightly altered and expanded. See Todd Lect. xiv. 6.

SLIAB CALLANN

Now Slieve Gallion, a group of low hills in the southern corner of co. Derry, to the south of Draperstown.

Buide mac Báin makes a brief appearance in the Táin (Wi. 2025). A scribal note in LU 61 a 4, margin (see Archiv i. 23), refers to the story of the three dogs, which is told in full in Aided Cheltchair (Todd Lect. xiv. 28).

8. *fulaid*: cf. Cóir Anm. § 108, nam *folad* bó dicitur.

22. *cúan* was originally fem., but in ITD is masc.: cf. MDs. ii. 62, 16.

28. *aige* seems to mean a funeral rite in memory of Callann: cf. such phrases as *roacht a guba*, Rev. Celt. xvi. 50 (ds. Tailtiu).

SRUTHAR MATHA

I know of no other mention of this place: the references in Onom. all relate to different copies of the Dindshenchas. The story shows that it was probably a stream not far from Commar na Trí n-Uisce. If so, there is here a break in the geographical sequence of the legends. The reason of this is that the story of Matha is associated with that of the rival swineherd Odba, which immediately follows (see prose ds.).

Only two late copies of the poem tell the story in full; the rest present a truncated version in four stanzas which tell us no more about Matha than

that he was swineherd to Catháir Mór and that he was drowned. Yet the story is told at length in the prose.

8. *fatha* for *fótha* (: *Matha*).

9. *atcuála mé*: this use of the pronoun suggests a late versifier.

10. I cannot identify Mag Macha: it cannot be the plain in Ulster so named.

34. Condluan is found as a proper name, but I do not know what it has to do with Catháir Mór.

43. *rorad* seems corrupt; possibly we should read *ri rád* 'to tell' (Lc. has *re ragh*), but this also gives an unsatisfactory rhyme, unless we suppose the second syllable of *sruthar* to be lengthened, *metri gratia*.

ODBA

O'Donovan, FM 890, and Hogan, Onom., place Odba near Navan in Meath. The poem is written in the elaborate *rannaigeacht mór* metre with a profusion of rhymes, which as usual make the diction artificial and obscure.

3. Alliteration shows that *rognáis* is a verb, formed from *gnás*.

4. *tláis* and *báis* (gen. of *báes*) are both adjectival genitives.

6. *romar-cló* seems a compound, though the metre calls for a final monosyllable: the first element is *romar* 'very great' (cf. Meyer, Illinois Studies, 36).

7. *dét-bladach*: did the tusks of his pigs furnish ivory?

10. *digna* may be adj. gen. of *dígnae* 'frown': or perhaps of *díguin*, cf. *maigen dígona* 'inviolable', Contrib.

11, 12. The rendering offered for these two lines is partly guess-work: *sess* 'bench' seems to be used metaphorically, perhaps of the swinepens: *oiscim* 'tend sheep' is found in SnR 2844: if we adopt the variant *roscress* we should have a rhyme to *sess*, and the meaning would be 'he kept them close' (*cress*), 'prevented their straying'. Odba is called in the prose Odba *úan-chend*. This adj. perhaps means 'foam-head'; see Meyer in Sitzber. 1912, 436 n. But cf. Tain (Str.-O'K.) 1283 *noco rucaim-se cend uain bic*.

13. *rohailed*: see note on Tlachtga 53, p. 427, *infra*.

15, 16. Is *diambá* written for *diamboí*, *metri gratia*? or should we read *diabá-som* and render 'the people who by his good deeds (were) free from sorrow'?

20. For *sonn* 'staff' = 'champion' cf. MDs. iii. 410, 4: *idan* 'pure' here 'unbloodied', like *bán*.

21-24. Odba was Eremon's first wife: he left her behind in Spain, but she followed him with her three sons to Ireland, LL 13 b 23. As *sund* in 24 = in Ireland, *thall* must = Spain. For the omission of *ro* with *tall* in 22 cf. line 2, *carad*, and line 6, *romar-cló*: the intricate metre is the excuse for such liberties. I take *crunn* in 22 as dat. of *cron* 'possession': cf. Eriu vii. 156 § 10, *di sain-chrund*. The word is usually found in the compound *sain-chron*, but *cron* 7 *coimgi* occurs in O'Donovan's Transcripts 1650.

INBER CICHMAINE

The imposing list of references in Onom. may be reduced to four, all of which probably relate to the same place: (1) Dindshenchas, (2) a passage in Lebor Gabála from Lec. 545, (3) Tochm. Etaine, (4) Stowe C. 1. 2, f. 28 r^o 2.

The last of these is a detached note, as follows : *Oiged Maine Tai so sis. Luighi dino Maine Tai feacht ina curach for cuairt ainisa co hInnбир nDorcha a mBreaghaibh. Dorala dino Ferghna gai-leathain m. Finncaimhe do annsin 7 beiris leis he 7 conrubach a cich de andsin, conidh de congoirther Inbir Cichmaine .i. roteascadh cich Maine Tai and. Conidh hi oiged Mhaine Tai sin.* This passage gives no warrant for Hogan's assertion that Inber Cichmaine is at the 'mouth of the river Mattock where it enters the Boyne at Tullyallen (Telach Allinn)'. This identification arises from a misunderstanding of the words *oc telach al-lin* in the prose ds. : see Rev. Celt. xvi. 56. The entry under Telach Ailín in Onom. is to be expunged, and that under Inber nDorcha to be altered, and the three entries under Inber Cichmaine to be reduced to one. The passage in Leb. Gab. merely tells us that Inber Cichmaine was 'in Conchobar's province'.

Fergna *gai-lethan* seems to be identified in Coir Anm. § 162 with Aed Gnáf, *fer in ghái leathain*, who is there said to have had three names, Feidlimid, Aithinbleith, and Fergna. He appears in Fled Bricrenn § 12 as Fergna m. Findchoime, and in TBC as Fergna m. Findchoime (or Finnchonna) (Heldensage, 206-207). Cf. also p. 88, 21 *supra*.

2. I have translated *lith-baile* as if it contained *baile* 'madness' : but we get better sense by adopting *S_g's 'con lith-baile* 'at the place of plenty'.

But three texts have *gaeth* for *gáet*, and perhaps this is right : then we should read *gáeth co lith-baile láech-bress Maine*, etc. : 'Maine's estuary with its foison of heroic deeds'. This, however, would make it more difficult to construe *uais ella*, which I take as meaning 'height of attack', *ella* being gen. of *ell*.

20. Should we read *roling int inber* 'the water of the estuary leapt' (as Maine's body plunged into it)?

21. The words *Nó issi* seem to make this stanza contain a separate incident, but in the prose it is the son of Ailill *finn* who is killed by the fishermen ; so perhaps the order of the last two stanzas has been accidentally inverted. It is also possible that *find* in 18 should agree with *mac*, and that this second Cichmaine is merely due to an error of the prose redactors.

MÓIN TÍRE NÁIR

The story is a variant of the legend of Snám Dá Én (see p. 350), and Móin Tíre Náir must therefore be placed somewhere not too far from the upper Shannon. The Tír Náir mentioned in the prose ds. of Druim Criaich is in Umall, a district in co. Mayo too far west to be associated with this tale. From this point onward the geographical sequence of the legends becomes very irregular : it looks as if the compiler, having made the circuit of Ireland, by way of the coast as a rule, and coming now in sight of his starting point at Tara, was anxious to work in a number of points in central Ireland. This he does in a very unsystematic way, diverging from Meath to King's Co., returning to Meath and thence again to King's Co., and so on.

3. Cf. MDs. iii. 18, 231, *ná beth ar ás 'na fíne*.

9. The dative *bein* is an archaism, modell'd on the old acc. *bein*.

11. *bán ar bruid* looks like a proverb for a bad exchange, current among professional scribes.

FICH BUANA

This incident is taken from Fled Bricrenn ; see Ir. T. i. 290. It seems from that narrative that the place of Buan's death was somewhere on the way from Ess Ruaid to Emain Macha. A second version of the prose, differing from that edited by Stokes in RC xvi. 57, will be found at p. 294 *infra*.

4. *diaslói* : for the reflexive infix pronoun cf. MDs. ii. 68, 33, *mostlú*. In SnR 166 *noslú*, Ir. T. i. 183 *conuslú*, MDs. iii. 48, 7 *roslú*, we have a non-reflexive infix. See further note at MDs. iii. 485.

7. *ar brú bla*, lit. 'on the edge of the din' : cf. AU iii. 120 *x*, for *brú uí Domnaill* 'to face O'D.' (or 'on O'D.'s border'). Or read *blá* = *blái* 'field (of battle)'.

18. I read *nach sin samail* (: *mír*) at Miss Knott's suggestion.

19. *tícht* : cf. Wi. *tiacht* : RBM read *tícht*, but the vowel should be long.

24. Literally, 'he to whom she gave the blow did not feel it' : the subject to *fuair* is either the rock or possibly (with a figurative use of *béim*) Cuchulainn.

LOCH DA GABAR

Some copies of the prose ds. call this place Loch Gabar, and Stokes is no doubt right in identifying it with Lagore near Dunshaughlin, within a couple of miles of Tara, where Enna *aignech* ruled, and kept his stables (see prose, RC xvi. 58).

7. *rosforaim*, the reading of RH, probably = *rosfuirim* : tr. 'brought them to shame', cf. Coir Anm. § 31. The variant *dosfarraid* would mean 'overtook'.

10. Most texts have *do tairbrig* : I write *thairb-rig*, cf. *tarb-flaith* ZCP xi. 87, an epithet for a violent oppressive king. But if *thairb-rig* refers to Eochaid one would expect *ó* for *do*, as in 11. Perhaps we should read *tháir-brig* (from *tár*), or *thairbrig* (*tar-*) : but if so, the sense escapes me.

11. Eochaid *mairc-cend* = E. *cend-mairc*, as in the prose : he belonged to Corcu Láigde, cf. Misc. Celt. Soc., p. 7. At LL 325 f 50 = BB 197 a 2 he is called 'son of Conall *clóen*', and at BB 198 a 22 he appears as ancestor of Muintir Doire, 'that is, Uí Gilla Michil and their kin'.

14. *Glasgen* : in the prose the foal's owner is Glaschú, which is certainly an old name, as it is found in an ogham in Kerry, *Dumeli magi Glasiconas*, RC xvi. 117. The Foal's Glen (Glenn Serraig, prose ds.) is located by Onom. in the territory of Uí Garrechon.

LUSMAG

The only place of this name that has been identified is now Lusma, in King's Co. : see FM vi. 1991 note, and VSH index. But this is a very long way from Mag Tuired in Sligo and from Achad Ablá, which, according to the prose (RC xvi. 59), is to the north-west of Mag Tuired : cf. RC xii. 96. This must be the Achad Ablá in Corann, in Sligo, where was St. Finnian's well, which healed the sick : see Lism. Lives 2713. It is distinct from Achad

Abla, now Aghowl, in the south of Wicklow, which is also associated with St. Finnian; see Lism. Lives 2599. Stokes confuses the two in the index to Lism. Lives. As to the leechcraft of Diancecht and the healing well, see Cath Muige Tuired, RC xii. 94-96.

Note that Diancecht's name is treated as two separate words, for rhyme and alliteration.

BENN CODAIL

O'Donovan identifies this place with Ireland's Eye (a little island off Howth) (FM ii. 582). This is clearly an inference from the words of the prose *ds*. (Rev. Celt. xvi. 60), *Codhal corr-chitchech is é rob aite hErend dia ta Inis Erend*, where he has assumed that Inis Erend = Ireland's Eye. For this supposition, however, there is no evidence: Inis Erend here is simply Ireland, whose eponym Eriu is named among the women of the Tuatha Dé, LL 9 b 30, 10 a 38, etc. The references in Onom. s.v. Bend Codail are all to the *Ds*, except that to FM ii. 582, which does not help. Under Codal, Hogan suggests that the place is in Kildare, as it is mentioned along with Almu and Life, RC xxiv. 192. This opinion is confirmed by a passage in the Life of St. Moling (ed. Stokes, § 54), where St. Brigit is addressed: *a Brigit Chuirrig, a Brigit Chodail*. There is perhaps another Codal, named along with Cláre as in the territory of Eochaid mac Luchta, king of Thomond, MDs. iii. 842. Cormac m. Airt is called Cormac caem-Chodail, Anecd. i. 17. Whether Benn Codail is to be connected with either of these places is doubtful. See also note on Ailech i. 111, p. 401 *supra*.

3. *fri dáil ndáthig*: perhaps, 'with a matter importing loss'; if Eriu had not spoken, the mountain would have gone on growing.

8. Does this mean that Codail lies here wrapped in clay (cf. 25)? or are we to connect *roalt fo brat* and to understand that Codal reared the child, carrying her on his breast under his cloak?

9. The old acc. *bein* is substituted for the nom., *metri gratia*.

18. *for indeb*. S has *coric neam*, and R's reading might be divided *forin nem*, but this would spoil the alliteration.

21. The prose has *al-laithi domela* (*domelad R*) *comorba Ereenn tuara Codail, forbeir a gail 7 a slaine*: 'the day that Eriu's successor shall eat the food of Codal, it increases his valour and his health'.

TLACHTGA

This poem has been edited (from BB only) in ZCP xiv. 158 by K. Müller-Lisowski. Tlachtga is the old name of the Hill of Ward near Athboy, in Meath. It was a high place of druidical rites: see the passage quoted from H. 3. 17 in O'Donovan's note on L. na Cert 10; this is the source of Keating's account in Forus Feasa ii. 246. Tlachtga is there said to belong to the part of Munster given by Tuathal *techtmar* to Meath, which helps us to understand why the eponymous heroine Tlachtga is made daughter of Mug Ruith, the ancestor of Fir Maige Féne, from whom Fermoy gets its name. Mug Ruith's connexion with Simon Magus is mentioned in the old genealogical tract edited

by Meyer from Laud 610, see ZCP viii. 332; cf. ZCP xiv. 162; this seems to be the source of our poem. The Stone of Forcarthan is, however, not mentioned in the tract: but it is referred to in the fuller version of the story summarized by O'Curry, MS Mat. 403. The account of the *roth rámach* in this last authority makes it clear that it was connected in Irish legend with the early Christian story of Simon's attempt to fly. See the Irish version of the Passion of Peter and Paul in Atkinson's P. H. 1840 *seq.* Simon falls from the air and his body breaks into four pieces, which are thereupon turned into four blocks of stone. Cf. lines 33-36. It is quite likely that the Wheel may have been familiar as a relic of druidic practices before it was associated with the Simon legend. Professor Macalister has tried to show that it was something similar to the 'bull-roarer' which is found in various countries as a device of primitive witch-craft (Proc. R.I.A. xxxiv. 344). However that may be, it is alluded to under the name Roth Fáil in an old source quoted by Cormac, s.v. *Fóil*, in which it is already associated with Mug Ruith. If Mug Ruith were merely a figure developed out of a piece of hagiology, he would hardly occupy an important position in the genealogies. More likely he bears a genuine native name (like Mug Láma, Mug Corb, Mug Nuadat), and his association with the *roth rámach* and Simon may have originated in an etymological speculation. Simon comes into Irish legend so early as the LU version of the Táin (Str.-O'K. 1874 *seq.*).

2. *forbaid*. This verb (derivative of *forbe*) has the sense 'achieve'. Here I think the meaning is 'use up', 'make an end of'. So also at ZCP iii. 19, l. 8, *reforbad a fóir, is rotoglad Babilóin*, 'the garrison of Babylon was spent, and the city sacked'. Or *forbaid* may be a noun, as at p. 330, 16 = covering (?).

3. I doubt whether *ón chéin* be possible: read perhaps *ón chéim rogab* 'since the journey she took'.

16. This line is variously corrupted in all texts: I have restored the form suggested by metrical considerations. With the compound *bláth-bairdne* compare *bláith-bríathra* Contrib. s.v. *bláith*.

20 (and 32). *sechtmisid* perhaps 'a seven months' child'. This word occurs also in the prophecy of Bec mac De, printed in ZCP ix. 169 *sechtmisid Usnig*. Cf. *Sechtán sechtmisid*, or *sechtmiosaig*, Mart. Don. 109, note.

23. I have not found any authority for the names of Simon's sons: no doubt they are taken from some Latin legend.

29. *di thriun*, literally 'of the third part', i.e. as one of three.

33. *fiss* 'it is knowledge': in CMR 44, 5 it is used as an imperative, *fiss a ndeaghaidh mo secht mac*.

34. *in roth rochliss*: cf. Metr. Ds. iii. 94, 19, *focheird caer cliss* (adj. gen.).

35. Forcarthain (or Forcarthu) is said to be near Rathcoole on the road from Dublin to Naas. Cnamechall, probably Cleghill, near Tipperary (Onom.).

37-40. These lines are taken from the genealogical tract referred to above: *Dall cech oen notnaicfe, bodar cach oen notcluinfé, marb cach oen risi mbenfa*: ZCP 8, 332: cf. LL 331 b 55.

40. *garb-grennach*, lit. 'rough-bearded', cf. SnR 5784.

47-48. The 'hosts from Torach' must be the audience whom the poet is addressing: *is comaid*, literally 'and keep ye!' cf. p. 210, Irarus 4 (E.K.). Torach is presumably a place in the neighbourhood of Tlachtga.

49. *ós Banba blaid* 'above the fame of Banba', i.e. 'more famous than the rest of B.'.

53. *rohailed iag*: cf. p. 176, 13, and ZCP iii. 3, 4 *co raltar mo fert-sa lat* (unless this is to be referred to *ldaim*): *ailim* seems to have both senses of English 'rear'.

55. *sana* for *sona*, and *sui* (: *tui*) for *siad*.

56. *tui* 'silent', i.e. unuttered, unheard, because *Tlachtga* has lost its former fame; cf. *cnoc tal Temra*, p. 112, 64.

MAG BREG

This is the plain extending along the coast of Dublin and Meath.

1. LL 12 a x gives the names of *ten* sons of Breogan, including these seven.

5. As most texts have singular verbs in 7-8, I suggest *mag-ar* for *maige ar*.

16. The prose story says *Dil ingen Miled (nó Lugmanrach) dodechaid a tír Fer Falga la Tulchainde draí Conaire*. For a different account of the 'oxen of Dil' see MDs. iii. 512, and Rev. Celt. xv. 436.

24. *Mag Bolcgaide* may be identical with *Mag Bolce*, now *Moybolgue*, a plain partly in Meath, partly in Cavan (Onom.).

25. *duilig* 'difficult (to manage)'.

27. *dom-airm* for *dam-airm* (: *sogairm*).

MAG LÉNA I

At this point in the *Dindsenchas* a folio is missing from BB, which included *Mag Léna* (I), *Odras*, *Cleitech*, *Cerna*, and *Cloenloch*. Its place is supplied from two late copies of BB, called here *B₂* and *H₂*. *Mag Léna* is now 'the plain and heath of Moylen, in King's Co.', Onom.: it is sometimes called *Mag Léna in muccedo*, *ibid.* The pig and the hound are those of *Mess Roeda mac Dá Thó*, who is father (not, as Stokes says, grandfather) of *Léna*. See Ir. T. i. 96, and *Hibernica Minora* 51, also RC xv. 313. The *dindsenchas*, to judge by some of the verbal forms employed in the prose, must be drawn from an early tale other than the *Scél Muice Maic Dá Thó*.

4. According to the prose, the pig buried *Léna*, while asleep, under the earth it threw up in rooting, and so smothered him (*co rodmúchai*). It goes on: *Conaclaid-sium dano oc suide, co rocht gráinne a chloidim in muic combo marb*, which I should render: 'However he dug [with his sword] in this position, so that the point of his blade reached the pig and killed it'. Stokes's version 'Hereat then he attacks the pig', etc., makes nonsense of the story: if *Léna* was able to extricate himself and kill the pig, what killed him? and why should the versifier write that the pig 'gave him lasting burial'? I refer *conaclaid* to *concladim*, not to *adcladim*: cf. RC xv. 310, 6 *cedna-conaclaid*.

5. *Scenb*. This word literally means 'thorn, spike'; hence it is applied to the sharp points or corners with which shields were sometimes provided; *dar sciath scenb*, Ir. Text. i. 108: *scéith scenbda*, Metr. Ds. iii. 274: *congais a sciath co sceanmda*, *ibid.* 360: see further Stokes in Rev. Celt. xiv. 447. Metaphorically the word means, I think, 'pang, smart'; so here, whether we read *scenb* or *scenbdá*. We have in the Triads (ed. Meyer) *Trí scenb Érenn*

'Erin's three pangs'. Meyer, however, translates 'three places to make you start', identifying *scenb* with *scéim*: so also Stokes, glossary to *Irische Texte* iv. I find it hard to believe in such a regular substitution of *b* for *m* in old and good manuscripts.

6. I adopt the rendering suggested by Miss Knott, though it involves a rather awkward asyndeton. For *laidim* 'I incite' see Todd L. xiv. glossary.

7. *cen logud* 'unforgotten': cf. Metr. Ds. iii. 541; *infra*, p. 216, 78.

10. *fachaid* = *fochaid*.

11. For *tigba* as substantive cf. Metr. Ds. i. 18, 2 with note; ZCP ix. 175, *fuair tress a tigba*.

16. *luid* as = decessit, died.

17. *tóitib*. A loan-word, from Lat. *toti*: cf. *tót-insma*, LL 144 a 25 (Meyer, Illinois Studies).

MAG LÉNA II

A copy of this poem has already been printed by Windisch in *Irische Texte* i. 108, from Harleian 5280, where it is found appended to the *Scél Muicce Maic Dáthó*. I have relied on Windisch for its readings. There is a closely similar copy in Laud 610, f. 58 v^o, printed ZCP iii. 36. The four texts which I have used are all seriously corrupt, but serve to correct each other's errors. As neither Léna nor his Plain is mentioned by name, the poem can hardly have been written originally for the Dindshenchas.

1. The objections to reading *lacht-míad torc* (referring to the swine) are (1) it would spoil alliteration, (2) the animal seems to be a pig, not a boar (line 2).

3, 4. From *Scél MMD* § 5.

5. *molbthach* is a word of doubtful meaning. Windisch and Stokes (SnR index) accept O'R.'s 'praiseworthy', but in *Cath Muighe Rath* 194, 6 *mian 7 molbthaigi*, the substantive must mean something like 'eager desire' ('thirst' O'Donovan). Possibly, then, we should render here 'vehement' or 'greedy'. In SnR 4324, however, *molbthogaib* (= *molbthachaib*?) seems to mean 'musicians' of some sort: cf. Sned.-MacR. 23 *enlaith molbthach*. But *Is molbthaide oc Dia* = *apud Deum mercedem habet*, LBr. 70 a 52 (PH 6058).

7. *chleith mbratha* seems intended to rhyme with *cethracha*: the gen. of *brath* is usually *braith*.

9-12. This stanza is quoted in the Rawlinson text of *Scél MMD* edited by Meyer in *Hibernica Minora* (p. 55). Compare also the sentence in § 6, *ibid.* p. 52 (not in the other copies): *Nónbar immorro robáí fón cléith for a raibe tarr na muici 7 báí a n-eirí and*; perhaps then we should read in line 9 *fo chreit* (not *for creit*). But *crobaib* cannot be right, as a rhyme to *nónbair* is required. The reading of LcS point to *Amru cródaib*, but this also is unsatisfactory in sense and rhyme: I suggest *Amru cróchraib for creit*: the tail is borne in funeral pomp on a cart, by itself—'strangest of biers'!

13. *Ailbe* was the hound, for which the princes of Ulster and of Connaught were bidding against each other. He left Mac Dá Thó to join the Ulstermen. This stanza means that though *he* is gone, the place can still boast of the great swine.

15. *dorairg*, from *tuárgim*: but the variants suggest corruption.

17-24. All copies give these stanzas in the inverse order; and possibly *dó* in 21 and *cuiice* in 23 may refer to *purt* in 15. But the order adopted is much more natural.

18. According to the prose dindshenchas of Carman (as printed in Rev. Celt. xv. 312) Mes Roeda mac Dáthó had three brothers, Mess Seda, Mess Deda, and Mess Delmon. Here Stokes's expansion is due to O'Curry's ed. of ds. Carman MC ii. 40, iii. 528. But the names are given in S as Mes Gegra, Mes Roeda, Mes Dana, Mes Domnand: Lc has Mess G., Meas R., Meas D., Meas Domnand; S₃ has Mes Gedra, Meas R., Mes Dana (?), Mes D., while RB and the other copies of the prose have merely *mess s. mess r. mess d. m. d.*

19. *félh* 'smoothness of skin', 'sleekness'.

Harl.'s *an Mes Roida* no doubt arose from *m.* (= *mac*) being read as *in*.

21, 22. These lines are in Lc almost the same as 17, 18 of Mag Léna I, so I follow this ms. against Harl.'s *íarn dótib árenn*, which I do not understand.

ODRAS

This must have been the name of a tributary of the river Segais, now the r. Boyle in Roscommon: see note on 62. This poem is not found in H₂B₂, and therefore must have been omitted from B. In LeMS it follows Bile Tortan: in S₃ the last three entries are Odrus, Eo Rossa, Bile Tortan, and this was evidently the order in H, but this ms. now ends with Eo Rossa (incomplete). I keep to R's order.

Like most poems in *rindaird* metre, it is full of obscurities of diction. As to Buchat see the tale edited by Stokes in RC xxv. 18 seq., and cf. ZCP viii. 261. This legend and the next belong to the reign of Cormac m. Airt.

5. The prose in LL 168 a 20 (which differs considerably from RC xvi. 64) calls Odras a milkmaid, *bliglóir do Buichet*.

9. The epithet *cáid* is applied to Cormac again at Cleitech 14 (p. 202).

14. *gléisse*: see Wortk. no. 156.

19. *ben in Dagda*, i.e. Morrigan. The next line may mean that she came in some disguise: 'the shape-shifting goddess was an apparition'; cf. *samhladh* 'apparition', Dinneen.

21. *in tnúthach* 'the envious one', or perhaps 'the breeder of strife': cf. Dinneen s.v.

23. *bai i Liathmuine*: this refers to the bull, if we may trust the prose. There were several places so named.

26. O'Cl. has *tuamann* .i. *borb*, quoting *tarb tuamann*; but the word may be gen. of *tuaim*: the meaning is obscured by the words that follow, of which both reading and sense are doubtful. The prose in LL 168 has *Táraill lea Fraecha Óirenn*; S₃ has *Ráoirenn* in 20 with *taoidhinn* in 18: I take the latter word to be dat. of *toiden* 'troop', here 'herd of kine'. Perhaps *tarb tuamann* means a bull kept in a paddock for stud purposes.

Fraech Óirenn must be a moor somewhere on the road from Tara to Cruachan: Hogan places it 'east of Tara', trusting to the prose (RC xvi. 64) *oca imáin aniar ó Temraig dotáraill le Fraech nÓirend*: this is also the reading of MSS₃. LcS have *anair*, and this must be right: the Morrigan came from Cruachan and returned thither.

31. *mebsain* 'rout, defeat', cf. ZCP viii. 317, 26: it is formed from *mebais*, the mid.-Ir. pret. of *maidim*.

36. *sámda* is perhaps gen. of *sámud* 'gathering' rather than the adj. 'easeful'.

37. *iarn-gait*, either 'robbery under arms' (though Odras was seeking her own property) or 'recovery' (*iar*-).

39. Read *dúir*, agreeing with *dorthain*, and rhyming with *Cúil*: the mss. have *dir*.

48. For *alla* (*alle*) 'yonder' see Thurneysen, KZ 1917, 56.

51. I restore *Daire Fálguð* from the prose of R: LL 168 a 32 has *D. Talguda*. Should we read *úair* (agreeing with *Fálguð*) to rhyme with *fúair*?

52. *sicce* 'dryness' = 'death': cf. *secc*, *secc-marb*, Ir. T. iii. 539.

57. The metre requires *agda*, not *ágda*. It will not do to read *in Dagda*, as he does not come into the story, and the prose (both L and R) says that the Morrigan 'sang spells over her'.

58. O'Cl. has *gan loghdha* .i. *gan lagsaine*, which is no doubt taken from this passage: the word seems pl. of *logad* 'remission', etc.

60. *Sliab Badbna* is *Slieve Baune* (Onom. *Sliab Badna*, Sl. *Bodbgnai*) in northern Roscommon.

62. *Segais* is the older name of the river *Búall* or *Búill*, from which the town of Boyle gets its name: see Ann. L. Cé i. 294 n, 575.

CLEITECH

A place on the Boyne; the exact situation doubtful.

10. The story of the death of Muirchertach mac Erca has been edited by Stokes in Rev. Celt. xxiii. 395.

13. Cormac's death at Cleitech is referred to in the tale of the Expulsion of the Dessi, Anecd. Ir. MSS. i. 17. The means of his death by a fish-bone is mentioned LL 24 a 21.

15. *ngliaid glic*, i.e. the dispute with the druids which led to Cormac's death. We must read *iaich* (: *gliaid*) in the next line, as if from a nom. *iach*. Or else *gliad gleic* (d. of *glic*) with *iach*.

21. Perhaps this means 'After speaking of the Lord', etc.

24. Perhaps 'has loved Cleitech with its nobles'.

CERNA

As to the exact situation of Cerna, see the article in Onom. The prose ds. calls it 'the chief cemetery of eastern Meath and Brega'. Of the names mentioned in the poem, those in lines 5-56 seem to belong to legendary personages, some of them poets. From 57 to 76 we have a series of kings and princes of *Síl Cuinn*, belonging mostly to the line of Aed Slaine. The ds. in LL 168 a 39 enumerates in a quatrain ten sons of Ailill Olchain, one of whom is named Cerna. For this Ailill cf. Coir Anm. 82, LL 19 b 28, and ZCP viii. 291.

3. '*sin Cherna*: the use of the article suggests that *Cerna* is properly the noun meaning 'corner'. So at 79 and 88.

7. Cairpre mac Etnai, a legendary poet : see the prose and Meyer's Primer of Metrics, 81.

10. Cf. TBC (Wi.) 4787 *co Geimen co a glend*. Glenn Gaimen is near Dun-given, co. Derry : v. L. na Cert, 50 n.

12. Marcán m. Donnegaile may perhaps = Marcan m. Duinn *do muintir Chuind céit-chathaig* mentioned Rev. Celt. xvi. 135. If so the Néide *nith-gonach* of the same passage may be the same as Néide *nia* of line 21 *infra*.

13. I take *feith* to be imper. of *fethim* 'I wait, attend', used as a cheville : cf. p. 222, 4; Félire, Aug. 9.

15. This Guaire is probably a poet, as *gáesach* and *grinn* both denote artistic qualities.

19. The texts point to *Fínd scailled cen bedg* : I take *scailled* to mean 'he used to scatter (gifts)', *no-* being omitted : or else 'he used to loose (the spear)'; in either case *cen bedg* may mean 'without swerving'.

27. Dub Dá Chonn appears in the list of poets printed in ZCP iii. 16. Perhaps Bresal in 28 = Bresal *briuga bó-chetach* in the same list.

35. *uide* seems to be an adjectival genitive.

37. In Old Irish *in dul* means 'whereas' : here I assume the meaning 'in the next place'. Or possibly *in dul* = 'the snare', metaph. of a warrior.

40. None of the mss. have *cathmaínech* with mark of length.

42. Garb Glinde may be the eponym of Glenn Gairb, now Glengariff, co. Cork.

44. *ciac* means, I think, 'crooked', not 'narrow' as Contrib. has it. Cf. p. 168, 31 *claine ciac*, where *ciac* is perhaps a noun.

Sliab Crot, the old name of the Galtee mountains in N. Cork. Garb Rige is perhaps = Garb Glinne Rige ; see Heldensage 487.

47. Does this line mean that Fiach was a guardian of Falga (Man) ? or rather that he was a wall (or shield) against pirates from Falga ?

49-50. Eochaid *bél-buide* son (or grandson) of Tuathal *techtmar* was killed by Tipraite and five others, Laws i. 70.

51. *Brega* (: *Trena*) seems to be here treated as singular.

57. Loingsech m. Oengusa, descended from Aed m. Ainmirech, became Ard-Rí in 694. He fell in the battle of Corann in 701 (FM), where died also Eochaid of Lemain (= Liamain, Onom.) : see Fragm. Ann. p. 107.

59. Niall son of Cernach *sotal* (see 75) was killed by Irgalach ua (mac) Conaing (see 69) in 700 (AU).

61. Aed Slaine became Ard-Rí in 595 jointly with Colman. He was the founder of the dynasty known as *Síl Aeda Slaine* : cf. p. 418, Taltiu, 177. Six of Aed's seven sons, enumerated in a quatrain quoted at ZCP viii. 302 (Keating iii. 114 differs), are mentioned in our poem ; Conall (62), Congal (64), Ailill (65) (the last two slain 630), Diarmait and Blathmac (66) (joint kings 657), and Dunchad (76) + 657. Conall *laeg Breg* was slain by Oengus m. Colmain in the battle of Odba, FM 607. In 62 two mss. read Conall *err Breg*, confusing Aed's son with the joint ancestor of Clann Cholmain and *Síl Aeda Slaine* (ZCP viii. 293, 1 and 5).

64. I prefer the reading of H_2B_2 (representing the copy missing from B), as it gives a rhyme to *Odba* : it receives some support from M's corrupt *caemcnomga*.

67. Sechnasach, grandson of Aed Sláine, succeeded his father Bláthmac in 665.

68-69. Conaing, son of Congal, son of Aed Sláine, was father of Irgalach: see Keating iii. 145-147, and FM 699. See also *Fragm. Ann.* pp. 101-105 for stories about Irgalach and his son Cinaeth (73), who became Ard-Rí in 720. If Irgalach was grandson of Conaing, as AU say, Cinaeth must have been fifth in descent from Aed Sláine, which would be a breach of the principle of dynastic succession, as formulated by MacNeill, *Celtic Ireland*, ch. viii. But FM (text) call Irgalach son of Conaing: so too *Fragm. Annals*.

69. The word *aig* must, I think, be regarded as imper. of *agim*, used as a cheville: cf. *feith* in 13, and cf. note on *agair* at p. 393, 47.

70. *na dá Amalgaid*. Of persons so named in the Annals, the two nearest in date to the other chieftains here mentioned are Amalgaid ua Conaing, killed in a battle at Kells in 716 (718), and Amalgaid, father of another Conaing, of Aed Slaine's race, FM 732 (= AU 736).

71, 72. Cendfaelad succeeded his brother Sechnasach in 670, and was followed by Finnachta *fedach* in 674.

74. Flaithbertach son of Loingsech (57) became Ard-Rí in 723.

75. Cernach *sotal* is no doubt meant: he was son of Diarmait son of Aed Sláine, see FM 663, and must have been a person of consequence, judging by the references to him in AU index; cf. *Cóir Anm.* § 130 and O'Dav. 1457 (where Stokes's note is wrong: there is only one Cernach *sotal*). As to Dunchad, see note on 61.

82. *fo chét-brig* perhaps refers to the wives 'in the prime of life'.

91. Cf. MDs. iii. 240, 19 *fri fošnaidm . . . sogairm sóer*. The true form in both passages is perhaps *fonaidm*. But cf. Dr. Fingin II. 17, p. 338, *sonšnaidm* (leg. *sošnaidm*); *ria imšnaidm*, Tr. Tuirbe 2 (p. 226).

95. I can only guess at the meaning of this line.

CLOENLOCH

A number of places bearing this name are mentioned in Onom. (*Claenloch*, *Cloenloch*), but there is nothing to show which of them is here in question.

3. *Ail Cluaid* is now Dumbarton on the Clyde.

8. *fri dúis*. The prose says that Cloen was a merchant, who came over the sea *co'ndúisib flatha*. In point of sense this reading is preferable to *ar thús*, which would leave it to be supposed that Cloen, not Parthalón, was the first inhabitant of Ireland. The line, however, lacks alliteration.

9. As Meyer remarks (Wortk. 177) *sirim* sometimes means searching with hostile intent, 'heimsuchen': but this is only a development of the general meaning 'search': cf. his Nachträge, Wortk. 235.

11. *táem* = 'fit of sickness, seizure'.

IRARUS

The identification of this place depends on two passages. The first is in the Annals: FM ii. p. 1138 *Shuaiged la Ruaidrí úa Conchobhair la rí Connacht co hÁth Féine co hIoraras*, = 'Tigernach', Rev. Celt. xviii. 190 *Shuaiged* (etc.) co

hAth Féne a Corco Raidhe. From these two versions of the same record it seems that Irarus was close to Ath Féine, which as we have seen (introductory note to *Druim Criaich*) was probably a ford on the Brosnach, near Mullingar. The name Corca Raide is now represented by the barony of Corkaree, somewhat north of Mullingar. The second passage is in the preface to *Amra Coluim Chille*, and is thus printed in Bernard-Atkinson, *Lib. Hymn. i. 162*: *Loc dond Amru . . . in blog thalman fl otá Féne in Huib Tigernan im-Midi co Dún na nAirbed hi crich (Mas)raidi fri hIrorus anair*. Here *Masraidi* is a conjecture of the editors; the true reading of their ms. *crich Raidi* is confirmed by the copy in LBr. 238 c 4, *ota Ath Féne andib (= i n-Uib) Tigernáin Mide co Dún na nAirbed i Crich Raide fri Hirrus (sic) anoir*. *Nó Dún na nAirmed o Thig Munda siar*. (Tech Munnu = Taghmon, at the southern end of Lough Darryvarragh.) At LHymn. i. 164 we read: *Hic áth Féni dín im-Midi rochanad in molad-so . . . is ar Sligi Assail rochanad ótha Dún na nAirbed cosin crois ic Tig Lommán*. From these data it follows that Irarus lay between Ath Féine at or near Mullingar, and Dun na nAirbed somewhat farther east along Slige Assail. O'Donovan identifies Irarus with Ories in the barony of Clonlannan, near Athlone, and Hogan proposes 'Oristown near Kells, or Oristown near Navan': but neither of these suggestions takes account of the situation of Ath Féine and Dún na nAirbed.

The birds which haunt Cairpre are evidently women of the *Síd*, who often visit mortals they favour. The prose calls them the 'Birds of Baile'. The story of Baile mac Buain and his lady-love is to be found in O'Curry's MS. Mat. 472. In the language of poetry the 'birds of Baile' signify lovers' kisses: see O'Curry's note on p. 478. The first eight stanzas of the poem are wanting in B, owing to the loss of a folio: for these stanzas the readings of B₂ and H₂, late copies of B, are recorded.

2. The mss. leave us in doubt whether to read *fir fobaid*, agreeing with *senchas*, or *fir fobaid*: the adjective is more suitable to a person than to a tale.

4. I take *comaid* to be imper. of *conóim*, but it may be put for *coma* (acc. for nom.). In that case render 'whose fruitage is a boon'.

6, 10. I have treated *bairdne* as a collective noun: cf. Marstrander in ZCP vii. 380 for instances of coll. -*ne*. If Cairpre Lifechair was himself a poet, *bairdne* may have its usual sense 'bardic art'. He is included in the list in Meyer's *Primer of Metrics*, but M.'s reference to RC xii. 70 is an error: the passage refers to Cairpre m. Etnai.

9. Ráith Chairpri at Achall near Tara is mentioned also at MDs. i. 50, 70.

15. Lore seems to be an old name for part of Leinster: cf. MDs. ii. 12, 38 *Cellach roslat leirg for Lore* (sic leg. cf. ZCP vi. 247): *Life Luirc* frequently occurs, e.g. LL 50, 2; 51 b 42; 139 b 5; 303 b 1. Lore becomes a cognomen in Loegaire Lore, Labraid Lore: it is even a personal name in Lore mac Maistin, see Thurneysen, *Heldens*. 282.

19. The prose has *Tortha*, *Tortha*, *a dó díb*: *Tiagu*, *Tiagu*, *in deda aile*; Stokes renders "Come, come!" say two of them. "I go, I go", say the other two': but this is not in the Irish.

28. *coibche* = *coibche* 'bride-price' means also, according to O'Dav. 565, 'a contract' (*cunnrad*), that is, no doubt, a marriage-contract, whether permanent or temporary. So, probably, in *tulach na coibche*, the spot where the 'Teltown

marriages' were celebrated (Cormac). This seems to be the word anglicized as 'caif' in the Statute of Kilkenny 'nul alliance par mariadage compaternitee nurtur de enfantz concubinaunce ou de caif' (Statutes of Ireland, 1907, p. 482): cf. 'nullus . . . clericus vel laycus teneat mulieres aut concubinas sub nomine caif alias choghiv' (Colton's Visitation, xvi). I owe these references to Mrs. J. R. Green. In our passage the birds that visit Cairpre's bed are treated as paramours: *chuca* must be taken in a pregnant sense, as in 57.

30. *dogbaid* is perhaps another form of *dogba* or *dobga*: cf. MDs. iii. 498.

32. As *sam-graíd* rhymes with *amlaid* there is a difficulty about referring it to *grád*; but cf. note on *ilmaine*, p. 322, 46. The meaning and form of *sobraig* (*sobraid*, most texts) are doubtful. At Wb 31b 35 *sobrich* (sing.) is used to render Lat. *sobrius*, but the glossator may have been misled by an accidental likeness of form. The noun *sobra* is opposed to *dobra*, which seems to be the abstract of *dobur* 'gloomy', so that *sobra* should mean 'cheerfulness'. The gloss suggests that the true form of the adj. is *sobrig* (*sobraig*): cf. ZCP vi. 264, st. 4 *sobraidh*, Triads index, *sobraid*, *sobraig*: MDs. iii. 300, 46 *sobraig*: abstr. *sobraide* Triads: *dobraig* (gen.) Archiv iii. 216, st. 3. I admit that the meaning proposed is not consistent with *docht* in 33.

34. Cf. MDs. iii. 352, 70, *ní bat rúi it robethaid*.

57. I follow Stokes in rendering *herus* by 'spindle-tree'.

62. *bleddech*: possibly 'enriched with cups' (*blede*).

64. *amar* means, perhaps, the druid's 'perplexity', lit. 'darkness', cf. *amar-dall*, *amar-díne*.

66. *sinnsir*, because it was a patriarch of the wood? O'Cl. has *sinnsior* i. *iubhar* quoting *go snuad-baladh sinnsir* (Lc.'s reading).

68. For *cinn* as a cheville cf. MDs. iii. 510, 169.

72. *Érerus* = 'lofty *erus*': so the prose.

73. I read *atbérrar* to rhyme with *fégar*.

75. *na hairgne*: cf. 40 *cú halt airgne agat*?

79. The prose explains that 'to his (Bíene's or Cairpre's?) successor this was left, that when the men of Erin should be unable to get any difficult question decided by him, he should partake of some of its fruit, corn, milk, mast, or fish'. I refer *rotucad* to *tuccaim* 'understand', but perhaps the true reading is *rathugad* 'perception'.

MAG FINDABRACH

In ZCP viii. 570 P. Walsh shows that this name survives in the baronies of Upper and Lower Moyfenrath in the south-west corner of Meath, and that Bréchmag is represented by Baile na Bréchmaige, *anglice* Ballynabrack, in this district. For Lugaid Láigde's share in the battle of Crinna see Silv. Gad. ii. 361 *seq.*

7. The particle *ane* seems the same as in *sis-ana*: so *sunda ana* MDs. iii. 40, 7; 238, 27; *ón dáil sin ana*, p. 12, 25 *supra*.

8. Literally, 'a command over showers of warriors'. The phrase *ós chethaib forngaire* is copied in the prose account, and Stokes regards Cetha Forngaire as a place-name. In that case, I should prefer *ó Scechaib* (*Scethaib*) F. Cf. *Scetha Conláid*, Onom.

21. Literally, 'a death of grief without a master carried off her nursling'. The prose calls him Brech: in LL 165 b 24 the name is correctly written Bréch.

LIA LINDGADAIN

The prose ds. tells a second story of another Lingadan (Lingit, LL 165 b 34) who stole a cow from Dun Dealgan: so the Stone (where Cúchulainn killed him) was presumably a cliff on the coast in that neighbourhood (Dundalk).

14. The meaning of this line is doubtful: *samaigim* generally means 'I lay': the infixed pronoun is omitted, as in *dofarraid* (13).

15. *cen chéol*: because Lindgadan had killed the echo?

16. *scallac* is perhaps a byeform of *scellie*: Dinneen quotes from O'Rahilly *géim na sceallag*.

scéth-eól 'of wearisome ways', i.e. fatiguing to climb (E.K.).

GÁIRECH

In the Táin the *macrad ó Emain Macha* take the field, while Cúchulainn lies wounded and *hors de combat*, and are all slain. Our poem seems to tell a different story; they are keening for Cúchulainn's death.

But when we consult the prose ds. as given in LL 165 b (cf. Sil. Gad. ii. 480), which differs from that printed by Stokes in Rev. Celt. xvi. 72, we find two explanations of the name Gáirech: either it was called from the shout raised by the host when Cúchulainn was killed, or from the shout which the boys of Emain uttered round Cúchulainn as he lay wounded and bathed in blood, *ina othor-lige chró*. Evidently the versifier has confused the two explanations. Lines 7-8 answer to the following paragraph of LL's prose: *co ndechraigsetar graigi ocus carpaid ocus airm ocus alchaingi i ngrellachaib ind atha, co mbátar amail timniu fubthaide i tenid éda* (sic) *cherdda for fichud ocus for scenmnig ar méit in muallgaire doringensat ic coiniud a comaltai*. Here we have instead of *aílche, aílchi* of the Rennes ds., prose and verse, the rare word *alchaingi*, which seems out of place if it really means 'arm-racks'. It is probable that the LL story is borrowed from an old version of *Aided Chonculainn*, of which fragments seem to survive in the later recension, usually called *Brisleach mór Maige Muirtheimne*; see Thurneysen, *Helden-und Königsage*, p. 548.

Gáirech, the scene of the battle in the Táin, has not been identified with certainty.

Grellach Átha = Grellach Dollaid of the Táin.

LUIBNECH

Not identified. As the legend connects this place with the raid of the Ulstermen into West Cork (*Mesca Ulad*), it cannot be the Luibnech or Luimnech which is now Little Limerick, near Gorey in Wexford; see Onom. *Lubneach*, *Luibnech* (2), *Luimnech* (2). Crimthann Nía Náir's death is mentioned in *Mesca Ulad*, but nothing is there said of his *cétach*: as to which see ds. of Dún Crimthainn, Rev. Celt. xv. 332 and MDs. iii. 499.

4. RB here have *sulchar*, LeS *súlchar* : in all other instances known to me the mark of length is wanting in all texts. But Miss Knott points out that in BNE i. 272, 5-6 *súlchair* rhymes with *Dúchaid* : it must therefore be referred to *súil-char*, like *tol-char*, etc., and not to *su-luchair*.

7. The grammar of this line is puzzling: one expects partitive *dib*.

10. *báeth-réim* : cf. Thurneysen, zu ir. Hds. ii. 10, note.

11-12. The course taken by the Ulstermen is described in M.Ul. 15. Dun Dá Benn is near Coleraine, Cend Febrat above Kilmallock, co. Limerick.

15. M's reading *cumga* (= *comga*) is perhaps right : cf. *Rochress a cheltair chomga taris don tlacht-díllat tíre tairngire dobretha ó aiti druidechta*, Táin (Str.-O'K.) 1926 = Táin (Wi.) 2586 : so too *cealtair comhga*, Táin (Wi.) p. 359, note 6.

LECC THOLLCHIND

Nothing is known of this place. The death of Niall *noi-glallach* at the hands of Eochu son of Enna Cendselach is narrated in a story edited by Meyer in *Otia Merseiana* ii. 84. See also MDs. ii. 36, and 99.

8. This line is quoted by O'Cl. s.v. *rasgradh*.

10. The words *nár Gáedel* must refer to Tollchend : Eochu had made friends with Niall's enemies, the Saxons. O'Cl. quotes the line s.v. *nar*, explaining *i. la fearr do Gháidealaibh*.

21. For *táth* 'covering' cf. passages quoted MDs. iii. 479, 298 : at LL 187 c 23 it seems to mean 'socket' of a spear : cf. *sleg táith*, MDs. ii. 64.

23. The meaning of this line is obscure. Why should it be important to destroy their enemy's head? Is the motive a fear of the magic residing in his weapons? The line might also be rendered 'for it is part of the wealth of our host' : but then why throw it into the sea?

32. *brón* for *bróin* (dat. of *bró*), to rhyme with *srón*.

INBER BICNE

This incident is taken from Táin Bó Fraich : see Crowe's ed. 156 = ZCP iv. 47. The place is elsewhere called Inber Béce, Becce, or Bice.

7. The mss. favour *lac* not *loch*. The word *log* or *lag* in modern Irish means usually a hollow, but also a pool, and Stokes is probably right in supposing Bicne to be swallowed by a quicksand (Rev. C. xvi. 75).

12. Bennchor is explained as = 'horn-shedding'. Cf. ds. Adarca, Rev. C. xv. 308.

LOCH SÉTA

This lake has not been identified.

Loegaire Lorc son of Augaine *mór* was an early king of Ireland, according to the Annalists : see FM *a.m.* 4607. His death at the hands of his brother Cobthach is described in *Orgain Dind Ríg* : see ZCP iii. 2, and cf. Keating ii. 160. Three different explanations of his cognomen Lorc or Luirc are given in *Cóir Anmann* 176. It was perhaps originally a place-name, though treated as an adjective : cf. note on Irarus 15 (p. 433 *supra*). Loegaire is mentioned in the

Laud Genealogies (ZCP viii. 292, 4) as 'ancestor of the Lagen and Osraige'. None of the authorities mentioned throws any light on the story of his *mind*.

Stokes (Rev. Celt. xvi. 76) says that there is a copy of the ds. of Loch Séta in Stowe D. iv. 2, but I cannot find it there.

7. *fáel fulla* 'wolf of enchantment': this seems to mean that Faindle was a 'were-wolf': cf. Stokes' notes on Cóir Anm. 215 and Br. D. Derga, § 20.

8. Alliteration and rhyme point to *issunda*, with accent on first syllable, as the right reading. Cf. Lism. Lives index, *isunda*.

11. The subject of *rostachair* seems to be *Lóegaire*: hardly *éc* (line 6). The verb may mean 'meet with' or 'oppose': see glossaries to I.T.S. vi and Todd L. xvii (*tochraim*).

TRÁIG TUIRBE

This name survives in Turvey on the north coast of co. Dublin: see also Onom., Tuath Tuirbe. The prose ds. suggests that Tuirbe may have been *éan dona hespadachaib*, who fled from Tara before Lug of the many arts. Does *esbadach* here mean 'maimed'? or perhaps 'lack-land'? Tuirbe, being an artisan (cf. Todd L. xvi. 16, 1), would belong to one of the *daer-thiatha* round Tara. Lug mac Ethlenn's visit to Tara is narrated in the 'Second Battle of Moytura', Rev. Celt. xii. 74, but that text throws no light on Tuirbe's origin. The Glomraige Tuirbe are mentioned in the prose ds. of Tethba, Rev. Celt. xvi. 79.

This poem is printed with a translation in Petrie's Eccl. Archit. 386.

4. Gobán is Gobbán the wright; see Petrie, 385; Stokes, Life of Moling, ch. xi.

5. *iar scur*: cf. MDs. iii. 262, 25 *iar scur cech aídche . . . dia indeóin*.

9. Perhaps we should read *té*: Tuirbe having forged an axe-head, casts it, still glowing, into the sea to temper the metal.

15. *fri dáil* 'at a meeting'. Petrie prints *fri dáil Dé* 'by God's decree'.

BRÍ LÉITH

Brí Léith was the favourite abode of Midir, who plays so large a part in the legends of Etáin and Conaire: it is placed near Ardagh in co. Longford.

5-7. The mss. leave us in doubt whether Liath is subject and Brí object, or vice versa. So also in 12 *ingen* may perhaps be the true reading.

7. *bríach-brecc* means, as Miss Knott suggests, 'of the varied borders': *brecc* often means 'gay with colours'.

19. *co tat*: literally 'till silence'.

21. Read perhaps with Lc 'na *chongaib*, lit. 'in his grip': cf. MDs. ii. 48, 32 *dia chongaib chruaid rochengail*.

TETHBA

This story is an addendum to the Etáin-Conaire cycle of legends. Tethba, which was a territory including a large part of West Meath, together with parts of Longford and King's Co., is associated with Eochad Airem; its

eponym is, therefore, his daughter; while Nóisiu's father Nechtan is no doubt Nechtan mac Labrada (or, mac Námat), who belongs to the same cycle: see ds. of Bóann, MDs. iii. 28; Thurneysen, Heldensage, ch. 76, 77.

1-4. The order of words is confused, but *rochar* seems to refer to *tír*.

7. *rothuille* can hardly belong to *tuillim* 'earn': rather, it is for **rotuillni* from **dolínaim*, whence *tuilled* 'increase'. So probably *mac nothuilled trénmuintir*, MDs. iii. 252.

10. *dend-mais* is here an adj. = *dend-maisse* LU 91 a 21 (E.K.).

12. The prose makes the name Cenn Eitig, now Kinnitty, ten miles east of Birr, in King's Co. (Onom.).

16. I write *cách*, to provide a subject for *rotag* (*togaim*): we must supply a *comainm* from the first stanza as object of *tarat*.

LOCH AINDIND

This is Lough Ennell in West Meath. Loch Uair is Lough Owel, a few miles to the north. Various members of Clann Umoir are mentioned in the Dindsenchas: see the legends of Maistiú (Rev. Celt. xv. 334, MDs. iii. 134), Carn Conaill (Rev. Celt. xv. 478, MDs. iii. 440), and Druim nAssail (*supra*, p. 346). This clan is not mentioned in the LL version of Lebor Gabála, and appears first (I think) in the BB recension (80 a 32: quoted by Stokes in Rev. Celt. xv. 480). Aengus m. Umoir is mentioned in Airne Fingein § 5. Their patronymic is in this poem written *Úmóir* or *Gúmóir*, as alliteration demands. Gaine ingen Gumoir (MDs. iii. 44) probably belongs to the clan.

2. *ar slige*, that is, no doubt, Slige Assail: a confirmation of my view that this road passed between Lough Ennell and Lough Owel, see p. 385.

6. *ronúar-chroth*: cf. MDs. iii. 462, 42.

19. *robreth* is properly pret. passive: unless we are to postulate a verb *brethaim*, formed from *breth*.

33-4. The texts differ about the prepositions employed in this couplet, but the weight of authority favours the reading adopted. It can hardly be meant that clay was to be spread over ploughlands as well as over bare rocks: it was heaped on the rocks 'instead of' (*ar*) ploughlands, to convert them into tilth. (Cf. the description of the task imposed by the Greeks on Clann Nemid, LL 6 b 18 *tardúth úire for sléibe garba combtar maíge fo scothaib*.)

35. *Danai* is a learned use of the Latin genitive.

40. Read perhaps *áith-mir*, to rhyme with *bráithrib*, and render 'the ordinance of a violent unjust lord'.

43. *choem-lossa* must be referred to *loss* 'profit, increase', though the gen. is usually *luiss*.

45. *lochaib lethnaib*, dat. for acc., as often in late mss.

47. Cairpre Nia Fer laid oppressive taxes on Clann Umoir, so that they left his country under the leadership of Oengus: see BB 30 a 29 *seq.*, as above.

DRUIM SUAMAIG I

This story is incorporated in Bruiden Da Chocae; see Rev. Celt. xxi. 162, 320. According to Thurneysen, Heldensage, ch. 71, the compiler of that tale borrowed it from the Dindshenchas.

The Bruiden seems to be identified with Breenmore, six miles north-east of Athlone (Onom.), and Druim Suamaig must have been in sight of it (see line 35): it cannot therefore be, as Hogan suggests, the present Drum Soo near Clones, some fifty miles distant. 'Ard Caindlech (or Muine C.) is now the townland of Bunnahinley, barony of Brawney, parish of S. Mary, about two miles from Athlone' (note inserted in R.I.A. copy of RC xvi. 82).

10. *meic Thiaig Tuile* = *meic Thuaigduib* in LL 166 a 50.

11. Literally, 'she was not ill-favoured with reproach to her'.

20. *rige nUlad*: all copies have the gen. plural.

30. As to Áed son of the Dagda, see ds. of Ailech. In the prose ds. LL 166 b 6 it is for Cermait that the Dagda weeps: so in Br. Dá Chocae, *ut sup.* Cermait was killed by Lug mac Ethlenn, LL 11 b 4.

I do not know why Aed is associated with Ath Nó, which was apparently somewhere near Cnámchaill, = Cleghill, near Tipperary (Onom.).

36. *beó-bruidin* is a strange compound; like *beó-theinid* in 24 *sup.* it may be compared with *beó-chaindel* 'lighted candle', Contrib. S₃H read *breó-bruidin*: so at 24 S₃ corrects *beo-theinid* to *breo-theinid*.

44. After this line S₃ interpolates a stanza, which is also found in LL 166 b 11 and in M 147:

Suamach mac Samhghubha seis, oide Corbmaic Conluingeis,
ocus Cainnlech, cumhall ngle, ba si sin a rith-mhuime.

47. *cen mín-dergnas*: cf. p. 316, 35.

DÚN MAC NECHTAIN SCÉNE

The slaying of the three sons of Necht was one of Cuchulainn's boyish feats, recounted in the Táin (Str.-O'K. 623 *seq.*). It took place *oc Commor Mana 7 Aba allandaeas nias Dún a Chéle* (*ibid.* 629), that is, at Navan in Meath: see Onom. s.v. Commor Mana, and cf. Comar (1, 2, 3), and Abha. We may probably identify Dún Mac Nechtain with Dún a Chéle, which is certainly a place-name (cf. Síth na Céile, Eriu vii. 242). The place is called *Dún tri mac Nechtain Scéne* in YBL; LU has *Dún tri mac Nechta Scéne*, with a marginal note: *Fer Ullí mac Lugdach a n-athair 7 Nechtan Scéne a mmathair. Ullaid dano romarbsat a n-athair. Iss air robatár hi coeud faraib.* The name Inber Scéne 'did not belong to Irish topography', but 'is a translation of the words of Orosius *ostium Scenae*' (MacNeill, Phases of Ir. Hist. 95). It was, however, regarded as belonging to south-west Cork, and therefore to the territory of Corcu Láigde, to whom Fer Uillne and his wife belonged, says the prose ds.

S₃ has two additional stanzas, one at the beginning, one at the end:

Eirnidh a eolcha Féine . Dún mhac Neachtain nert-Scéine
mic Fir Uilne fa hiad soin . dar mathair an nair Neachtain.

'Make clear to us, ye learned of the Féni, the legend of D.m.N., of mighty Scéne:

They were the sons of Fer Uilne, whose mother was the chaste Nechtain.'

Cuchulainn an chrotha gluais . úa Beccaltaigh go mbith-bhuaidh
an ced-lá roghabh airm dhe . atcheas tairm a ttiugh-laithe.

'On the first day that Cuchulainn took arms, ever-victorious grandson of Beccaltach, the rumour of their last day was seen' (qu. *atclos* 'was heard').

In H the first stanza, still partly legible, is followed by the second of the additional stanzas: the rest is quite obliterated.

BILE TORTAN

This ancient tree stood in the land of Ui Tortan near Ardraccan, close to Navan in Meath: it is called Bile Torton in the Book of Armagh, f. 15 v^o 1. It fell in the reign of the sons of Aed Slaine (657-664) along with the Oak of Mugna, Rev. Celt. xv. 420. In the prose ds. of LL 199 b 61 (another copy in YBL col. 344) it is called an ash-tree (*umnius*), and is associated with the Yew of Ross, the Oak of Mugna, the Ash of Dathí, and the Ash of Usnech; the last of these is there said to have fallen in the time of the sons of Aed Slaine. See further the poems edited in MDs. iii. 144-148. In *Suidigud Tellaich Temra*, ed. Best, Eriu iv. 151 (cf. O'Curry's note on Cath Muighe Léana, 95), a story is told of the origin of these trees from a single branch 'of the wood of Lebanon' (*ibid.* 141): it is repeated in the Colloquy of Fintan and the Hawk of Achill, Anecl. i. 33-35. In *Iomarbhagh na bhFileadh* (ed. McKenna, Ir. Texts Soc. xx. 22) Bile Tortan is said to have been 'found' (along with three of the other trees) on the night when Conn *cét-chathach* was born: this is not, however, mentioned among the marvels of that night enumerated in Airne Fingein. Lines 49-72 suggest that there is an implicit comparison between the fall of the tree and the death of some king—apparently Ailill Molt, who fell in the battle of Ocha in 482 (AU). There is a similar parallel in the poem printed by Meyer in ZCP v. 21.

Of the saints by whom the poem is supposed to be spoken in turn, Ultán is obviously the patron of Ardraccan (+ 656 FM) called Ultán macu Conchobair, Mart. Oeng. 200, or Ultán of Dál Conchobair, Th. P.-H. ii. 325: Ultán of Tech Túa (Taghtoo or Taghadoe near Maynooth, FM i. 368) is a different person: see Mart. Oeng. 253, 260. Hogan (*s.v.* Tech Tua) quotes an authority, unnamed, which calls him Ubtan. For Mochúa of Clondalkin (Cluain Dolcan) see Mart. Oeng. Aug. 6, Thes. P.-H. ii. 256: his relics are mentioned AU 789. Torannán Tulcha is the Torannán of Mart. Oeng. June 12, called Mothoria of Tulach Fortchern in Ui Cennselaig, *ibid.* 148. Mochuma may be perhaps Mochaimhe of Tír dá Glas (Terryglas in Tipperary); see Plummer V.S.H. index. Sinche of Cell Ichtair Thíre may = Sinche of Cell Roiss in Kildare, Mart. Oeng. Nov. 9, cf. p. 240. (Stokes makes this saint a woman, Sínech, but cf. 'Sínech mac Nisi' in Onom. *s.v.* Cell Rois (1).) But Cell Ichtair Thíre was south-east of Bile Tortan, Rev. Celt. xvi. 279. Cróin Galma of Galway is mentioned in Mart. Tall., Jan. 1.

B and S₃ end with this poem. So, no doubt, did H, but its last page is totally illegible. R omits it altogether.

2. *doruart* seems to be perf. of *tuargim*, O.Ir. *docomart*: cf. *tuart* Fergus in Meyer's Aelt. ir. Dicht. 28, 18.

3. I cannot construe this line as it stands in any of the codices. One would expect an 'if' or 'though' clause with past subj. as protasis to *noscarfais* in 4. LcMS agree in reading *meic máin* (or *maein*), but who or what are they?

B's *minnain* may point to *menndáin* 'kids' or *mintáin* 'titmice', and *cian* (or *co*) should probably be *cia*, but what of *comdutar* (*combatar*, *comatar*)? The general meaning perhaps is: the Tree repels the stormwinds as easily as it would a flock of kids (or small birds) who should assail it.

11. As to the meaning of *annsa* see Ped. Gr. § 463, Anm. 1. If I am right in my rendering of *do ní* in 12, the construction is an extension of the type *ferr do láech*, as to which see Marstrander, Acad. Dict. 148. xxxiv. Reading with LeS *dáine* we might regard it as dat. after the comparative.

15-16. I owe the interpretation of these lines to Miss Knott.

20. *rofuirim* usually means 'has laid, placed': cf. *fuirmed* 48, *fuirim* 52, *foraim* 39, and note on Loeh Da Gabar, 7, p. 424 *supra*.

26. *trebaire* means, I think, the sturdy vigour of the soil: cf. Aisl.M.C. index, *trebur*.

39. *foraim* here and in 52 seem = O.Ir. *forruim*: cf. note on 20, and see Ped. Gr. § 799.

40. *Conaille*, a sept in Louth, called in LArdm. *Conalnei*.

45. Who is this woman? the Morrigan, who laughs amid carnage? Cf. *Reiene Fothaid Canainne*, st. 42 (Todd L. xvi. 16). The loosing of sandals is preparatory to washing the bodies of the dead (*ibid.*): it is not clear whether *roscaill a (in) moing find* refers to their locks or to her own (or even to the tree's foliage): cf. *rold a moing dar a hais* (*ibid.* st. 43).

48. Here and at 80, 84 the rhyme points to the form *Torten*; but in 76 *Tortan* is required.

49. *frismbi* for *frismben*: the two stems are confused in several compounds.

58. *doroscar* (if sound) is used here for *roscar*.

63. *rontá-ne*, apparently for *ar-un-tá-ni*.

65. *Ochann* in Meath, see Rev. C. xv. 295, MDs. ii. 36: *Tlachtga*, p. 186, *supra*.

66. *Ailill m. Nathí* (or *Dathí*) is generally called *Ailill molt*.

68. I take *frithirt* to be a compound of *irt* 'death': v. Cormac s.v. *anart*, *adart*, *lathirt*. *S₃* alone has *frithid* 'equal to': cf. V. Bran, p. 38.

73. B has *móen da sam* (sic), so perhaps we should read *i n-óen do sam*: cf. *aon do ló*, ZCP v. 495; *áen d'oidche*, Sil. Gad. i. 60, 31; *araile d'oidche*, Sil. Gad. i. 12, 32.

74. The repetition of the article (*ocond . . . na n-*) is unusual.

75. The mss. have *bad*, *budh*: one expects *ba*.

77. Cf. K. Meyer, Bruchst. § 154, for the wind's laughter. It might be better to read *ferait* with *gáeithe* as subject.

84. Render perhaps 'I have somewhat to tell of Bile Tortan'.

LEGE

In the title to the poem in LL this place is called 'Lége in Uíb Falge'. It was a district which 'comprised the barony of Western Offaly [in Kildare] and a small portion of the northern part of the barony of Portmahinech [in Queen's Co.] in which the great castle of Leighe, now Ley, or Lea, is situated'. (O'Donovan, Topogr. Poems, p. lii, note 420.)

The story of the oppression of Clann Nemid by the Fomoir (or Fomoraig) is told in Lebor Gabála: see LL 6 a 43 seq., 7 a 20 seq. The tribute is there said to consist of two-thirds of the children, the corn, and the milk of Clann Nemid. Liag is not mentioned in L. Gabála; she is evidently invented for the purpose of the Dindshenchas, whence her story is borrowed by Keating i. 182. She is mentioned in the prose ds. of Belach Durgein, RC xv. 324, where *Tresca* should be *Trescat*, cf. MDs. iii. 84, 11. The name Tóchar Léghengine Cuarnatan (Ir.T. iv. l. 695) belongs to the same district, and points to an earlier eponym.

I have, as usual, followed as a rule the text of L: the other mss. show a number of variants which evidently arise from the rewriting of passages which presented some difficulty: see for example lines 19–20.

3. For the use of *érim* = 'solve, explain' cf. the stanza quoted from S₃ in the notes to ds. Dún mac Nechtain, *supra*, p. 439.

8. In metrical genealogies *is* is frequently introduced to help out the metre; cf. MDs. iii. 515, note on Carn Uí Néit, 5, and p. 8, 40 *supra*.

13. *biata* from *búaidim* 'were moved, stirred up'.

16. The facsimile of L has *cruadiattaig*. But the first *t* is almost obliterated, and might quite as well be a *c*, as in S₃.

19, 20. *clóe*, *Nóe*, must be disyllabic, if my text is sound: the various readings presented by the later mss. are probably due to a desire to correct the metre. I regard *clóe* as = *cló* 'nail, spike'. The spellings *clóthi*, *clóthib* (see Wi. s. v.) point to disyllabic value. *Noe* is used indifferently as one syllable or two in SnR: it is monosyllabic in line 22 of our poem. But perhaps the reading of S₃, *nár chloí gáí na sciath* 'whom neither spear nor shield could quell', is right.

25. Here and in 29 *Liag* is disyllabic in L, monosyllabic in the other texts: in line 5 the name is in all texts treated as monosyllabic.

27, 28. Throughout the poem L writes *Conand*, the other texts *Conaing*. In L's Lebor Gab. the name is *Conand* (but at 7 a 21 *Conaind*). In 27 *molam(m)* rhymes with *Conand*. The line has a syllable too many; read *mná* for *don mná*. With the phrase *molam immaig* cf. p. 140, 111 *supra*, *molta immach*.

32. The prose explains that Liag had a *liach iaraind* which served as a measure for the tribute. The word means usually a 'spoon'; *liag muilinn* 'a mill paddle'.

40. Erglan was one of the chieftains of Clann Nemid, LL 6 b 1, 7 a 27.

41–44. There is here a wide divergence between L and the other copies; L has six lines, the third of which is corrupt; see apparatus criticus. The other texts vary among themselves. H's reading of 44, accidentally omitted from my apparatus, is *in tres trian lind do lomond*. For the dative *lommomm* cf. Fragg. Ir. Ann. 74, 8. Keating, i. 182, quotes L's version, with *bainne bleachta* for L's corrupt *baba* and with *uaisde* after *imme* in the last line.

55. Literally 'a deed that was not scarcity to his house'. But most texts have *mog*, meaning presumably that Fergus was reduced to the level of a serf, but one whose home was not solitary, i.e. he had plenty of friends: *nárbo thacha*, like *bíid uathad*, *ní ba imda* CMR 174.

58. This seems to mean that henceforth Fergus would have no master (*cend*) over him.

63. *araí* introduces the following *ar-* clause.

BREFNE

The ds. of Lége is in Lec. succeeded by that of Séig Mossad, which has no verse beyond the stanza printed by Stokes in *Rev. Celt.* xvi. 162. This is followed by Brefne, probably because its eponym belongs to the same part of the Lebor Gabála story as Liag of Lége. She is daughter of Beoán, and therefore sister of Erglan (see LL 6 b 1), a chieftain of the Clann Nemid, mentioned in ds. Lége 40. Her opponent Regan is one of the Fomoiré.

Brefne was an extensive territory comprising the present counties of Cavan and Leitrim; Tuaim Regain, usually written Tuaim Dreacain or Drecon, now Toomregan, a hill on the confines of Cavan and Fermanagh, FM *a.m.* 3727. Mag Slecht, see p. 379 *supra*. Mag Indusa might = Mag Inais, said by O'Donovan to be in southern Fermanagh (FM iii. 534 *?*). Sliab Fraech, perhaps = Carn Fraech in Roscommon, see MDs. iii. 356.

The poem is ascribed in both Lc and S to Fintan, who calls himself in the last stanza 'son of Lamech' (cf. *Rev. Celt.* xv. 278), but is usually known as Fintan mac Bochna.

16. *Clanda Cáim* = the Fomoiré: so Liag's pedigree is traced to Ham, p. 248 *supra*.

18. Balar is the Fomorian chieftain of the battle of Moytura: *Rev. Celt.* xii. 58. To make Regan one of Balar's men and also a captain of Oengus mac ind Oe, who belongs to the Tuatha Dé, and to make him fight a Gaelic prince, are marks of ignorance which betray the late origin of the poem.

32. I do not understand *oir*.

33. Read perhaps *Baile inar' benad* (omitting *In*).

41. Bres mac Elathan of the Tuatha Dé: see *Rev. Celt.* xii. 63, MDs. iii. 216, FM *a.m.* 3304.

52. Odbgen mac Sengainn, a chieftain of the Fir Bolg; see FM *a.m.* 3290, LL 127 *a* 45.

56. *Bethad*: should this be *Betha* (Bith mac Noe)? or is it a place-name?

LOCH LAIGLINDE

In Lebor Gabála, LL 5 *a* 12, Laíglinne is said to have been one of Parthalon's three sons, 'from whom comes Loch Laíglinde in Ui Meicc Uais Breg'. There were at least three territorial groups known by the name Ui Meicc Uais (earlier Ui Mocu Uais): (1) Ui M. U. Breg, in the land of Ua hAonghusa (Hennessy), in the present barony of Moyfenrath, co. Meath: see O'Donovan, *Topog.* P. note 16; (2) Ui M. U. Tethba, who have left their name to the barony of Moygoish in W. Meath; see O'Don. FM i. 458 note *u*; (3) Ui M. U. Airgiall, to the west of the river Bann in Ulster: FM i. 8 note *a*: cf. ZCP viii. 319, 16; 320, 31. This last is probably the same group as Ui M. U. an Fhochla, mentioned at FM i. 516. According to Lebor Gabála (copied by Keating i. 164) Loch Laiglinde belonged to the first of these groups. The difficulty is that this territory is entirely devoid of lakes, so perhaps Loch Laiglinde should be placed in the land of the second group, which abounds in lakes, great and small. In the poem at LL 5 *b* 32 the name is Loch Laiglend.

5. *lir* 'numerous, numerously attended': cf. ZCP xii. 292, 12, *a laich lir*.
 11. Perhaps better 'and it became a lake that never ebbed'.
 17. For Delgnat cf. ds. of Inis Samer, p. 288.
 25. As to Fintan cf. note on the preceding poem.
 26. This line seems corrupt: read perhaps *romgab des im aithrechus* 'age finds me a penitent'. Fintan escaped the deluge which drowned his fellow-sinners, and lived to be baptized by St. Patrick, Keating i. 152.
 27. *cadhus* can hardly be right: I do not understand S's *degchus*. Read perhaps *cen dergnus* 'with no lack of honour', cf. p. 238 *cen min-dergnas*: this gives a rhyme to *senchus* and better sense.

LOCH CENN

The fight at Loch Cenn is called by the Annalists the battle of Mag Femín, and is said to have been won by Cairbre m. Cremthainn against Colman *bec* son of Diarmait m. Fergusa *cerrbeól*, who escaped with his life. See FM 571, AU 572. Keating (iii. 74) calls the victor Cairbre *crom*. Colman *mór*, another son of Diarmait, died long before: see AU 554 and 557, FM 552. The battle of Loch Cenn is described in the Irish Life of St. Findchua (Lism. Lives, p. 244). According to this authority the Uí Néill (of Meath?) invaded Munster and encamped at Loch Silenn (or Sighlenn, line 3208). They were defeated by the valour of Cairbre *crom* mac Crimthainn *tíreib*, under the auspices of Findchua, and the heads of the slain were thrown into Loch Silenn, 'which is called to-day Loch Cenn'. Thereafter Cairbre was made king of Cashel. Colman is not mentioned in the Life. As Findchua was a contemporary of Blathmac son of Aed Slane, who died in 664, his presence at the battle is a gross anachronism. The chronology of the Life is, indeed, untrustworthy: on the first page Fiacha *suigde*, brother of Conn *cét-chathach*, is made contemporary with Blathmac. But Cairbre *crom* is a historical personage: his pedigree will be found at LL 320 a 8-21. His grandfather Eochaid died in 523 (FM). See also C6ir Anm. 49.

The Ds. and the Life of Findchua both say that Loch Cenn was originally called Loch Silenn. It was in Mag Femín (line 8: cf. MDs. iii. 204). Hennessy (index to Chr. Scot.) places it 'north of Knockgraney, co. Limerick'. The 'island of Loch Cenn' is mentioned in CGG 141 among the strong places fortified by Brian (cf. *ibid.* clx note, and L. na Cert, 89, 93). There is an article on the place in Gaelic Journal xi. 14, by Mr. J. F. Lynch, from which I borrow some references. He thinks the 'island' is to be identified with Ragamus on a 'broad expansion of the Camog river' (near Lough Gur, co. Limerick).

The text of the poem, which depends on two very untrustworthy manuscripts, is full of metrical faults and contains not a few obscurities.

2. *iarmairt*, properly 'consequence', may have had the secondary meaning 'thing left, legacy' from which would develop the sense 'riches' given by O'Reilly: cf. CMR 116, 16: *a iarmairt d'a aicmedaib* ('munificence' O'D.). Here the meaning would be 'legacy of legends'.

9. I cannot understand *co saí* unless it refers to Findchua, who is not otherwise mentioned either in the prose or in the poem.

10. *úa Cuind*, because Conn *cél-chathach* was ancestor of the *Ui Néill*.

18. I take *digenn* as = *dichenn* (*níme*): see Contrib. But it may be *digenn* 'fortress'.

19. *finnaid* seems to be written for *finnad*, a later form of *finnfud* (Dinneen), to rhyme with *linnib*.

21. The metre changes from *debide* to *rannaigecht*, but the rhymes are incorrect. Perhaps in 26 *drong* should be corrected to *dremm*.

22. I suggest *roimair*, from *imraim* = O.Ir. *immraim*: see Dinneen.

MAG DUMACH

The quarrel between Eremon and Eber is related in *Lebor Gabála*, or rather in the beginning of the tract *Flaithiusa Erenn*, which immediately follows *Lebor Gabála* proper. The scene of the battle is laid in one recension (e.g. LL 15 a 9) at Mag Argetrois, but in others (as Lec. 30) at Tochar eter *Dá Mag*, near Geisille in *Ui Failge* (Geashill in King's Co.): cf. Keating ii. 104 and FM i. 28, with O'Donovan's note: *Mag Dumach* is therefore to be placed in this neighbourhood.

5. *Léige*, see p. 441. *Rechet*, not far away, is now represented by Morett near Maryborough (Onom.): Réire = *Ráriu* in *Ui Failge*, v. MDs. iii. 504; *Múr Dá Maige* probably = *Tochar eter Dá Maige*; *Ross Mór* and *Lechet* are unknown to me.

7. *gúr* is a strangely chosen epithet unless *gort* here means 'field of battle', as it perhaps does in MDs. iii. 192, 43.

11, 12. It is not easy to see the connexion of these lines with the preceding. I do not know *gaible* as a singular, but suppose it = *gabul*; for the 'fork' as a weapon see O'Curry MC introductory vol., p. cccclvi. Prosody is in favour of reading *dia ngon* 'when it wounds', but this seems meaningless. I take it to be 3 sg. pres. rel. of a compound *dian-gonaim* treated here, as to flexion and metrically, as if it were a prepositional compound. Cf. note on Odba 6, p. 422 *supra*.

14. I take *gléis* to be adjectival gen. of *glés* 'array, preparation (for battle)'.

21. *Druim Cresaig* is in *Leb. Gab.* called *Druim Classaig* in *Crích Maine*, LL 15 a 9. *Druim Bethach* (or *Bethaig*) in *Móenmag* (round Loughrea, co. Galway), *ibid.* *Druim Fingin* is a ridge of low hills running parallel to the railway from Fermoy to Dungarvan on the south, and dividing Decies within Drum from Decies without Drum.

24. *don bríg* is perhaps corrupt: it does not give a satisfactory rhyme, and the sense is not easy to discover.

31. Eremon seems to be standing on his rights against his elder brother. *Athchland* might mean either a second or a worthless family. With *dochúaid* *d'athchlaind* cf. Ml. 27 c 10 *is do ruccai 7 melacht teit*. But the reading of our passage is uncertain.

47. *Bri Molt* is used as a terminus in LArmd. f. 20 v° 2, 'a pinna montis herbicis (= vervecis) usque ad montem Míss.' It is = *Breymolt* in the

deanery of Totmoy, now Primult in King's Co. (Onom.). Totmoy = Tuath Dá Maige: cf. Tóchar eter Da Mag, p. 445, and see FM i. 29 n. Srub Brain is on the coast of Inishowen, Cruach Aigle = Knockpatrick in Mayo, Loch Cuan = Strangford.

55. Does *rosmert* mean that Eber 'betrayed' the Tochar by his death? or is the verb used with the sense 'designated'? cf. MDs. iii. 556, note on Mag Muireisce 17.

57. *Lugach* is for *Lugdach*, to rhyme with *Dumach*: but I know not what *Lugaid* is referred to.

59-60. The rendering offered is due to Miss Knott. Cf. p. 154, 101-108.

63. *Mag Tendais*: cf. LL 16 a 42, '*Sin chath for Tenuis na treb, 'sin maig i torchair Éber*: BB 42 b 39, *nó is for Tennus im Dībħ Maigibħ O Fáilgi rofeurad in cath sin*: so too Edin. Ds. § 76, *Unde Mag nDumach, 7 Tendais a ainm ar tūs*.

65-68. The metre of this stanza is imperfect: there is no rhyme between 65 and 66, and the rhyme *thír*: *thír* is suspicious.

CNUCHA I

Edited by Stokes in Folk Lore iv. 76 (along with Edin. Ds.) from Eg. 1781. As this publication may not be easily accessible, I have printed the text (prose and verse) as it stands in S, giving the variants on Stokes's authority.

Cnucha is identified by O'Donovan (FM i. 325) with Castleknock. The hill so called is about four miles north of the Liffey, so that the description of it as *ós lind Life* (p. 266) is not at first sight appropriate. However, it seems that the medieval manor of Castleknock extended as far as the present Phoenix Park, so that Cnucha may have included the high ground overlooking the river. See F. E. Ball, Hist. Co. Dublin, iv. 187.

The other names are taken from Leb. Gabála; see LL 7 b 35. As to *Sliab Fuait*, see p. 162, *supra*. *Inis Fuata* may, as Hogan suggests, be Fota Island near Cork. But there was a Fuat or Fota on the river Sláine (the Slaney), see Onom., Fota: and Fuat was wife of Sláine: so perhaps *Inis Fuata* is an island in the Slaney, of which Fuat is the eponym, as her husband is of the river.

The first stanza of the verses occurs, with a different third line, in ds. Bend Etair II, MDs. iii. 112.

CNUCHA II

This poem is incorporated in a long composition in the Book of Lismore, edited by Miss Power in ZCP xi. 39 *seq.* Besides the readings of the Ds. in LeS, I have given those of a copy of the Lismore poem from Eg. 90 (see O'Gr. Cat. 82). Mr. R. Flower, who has kindly furnished me with a transcript of this copy, tells me that it occurs in a section of the ms. which once belonged to the Book of Ui Maine. Miss Power also gives the readings of R.I.A. 23 O 39, but this is only a late copy of Lism.

2. *airithe*: see Contrib. *airide*.

7. In the story of the Battle of Cnucha, Conn is associated with the place.

9. For *rand* (*raind*) meaning 'contention', cf. MDs. iii. 410, 24, *cosnam nó raind*: *ibid.* 460, 17, *cen raind*. Miss Knott suggests *nocharat raind* 'whom stanzas love'.

11. *fo dathaib*: a dun was generally white-washed with lime.

21. The last stanza of a poem (or the first) often contains a hint at the liberality expected from the audience.

23. *ana*: see note on Mag Findabrach 7, p. 434 *supra*. Miss Knott, however, would identify *ana* with *dano* (*dno*, *no*).

CODAL

See p. 425 *supra* for references to this place, and add this quatrain from LL 22 *b* y:

Tri saefr Herenn arcanar : sluaig Arad co n-aifb Ulad,
Cond, dan ceól-adart Codal, oeus Eoganacht Muman.

This shows that there was a Codal which was a principal stronghold of the northern kings (outside of the territory of Dál Araide), but does not help us to locate it. I have found no light on Mag Fliuchrois. Codal *corr-chíchech* we have already met in the legend of Binn Codail, but there is no other connexion between that story and this. The Dagda's son Aed has the same role here as in the legend of Ailech. Eogan of Inber appears in Serglige Conculaind: see Heldensage 419, 424. See also LL 9 *b* 46, Todd L. iii. 154 (st. 4).

At p. 270, 1, I read *ar Chodal* for *ar chodha*: the literal meaning of the sentence seems to be 'on account of Codal in ownership over it'.

The verses which follow are plainly incomplete. With *esce Aedha* (7) cp. *eisce do thabairt im Th.*, AU 1115 (= *saighidh greisi do thabhairt im Th.*, FM 1115): and see ZCP v. 528 *n*, Todd L. xvii, index.

In 8, read *agid 'n-agid*. With 10 cf. *a rí na rend is na reb*, p. 6, 68 *supra*.

SLAINE

This is Slane on the Boyne. The death of the Fer Bolg king Slane at Duma Slaine is mentioned at LL 8 *a* 21, and in Gilla Coemain's poem, *Ériu ará inis na rig* (Todd L. iii. 150): he is there the eponym of the river Slaney, and Duma Slaine is, according to O'Donovan (*ibid.* 151, note), a mound on the bank of the Barrow. Hogan refers to another Duma Slaine at Moytura.

DUBAD

Now Dowth, near the Boyne. The arrest of the sun by druid magic recalls the legend of the Dagda and Boand: see Eriu vii. 221, st. 20.

RATH CRINNA

Crinna was near Dowth and Brug na Bóinde (Onora.). As to the slaying of its eponym, Crinna son of Conn *cét-chathach*, by his uncle Eochaid Fuathnairt, see the story in Keating ii. 268, Cóir Anm. 112, 167, and the poem at

LL 35 a 25 *seq.* Eochaid was ancestor of the various Fotharta, see ZCP viii. 301, where lines 20, 21 should read *Mac side Fedilmthe R. mic Tuathail techtmair, derbráthair do C.C.*

UMALL

This name survives in the Owles of Mayo and Burrishoole (Buirghes Umail).

MAG LETHLUACHRA

Of the names mentioned in this article, the only one of which anything seems to be known is Dun Furudrain, which is mentioned in conjunction with Oenach Teite (Nenagh in Tipperary): see FM ii. 872, with parallel passages quoted in Onom. The collocation of Anann and Lethluachair suggests a connexion with the Kerry hills known as Dá Chích Anainne iar Luachair.

For the expression *óclach gráda* cf. note on Cell Chorbáin 38, p. 468 *infra*.

CONACHAIL

O'Donovan, FM ii. 929, identifies 'Conachail in Corann' with Cunghill in the parish of Achonry, co. Sligo. There is another legend about the swine of Corann in MDs. iii. 438.

In line 10, *Fochliu*, if intended for the genitive, is a strange distortion of *Fochlae*: cf. however *aislingeó* as dat. of *aislinge*, Carraic Lethdeirg 4, p. 120. In 11, as Miss Knott remarks, the older name ought to be repeated.

ATH CROCHA

This was an important ford over the Shannon: a bridge was built here as early as 1120 (FM). According to O'Donovan, Hy Many 5, it was at the present Shannon Harbour, a little north of Banagher in King's Co.: but the tract on which he relies rather suggests that it was at Shannon Bridge, a little farther north.

There are two plains called Mag Inis: one in Lecale, co. Down, the other in the extreme south of Donegal, between the rivers Erne and Drowes (Onom. Mag Inis (2) and Mag nEne). Neither is anywhere near Shannon Harbour.

Croch mór is apparently a brother of Cú Roí mac Daíre, Cuchulainn's enemy: see M. E. Dobbs, Sidelights on the Táin Age, 18.

As to the battle of Finnchora, see Heldensage, 364.

Maiginis daughter of Garaid *glún-dub* is mentioned in Ac. na Sen. (Ir. T. iv. 5315).

MAG N-URA

Now probably Moyvore, barony of Rathconrath, W. Meath, says O'Donovan, FM ii. 904. As to the legend, see p. 396, 53. Oennu (Enna, Aengus) mocu Loigsi was the first abbot of Clonmacnoise after Ciarán: see VSH i. 210 z, and Plummer's note, *ibid.* p. xlix: AU 569, 576.

robáei for *cind* C.C. 'was (at Clonmacnoise) to meet C.C.': for *cind* = *ar chind*.

Berchán is also called *Mobí clár-aineach*: St. Columba studied under him at Glasnevin, Reeves Ad. lxxii. A prophecy attributed to him is printed in O'Kearney's Irish Prophecies, 126; others are described in R.I.A. Catalogue of MSS.

rorecaid may mean 'was recited', cf. *reccaire*, Wortk. 77: but we have to do with a regular bargain, so the sense may well be 'was sold'.

The last six lines are based on a passage in Bruiden Da Choca, RC xxi. 162, unless, indeed, the relation is reversed: cf. note on Druim Suamaig, p. 438, *supra*.

MAG MANDACHTA

The death of Mand is related in the LU Tain (Str.-O'K. 2163-2181). Other references are given in Onom., but the place has not been identified. Muireasc = Mag Muireisce, MDs. iii. 426.

The story of the death of Derb Forgaill has been edited by Marstrander, Eriu v. 201.

LOCH LUGBORTA

The feud between Lug and the sons of Cermait is briefly alluded to by Fland Manistrech in LL 11 b 4-7: cf. Keating i. 220 z. The legend of Delbaeth, ancestor of the Delbna, is told more fully in a tract in BB 191, col. 8 and 4 (followed by Cóir Anm. 159). It is there said that Delbaeth (*alias* Lugaid m. Táil), when expelled by his daughter Angus, made his way to Carn Fiacha meic Neill. This place was close to Uisnech in West Meath (see Onom.): its name is perhaps preserved in Carn Park. It is added a few lines farther on (BB 191 d 10) that Delbaeth himself remained at Loch Lugphort, while his sons scattered in various directions. The lake was therefore close to Uisnech: this agrees with the opening sentence of the dindshenchas. Hogan's first and third articles on Carn Lugdach are confused and misleading. With *doluidh-sim uaidhibh a n-eisimul* compare TBC (Wi.) 5679 *regat-sa fom rénim i n-esimel*; but the exact sense is uncertain.

In Keating's genealogies, FF iv. 21 (91), Delbaeth and Lugaid are two persons, sons of Cass, ancestor of Dál Caiss, who is elsewhere called Cass mac Táil: see Coir Anm. 164, MSMat. 479 z. According to Cóir Anm. 159 and BB 191 *ut sup.*, Delbaeth's five sons are ancestors of different branches of the Delbna: so in LL 335 c D. Bethra is traced back to Baetán, and D. Mór to Andiled. Gnó Mór and Gnó Beg are eponyms of places in D. Feda (otherwise D. Tíre Da Locha) near Lough Corrib, Onom.

CRUACHAN AIGLE

This is Croaghpatrick in co. Mayo, called in L. Ardm. *Mons Egli*. I can find no other account of the persons of the tale, except Scál Balb, otherwise called Cían son of Díancécht, father of Lug mac Eithlenn (LL 9 a 43; Rev. Celt. xvi. 50). The incident of the killing of Cífaru is obscure: some words (perhaps *ba dallta dó*) seem to be lost from the prose after the word *uair*.

She must have been the eponym of Cliaru, now Clare Island in Clew Bay: see FM iii. 282 n: Eccaill, now Achill, and Druimne (which O'Donovan writes Druimni) are mentioned *ibid.* 278 n. Garbros is placed by Hogan, Onom., in N. Sligo: probably it was the name of a district which once extended westward across Mayo.

10. The elision of *Ol-* indicates that this syllable is unaccented, which is against the analysis of the name as *Ól n-écmacht* (Heldensage 76).

20. Either this line is corrupt or the words *and robith* are out of the natural order.

SLIAB BADBGNA

A range of hills in eastern Roscommon; see O'Donovan's Hy Many, 90, note *h*. Sliab Guill and Sliab Irguill no doubt = Ross Guill and Ross Irguill, otherwise Goll and Irgoll, often named together. Rossgull is still the name of the peninsula between Mulroy Bay and Sheephaven in Donegal: Irgoll, according to O'Donovan, FM i. 317, denotes Horn Head, on the western shore of Sheephaven.

Ath Omna and Ath Da Laarc are two fords on the r. Boyle (Buill) in Roscommon; the latter is the point where the town of Boyle now stands, FM iii. 14 n.

Cul Cnama, a district on the northern coast of Mayo: full references in Onom.

Clarach, not yet identified. Most of the persons mentioned here are grouped together in Cath Maige Tuired, RC xii. 96.

rolen cāch a t(h)ograin, lit. 'each followed his pursuit'.

TULACH EOGAIN

This place has not been identified, but it was evidently not far from Mag Rechet, which is now Morett near Maryborough, see p. 445 *supra* (Mag nDumach 5), and RC xvi. 271.

I print the prose introduction from S: the other text, S₃, is practically identical, but rightly has *Catháir meic Feidhlimidh* (not *Eogain*) in the last line of the quatrain. The three stanzas in brackets at the end of the poem are an addendum only found in S₃. For more than half of the rest, L is our only authority.

1. *ar beirt* might mean 'for a couple', but the poem celebrates many persons.

3. *adféta*: this is subj. of *adfiadaim*, formed upon pres. ind. *adfét*: cf. Táin (ed. Windisch) 1764.

6. The facs. of L has *serbmaid*, but in the ms. the fourth letter has the stalk of a *b* or *l*, altered by the scribe to *c*. I suggest *serc-naid*, a compound of *nath*, like *marb-nad*. SS₃ rewrite the line, but their reading is obviously less appropriate, besides involving a dative form for acc. pl.

7. Does this line mean that they suffer regret for this life? or that this life's sorrows still pursue them?

13-16. Cf. LL 314 b 48, *Eogan Bruid m Nathi m Rosa Failge m Cathair moir*.

19. Here and in 23 *achad* seems to mean 'field of battle': cf. the similar use of *gort*, MDs. iii. 192, 43 and p. 260, 7, *supra*. In 24 L has *-thathaim* for *-thathum*, to make a rhyme. Perhaps the text of 23 is unsound.

21-28. The same list of Ross Failge's sons is given in LL 314 b 1. But the names of the ten sons of Cathair *mór* are different from the ten mentioned in the genealogy, LL 313 b 18. The latter list, however, only includes those sons who left issue. Cathair had thirty-three sons altogether, *ut periti affirmant*, and our poet only professes to mention those who were buried at Tulach Eogain. Fergus, Ailill *ceithech*, Oengus, and Cetach are named in the genealogy, and in the Testament of Cathair *mór* (L. na Cert 192). Currech is Currech Life, see Sil. Gad. ii. 474, 11, and cf. MDs. iii. 520, 9 (where *Cathbad* should be *Cathair*, if O'Grady's text is sound).

If we are to count *two* Ailills in 27, *aithellach* must be a common noun, meaning here perhaps 'union, conjunction'. But I suspect that *aithellach da* is a corruption, concealing the name of another son.

32. *tamhata* is corrupt. One expects the refrain, *'na tatham*, but this will not rhyme with *lacad*.

35, 36. These chiefs are sleeping at Tulach Eogain (32), so we cannot render here 'in Carmun is their sleep', unless we suppose Tulach Eogain to be in Carmun. The location and extent of Carmun are uncertain, but there is no evidence for placing it in this neighbourhood: see MDs. iii. 470. So the meaning of these lines must be that the deaths of these chieftains has been a sore matter to the great assembly of Leinstermen at Carmun.

38. *leat l ath* must be corrupt. I know nothing of this Lugna. Bóthar eter Dá Mag = Tóchar eter Dá Mag, where Eber was slain (p. 262, 39).

43. Mac Heiris is unknown to me, unless he is the Becloinges mac Eiris mentioned in ds. Loch Semtide, p. 288.

51. *dars' tic*, for *dara tic*: cf. *ag teacht tar* 'treating of, discoursing about', Dinneen, s. v. *tigim*.

62. *S₃* writes *dian* as one word, but *dúthaig* is fem. We cannot read *Dían* (Rechet's father), as the gift is Eogan's.

65. *tall* (for *rotall*) seems to mean 'deprived himself'.

67. Literally 'it was the woman's, without yoke concerning the plain', i. e. she held the land free of dues: *gan chárail* (= *chórait*), like *gan c(h)eing* in 60.

GLAISSE BULGA

This is, no doubt, the same as Glaiiss Bulgain (or Bolgain) in the territory of Ui Tairrsig, who were apparently a subdivision of Ui Failge, or settled in their confines (Onom., Ir. T. iv. 6548, Duanaire Finn, xxxii). Hogan's entry under G. Bulga contains three errors in one line.

LOCH SEMTIDE

This is Ballymore Loch Sewdy, in Westmeath, twelve miles south-west of Mullingar (Onom.). The name is also written Loch Semtille.

INIS SAMER

An island in the r. Samaí, which is the lower Erne, near Assaroe. The story of Parthalon's jealousy is told in Lebor Gabála, in the poem *Parthalón canas táinic*? (BB 25 b and other copies), cf. Keating i. 158. The river had another eponym in Samaer or Samera, who plays a part in Fled Brierenn, § 66 seq. : cf. ds. of Uaig Buana, p. 294.

DUN RUISSARACH

The fate of the sons of Gáarach (or Árach) is a brief episode in the Táin: see Str.-O'K. 802, Wi. 1425. The story of Sarach is not to be found in any life of Patrick known to me.

Dun Ruis Arach (or Dun Ruis Sarach) must be sought in Connaught. For (1) Garach belonged to Fir Domnainn, who were settled in Mayo and Sligo (MacNeill, Phases, 80): (2) in the year 1200 Cathal carrach O'Conor devastated Connaught with peculiar thoroughness, leaving 'neither church nor territory from Echtge to Dun Rossarach and from the Shannon westwards to the sea', Ann. L. Cé i. 213 (quoted in Onom., but the reference omitted); this implies that Dun Rossarach was in northern Connaught: (3) Patrick founded many churches in Mayo, Sligo, and Roscommon: (4) in Ac. na Sen. (Sil. Gad. ii. 131) is described an encounter between Finn and Glas son of Drecan, king of Norway. Glas had no doubt landed, as the early invaders often did, in Sligo Bay, and when Finn heard of his incursion, was at Dun Rossarach, also called Cathair Daim Dilenn: Finn marched from Almu in Kildare, and they met at Rath Glais, also called Rathbrennainn, now Rathbrennan near Roscommon town. But the narrative does not imply that Dun Rossarach was in Roscommon, as Hogan supposes. He adds that Dun Rossarach 'seems in co. Rosc. on sea-shore', but Roscommon has no more sea-board than Bohemia. His reference to the Book of Fermoy 167 (= Sil. Gad. ii. 72) shows that Dun Rossarach was on the sea-coast, and nothing more. I cannot verify Hogan's reference to 'Mx 752', as there is no 'Mx' in his list of abbreviations.

As to the other name, Dún Trí Liac, it cannot mean Duntrileague in Limerick. Was there another Dún Trí Liac near Áth Trí Liac, which was in the land of Ui Senchainnig, a branch of Cland Mathgamna (probably Cl. M. of Breifne)?

nídad críne achách 'they are not more and more decayed'; see Contrib. achách.

DUN CLUANA ITHAIR

Hogan refers to a story told by four different Annalists touching a certain Gilla Comgán, who was hanged for stealing treasures from Clonmacnoise. FM ii. 1035 say that he was hanged 'at the fort of Cluain Bhriain by the King of Munster, he having been delivered up (*iarna thairbert*) by Conchobhar Ua Briain'. But Chron. Scot., p. 329, writes 'he was hanged at Dun Cluana Ithair, after he had been delivered up by Conchobhar Ua Briain, King of

Munster (*iar na t(h)idnacal ó Concupar .h. Briain o righ Muman*). With this the so-called 'continuation of Tigernach' (RC xviii. 53) agrees, word for word, though Stokes causelessly alters *Ithair* to *ichtair*. The so-called Annals of Inisfallen (H. 1. 7, f. 83 b) have the entry in a slightly different form: *ro crochadh é ag Dún Cluana Iardam tarra thiodhnacal ó Conchubhar .h. Briain Rig Mumain go Samhad Chluana mc Nóis*: 'he was hanged at D. C. Iardam after being delivered up by C.O'B. King of Munster to the community of Clonmacnoise'. From these passages Hogan (following Hennessy, Chr. Scot.) assumes that Dun Cluana Ithair = Dun Cluana Briain, which according to O'Donovan (*ad FM* ii. 1035) is Cloonbrien near Bruff, co. Limerick. If so, this cannot be the Dun Cluana Ithair of the Dindshenchas, which is on the Shannon. It seems to me that there is something wrong with the text of FM, which differs from the other authorities, not only as to the name of the place, but also in saying that the thief was hanged by the king of Munster, and in making the king of Munster a different person from Conor O'Brien. The latter was king of Thomond; the 'king of Munster', if not Conor, could only be Cormac MacCarthy, king of Desmond; but why should Conor hand over to him a thief apprehended in his own territory for a theft at Clonmacnoise? What really happened is conveyed by the words added in 'Ann. Inisf.': Conor handed over Gilla Comgan to the offended party, the monks of Clonmacnoise, who delivered him up to the secular arm, and he was hanged at Dun Cluana Ithair, which is therefore to be placed on the Shannon close to Clonmacnoise. D. C. Iardam is evidently a scribal blunder for D. C. Ithair.

SID DUMA

A passage in Ac. na Sen. referred to by Hogan places Síd Duma in Luigne Connacht, a name now represented by the barony of Leyney in Sligo. Hogan's entry under Síd Duba is based on our text, but is misleading: the ds. does not imply that Síd Duba or Duma is another name for Síd Fer Fémín, which is in Tipperary.

MAG CORAINN

See MDs. iii. 438.

TRAIG EBA

This is the name of a stretch of the coast of Sligo: see Onom. s. v. Eba, Mag nEba, Machaire Eba, Rind Eba.

UAIG BUANA

This is a slightly fuller version of the legend than that which we have under the title Fích mBuana (RC xvi. 57, LL 166 b 21; cf. p. 180 *supra*). The name of the place is as in Fled Bricreann (Ir. T. i. 290, 15); and the last six lines of our text are copied with little change from that source.

As our text stands, the words *co ronerb co Samér* are difficult, there being no subject for the verb. LL 166 b 24 reads: *Lotar co Cruachain do brith breithe dóib, 7 rofeimdes o Ailill. Co roserb co Samaér co Ess Ruaid, etc.* I propose, therefore,

to read in our text *co tudechatar i fuigell Ailella Cruachan*: cf. Laws i. 252, 20 *do chuadhdur a fuigill Senca ocus Concubuir*; ii. 334 *is ann tiaguit a fuigell a mbeolu [e]achtrunn*.

The penultimate sentence corresponds to Ir. T. i. 290, 12-14: *Rolebling ind ingen trá léim n-íathmar ina diaid-sium for furis in charpait, co n-ecmaing a tul immon n-all*. LU is the only text which has the words *for furis*, and so far as I know they have not been explained. In our passage *dofuiris* seems to be a verb; I regard it as a middle Irish s-pret. of *dofuirigim*, formed under the influence of the old sigmatic tenses of $\sqrt{\text{reg}}$: cf. ZCP xiii. 256, 13 *dofuiris in tai[a]bsiu* 'the apparition stopped her' (?). If this is right, the clause *for furis in charpait* in LU may be altered to *fofuiris in carpat*, and placed after *immon n-all*.

MAG MUIRTHEMNE

This entry, like those on p. 302, is borrowed from Tochmarc Emire: see ZCP iii. 240, § 34. Meyer's translation in Archaeological Review i. 153 needs correction. Cf. RC xi. 434 note. The *muir-selche*, lit. 'sea-snail', must be a monster cuttle-fish: *ustudh-builg*, gen. of *autsad-bolg* (*etsad-bolg*), need not be altered to *itsad-luic*, as Meyer suggests (ZCP iii. 240 note). For *lorg anfaid*, cf. Tain (Str.-O'K.) 1112. The last clause of the Dagda's spell is given by Meyer as *tai de thul tagebaitai* ('Rasuren hinter b und dem ersten i') with variant *taigi baig thaig*. The last syllables perhaps conceal the ejaculation *aig thaig!* (like Mephistopheles's 'Seid hier und dort!'). An adjective following *thul* is required to balance the preceding clauses: I have suggested *tósúigthe*, as adjectival gen. of *tósúgadh* (cf. *is olc in cheig tósúigthe file lib*, quoted by Thurneysen, ZCP xii. 288): this would suit the monster's nature, but does not accord with the *ductus litterarum*, which points rather to *tógbaide*.

Mag Muirthemne is the plain in Louth so often mentioned in the Tain.

LIND FEIC

See Todd Lect. iv. 34. This and the next four entries have to do with places in Meath.

DRUIM TAIRLEIME

According to the authorities quoted in Onom., there were two places of this name, one in Westmeath, the other near Rosnaree on the Boyne. As our last entry had to do with the neighbourhood of Rosnaree, it is likely that the second Druim Tairleime is meant here.

BRÍ GRAIGE

This legend is told in much the same terms in the homily on Patrick edited by Stokes (Three Mid. Ir. Hom. p. 22). Brí Graige is there associated with Sliab Monduirn (or Moduirn), as to which see Onom. The earlier version of the story in L. Ard. f. 4 v^o 1 does not mention Brí Graige.

SLEMAIN MIDE

The situation of this spot is discussed in Onom. This legend seems to imply that it was a somewhat conspicuous hill, probably visible from Tara.

In the last sentence, which is only found in S_2 , I read *Maein aiti Moraind*: cf. ZCP xii. 273, 29.

ATHAIS MIDE

Otherwise called Athis Murthemni, RC xiv. 400 § 5: not identified.

In line 2 *forar' thoill* is puzzling: I refer it doubtfully to *tallaim* 'find room, fit'. The noun *aiderbe* is used in the Laws in connexion with house-breaking: e.g. Laws iii. 468, 15, 17, *mana frith slicht na aidirbe dara eisi*: cf. *no frith slicht na haidairbi isin tig no isin buailc amach*, O'Don. Transcr. 901; so O'C. Transcr. 234, 1651; O'D. Tr. 2001. I owe these three references to Dr. Plummer.

SLIAB SLANGA

This is the older name of Sliab Domagoirt, now Slieve Donard, the highest peak among the Mourne Mountains. In the first of the two legends in the *ds*. Sliab Slanga is associated with Rudraige of Síl Ir, ancestor of Cland Rudraige of the Ulaid. In the second, Slanga and Rudraige are sons of Parthalon: cf. LL 5 a 14. It is evident that Sliab Slanga must be in the neighbourhood of Loch Rudraige; this consideration and the words *Loch Rudraige la hUlta* (LL 5 a 25) are decisive against O'Donovan's original identification of Loch Rudraige with the estuary of the Erne (FM i. 7, note). He afterwards changed his mind, and in the index to FM, and in his note to Laws i. 64, identified it with Dundrum Bay, the broad expanse of sea which is dominated by the height of Slieve Donard. His decision has been generally accepted, but does not seem to be supported by any precise evidence. Against it there is the argument that Loch Rudraige owed its origin to one of the seven *loch-thomadmann* which happened in the time of Parthalon. Such 'outbursts' accounted for the appearance of lakes and lake-like estuaries such as Loch Cuan or Loch Laeig: but it is much less likely that the primitive imagination would conceive of a like origin for a wide stretch of open sea. Loch Rudraige is perhaps the old name of Carlingford.

Laiglinne was Parthalon's eldest son (LL 5 a 12): his lough has not been identified. Hogan quotes a passage in O'Clery's *Leabhar Gabhála*, in which it is identified with Loch Laeig (Belfast Lough): if this is right, the words *Loch Laiglinne la Hui Meic Cuais Breg* in LL 5 a 13 must be an error for *L. L. la Hui Meic Uais ind Fhocla*.

MAG ETRIGE

This article also is based on Lebor Gabála, where the plains cleared by Parthalon are named. In LL 5 a 34 the entry is: *Roslechte cethri maige la P. in Herinn. Mag nÍtha la Laigniu, Mag Tuired la Connactu, mag Lí la Hú meic Cuais,*

Mag Ladráid la Dál nAraide. In BB 23 b 12 we have: *Meaidrige nó Tuireadh la Connachtaib, . . . et Mag Li la hua mc Uais eter Birra 7 Chamus.* (Here *Meaidrige* for *Mag nEdrige* seems due to confusion with *Medraige*, for which see *Onom.*) In FM i. 8, the plains cleared are *Mag nEitrighe* in Connacht, *Mag nIthe* in Leinster, *Mag Lái* in *Ui Mc Uais Breagh*, *Mag Latharne* in *Dal Araide*. Chron. Scot. 5 gives *Magh Tuired* (or *nEdara*) in Connacht, *Magh Sere* in Connacht, *Magh nItha* in Leinster, *Magh Latrainn* in *Dal Araidhe*, and *Leemagh* in *Hui Mic Uais* between *Bir* and *Camus*. O'Clery's *L. Gab.* (MacN.-Macal. 55) has *Magh Etiriche*, *Mag Iotha*, *Mag Lii* in *Ui Meic Uais* of *Bregha*, between *Birr* and *Camus*, and *Mag Latharna*. Apparently, then, *Mag nEtrige* is another name for *Mag Tuired*: and it will be noted that Chr. Scot. (which evidently has a conflate text, as it names five plains, not four) for *Mag Li* substitutes *Leemag*, which is the name of one of the four oxen in the ds. quatrain. This quatrain is found also in BB 25 a 31, in the poem *Robo maith in muintear mór*, of which several other copies exist, in Lec. and in later mss. In those that I have consulted the names of the oxen are *Liag* (or *Leic*), *Leacad*, *Imaire*, and *Etrige*. The words *co ndír dām* are obscure: BB has *co nirdam*; some copies read *dísli dāl*.

TIPRA BROTHLAIGE

This place is unknown. The stanza is taken from a long poem on the exploits of *Goll mac Morna*, LL 204 b 36. I know nothing further of the personages mentioned. Possibly *Indascland* is to be connected with *Druim Inasclaind* or *Enesclaind*, a well-known place near *Castlebellingham* in *Louth*.

For *ar sene* LL has *iar saeni* (a subscript), apparently for *iarsaine*: cf. note on *Lumman T. S. 59*, p. 466 *infra*.

GRELLACH DOLLUID

This article is borrowed from *Tochmare Emire* (see ZCP iii. 240 § 35 and Meyer's translation in *Archaeological Review*, i. 153), where the clause is *fuirre geogoin* (v. l. *geodna*) *Duollud mac Coirpri Niedfir la matau* is corrupt. Cf. also *Cath Maige Tuired* (RC xii. 80 § 76).

O'Donovan's identification of this place with *Girley*, near *Kells* in *Meath*, is doubted by *Hogan*.

OIN AUB

So written in S: the place is unknown. This legend also comes from T. Em. (*ut sup.* § 36). The third sentence runs thus in T. Em.: *Batar da ech aigi oca n-aílimain dó a Síd Ercmon a scálthaib aba Cennman do Tuaid Dea*; the words *a scálthaib aba C.* are only found in the Harleian text. Meyer omits them from his translation: they are not easy to understand if *aba C.* is a river. I refer the *scálthib* of our text to *scata* 'flock', which is used of birds, fishes, men, and might presumably be used of horses.

The words *for ían di ech nEmna* occur twice in T. Em. (pp. 234, 5, and 241, 4). Why are *Nemed's* horses called 'horses of *Emain*'? Is *Nemed* identical with

Nemed mac Agnomain, the head of Clann Nemid, whose wife Macha was one of the eponyms of Emain Macha? See p. 124 *supra*, with RC xvi. 45, and ep. LL 137 a 3, BB 26 b 35, FM i. 9. It may be observed that Macha of Noinden Ulad is wife of Crunnchu (or Crunn) mac Agnomain. It seems possible that she was originally the same as Macha wife of Nemed mac Agnomain: if so, Nemed's two horses in our legends are perhaps no other than the two steeds which raced with Macha. There may have been a form of the legend in which the contest was forced upon her, not by the king of the Ulaid, but by her own husband.

Another possibility is that *dá ech nemna* may be a scribal error for *dá ech Nemid*, due to a wrong expansion of *neñ*. The four mss. of Tochmarc Emire which contain this legend (Harl. 5280, Fermoy, D. iv. 2, and 23 N 10) all have *nemna*: but these mss. exhibit little variation. As the gen. dual does not nasalize, we ought to have *Emna* not *nEmna*.

GLENN BREOGAIN

From T. Em. § 38, 39. Breogan is father of Fuat and grandfather of Mil (L. Gab. ed. Macal.-MacN. 220). Tethra is the king of the Fomorians mentioned by Cormac: cf. Heldensage, 384: also, probably *tonn Tethrach* quoted by O'Dav. 1562.

T. Em. has *Adbath (dno) an dam sen oc toidhin mna Fuada oc esscrad M. B.*, which I translate: O'Cl. has *eascradh .i. ceimniugadh . ag eascradh Mhaighe Breagh*. Cf. V. Trip. 240, 8, *roescrad* 'was thrown' (from a horse?): ZCP i. 455, *cona rohescarthar mé is na rohescarthar m'ech*. Here the word seems to mean 'turning upside down, sacking'.

Beólo Dúin may be a place-name, as Hogan supposes: but his entries under *Cesrad M. B.* and *Cesrad M. B.* should be deleted.

For *annsin immerensat* T. Em. has *an tan imbersed* (v.l. *immerset*).

AILÉN COB'THAIG

The copy of this tale in LL 277 is not part of the Dindshenchas, nor has it any particular right to be included in the collection, as it does not really give any explanation of the name: one is left to infer that the Rock which 'grew' out of the sea was afterwards named from the Cobthach who is mentioned in the penultimate stanza. However, as it is found also in S, with the conventional introductory clause, I include it with the rest. The text of S, though very close to L, can hardly be a direct copy.

I have not found elsewhere any reference to the island, nor to the persons of the tale. It is possible that Dubthach *dornmar*, his son Cairpre *catut-chend* and his daughter Ethne, may be 'doublets' of Daire *dornmar*, his son Cairpre *crom-chend*, and his granddaughter Ethne, who are named by Keating ii. 268. For this Daire was great-grandfather, Cairpre was grandfather, and Ethne

was mother of Conaire son of Mog Lama; and Conaire was father of Cairpre Musc, ancestor of the Coreo Duibne, to whose legends this tale belongs: see Eriu vi. 144 *seq.*, Keating ii. 270, LL 319 b 15, 324 f 23. Conaire descends from Eogan (m. Oillella) m. Iair m. Dedad, according to Mac Firbis quoted in Side Lights, 9: if my supposition is right, his genealogy is considerably shortened here.

Cairpre was drowned at Bui, which is Dursey Island: the Rock which rose from the spot floated eastward, along the shore of Bantry Bay, and came to rest off Bentraige: this was the name of the territory at the head of the Bay and along its southern shore, so that we may tentatively identify the Rock with Whiddy Island opposite Glengariff, now Faoide (Fáide in Ac. na Sen.). As the Rock came to be called Ailen Cobthaig, one would expect to find it in the territory of Ui Chobthaig; they were settled in later times in the barony of Barryroe, in which is Clonakilty, about thirty miles from Bantry (Topog. Poems, note 569): but they may once have extended farther west.

The motif of the story may be derived from the small floating islands which are found in certain lakes in Cork and Kerry. See C. Smith, Hist. of Cork (1750) i. 283: 'I have seen of them above ten yards broad: they are usually composed at first of the above mentioned long grass, which gathering together by degrees forms a kind of a tussock, which increases every year by the addition of slime and other matter that they collect in floating about the sides and edges of the lake. In the parish of Kilmacabea is a lake called Loughdrine, which the country people hold to be miraculous, and say that on a certain day of the year all the islands in it change places and shift from one side to the other; at which time vast numbers of these ignorant people assemble at this lough, where they erect booths and feast, every one bringing bits of bread, meal, etc., to feed the fish in the lake.' Cf. C. Smith's Hist. of Kerry, 81. The grass, Smith adds, is called *fenane* (= *fionnán*, Dinneen).

Prose. Dubthach's wife is called barren because she had no son; a daughter did not count for dynastic purposes. His father may be Eogan m. Iair m. Dedad, king of Munster: see above.

Coreo Duibne is now Corkaguiny, the Dingle peninsula. It was formerly divided into Ros Tuascirt and Ros Descirt, LL 324 g 32.

cungnétar, see Contrib. *conginnim*.

is tú dorocht: a common formula, especially in greetings; cf. Ir. T. i. 120, 19, *Issed doruachtamar*: so too LU 130 b 30; 131, 15.

Poem, 13 *seq.* I know nothing of Loch Finnai. Cláre was a territory in co. Limerick, just north of the Galtees. Ane Cliach is represented by Knockaney near Bruff, in the same district. Cnamehaill is Cleghile near the town of Tipperary. Bairend is now the Burren in co. Clare. If Cloch Daire (22) is a place-name it may be one of the bare limestone hills of this region; but Bergin would read *cloch-daíre* 'forest of stone'. Mag Femin is part of the Tipperary plain, extending, Hogan thinks, from Cashel to Clonmel. These places are all within the ancient territory of Clann Dedad; see Side Lights, 20-21. Mag Raigne is a plain in Kilkenny. It is, of course, only to add credit to the druid's prophetic power that Mag Femin is said to have been once a fen; in the same way, the word *rota* describes an imaginary condition of Mag Raigne, unlike its actual fertility. It is written *rotá* in L, *roða* in S:

it seems to be the same word that is used in ds. of Carn Ui Neit, the *rota riad móna* which Bress was induced to drink, RC xv. 439, MDs. iii. 220, 47.

37. I read *rafáid* = *rafáith*, see Thurneysen, Gr. p. 397.

40. The infixed pron. of *condaben* must refer to *Érenn*.

41-44. This stanza interrupts the sense, and its meaning is not clear to me; *docomce* seems a form similar to *adcomce*; cf. *nech adcomga a chéli* 'one who strikes his fellow', Eriu vii. 168 § 9.

45. For the idiom see note on *etarru* in MDs. i. 63, note on Temair iii. 40.

47. *brú* seems to be a mining term: is it a bye-form of *brúid*, inf. of *brúim*? or of *bruth*, cf. Joyce, Soc. Hist. ii. 290? Or shall we read *rú*? cf. Laws i. 188 z (*rudh* two lines before). This word seems to mean 'ore'. The district of Bérré, round Berehaven, produced copper (MacNeill, Phases of Ir. Hist. 75): presumably it was also found on the other side of the bay. There were also iron furnaces at work at Comoly so lately as 1750: see Smith's History of Cork ii. 390. *Síl Buinde* were no doubt one of the industrial tribes; are they = *Bonnraige* (Onom. *bondraidí*, *bonnraige*, *bun draidi*)? Their name seems = 'bellows-folk', smelters; cf. *airbúinne* 'nozzle'.

49. *rí rúnda*: cf. Mart. Oeng. Epil. 458: the meaning is perhaps 'a king foretold by prophecy'.

50. This *Cobthach* may be C. *finn*, ancestor of *Ui Chobthaig* of Kerry (O'Hart's Pedigrees i. 275, 280). He must be a descendant of *Dubthach* and *Fedelm*, connecting them with the island's name. I therefore write *dít huib*. But what of *tarraige*? The phrases *aídche tairridi*, *dia tairridi*, which occur in Mon. Tall. 138, 32 and 35, mean 'the day or night following'; I assume then the existence of a word *tarride* or *tarrige* meaning here 'posterity'.

EMAIN MACHA

The tale of *Macha mong-riad* and the sons of *Dithorba* is here told much as in RC xvi. 279. That version is taken from LL 20, where it is inserted in the *Réim Rigraide* to which the ds. compiler refers. His immediate source is, however, more probably *Tochmarc Emire*, where the story of *Macha* daughter of *Sainrith m. Inbothai* is also told. The word *arsisbis* marks the borrowing: see ZCP iii. 238 § 29. He must, however, have also known the second legend in some other form. *Macha* is called daughter of *Sainrith m. Imbait* in the LL version of *Noinden Ulad*.

TECH DUINN

This story differs a good deal in detail from the account in Leb. Gab. See LL 13 a 48 seq. = pp. 256-258 of Macal.-MacN. The reference to the 'heathen belief' that the souls of sinners visit *Tech Duinn* on their way to the next world agrees with the view of *Donn* advanced by Meyer in his paper on *Der irische Totengott*, in Preuss. Akad. Sitzungsber. 1919 xxxii. *Tech Duinn* is perhaps one of the remarkable rocks off *Dursey Island* (Onom.).

DÚN MÁSC

The only complete copy of this poem is in LL 162-163, but four stanzas (lines 13-20 and 21-28) are quoted in the tract on Leinster genealogies at LL 378 b 17 and 24. All the places mentioned are probably in Leinster: Dún Másc is said to be Dunamase in Queen's Co., barony of East Maryborough (O'Donovan, L. na gCeart 216 n); Ard Ladrann in Uí Ceinnselaigh, perhaps = Ardamine on the coast of Wexford (Onom.): Rath Nuí in Uí Garrchon = Rathnew in co. Wicklow (Onom.): according to the prose ds. (RC xvi. 269) there was a second Rath Nuí in Mag Rechet, now Morett in East Maryborough (Onom.); cf. line 21, and note on 27. Dun Cúair is described FM 799 as 'on the border between Leinster and Meath': O'Don. *ad loc.* identifies it with Ratheore. Albine is presumably the river Delvin, which separates northern Co. Dublin from Meath and flows into the sea at Inber Albine. Finteng's house at Dun Finteing is no doubt the same as Dun Inteing in Uí Garrchon, mentioned in the prose ds. of Slige Dála, LL 169 b 34.

5. Setna *síthbacc's* four sons are named also in LL 311 b 25 = LL 378 a 11 = BB 120 a 12: the third is there called Oengus Uchae (or Auae): Ugen always has the cognomen *aurgnaid*.

11. A syllable is wanting: read *tumsat sleig*, or the like.

14. In the prose ds. the fourth of Ugen's sons is called Cúar, but in LL 311 b 47 he is Lúad *cúar*. The genealogical tract allows Ugen thirteen sons.

15. As to the meaning of *fásc* see Meyer, Wortk. 203.

18, 19. For *i n-Ard* LL 378 b 26 has *os loch* and for *os mur muadall* has *os muaidh mall*. Our text has a syllable too much, so I omit *mur* and regard *Muadall* (*Cualand*) as a place-name.

22. Cp. *da mbeith dechelt tarainne*, ZCP ix. 167, 1.

27. The prose says that Núi had gone in to the wife of his brother Másc. To this refers the marginal note in LL 163 a, which may be restored thus: *am dúl do Núi co mnái a bráthar .i. Masc roinnarbad iad am-maig Rechet in .h. Garrchon co Ráth Nuí in uib Garrchon.* (But it should be rather a *Ráith Nuí am-maig R. co R. N. in Uib G.*)

31. I take *rechta* to be gen. of *recht*, inf. of *rigim* (usually *rige*).

39. Read *ar ndaigid*.

DUMA OENA

These two stanzas, with a single sentence on Ath Cuille, are written in LL 163 in a larger script than the rest of the page: the initials are plain, whereas all the others on this page are coloured. The spelling *sleaga* is quite exceptional in LL. Finally, this entry is separated from the next by a gap of three lines. It is probably a late addition.

The second stanza is dark to me: prosody is the only guide. The conjunction with *dith* seems to show that we must write *tōla*, with long *ō*: if so, we must also write *fēla* and *ēga*. As there is double internal rhyme in 5, 6, it follows that *rōet*, *teit* are intended to rhyme; this points to reading *tāet*. But the sense remains obscure.

The places have not been identified.

DRUIM FINGIN I

L is the only copy of the Dindshenchas which includes this poem, but it is introduced into Lebor Gabála in BB 42 b, and in Lec. 80 and 572. As to the quarrel between Eber and Erimon, see ds. of Mag nDumach.

DESCERT

There were many places of this name, and there were also several septs called Corpraige. Perhaps Descert Laigen and Corpraige Laigen are meant, but if they are, their local position has still to be determined.

1. If this Cáilte is the familiar personage of the name, Finn's kinsman, his parents are not those assigned to him in most Fenian legends, Ronán (or Crunnchu m. Ronáin) and Eithne: see Ac. na Sen. His mother is here daughter of Umall, which, as Meyer has remarked (Fianaigecht, xxi) is the older form of the name of Finn's father.

5. Here and at line 9 the ms. has .F. in the margin, I do not know why.

I take *guire* as abstract of *gor* 'hot'.

8. *amdes* ought to rhyme with *glan-grés*; if we are to read *amdes* it must be referred to *dés* 'tenant-land'.

10. *coméin* must be corrupt. Read perhaps *ar chomóin* (cf. *comóentu*) if the rhyme with *móin* is admissible.

12. The name is explained as = *dés-cerd*.

13. Literally: 'a portion by choice'.

15. *tachail* is perhaps inf. of a verb *docelim* from $\sqrt{\text{cel}}$ 'hide, steal', etc.: cf. *dichell*, acc. *áichill*, *airichell*, acc. *airichill*.

17-20. The meaning of this stanza seems to be that the name which a tenant gives to his holding commemorates the service for which it was granted to him, and so serves as legal title in cases where hereditary right has not been established. I take *dése* to be a derivative from *dés*.

CEND FINICHAIR

The prose (omitted by Stokes) is from LL 200, the verse from LL 191.

According to the title in LL, Cend Finichair was 'in the community of Caemgein', i. e. at Glendalough: see references in Onom.

In the fourth line of the prose I restore *F. mac C. (rodn)alt*, but perhaps it should rather be (*a chom*)alt.

As to Eochu Fuath nAirt, see note on Rath Chrinna, p. 447 *supra*.

The intricate prosody of the poem, with its trisyllabic rhymes, makes the diction obscure, and some of the forms employed appear to be invented to suit the metre: see notes on 13, 18, 46.

2. *aighe* seems here to mean one learned in the law, *juris consultus*.

9. Cabra is presumably the place of that name close to Dublin.

13. *congbaide*, if sound, must be put for *congbaid* (so in 21): but as Cathnia has in the prose the sobriquet *congnaid*, we should perhaps read *congnaide* here.

14. I can make nothing of this line as it stands : if *ibraide* 'yewen' is sound, *aithgne* is probably a corruption of some word denoting a weapon. Or is *aithgne* = *aithgin* : 'he exacted restitution with spear of yew'?

17. *desse* gen. of *dias* has short *ē* : see e. g. Sil. Gad. i. 364, 37-38 (: *geise*) Ir. Gr. Tracts, p. 45, 170 (: *cneissi*). I am tempted to suggest that *tresse*, usually 'three days', here means 'three persons', but I find no evidence of such usage.

18. *rostingaire*, for *rostimgart* (= *dosrimgart*).

23, 29. *fornaide* may be inf. of a verb *fornethim* (like *irnaide*, *indnide*), but the meaning is not easy to fix.

26. O'R. has *maith-muineach* 'well-minded': the element *-muine* seems to belong to the stem *men-*, *mon-* (*domoiniur*, etc.).

35. Finichair and Cathnia slew each other, says the prose; though Cathnia lived long enough to lay his enemy's head on the hill-top : *romarb* is for *rodmarb*.

40. Meyer (Contrib. Addenda) explains *adgaire* as 'curse': cf. the passage quoted in Contrib. 21. It evidently denotes some magical danger; perhaps the 'calling' of unseen visitors, as in Echtra Condla, or in the story of Irarus, p. 212, *supra*.

46. This line seems to mean 'bright mirth of a man of much wealth': but *fir* should alliterate : *il-māine* seems = *il-māine*, the long vowel being reduced. (*metr. gr.*) as in true compounds after the accent. So in Mart. Oeng. Feb. 11 and June 30 *il-main* 'wealthy' rhymes with *inmain*. Cf. note on *sam-graid*, p. 212, 32 : so too *garb-sin* (*sin*) rhyming with *amsir*, p. 336, 19, and with *taidbsin*, MDs. iii. 464, 68.

54. *rig-duibe* will not rhyme : no doubt *rig-* is corrupt.

55. Read *coica ban*, *cor comnaide* : 'a permanent arrangement'.

59. See Contrib. *ban-gal* : but in this compound *gal* seems to mean 'desire' rather than 'valour'.

MAG DA GESI

This poem is printed in Ir. T. i. 160. The place has not been identified, nor has any light been thrown on the story of the two maidens, whose names I assume to be given in line 7. Evidently they belonged to the *aes síde*, and came to meet Finn in the guise of two swans : cp. the legends of Irarus, Snam Da En, etc. Finn speaks as an old warrior recalling his youth and expecting death. Line 12 may mean that he hopes the maidens will reappear and carry him off to Tír na nÓc.

5. I render *adiu* 'hither', but it usually means 'hence' or 'on this side'. Perhaps we should read *indiu*.

6. A rhyme to *dáil* is required, read therefore *dí ingen báid*, *bíán a ngleó* 'two beloved maidens—lasting their strife': *gleó* may mean that they were rivals in beauty, and perhaps in Finn's affections.

10. If we read *cen báegal*, *cen bét*, the meaning will be : 'though the end of my life has come, it approaches without danger or violence'.

12. Cf. *seachain an leanbh ar an dteinidh*, ITD.

15. I conjecture *bíd mag cen dedail*, *cen díl* : the next line should perhaps run *don tsíl roselaig re sían* 'to the seed that wrought havoc before the sleep (of death)'. But *rosíán* may be a verb, see ITD, *suanaim*.

LECHT HEILE

I know of no other mention of this place. It is not clear where the action of the story passes. The tale *Cath Bóinde* (ed. J. O'Neill, *Eriu* ii. 174: cf. *Anecd.* v. 17) calls Fergal 'mac Magach', so he was presumably brother to Ailill of Connacht, though the compiler of *Cath Bóinde* proceeds to confuse the relationships by making Fergal's wife Eile grandmother of Ailill, by a second husband. Ailill and he are married to the sisters Medb and Eile, daughters of Eochaid Feidlech (so *Cath Bóinde*, also *Táin*, ed. Wi. 15). Fergal sets out for Connacht, accompanied apparently by his wife Eile. Her brother Ere (or Here) follows them *atáid a tír Breg*: therefore they are probably starting from Temair, where one may suppose Fergal to have just won his bride. Presumably they make for Connacht, as usual, *via* Athlone. The behaviour of Ere (17-20) in keeping to the woods and shunning men seems to indicate that he is in a hostile country, certainly outside his father's dominion. Probably therefore his rendezvous with Eile is somewhere across the Shannon. The part played by Raitte is not clear. Thurneysen (*Heldensage* 505) assumes that she supposed Eile to be mistress to her husband: this would require us to read '*ca céile* for *ic céile* in 32. But she may equally well have been anxious to win Fergal for herself, and slandered Eile in order to dispose of her rival.

3. Perhaps we should read *bri na mBreg*, but this name does not usually take the article: *bri* is metaphorical.

11. I can only make a guess at the meaning of this line: it may refer to the combat between Eochaid Dala and Ailill with Medb as prize (*Eriu* ii. 182): very likely Eile also was won by the sword.

21-24. This stanza and the next are in inverse order in L, but *dogntis* in 26 must refer to Ere and his sister.

22. I regard *d'fochun* as a conjunction 'to the end that she should eat'. Here's only object was to see his sister again. But possibly *fochun* may mean 'ill purpose': cf. *fachain* 'quarrel', ITD.

26. If the text is sound, *comfedma* must be written for *comfedmaib*.

28. I take *os* as = *ocus*: it is used ordinarily with pronoun following, but cf. O'Dav. 100, 1318. The prep. *ós* would be inappropriate: one would expect *fo*.

33. Thurneysen (*Heldensage* 505) assumes that *teine tulcha* is some poison. But why so? and how then are we to construe *ar-rochur ind*? is it a sort of bath of poison? It seems more likely that the wood is set on fire and Eile burnt in it.

38. O'Dav. explains *dulaige* by *bedaige*, which Stokes translates 'mockery', but it is rather = *bétaige* from *bétach*, adj. to *bét* 'deed of violence'.

LUMMAN TIGE SRAFÁIN

Fer Bern son of Regamain belongs to a group who appear also in ds. of Cend Cuirrig, RC xv. 442, MDs. iii. 234, and in the old tale edited by Meyer, RC xiv. 242: see also ds. of Tipra Sengarmna, RC xv. 447, MDs. iii. 242. Cuirrech m. Cathair, otherwise called Cuirrech of Life, is mentioned also at p. 284, 26,

supra, and in Sil. Gad. ii. 474, 11. I have found no other reference to Corbb m, Cináin or to Fer Bern. O'Curry, MC ii. 327, 8 identifies Tech Srafin (or Strafin) with Straffan in Kildare. He refers to a copy of our legend in YBL, but so far as I can discover no such copy now exists.

Prose (p. 328). *Lumman* means 'shield', and also 'cloak', RC xv. 453, MDs. iii. 274: cf. *lomáin* .i. *sgiath*, O'Cl., and for *lumáin* 'a thread-bare garment, sack-cloth' see Meyer's *Caillech Bérré*, st. 21, and V. Bran, glossary. The double meaning has suggested the imagery of lines 9-40 of the poem.

fuillite = *uilli-de (oill)*: so too *furfuath* = *eruath*.

(p. 330) *co n-ecmaic tri choicait álad and*: lit. 'so there fell on it thrice fifty wounds'.

There is another version of the poem in H. 3. 18, p. 560. This is printed (with some errors of transcription) in Oss. Soc. v. 258. This version contains only nine stanzas for which our text has any equivalent, and adds twelve which are not in our version. The nine stanzas which have some relation to the LL text differ from it so widely, and are (to me at least) so unintelligible, that I have not attempted to offer a comparison of the two. The initial gloss should read thus: .i. *ainm in sceith robai ic Aod mac Duach duibh ri Airgiall, agus is aire dorad Dallan Forgaill in duain-se ar in sciath dó*. This refers to the tale *Imithecht na Trom-dáime*, in which Dallan recites to Aed mac Duach, among other poems, four stanzas which bear a distant resemblance to stanzas 1, 3, 5, and 8 of our poem. See Oss. Soc. v. 12, 18, and Heldens. 255. The abridged version is printed also in Hardiman's *Irish Minstrelsy*, ii. 190.

Aed mac Duach remarks on another of Dallan's recitations, 'That is a good poem, whoever could understand it'; the same comment applies to Fer Bern's composition. The deliberate obscurity of the style is enhanced by our ignorance of the persons and events with which it is concerned; also, probably, by corruption of the text. The rendering offered has no claim to be more than an attempt to follow the general meaning: much of it is merely guesswork.

1. *arm* is masculine: Meyer, *Contrib. Add.*, assumes the existence of a neuter *airm* on the strength of this passage. The shield was slung round the neck, and when not in use would hang over the back: Joyce, *Soc. Hist.* i. 181.

2. The H version has *Eo Rosa*, but a reference to the famous tree seems inappropriate.

3. The natural order would be *sluindfe diupa deinne dún*. Atkinson, in *Laws, Glossary*, renders *diupa* 'digging', and is followed by Meyer, *Contrib.* But the passages in the *Laws*, as well as the derivation from *di-ud-be*, point rather to 'stealing' as the meaning.

4. *i.e.* '[as if] to ask for a mantle', a common reward of poets: but the mantle which is here demanded is the Shield.

5. *tuüs* (disyllabic) is the O.Ir. form; cf. Thurn. Gr. § 204, Ped. i. 308.

6. *rosius*, 1. sg. fut. *rosagim* (as *consius* of *consagim*), though one would rather expect the subjunctive. The word should be trisyllabic: read *cip tráith*, etc.

8. *tinail* should be *tinál* (= *tinól*): therefore we must read *Cinán*, a form of the genitive common in proper names ending in *-án*.

11. lit.: 'protection of a brooch (?) against a cloak': cf. *Laws, Gloss.*

13. Is the meaning that so great a reward must not be demanded with the arrogance common to poets? if so, we should read *narbo* for *nirbo*.

16. *forbbaid* seems corrupt: a noun meaning 'covering' or 'armour' is wanted.

17. Bergin remarks that *rēthi* must have a long *ē*, to assonate with *snāthe*, *fāthe*: it cannot therefore be *rethe* 'ram', used metaphorically. The word is glossed in the ms. i. *rig*, but I have not met it elsewhere. Read *trēthi* (sc. *lummain*) *nad reith* 'such that through it runs not', etc. Can line 18 refer to the seamless garment of the Crucifixion? In 19 the Shield is compared to the garment that comes next in sanctity, the martyr's cloak.

20. I owe to Bergin the excellent emendation *mind n-arach*, which supplies a rhyme to *ralad*. Cf. 34, *din mo debra*, *mind ngaible*. Windisch and Pedersen (ii. 99) assume that *ara* (*aire*) 'temple' is a guttural stem, following Zeuss (260), who relies on Ir. Nenn. 38, *toll arach*. But cf. dat. *araid*, quoted in Contrib.

21. I take *fossad* as = *fossad étain*, Ir. T. ii. 2, 242: *hi fossad a mullaich*, Táin (Str.-O'K.) 1207: as a compound, *fossad-mullach*, Táin (Wi.), p. 608, note 3. In these passages it denotes apparently the solid base of the skull.

22. For *cossar* cf. SnR 639 *cossar cháid* (of the nine angelic orders) 'array'? *class* 'trench, groove' perhaps means here 'scar'. Or possibly it = *class a dá chilad* 'the hollow of the nape', see Contrib.

25. *ellach* = *ellach in mór-chatha* 'joining of battle', C. Cath.

—30. I take *adma* as = *aídme*, from *adem* (*adim*): but see Contrib. *adma*.

31. *deimne* (with *deg-mná*) 'sure of hand, deft'? or 'genuine'?

32. I conjecture *eirgi* to be = **en-rige*, 'tightening', 'straining'.

34. *debra* seems to be a compound like *dedam*, *degabal*, etc.: see Workt. 221, where the name *Loch Debru* is similarly explained. To Meyer's examples of such compounds may be added *dedruim* 'double hell', MDs. iii. 533, note on Sl. Echta 34. I do not understand *mind ngaible*.

35. Bergin suggests *Fer Bernad* to rhyme with *trebrad*; but line 36 remains obscure.

37. Laws ii. 146 gives a list of the various colours worn by different ranks.

42. Read *gáetha*, and in the next line *cumtach*.

46. The line wants a syllable, and *cosnais* seems corrupt. Possibly *cosa sius*, 'which I shall seek': cf. *co Cúanaig saigmít*, LL 275 a 39.

dlug (*dluig*) means 'a cause, ground of claim, right', but not, I think, 'desire'. Here it may mean (like *fáth*) 'theme of song': or perhaps 'ground of my claim'.

49. Read *lumman*: one would expect *donrubad* to rhyme, but it has lenited *b*.

54. The 'noble pair' (referred to in the last sentence of the prose also) are presumably two saints, but their names are not disclosed. Probably one is the Strafán or Srafán who gave his name to Tech Strafáin, perhaps the same as the Sraphán mentioned at p. 340, 11, among the nine saints of Cell Chorbain. He may be the Srafán or Strafán of Cluain Mor (in Uí Failge? see Onom.) who is mentioned in Mart. Gorman, and Mart. Donegal, at May 23.

56. This line seems to mean that the ground where the poet is buried will be fortunate. Meyer, index to Todd L. xvii, renders *ruba* by 'clearing', but Stokes (RC xiv. 412, 10 *for rubu na rig-rátha*) identifies it with Scotch-Gaelic

rudha 'point of land'. Cf. *fid-ruba*, MDs. iii. 96, 10; *fid dá ruba*, Sil. Gad. i. 364, 28 and Onom.

59. For *iar saine* 'differently' see PH: here it means 'particularly', 'precisely'. Meyer, Wortk. 228, quotes examples of *iarsine* (*iarsaine*) = *iar sin* 'afterwards'. It is not always easy to say which combination we have to do with: see e.g. MDs. iii. 74, 103; 114, 59; 250, 111; 262, 45; 392, 81.

63-66. This stanza no doubt describes the lot of the reprobate, but the exact sense of 63 and 65 is uncertain.

67-70. These lines are still more obscure to me: 68 is perhaps corrupt, as there is no internal rhyme.

71. If *mo daig-fer* is right it can only refer to Tur, Fer Bern's *gilla*, but it seems unlikely that he would be so described. The *triar* of 78 are, I think, Fer Bern's arms: sword and shield are mentioned and we need a third, so I emend *mo daiger*. As to *dual*, it may mean approximately 'heirloom', or perhaps it is used as at p. 320, 5 *dual do Chormac*.

74. *ar mbrath*: so Richard Nugent is called *brath Dealbhna* 'the hope of Delvin', Studies, 1918, 281, st. 9.

86. I owe the interpretation of this line to Bergin.

DUN CUIRC

According to O'Donovan, Topogr. Poems, note 676, this was the old name of Bruree in co. Limerick. Corc is no doubt Conall *corc*, usually called Core mac Luigdech (also Core mac Láre): see the story of his hiding under the caldron in Coir Anm. § 54.

4. I take *cétadaig* to be derived from *cétad* 'seat'.

6. Laithriu (or Laithreinn?) daughter of Da Tho is presumably a sister to the owner of the famous pig.

DRUIM FINGIN II

See note on Mag nDumach, 21, p. 445, *supra*. The parley of Fingen mac Luchta and Rothniam of the *áes síde* is the subject of Airne Fingein; see Anecd. ii. This poem is printed in ZCP xiv. 43.

2. The facs. of L reads *ferggach*, but, I think, wrongly.

10. *docuchta* must, I think, be a verb, meaning 'shapes', 'bodies forth'.

11. Possibly a *cind* should be *i cind* 'at the end', 'at the last', but this phrase is normally defined by a following genitive (*i cind bliadna*, etc.).

14. This seems to mean that Rothniam promised to consult another of her kind as to the Fingen's destiny. He hoped for the kingship, which however went to Conn; the prophecy in Airne Fingein § 12 left him disconsolate (*rongab doménma mór*, § 13), hence the *bith-toirse* of line 8, *supra*.

15. *samla* 'descriptions', pl. of *samail*.

17. L has *son-snaidm* 'conjunction of sounds' (Druim Fingin), but this does not make a good rhyme to *comainm*.

21. Cormac (Anecd. iv) explains *gräibre* by *gáire trom*, § 708, and *briathar gráta*, § 724. In the stanza quoted at § 724 the rhyme requires *ā*. It follows that

áirne has long *ā*, and so Meyer's derivation from *aire* (Wortk. 127) falls to the ground. The word *gráibre* occurs also in Toch. Feirbe 279, (Ir. T. iii. 482), where the quantity is uncertain.

22. The line wants a syllable : read *ina ndeochoaid*.

24. I suggest *dofail* for L's *dosail* : cf. MDs. iii. 408, 24 *dofl ainm in locha*.

SLIAB CUA

Now Slieve Gua, part of the Knockmeledown range in co. Waterford : see Onom. The bull and heifer of Glenn Samaisce, in Kerry, are mentioned under the reign of Bresal *bó-dibad*, LL 23 a 28, cf. FM a. m. 5001. The prose ds. substitutes Congal *clár-ainech*, who reigned thirty years later (see Sil. Gad. ii. 479, 527 ; Rev. Celt. xvi. 273), and calls his druid Boible m. Buirchi (in Bodl. Ds. § 19 Boible m. Birurchai).

1. Cf. *truag airle*, RC xv. 433 : the exact meaning of *airle* is uncertain ; see Contrib. Add.

3. *teist* ' (surviving) witness ' : none remained to tell the tale. The phrase is applicable to men rather than cattle.

12. *Bairche* may be *Sliab Bairche*, a mountain which 'seems near Ros mBrocc', on the river Barrow (Onom.).

15. Read perhaps *arra féile* 'a generous wage'.

19. *fri seirc* 'against sickness', i. e. the murrain : *seirc* is acc. of *serg* 'wasting disease' : cf. *fir i sirc*, Ir. T. i. 213, 8 : *sercim* gl. *obsoleo*, Thes. Pal.-H. ii. 173.

22. *bend-glan* seems meaningless, and is probably corrupt : the word is rewritten by a late hand over an erasure, as is also the second syllable of *brothlaig* in 27.

26. *cen mín-gaire*, lit. 'without piety'.

28. *chochlaig* : cf. p. 26, 18 *hi fídbaid chochlaig*.

cith-ríad perhaps means 'besprinkled with blood of the slain beasts'.

32. *diarbhi* : the *bh* for *b* is quite exceptional in LL.

35. *im gnim nglicc* : better, 'concerning a cunning deed'.

CELL CHORBBAIN

'Now Kilcorban in Ely O'Carroll (Eile húi Cherbaill) in the King's County', O'Don. FM ii. 574. But there seems to be no evidence for the existence of such a place, and lines 17-24 show that Cell Chorbáin was a church at Cell Náis, as O'Donovan recognized when he came to edit the Fragments of Irish Annals, where these two stanzas are quoted (p. 224). According to his note *ad loc.* Cell Náis is now Kill, 'a church near Naas, dedicated to St. Corban' : the last words are apparently an inference from these lines. I have not been able to find any other reference to the saint ; but Comerford, in his 'Collections relating to the Dioceses of Kildare and Leighlin' ii. 257, says that his name 'is still preserved in the name of a back street in Naas, called Corban's Lane'. Cell Chorbain is also called Cell Chorbánatan ; see Shearman, Loca Patriciana 208, and cf. Rawl. B 502, 122 b 6, 124 b 30, = LL 314 a 59, 315 c 47 : other references in

Onom. One of these passages mentions 'the ford at Cell Chorbánan' as a landmark, which seems a point against the identification with Kill, as this village on the Dublin-Naas road is not near any considerable river. But the church must have been either in or near Naas. The last half of the poem is an eulogy of Cerball mac Muiricéin (or Muiricáin), who was killed in battle in 908 (AU : 904 FM). FM quote lines 17-24, as well as a stanza by Gormlaith, Cerball's wife, who is referred to in 49-54. She seems to have come to him as part of the spoils of war after he and her father Flann Sinna had defeated her first husband, Cormac mac Cuilennáin, in the battle of Belach Mugna: see O'Donovan's notes in FM ii. 573, 596, 650, 660. As to her relations with Cerball and with Niall *ghúndub* (who became her third husband), see the story in LL 52 b (summarized by Atkinson in Contents).

1. *crédem* means 'decay, diminution': cf. L Gab. (Macal.-MacN.) 128, note 4 (O. J. B.).

6. *'sa mbág* = *asa mbág* 'whose alliance (or, threat) is': the meaning seems to be that these saints assist Leinster in its warfare against Meath (i. e. the kings of Ui Neill). *Breg-dáil* in 9 clearly refers to Moling's embassy to Finnachta and Ui Neill, concerning remission of the Borama (RC xiii. 104). They met in or near Mag Claraig, which is now Moyclare in Meath: see FM iv. 947 n. Hogan is, I think, wrong as to the localities mentioned in Borama, § 134.

7. *bíada*, the special gifts which the different saints bestow.

8. I do not understand this line; *tríana* is unknown to me: it may be a place-name. I read *ar* for the facsimile's *ard*, as I cannot see the *d* in the ms. With *ard*, the line would be hypermetric; also it is inadmissible to have an accented word not alliterating between the alliterating words.

12. *Conláid* is probably the same as Conlaed, one of *trí prim-cherda Hérenn*, also first bishop of Kildare and disciple of Brigit; see AU 519 and 799, Mart. Oeng. p. 186, Todd's S. Patrick, 20 seq. There is a story about his asking Brigit for a garment to wear on a pilgrimage to Rome, Thes. Pal. ii. 347. I cannot identify with any certainty the other saints here mentioned.

17-24. According to an authority quoted FM ii. 572 n., Cerball mac Muiricéin was the last king who resided at Naas: therefore the other eight mentioned here are of earlier date, except Find, who is apparently the king referred to in the last line of the poem edited by Meyer in RC xx. 7. Meyer assumes that he was Cerball's immediate successor. The last pair are probably Dunchad and Faelan sons of Murchad: Dunchad, the elder, was killed in 727 (AU) fighting against his brother, who succeeded him. Bran may be either Bran *bec* mac Murchada, their brother, † 737 (AU), or Bran m. Faeláin, † 837 (AU). Broen seems to be Broen m. Rudrach 'satrapa Lagenarum', † 813 (AU). Colman is perhaps Colman *mór*, † 576 FM: no other Colman is named in the list of Leinster kings in LL 39 b. This list mentions three Cellachs, prior to Cerball: they are Cellach m. Gerthid = Cellach Cualann, † 714 (AU), Cellach m. Dunchada, † 775 AU, and Cellach m. Brain, † 833 (AU). We may however exclude the first of these, as the Banshenchas (LL 140 b 2) mentions four wives of his, none of whom is among the nine queens here enumerated.

38. With *gillai gráda* cp. Three Sh. 76, 9 *dá aos gráidh* = dilectis suis, and cf. FM iii. 223, note (O. J. B.). So too Oss. Soc. iii. 202, 7 *a n-aos gráidh* 'their people of trust', and *óclach gráidha*, p. 274 *supra* (Mag Lethluachra).

42. For *mochrád* (: *clochán*) see Tog. Tr.¹ gloss.; it seems = *mochthrádh* O'R., *moch-thráth* Life of Moling, gloss., ITD.

44. Was the *clochán* a paved walk leading from the church to the graveyard? Or was it a causeway across marshy ground surrounding the church? If the latter, then *dar linne* in 46 will mean 'across pools'. For the use of the word in connexion with monastic buildings cf. FM ii. 812, 9, and 898, z.

45. Perhaps *uair* should be taken as adj. agreeing with *erraig*.

50. Fomain, see MDs. iii. 74 : it has not been identified, but seems to have been somewhere near Liamain, which was probably in the neighbourhood of Newcastle Lyons, between Dublin and Naas : see MDs. iii. 489.

59. *nír dúí* : i. e. as you would suppose any one to be who was concerned in the death of Cormac, poet and scholar : cf. Gormlaith's reproaches to Cerball, LL 52 b 8.

61. The number of the slain at Belach Mugna is given in a poem quoted Fragn. Ann. 216 as six thousand : in a poem, LL 43 a z, as 6105.

62. *Etar* = Benn *Etar*, Howth.

67. The list in LL 39 b names seventeen kings between Faelán m. Murchada and Cerball (both exclusive) : in BB 54 d-55 a, the number is sixteen. But in these lists there are cases of disputed succession and division of the kingship, so that there is room for difference as to the true number. See also MacNeill, Celtic Ireland, 138.

The repetition of *cen daidbri* in 67-69 is suspicious.

70. This refers to the battle of Belach Mugna, which is in Mag Ailbe : see Fragn. Ann. 207.

71. *Nír samla* may be subj. of *samlaim* : one would expect a noun to balance *nér chumma*, but this would not accord with the tense of *bess*. Perhaps we should read *ní samla* 'is not comparable', cf. *fon samla sin* P. H. Gloss. But the defective rhyme of 72-74 and the repetition of *chath* show that the text of the stanza is unsound.

78. *fain-[f]eor* is dat. of *fann-fér* 'weak, soft grass'. As to *scele* 'pity', see O'Grady's note in Oss. Soc. iii. 194 : but the *e* is short, cf. Wortk. 229, where this stanza is quoted.

79-82. Does this mean that Cerball could drink the sixty kings to their beds, or that they attended his *coucher*? or is it a metaphorical way of saying that he had brought them to their graves with 'draughts of death'?

88. The authority of a king is best demonstrated by his visiting all parts of his domain without fear of opposition : Cerball was not a *ri co fresabra*.

90. If, as Bergin suggests, *craiti* is gen. of *crathad* (*crothad*), it is probably used here, like *silad*, of scattering the seed of religion. O'R. has *craithaim*, *croithim*, and *crothaim* 'I shake, sprinkle'.

95. LL 39 b makes Cerball succeed his brother Domnall. According to FM Domnall died in 877 and Cerball in 904 : but AU give the dates as 883 and 908. The Muiredach son of Bran 'king of Leinster and abbot of Kildare', who died in 884 (AU), had apparently been deposed for incapacity long before.

100. The sage of Liamain may be Conlaed, who was devoured there by wolves, Mart. Oeng. 128, 466. Read *labra* for *labrad* to rhyme with *Banba*.

DRUIM N-ASSAIL

This is now Tory Hill, a conspicuous landmark in the plain of Limerick. Clú Mál meic Ugainne is part of the adjacent plain: see Onom. Hogan gives a second Druim n-Assail meic Umoir, in Ulster: but of his two references to Ac. na Sen. one is wrong and the other does not state that it is in Ulster, nor that it was a residence of the Ulster kings.

Assal and his hill are mentioned in the story of the Sons of Umór (ds. Carn Conaill), MDs. iii. 445.

This poem is edited and translated in Sil. Gad. ii. 481, 528. See also Thurneysen, Heldensage, 501.

3. O'Grady renders 'who in settling it forestalled his tribe': *fóir* seems to mean 'folk', or the like, e.g. Topogr. Poems, 50 y: cf. O'R. 'crew, number stowed together', so too Dinneen, and McErlean, index to Keating's Poems. But then the preposition *for* is difficult to understand. *Fóir* also seems to mean 'home', 'haunt' (or 'land'?) at p. 318, 6 *supra*, *fóir fri fir-suide*: LL 107 b z, *i fóir maige M.*: Rev. Celt. xiv. 420, *1 rolaig fiad i fóirib* ('lairs', Stokes).

8. 'excluding only the Fomorian race', O'G.

18. 'thy spirit wherefore changest thus?' O'G.: but v. Contrib. *arclóim*.

22. *aige* = *cégi*: so O'G. Or perhaps it is *aige* 'pillar', metaph. 'chief', 'captain'.

23. *rout* 'before thee'. It might be the noun meaning 'distance', but this is generally defined by a genitive, as in *rout n-aurchora*, and *iar sodain* suits the former interpretation best.

28. The scribe wrote *forcomét* and added *o* below *-ét*, to mark the rhyme, without expunging the *é*.

31. *dressed*: impf. subj. of *dringim*: cf. Hail Brigit, p. 18.

33-34. 'To his wrath at all these crimsoned points then he gave play', O'G. I take *na ferga* to be a descriptive genitive: for *atnaig* cf. p. 390, note on T. Inh. 117; *im* perhaps means that Fergus gathers all the spears in his arms, like Arnold von Winkelried.

36. We must read '*na cró-tigiu*': O'G. translates 'of them that left him lying in his blood', but I do not think that a singular verb is admissible after the collective *tricha*.

46. This Mag Mis is not given in Onom. It was no doubt near Sliab Mis, where Cu Rui had his stronghold. Hogan has no justification for saying (s.v. Druim n-Asail) that Clú Mail m. Ugainne was in Mag Mis.

50. If '*na thimchell*' is sound, it probably means 'without his knowledge': cf. O'Cl. *timcheall na macraidhe* .i. a *n-egmais na macraidhe*; he probably took the phrase from the prose ds. of Cnogba, *timcheall na macraidí cen fíos doib* (MDs. iii. 483). If the meaning is 'around the stronghold' we must read *na timchell*: unless indeed the masc. pron. has become stereotyped, as in a *chéile* 'each other'.

51. *múchsat* perhaps implies that they fired the stronghold, but the verb is sometimes used = 'destroy', e.g. at p. 314, 31.

SNAM DA EN

The text of this poem has been edited by Marstrander in *Eriu* v. 219 *seq.* He adds at p. 248 readings from three late mss. I have reprinted a selection of these: my O = 23 L 22, P = 24 P 5, Q = 23 L 24. In these late copies the order of the two legends is reversed.

In RC xiii. 1 *seq.* Stern published from a sixteenth-century ms. at Leyden a prose version of both legends, together with extracts from L's copy of the poem. In this prose version, as in the three late mss., the Dindshenchas order is reversed. It agrees almost word for word with the first part of the prose which I print from S, the only copy of the Ds. in which it is found. In the second legend, Stern's prose follows closely the outline of the poem, and seems to borrow from it certain turns of phrase, but differs in other particulars. It adds (RC xiii. 7) a short notice of the quarrel between Find and Aed's father Ronan; adds to Aed's victims (77) Nechtain and Led; makes Cailte suggest terms of peace to Aed; gives the name of the land granted to Aed as *mothor-thir Echach Rond*; and quotes a prophecy made to Aed, that he should die when his daughter married (as in the prose which I print from S). Further, it contains the following paragraph: *Lotar díth linaibh co hairm i mbói Find hi tig Caba in briugad .i. oc Raik(h) Chaba hi Granairiut Sinda .i. Magh in Cairn indiu. Ingen do Chaba oc Find i. Bairend a hainm-side: is uadi-sen ainmnigther Cluain Bairend. Tic Finn leo iarom co Snam Da En hi fiadnaisi in chomraic. Sudigthir pupull Find iarsin i Gardiat .i. Cros Greancha indiu, 7 ní roleic comlund.* (RC xiii. 10: cf. l. 205 of poem.) Thus this version of the story ends without a fight: the compiler did not know the last five stanzas of the poem with the incident of Remur and Cael.

The indications of place in the paragraph just quoted agree with a note in Buile Suibne (ed. O'Keeffe, Ir. T. Soc. xii. 32): 'Snam Da En on the Shannon, which is now called Cluain Boirenn'. O'Donovan, who refers to this passage (Hy Many 5, FM i. 209) says that Clonburren is in the parish of Moore in the barony of Moyearn (Mag in Chairn) in the southern extremity of Roscommon. It is marked in his map of Hy Many a little south of Clonmacnoise, across the river.

The ds. of Móin Tíre Nair (p. 178 *supra*) tells quite a different tale about Nar and Estiu. This version is thus referred to in Aided Diarmata (Sil. Gad. i. 72 z): *ic Snám Dá Eon for Sináinn .i. dá én romarb Nár mac Finnchad micc Conaill cernaigh for gualainn Eistíne ban-fheinnighi.*

A different version of the quarrel between Aed Rind and Conán is found in Acall na Sen (Sil. Gad. i. 172-173 = ii. 193: Ir. Text. iv. 3550 *seq.*). In this Aed figures as one of Finn's best warriors, while Conan has been Finn's enemy: *atú secht mbliadna ac foghail ocus ac díbfeirg ort*, he says, whereas in our poem (63) it is said of Aed *ba foglaid dond Fhéin*. Conán is called, not *mac in Dagdai*, but *mac in Léith Luachra* (as also in OPQ texts of the poem, 173). He kills Aed; nothing is said of the other incidents of the poem.

Another setting of the story has been edited by MacNeill in *Duanaire Finn I*. Here both Aed and Conan are old enemies of Finn, who has killed their fathers, and though they have now joined the Fianna, he seeks to get rid of both by bringing about the combat in which Aed falls, and Conan gets his

death-wound. Aed's daughter, here called Ergna, is forcibly married by Conan, and afterwards seduced by Oisín. The Remur-Cael episode, which connects the story with Snam Da En, is wanting. In this version also Conan is called *mac an Léith Luachra*. In the Ds. he seems, for whatever reason, to be confounded with Cermait *mil-bél*, son of the Dagda.

10. For Dubthir see p. 379, *supra*.

12. The scribe of L first wrote *dathām*, and then corrected this by adding in the upper margin a word which may be read either *calma* or *talma*. OPQ have *dath-chalma*, meaning perhaps 'not blenching through fear'. Possibly the true reading is *dathamla*, g. of *dathamail*.

13. Prosody points to writing *dian garta*, yet cf. MDs. iii. 88, 2 *fri deg-blaid*, *fri dian-garta*.

31. *dothaet*, singular for plural.

46. *ruth* = O.-Ir. *riuth*.

50. Dinneen has *cinnim ar* 'I surpass': *do chinn orm é do dhéanamh* 'I failed' ('it beat me to do it'). Perhaps, however, the meaning is 'after deciding on a meeting with her (Estiu)', sc. in death.

58. *cía 'dera*: cf. Archiv ii. 138 *cía 'deram*. Translate: 'though thou say so'.

60. Literally, 'though one be telling it'.

67. *is meic*: see note on Lege 8, p. 442 *supra*.

71. Should we read *atorchair*? cf. *atrochratar*, 223.

86. To avoid treating *féin* as put for *fian*, for the sake of the rhyme, I suggest reading *ón féin*; cf. Rev. Celt. xiii. 8 *Forfemdeass o neoch don shein techt na adhuicch*.

94. *asa chind* for *ósa chind*, cf. p. 406, note on C. Lethd. 7. For the meaning cf. Ir. T. i. 67, *oc airiuc don tshíag ósa cind*: *asa chind* would mean, I think, 'thereafter': see Wb 25 d 16.

98. If *geib-siu* is right, we must render 'do not take upon thee [to take] his head from Aed, while I am there to behead him': but the ellipse of *do gabáil* is difficult. Perhaps we should read *ná geib sin acut* and place a colon after *a rí*. In either case we must, I think, read *da dichennad*.

104. *imchimm* usually means 'to flee', but this does not suit the context.

109. Are *na trí curaid* the three mentioned in 77 as slain by Aed Rind? This would agree with the tense of *ciarblar* in 114.

134. The sense is: Before resorting to arms, one should offer an honourable settlement of the dispute.

135. *erge de*, lit. 'going thence'; here 'desisting from the fight', cf. *dá chéad-mhionnaibh éirighe níorbh' áil leis*, Hackett's Poems (ed. O'Donnchadha) xl. 193.

165. This line has a syllable too many: we may either read *Cách* for *Cach fer*, or read, following OPQ, *Cach fer nochuinged Ceilg cain, ba dó fodéin a domain*. The sense of 166 is that instead of Aed being poorer by the cost of his daughter's dowry, the suitor was poorer by the loss of his life.

174. Read *atbert* for *atrubairt*, or *féin* for *fodéin*.

175. *ársit* L, *órsad* OPQ. Cf. Strachan in Phil. Soc. Tr. 1899, p. 66, and Atkinson, P. H. p. 894 a.

176. We may either read *nárab áis i n-óntama* 'that (thine) be not a life in the single state', or (following OPQ) *na rabair* 'that thou be not (always) single'. This is simpler.

188. *baeth*. The uninflected predicative adjective is comparatively rare in Middle Irish: some instances are collected by Strachan, *Mid. Ir. Declension*, p. 18.

189. *Formael na Fiann* is mentioned in *Ac. na Sen.* 6530-6537 (*Ir. Text.* iv), and is there identified with *Sliab Formáile*. This is the name of a mountain in the west of Roscommon, from which rises the river Suck: see *Hy Many* 83, with O'Donovan's note.

206. *Garbdfiad*. This name is written *Gargdiad* in 226, *Gardiat* in *Rev. Celt.* xiii. 10.

213. *Síd Ban Find*, the home of the fairy *Bodb Derg*, also called *Síd ar Femín* (*Ir. Text.* iv. 2776), or *Sláib na mBan Find*, is now *Slievenaman* in Tipperary.

228. *etarru* 'between it and *Snam Da En*': for the construction see *MDs.* i. 63, note on *Temair* iii. 40.

FERT MEDBA

This place is unknown.

1. *forum nglinni*: cf. *eirín nglindi*, *Sned. MacR.* 45, *céim grádach nglinne*, p. 164, 39, *supra*.

7. *gal* is gen. pl. 'doughty deeds', as in *SnR* 7899 *congaibet gala*.

ARD RUIDE

This poem has been edited and translated by O'Grady (*Sil. Gad.* i. 104, ii. 111), from the *Book of Lismore*: it is also printed by Stokes in *Ir. T.* iv. 13 from the same source. I have collated the Franciscan copy of the *Acallam*, and I owe the readings from *Rawl. B* 487 to the kindness of Dr. Plummer. L's text is unfortunately very corrupt.

In *Duanaire Finn*, *Ir. T. Soc.* vii. 2, 4, *Aed Rind* has his stronghold at *Ard Ruide* on the river *Siuir*.

Dergthine, originally a name for a tribe of the *Erainn*, was by the genealogists hypostatized as the common ancestor of the *Eoganachta* and *Dal Cais*: see *LL* 319 b 23-32 and 320 b 32, and cf. *Eriu* vi. 149.

1. This first stanza has found its way into the *Caillech Bérré's* poem: in Meyer's edition (st. 27) it runs thus:

Tri thuili . tascnat dún Ard[a] Rude

tuile n-oc, tuile n-ech . tuile milchon mac Lugdech.

7. *comaig* is perhaps = *comaid*; all mss. have different readings.

8. In *Ac. na Sen.* (*Ir. T.* iv. l. 432) *Fer Tuinne* is *Bodb Derg's* harper.

9. Cf. *Eriu* ix. 46: *Tri gáire buada do rig*.

14. *ndega* is puzzling: it is for *ndegad*, used adjectivally, cf. *drom-mannaib dega*, quoted in *Contrib.*: or we might read *dronn mar dega* (nom. for acc.).

16. L's text very likely conceals the true reading of this line, but it is corrupt: its *gle* ought to be a word rhyming with *buidne* and meaning 'mill-paddle' (if the glossator is right). The form *astú*, together with *tuile n-oc* in the older form of line 3, suggest that the poem is not later than the tenth century.

22. *cársat* 'where are'? cf. Ir. T. iv. 4444 *corsat* 'that thou art', and see Strachan, Subst. Vb, 66, and O'Malley, Eriu vi. 12, for similar forms. Perhaps, however, we should read *ciarsat* 'though they be', here and in 34. In both lines the mss. agree as to *ruíaid*, a word otherwise unknown to me. Can *cársat ruíaid* have arisen from a wrong analysis of *cá atrulla* (*atrullatar*)? cf. O'Malley, Eriu vi. 14, note.

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