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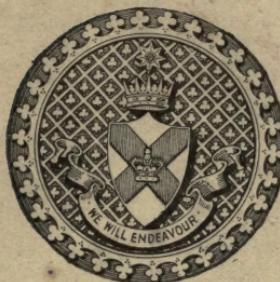
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VOLUME XI

EDWARD GWYNN

THE METRICAL DINDSHENCHAS

PART IV



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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 Board 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 *ai*, *oi*, *ui* from the palatalized long vowels *ái*, *óí*, *úí*, because the position of the accent marks a difference in the sound, which affects the rhymes. Hence I write *mnai* but *mnáib*, *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 Marstrander, 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.  
S<sub>2</sub> = Stowe B. II. 2.  
S<sub>3</sub> = Stowe B. III. 1.  
S<sub>4</sub> = Stowe D. IV. 2.  
V = Reeves 832.

Lism. = Transcript of Book of Lismore.

### Trinity College, Dublin:

L = Book of Leinster.  
H = H. 3. 3.  
H<sub>2</sub> = H. 1. 15.  
B<sub>2</sub> = H. 2. 4.

### Bodleian Library:

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

### British Museum:

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

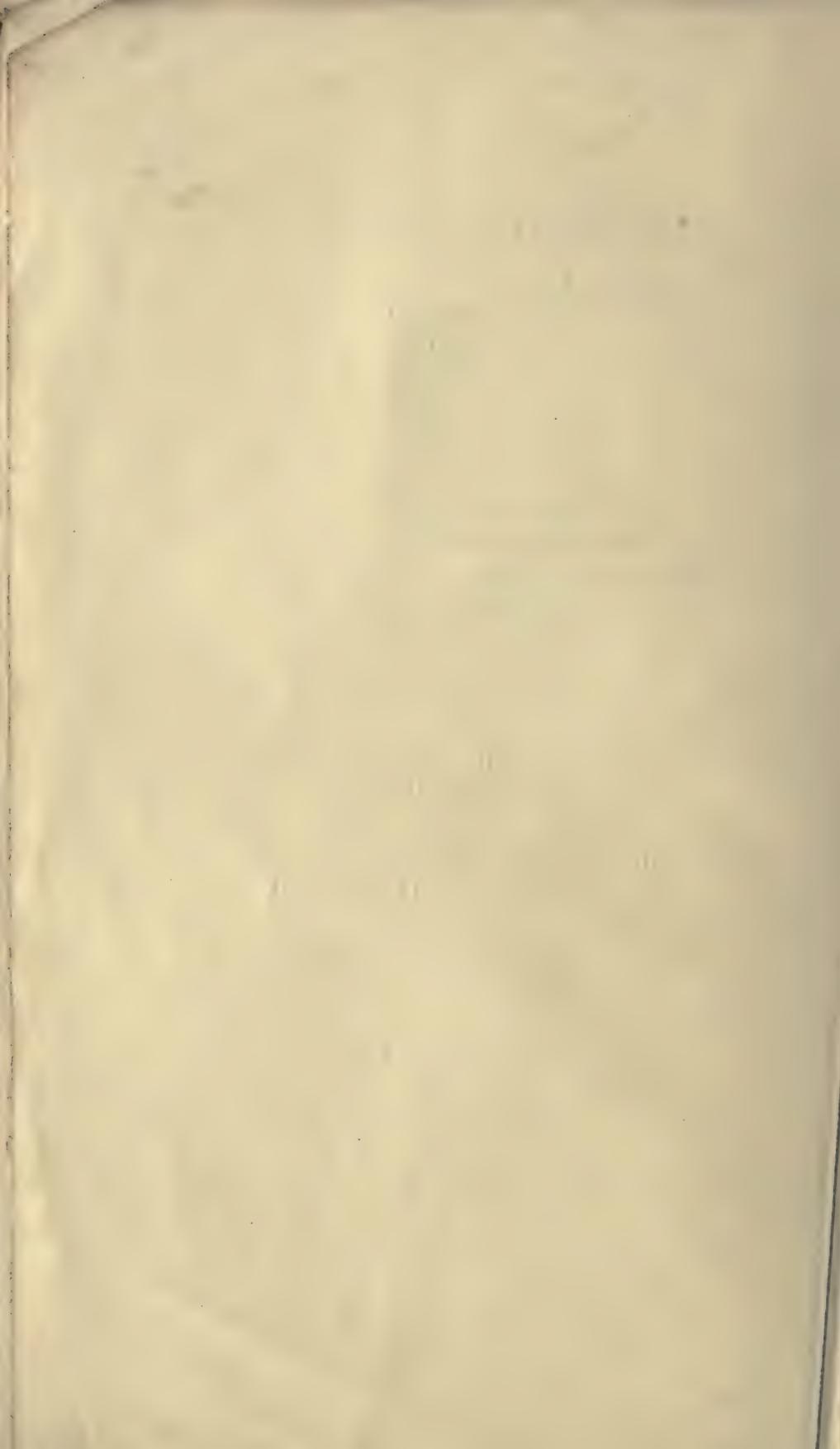
### Advocates' Library, Edinburgh:

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 Furgaide, the symbol K has been wrongly used instead of Ed.



## PART IV

## ESS RUAID I

A fir 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 eúan comdessa ?  
in fer nó in ben co mbrig bailb  
tuc for in síd in sáer-ainm ?

Áed rúad mac Baduирn in bress,  
úad cen ramuirn in ríg-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 trián delba  
for Áed fíal na fir-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 dál  
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 Ruad 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<sub>3</sub>H L is frequently illegible      1. *atiaid*  
 fothuaid etc LcS      2. *sáer-*] sár S      3. *innat*] L indat MS<sub>3</sub>H inad  
 BLcS *léir*] reil LcS *húair*] fuair Lc      4. *i sceól*] ascel SS<sub>3</sub>H aseol Lc  
*riád-*] L rig etc *cæt*.      5. *hess*] ess facs. of L; illegible in ms.      6. *cia*  
*roching*] cia rochin etc BM co roichenn LcS *in cían*] a chúan L ga cuan B  
 co cuan M *comdessa*] cadess L      7. *mbrig bailb*] mbrig mbaileb etc BS<sub>3</sub>H  
 mbri mbaileb LcS      8. *for in sid*] forsin sid Lc for indsibh M      in] a  
 SS<sub>3</sub>H      10. *cen*] co H      11. *ur*] hur BLcM      12. *fail*] L class etc *cæt*.  
*śid*] S sid etc *cæt*. a] sa LcSS<sub>3</sub>H *śáer-*] S sir M saer etc *cæt*.      13. *nó*]  
 na LcMS      14. *nó*] na LcS      15. *rosessed*] rosoisead Lc rosaisidh S  
 roiseas M      16. *for*] fri S<sub>3</sub> *fir-*] fin B find Lc finn S      17. *Rodúsig idu*]  
 rodussid idu etc BM roduscidh idha S<sub>3</sub> rodusdussaid Lc rodusduisidh  
 dia S *achar*] diacur LcS ear M      19. *dia*] co LcS *n-olor*] ndolar S  
 20. *mudugod*] mugudh M      22. *éca húair*] L aeda ruaid etc *cæt*. *úa*] úi S<sub>3</sub>H  
 meic B      23. *ara ess*] araines B araeis M araneas S<sub>3</sub>      24. *mairb cen*  
*mímess*] mír nimess (*blotted*) L      25. *roclass*] roclois B *issin*] asin Lc  
 27. *sáerda*] sirda etc MSS<sub>3</sub>H      28. *úas aigthib*] uassaigib B uasaithib Lc  
 uasaithib S *áen-fir*] a aenfir S

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

A.

30

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

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

40

Luid dar cech tuind dia tibed  
 il-luing Abcaín ard-filed  
 co táraill in n-inber n-án  
 ind ingen álaind imnár.

Ní fitir Rúad cía-rraba  
 crích ná cuán co ndosrala,  
 acht rochuindig, cruth nad meirb,  
 co mbeth in sruth 'na sáer-šeilb.

Andsin dorochair 'na súan  
 eter srothaib na sáeb-chúan :  
 luid im-muduch fo méla  
 fora euruch cíom-chréda.

50

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,  
 atchúadus 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 *srónmáir*, 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. *sund*] sunna S      31. *rodasomairn*] rodomairn (?) L    rosomairn etc  
 BS<sub>3</sub>H    rosmarn M    cosomairnd Lc    cosomhairn S    *dia sil*] L    dia sil sin B  
 sin dia sil LcMS    sin dia seal S<sub>3</sub>    sunn dia sel H      32. *Riaid*] aeda ruaidh  
 M    *'ca célfir*] S    coa célfir etc LBH    coa cetfear etc MS<sub>3</sub>    a cedfir Lc  
 35. *in*] a LcS    36. *d'*] om. LcS    *srónmáir*] rónmar L    *mac*] m̄c m̄c M    *Labrada*]  
 Imchada L      37. *A Maig*] ainmaig LcS    *Moein*] moen etc LLcS    *ága*] nágá  
 etc codd.      38. *for*] L    fri cæt.      39. *mér-šeing*] merseng etc BLc  
 40. *clé*] cele M      41. *dar cech tuind*] in each luing Lc      42. *ard-*] ár S  
 43. *táraill*] toracht L      44. *imnár*] L    iomlán etc S<sub>3</sub>H    imslan cæt.  
 45. *ciarraba*] L    diaraba etc LcS    ciaraba etc cæt.      46. *co ndosrala*]  
 ciandusrala B    rusdarala Lc    condarsala M      49. *dorochair*] diarochair L  
 doluidsi Lc      50. *srothaib*] mothair 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*] culc Lc    *sam-*] sain M    *-guba*] dubha  
 S<sub>3</sub>      57.] combad uada gan deil ndet B

## ESS RUAID I

M' anam acut for nim naſb,  
 a Choimdiu faſlid fir-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 suaithníg a senchus sunn,  
 oclach meic buidníg Burnd :  
 ce dorindi gnim can cleith,  
 ni sochaidi rusfider.

'An afus is rodhia sin,  
 a oclach find re bliadain :  
 naisc oraind cach ni conaig,  
 ocus comaill 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.'

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 šleag roard :  
 greisis a churu na chend  
 a fiadnaisi fer nErind.

10

20

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 LcSS<sub>3</sub>      62. *-baid*] bæd etc BM    cháoimh S<sub>3</sub>  
chaom H      64.] corobam ann mar each 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 condaig, is comaill a ngellaigi

‘Ce cuirtear in muir am ceann,’  
ar aird-ri aëbda 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 oclach.

Eas Ruaid uirri osin ille  
aran eas, is biaid chaidche:  
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;  
bládáin eo leith, láthar n-án,  
díamair im chreich in Caurnán.

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

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

10

Mac Leó Lám-fata cen locht,  
Áinle aurdaire immé trocht,  
fer triath 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 Lagan 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.** LRBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H R has only st. 6-9 after a gap in ms.  
 2. *comdass*] *chomdass* L 4. *diamair*] *dm* L *im*] *ar* S<sub>3</sub> *om.* L *in*] *im* M *ac*  
*Le Caurnán*] *curcán* S<sub>3</sub> 5. *cen gne*] L *congle* M *congne* etc *cæt.* 6. *Ré*  
*reo* S 7. *rogail*] *rodail* M *ós*] as LLcS is M 8. *dorigni*] *doringni* L  
 9. *Tri*] *tuc* L *coicait*] *chaeac* Lc *cháoga* S<sub>3</sub> *comol*] *comull* B *comall* Lc  
 10. *sund*] *sum* B *i nDruim*] *adruim* L *ac* *druim* Lc *codruim* S *coilde*] L  
*gan* *coidle* etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H *can* *chaidle* etc LcS 11. *bleidig*] *blighigh* M  
*bleidheach* S<sub>3</sub> 12. *tarclaim*] *tarclann* B. *corr deibig*] *corrdebaid* Lc *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* *thríath* S<sub>3</sub>

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

20

‘Maith each dál dia tíagat fir’  
 atbert Caurnán comdemin :  
 ‘rogáet Áinle, lín a ban :  
 atámne sír cen scarad.’

Caurnán roforbair ar úail  
 d’orgain Dúine Bárc bith-búain :  
 roscar ri méla thíar thair  
 scéla Dromma Clíab cobsaid.

IS desin atá in gairm glan,  
 ainm Dromma Clíab na comram :  
 is scéil 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 ríg-flaith trá  
 iar mbeith co sír-maith sunda.      S.

[Is desin ita Druim Cliab  
 ara druim-sea don taib síar,  
 ona clíabaib co lin ñga  
 dorinded co sir 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 S<sub>3</sub> *nírbo*] nirbru M robo LcS 18.] *sic ed.* in mac foracaib lamaid L in mac forfagaib lamaid B mac rofacaib leo in lamaid Lc mac forfagaibh leo in lamhaigh S mac forfacaib lamfataid etc MH mac leó laochdha lamhfoda S<sub>3</sub> 20. *rodín*] L (retraced) rígdún etc *cæt.* 21-28. L has these stanzas in reverse order, with correcting marks in margin 21. *tiagat*] tiagait etc LcMSH 22. *comdemin*] cemdemin Lc go deimhin S<sub>3</sub> 23. *rogáet*] rogæ M *lin a ban*] linaib an etc LcS 24. *sír*] LcS iar fir etc *cæt.* 25. *roforbair*] raforbair L rofarbair RB rofharbar M *ar úail*] a huail R ar nuail Lc 27. *ri*] L ro R ra BMS<sub>3</sub>H re LcS 29. *in*] om. Lc 31. *is*] om. L a BMH in LcS à (with s superscr.) S<sub>3</sub> *bél-gus*] beilgus L belgus etc *cæt.* *mbla*] bla BLcS mblá L 32.] L fofuair in senchus sunna etc RM fofuair i sencus sunna B fofuair a seanchus sunna S<sub>3</sub> fofoar a sencas sunna H fuair in senchus sa sunna Lc fouair in senchus sunna S 33-36.] om. L 33. *Mo dá*] ma do RB mo da LcH mada M madha SS<sub>3</sub> 34. *domain*] om. M *dath-bi*] conath bith M 35. *mo breith*] fo bith Lc bambrith S mobr H *il*] dot etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H 37-40.] Lc only

## LOCH GILE

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

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

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

Dogob nairi an ingen an  
 ac faicsin chuici a lennan :  
 tuc 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.

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 chæm-thulaig :  
 is uaada Carn Romra ran,  
 Carn Omra o Omra drech-nar.

10

20

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 Chalemaíl chrúaid,  
maic Cartain chail, maic Conúaith,  
ander 'cambuí cach bine,  
sech ba druí, ba deg-file.

IS lé conairnecht, scél ngúr,  
tria ainrecht is tria imthnúth,  
diambaí níth 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 Dreeuinn.

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.

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

10

20

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

## NEMTHEND

Dreco, daughter of grim Calemael 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, Saebdercán, 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.

Nemhend. LRBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H L is badly rubbed 2. *Curtain*] carttan ? L  
 carthain LcS<sub>3</sub> carthaind S *chaile*] cael LM *Conúath*] huaith L 3. *ander*]  
 ainden B 'cambuí] combúi R *bine*] binni L 6. *tria*] tre LcS *ainrecht*]  
 inrect B aimrecht etc MS<sub>3</sub>H aindrecht S *tria*] tre RLcS *imthnúth*] mith-  
 nuth L 7. *diambai*] diamba LLcH *beirg*] S<sub>3</sub>H berg LS bere Lc beirt RM  
 bert B 8. *leth-deirg*] M lethderg LcS lethd̄g *cet.* 10. *dé sin*] sin deg RBH  
 co ba] guma B coma LcS 11. *cethri seisir*] se ceatráir sin B *garga*] gare  
 etc LcS calma B *a ngluind*] a cuing B 12. *romarbha sin*] rodusmarbta  
 B sed domarbha Lc 13. *Máelán*] la maelan L *máil*] mall M  
 14. *Sarán*] sara Lc særán M *Sáerán*] senan Lc saran M *Sáebdercán*]  
 sáedercán etc LLcS 15. *Uinnsiu*] uinsi etc LSH uindseo Lc uinnse S<sub>3</sub>  
*Aillsiu*] ail... L aillse etc LcSH *ard a ngleó*] Adhor agleo S<sub>3</sub> 16. *is*]  
 om. (?) L *Tromcheó*] 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*] dferaib  
 R *nemain ocus neim*] nemain 7 neme M ingen chalemail choir etc LcS  
 22.] do cloind fergus a firmoir etc LcS *der demin*] L dardemin B dairdei-  
 minn etc MH dhaordeimhein S<sub>3</sub> conairdneim R 24. *tria*] tre LcS  
 serb] sir L

Áit i mbátar mairb co mend,  
is dó-sin is ainm Nemthend :  
dosfuc i n-imned ria n-ail  
fled rohindled oc Drecain. D.

Mo chorp, a Rí cháem na cros,  
rop sáer ar olc, ar elgnos,  
is m'anam, cen mímes maill,  
nírop diles do Drecainn. D. 30

## DUBTHIR

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

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

Fillis Gúaire, gním n-espach,  
for Dáire ndíán 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 fích 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 LeS 29-32.]  
om. LLcS 31. *m'anam*] mainim S<sub>3</sub>H manmain *cæt.* *mimes*] mines B  
32. *nirop*] narup H *Drecainn*] dreckaind R

Dubthir. LRBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *Gúaire*] nguaire RMS<sub>3</sub> *gnim*] fath (with vel *gnim superscr.*) R 2. *a*] is Le in S *fessabair*] fedabair B 3. *baitan*] bætán LM bædan R bai sel LeS *nárbo*] diarbo L *dubthar*] duthor Le Dubhthir S<sub>3</sub> 4. *acht*] doriacht L a R in LeS *cruth-glan*] cruthach etc LeS *chomsoloss*] rocharos S 5. *forácaib*] forfagaib etc BLcMSH ag macan (with .i. *guairi superscr.*) S<sub>3</sub> *Dall*] conall M doill S<sub>3</sub> 6. *gann*] dall Le gall S 7. *imon*] LeS moa LB imo RMS<sub>3</sub>H *co nduile*] can duilgi etc LeSH 8. *níptar*] nirptar M ropdar L 10. *for*] foran Le *ndían*] om. Le nduaire S<sub>3</sub> *ndub-cheatach*] ndubnertach L 11. *co torchair*] condrochair R in *daig*] imnáig L 12. *cen*] con R *n-áile*] ed. nále L nailich Le naillé S naile *cæt.* *n-imthrócair*] nimthoraich Le nimthoirsigh S 13. *Dáire*] guairi Le 14. *i n-Inis*] innis L *Dam*] LLc daim *cæt.* *dichron*] dichor BLcS 15. *fich*] erich L *mbiaine*] mbuaire L *molhair*] dochair L 16. *chomfóchain*] chomochain Le comhfochair M

Mairg dogní fingail eo hom  
gním dia ná timgair torud :  
erích Gúaire, cen chosnam de,  
fil 'na dos-mag dubthaire. D. 20

Nomhsáer ar fill is ar olc  
a Chríst, rochind mo cháem-chorp,  
a Rí subach na síne  
nírbam dubach dub-thíre. D.

## MAG SLECHT

Sund nobíd  
idal ard, co n-immud fích,  
diarbo chomainm in Cromm Crúaich :  
tuc in each thúaith beith cen síd.

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

Ba hé a ndía  
in Cromm erín, co n-immud chía ; 10  
in lucht rancreit, ós cach cúan  
in flaithius búan nochosbía.

Dó cen búaid  
marbtais a claind toísig trúaig  
con-immud guil ocus gáid  
a fuil do dálí '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.

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

**Mag Slecht.** LRBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. *Sund*] *sunda etc LeS<sub>3</sub> nobid*]  *robid S*  
 *3. in*]  *om. L Crúach*] *cruach Le*      4. *tuc*]  *om. B in*]  *do Le beith*]  *bid B*  
 *lúth (retraced)* L  *cen*]  *is L*      5. *Triag in*] *Ba truag L*      6. *nonadraitis*]  
 *noadrairdis R noadratis etc S<sub>3</sub>H doadraidis etc LeS*      7. *nicochuingitis*] *ed.*  
 *nocochingitis L nocuengidis etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H rocuengidis etc RLcS*      8.  *a*  
 *ndil*]  *andail Le indiol S<sub>3</sub> andai (partly oblit.) L im dail*]  *do dail L andil Le*  
 *andail S domuin*]  *domulin M*      10.  *crin*]  *erich Le chia*]  *arm L?*  *cia cæt.*  
 *11. rancreit*]  *ed. no. cruit (partly oblit.) L roeraith R noeraith B rochreit*  
 *MS<sub>3</sub> rocreit H rechreid S amcreid Le ós*]  *as LeS<sub>3</sub>H*      12.  *in*]  *a LeS*  
 *nochobia*]  *nochobia M nosbia B nochosluad (retraced)* L      13. *Dó cen*]  
 *docheand Le doceann M dochenn S docheann S<sub>3</sub> búaid*]  *mbuad etc LeS*  
 *14. claind*]  *clann etc LeMSS<sub>3</sub> toisig*]  *toirsech L tosach LeS toiseach S<sub>3</sub>*  
 *tois H toisig etc RBM triuig*]  *truad etc LeSS<sub>3</sub> om. L*      15.  *guil*]  *gail B*  
 *nguil Le gáid*]  *ngair Le gafr S*      16.  *a fuil*]  *aceil L (retraced) 'mon*]  
 *immon L im etc SS<sub>3</sub>H a R in BLcM Crúach*] *cruach etc LeS*

Blicht is ith  
uaid nochuingitis for rith  
dar cend trín a sotha slán:  
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.

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

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

30

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

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

40

Im Chromm Crúaich  
and nosléchtaitis na slúaig:  
cúa 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. *nochuindgidis*] rochuindgidis etc LcS nacuingid is B 19. *trin a]*  
 tria na M triain a S<sub>3</sub> tria H na tri B *sotha*] saotha R sotai H *slain*] om. L 20. *a gráin*] L angrain LcS a gair RBH a gháir S<sub>3</sub> igair M *a gríih*] angrith LcS a crith M 22. *nosléchtaitis*] LM noslechtaitis H noslechtais RB roslechtaidis Lc roshlechtais S noadhradis S<sub>3</sub> *glain*] a fhír S 23. *dia*] di LcS *n-écht*] ech L ndrecht R 25. *and*] om. Lc S adds con ilar sciath 28. *robai*] robai etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> *banm*] banma L 29. *Luiset*] .uiset L luiset B luisit H laised Le laisid S luidhset R luidseat M luaidhsiot S<sub>3</sub> *olc*] oic facs. of L (*wrongly*) 30. *buailset*] buad lecht L (*retraced*) *bassa*] bernai L (*retraced*) *bruiset*] bruighset etc RLcMS 31. *ac coi*] L (*retraced*) ag cái S<sub>3</sub> hi coi etc RBMH acai Le cai S *ri*] L ro RM re *cæt*. *demun*] denon L (*blurred*) *rosdáer*] r..oesdéra L (*blurred and retraced*) nosdæra B rosdáor etc S<sub>3</sub>H rosdaera etc *cæt*. 32. *fertais*] fersat etc BLcS *fíen a*] H sæna L (?) fæna etc *cæt*. 33. *fir*] a fir S fir (*with a superscr.*) S<sub>3</sub> 34. *na*] om. L *cen brig*] combrigh etc SS<sub>3</sub> combri Le 35. *im*] in M *taglach*] L (*retraced*) taglä R doglan LcS daglan M dagt H daghglan S<sub>3</sub> om. B *thuaid*] tuaith LcS tuaigh M 36. *nimuscin*] nimochin S 37. *itgén*] adgén etc LcSS<sub>3</sub>H itgein M itgeř B 38. *cethramthe*] cethramthi L cethrama R cethraime etc *cæt*. *Gáidel*] ngaoidheal S<sub>3</sub> sluaig gaeil R sluaig gaidel B sluaig L (*retraced*) *ngér*] ger M 39. *bian*] truag etc LcS 40. *ní*] mu (?) L (*retraced*) 42. *nosléchtaitis*] ed. raslechtait L (*retraced*) roslechtaidi etc BM roslechtaitis etc *cæt*. 43. *cia*] cid B *dosfuc*] dosfuar S *fo*] om. B *mébail*] melaib Le 44. *lenaid*] benaid B *a n-ainm*] a ainm RLcSS<sub>3</sub> in ainm H *múaid*] thuaid etc LcS

'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,  
 adrad robaí for clacha  
 co techt Pátraic Macha maith.

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

50

S.

## CRECHMAEL

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

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

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

10

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 S<sub>3</sub>H 49. *Ó ba]* Oba S<sub>3</sub>H *flaith]* i flaithe  
 Le a flaithe S 50. *Héremón]* erimón S eiremon H *ardfir]* aird fir R  
 aird fir M fir B ard fer etc *cet.* 51) om. M *robai]* om. R *for]* L (nearly  
 illegible) arna S forna *cet.* clacha] clachaib R 52. *co techt]* om. M  
 co tiacht etc RLcH go riacht S<sub>3</sub> 53.] almost illegible in L *don]* dom Lc  
 54. *o]* oa H *bathis]* bassis R *coa]* co RLcMS *bunn]* mbund M 55. *cen]*  
 can etc LcS con etc *cet.* 56. *in n-arracht]* indarracht RH intairracht etc  
 LcS *fann robai]* robai ann Lc

Creichmael. LRBLeMSS<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub>H 1. *ic dálí*] in dail etc LeS indal etc  
 MS<sub>3</sub>H 2. *ma]* na MSS<sub>3</sub> *thucessaid*] thusesad Lc tuesat etc RBMSS<sub>4</sub> *i]* im-  
 LeSH 3. *blaíd*] bil Le 4. *i tancabair*] in taneabair R atconcabair etc BS<sub>4</sub>  
 itaair (*with d above first a*) Lc ithámhair S 5. *'ca]* coa etc LBMS<sub>3</sub>H co-  
 RS<sub>4</sub> cen Lc *cethrai*] cethraib R cheathra Lc *chlethaig*] cleachtaigh etc MS<sub>3</sub>  
 6. *Bethrai*] bethraigh etc RBS<sub>4</sub> *bale-breithaig*] babcbrethan L (*retraced*) 7.  
*cen gnim*] congnim Lc *niachair*] L nuabair etc cat. 9. *Dosfánic*] dusfarraidh  
 H *thuaid*] dothuaidh S *om.* BS<sub>4</sub> *oca taig*] oca thaigh etc RH ocataid B  
 oceataidh M ochathaidh Lc oca athaig S<sub>4</sub> óthaigh S oathigh S<sub>3</sub> 10.  
*drith*] druthsin S<sub>4</sub> *chríaid*] chaim Lc chæimh S *om.* BS<sub>4</sub> 11. *is dí]*  
 do sin LeS *ri cach*] L ro cach RMH re cach BLcSS<sub>4</sub> rogart (*altered from*  
 rochan ?) S<sub>3</sub> *sogairm*] fogairm M 12. *ba]* an S<sub>3</sub> *Creichmáel*] crecmaetha  
 (*retraced*) L

Roduscar in drúth iarsain :  
 rongab lúth 'ma lán-aicsin :  
 romídair dia thálgid 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.

Cí a 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 croich corcra,  
 co ndernur grés glé-molta 30  
 duit, a rí búan each beinne,  
 ar líad cacha láech-dreimme. 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.

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14. *rongab lúth*] roba a luth Le roghabh luth S rongab bith (*altered?*) L 'ma] moa LBS<sub>3</sub>H mo M imó S fo Le *lán-aiccin*] lanascin L lanaiscin H lan faicsin RS<sub>4</sub> lan fasicin B lan faigsin S<sub>3</sub> lanais ceim M leanamain Le lenmhain S 15. *thálgud*] thaltud Le talgud *cet*. 16. *sárgud*] sarud R ica] imma S sáer-] LLcS sfr etc *cet*. 17. *Roncúr*] ed. rochúr S<sub>3</sub> rochuir MS recur *cet*. *roncengail*] ed. rocengail etc *codd*. 18. *fo*] do S<sub>3</sub> *rengait*] reng B reandaib etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> *rún*] ruin etc LeS rimh M 19. *ni*] nir Le *din*] L (*retraced*) don RLcM do H a BS<sub>4</sub> on S go S<sub>3</sub> 20.] S<sub>4</sub> ends with this line rothend] gurthend S 'ma] moa LS<sub>3</sub>H mo BS<sub>4</sub> fo LeM 22. *ná*] LR ni *cet*. *in*] a RBS<sub>3</sub>H 24. *leth-máel*] leath claoon etc S<sub>3</sub>H *labraim*] luaidim etc MH 25. *i ndon*] inon R mon B tredon Le tria mhogh S 26. *robrog*] robrod Le a] in M *gairm*] ainm LLc *in*] don Le *glan*-] garb L 27. *co derb*] rodégh S<sub>3</sub> *rodelig*] do deilidh R 28. *demin*] debigh S na dreimme-se] re indisin Le re indise etc MSS<sub>3</sub>H 29-32.] not in L 30. *co ndernur*] condearnan Le conernur M *glé*-] glan LcSS<sub>3</sub>H 31. *cach beinne*] gach dreme B cen beinne M gombinne etc S<sub>3</sub>H 32.] co ndearnar luad læchdreme Le *hiad*] luagh M *dreimme*] reimhe M

## LIA NOTHAIN

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

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

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

10

Tuc mór céimenn co ngairbe  
ar fut Héenn imaidble,  
rocaith bládáin fo bine  
oc farair a ingine.

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

20

Ed na haidche dóib cen gáí,  
dond fir foirbthe, don deg-mnaí,  
robátar a ndíis 'malle  
ar scis 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. LRBLcMSS.H L is badly rubbed and in part illegible  
1. *chráid*] i cruaid B 2. *doirche*] doirthe etc RH airchi Lc is co-  
ndimbáid] 7 combuaid Lc L seems to omit is con 3. *a sochar*] . sochar Lc  
a sochar etc LcH 4. *diart*] diarbo L Nothain] nothan LcS<sub>3</sub> notair B  
-buillech] chaillech LeS 5. *Chonmair*] conmoir R chónmail Lc *cen*] etc  
LB con *cet*. *nguil*] guil BH ngail M 6. *gorm-dail*] garmdail L (?)  
gormdoil R gormdæl etc BM gorm dhuil S gormdhaoil etc S<sub>3</sub>H *gobul-*]  
ngabul L dobhar M 7. *furthern*] forthain SS<sub>3</sub> 8. *i ndubthair*] in  
dubthar etc LcH an duibhltear M *deg-caille*] deacilli M deachille S  
9. *Connáer*] connair LLCs conmoir R *céim*] cend L *cend*] tend R cheann  
Lc teann (altered to ceann) S<sub>3</sub> 10. *mbémmenn*] mbeim benn B 12.  
*co*] a S 13. *Tuc móir*] tucam or R 15. *rocaith*] dachaith M *fo bine*]  
ar bini M combine S 16. *iarair*] LR iarraigd etc *cet*. *a*] na Lc  
17. *Co*] eid *facs.* of L *wrongly* do LeS da M 18. *fidbaid*] bidbaid Le  
chochlaig] chochlaich L cochlaid etc RLc cochtlaigh M *-choir*] noir L?  
19. *dond fir*] anuair M *diarb*] 1erb Le rob M *décsin*] dechsain Lc 20.  
lór] leor LBLCM *gas-b-*] garg L 21. *haidche*] haitbi M 22. *dond*] do-  
L (?) *don*] is don etc LcMS *deg-*] ard S 23. *'malle*] ale M 24. *ar*]  
ac S *oca scél-baile*] acomesaib (?) gaile L

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 šiur, mo bráthair bith-rúad,  
óg mo charat ac Druim Chaín,  
in marat lat, a Chonmaír ?'

30

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

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

40

'Trí coícait blíadan, báigid,  
ní hiarmar, ní himáirim,  
atú fo dín cach daire :  
ní facca mín móir-maige.

'Tíag-sa imbárach latt immach  
im-mag n-Árach n-ilchrothach,  
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. *rroráid*] *daraidh* M *de*] LLcS *si cat.* 26. *in*] *om.* L *cen báig*]  
*combaid* L (?) *cen baidh* etc RLcMS<sub>3</sub> *mbúian*-] *mbuain* RS<sub>3</sub> *beo* Lc *mbéo* S  
*bréithre*] *mbreithri* RS<sub>3</sub> *brethe* L (?) *braite* Lc 27. *indat*] R *indad* (?) L  
*anat* M *inad cat.* 28. *ocus*] *is* L *na S* *nderb-*  
*chrod*] *neaderod* Lc *ndeacrodh* S 29. *mumme*] *buime* etc LeMS<sub>3</sub>H *máthair*]  
*brathair* S *múad*] *buan* LcS 30. *bráthair*] *mathair* S *bith-riad*] *bíd*  
*ruad* L *morluad* Lc *munúar* S 31. *óg*] *sod* Lc *so S* *oic* M *charat*]  
*carit* R *charaid* S *ac*] *an S* 32. *in*] *ni* R *inad* Lc *marat*] *marait* etc  
RS *lat*] *laat* L *om.* Lc *Chonmair*] *conmóir* R 33. *Ina facca*] ar  
*fhacaí* Lc *a facaí* S *'cot tig*] H *cotigh* etc RM *coatig* B *goattigh* S<sub>3</sub>  
*acotig* Lc *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 máir* S *i*] B *fr.* L *a*  
*cat.* 36. *acht*] R *obii*. *in* L *acht* ma B *acht* mad etc *cat.* *ingen*] *rigan*  
Lc 38. *a hathesc*] *athesc* etc RB *int* *aitheasc* etc LeS *co*] *coa* B *re* Lc  
*miliad*] L (?) S<sub>3</sub>H *imluadh* R *miluag* B *morsluag* Lc *morluad* M *msbuaidh* S  
39. *jochain* Lc *doria*] *dia rí* R *da ria* M 40. *ná*] RB *nac* M  
*oblit.* *in* L *ní cat.* 41. *coicait*] *chaéga* etc SS<sub>3</sub> *cæcái* H *bliadan*] *bliadhain*  
S<sub>3</sub> *báigid*] *baidhe* R *baidid* LcMS *buidti* S<sub>3</sub> 42. *ni hiarmar*] M *cid*  
*iarmar* RB *iniarmar* L *andiamraib* Lc *andiamhair* S *ciod* *diamhair* etc  
S<sub>3</sub>H *ní himáirim*] *ni himairem* etc RH *mar imraaidid* Lc *intiomuireach*  
S<sub>3</sub> *oblit.* *in* L 43. *atú*] *atá* RS<sub>3</sub> 44. *ní*] *nac* S 45. *Tiag-sa*] *ticfa*  
Lc *latt*] *laid facs.* of L *seems* *latt in ms.* 46. *im-mag*] *sa mag* Lc  
*n-Árach*] *narach* LB *nadhach* M *naghach* etc *cat.* 47. *m'áige*] LS<sub>3</sub>  
*maigi* etc RBSH *moigi* Lc *mhuighi* M *bas*] *as* L *ba* RM 48. *co*  
*rosáide*] *corosaide* (?) L *corasaighi* M *nocosaighe* S *corosaide* etc *cat.*

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

50

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

Nomshaer ar imned, ar olc,  
a Rí find-gel fir-étrocht !  
nírbam trúag 'sin dálí 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  
eo 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. *adfet*] adfeg *fas.* of L (but may be *adset*) *hathair*] athair LBH 51. *co*  
*ndoircé*] condorthi R *co toirthi* M *can doirche* Lc *een doirthé* S<sub>3</sub>H *ob'it.*  
*in L nár díail*] monuair M *conuall* S 52.] *fochoirthi* noircé nin-  
*nuair* Lc 53. *dia fl*] *da fuail* M 54. *imbrésain*] *imairim* Lc 55.  
*inar mbailib*] *innar* (?) *bailib* L *ana bailibh* M *inambailib* etc BLcS  
56. *se*] *si* S<sub>3</sub>H 57-60.] *om.* LM 57. *Nomsaer*] *romsær* R *nomsára*  
*LeS imned*] *nimnead* Lc *ar-1 sar* R *olc*] *cholt* Lc 59. *trúag*] *tuadh* S  
60. *liad*] *luag* B *cháich*] *caidh* S<sub>3</sub>

Carn Furbaide. LRBLcM<sub>1</sub>(147)M<sub>2</sub>(161)KSS<sub>3</sub>H Attributed to Cuan .h.  
Lothchán in L only 1. *ui*] *ua KH* 2. *fors'rimred*] *roimred* B *forim-*  
*read* etc LeS *daimreadh* M<sub>1</sub>M<sub>2</sub> *doimred* K *forarhimreadh* S<sub>3</sub> *arm*] *airm* S  
*imathlam*] *imathlaim* etc BS *athlamh* S<sub>3</sub> 3. *láechda*] *laich* ba M<sub>2</sub>  
*laich*] L *láechda* M<sub>2</sub> *láech* etc *cet.* *col-li*] *lf* M<sub>2</sub> 4. *fertán*] *daltan* B  
5. *Furbaide*] *furbaid* L *Benn*] *mbend* LeK *ba brass*] *comblaid* BM<sub>1</sub>K *ba bres*  
S 6. *chomdass*] *cubaid* etc BM<sub>1</sub>K 7. *moltait*] *moldais* BM<sub>1</sub>M<sub>2</sub>K *molaid*  
S *raind*] *rind* M<sub>1</sub> 9. *sin*] *sa* BM<sub>1</sub>M<sub>2</sub>KS<sub>3</sub>H *cain*] *choin* Lc 10. *co*  
*mbáe*] L *do beith* etc RSS<sub>3</sub>H *da beith* M<sub>1</sub>M<sub>2</sub> *dia beith* BK *diambeith* Le  
*hi fail*] *a fai* Lc *a erich* etc M<sub>1</sub>K 11.] *diambatar* *cach dibh malle* S  
12. *dorónad*] *duronta* etc BM<sub>1</sub>K

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 :  
tuc am-mac tria tóeb immach  
iarna bádud bale-thorrach.

20

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

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

Secht mbliadna deēc a áes,  
rosílad Hériu ar gáes,  
robriß bern trí cét, cen chlith,  
issin chath oc Ilgáirich.

30

Dul do dígal a máthar  
romídair tri mórláthar,  
co torchair leis, láechda in bedg,  
máthair Lugdach trí-ríab-nderg.

Dolluid Lugaid, líad 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 Sliabh Ullenn.

13. <i>Iarsin</i> ] desin B <i>mostic</i> ] nostig etc M <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> SK	14. <i>hassait</i> ] hasadair
Lc hasaídidh S <i>i</i> ] co LcS <i>Cruachan-maig</i> ] cruachain LeS	15. <i>Lugadair</i>
after cend L <i>ara</i> ] fora LBK ina Le <i>cend</i> ] cind S	16. <i>bun</i> ] mbún L
<i>sid-maige Silend</i> ] silend sírhubaid L sidhmuighi saileand M <sub>1</sub> sidhmuighi	17. <i>doróni</i> ]
saigleand M <sub>2</sub> sigmaighi soiglead K sigmaíne silenn Le	dorigne etc BLcM <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> K doroinne S <sub>3</sub>
	18. <i>for</i> ] ar RBM <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> K
<i>ammac</i> ] L a mac RBLcSS <sub>3</sub> H mac M <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> K <i>tria</i> ] tre B re Le trena M <sub>2</sub>	19. <i>am</i>
<i>tria</i> a S <sub>3</sub> rena K <i>tóeb</i> ] lár S	20. <i>balc-</i> ] taile S
K only	21–24.] in M <sub>1</sub> and
25–32.] om. LcS	25. <i>sorcha</i> ] dorcha B <i>dend</i> ] drenn etc LB
26. <i>rolen</i> ] lenais B roslen S <sub>3</sub>	27. <i>beinn</i> ] bend K <i>bátar</i> ] batatar M <sub>1</sub> bairdin
<i>fora</i> ] fon M <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> ara S <sub>3</sub> H <i>chind</i> ] cheand etc M <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub> H	28. <i>Furbaide</i> ]
om. M <sub>1</sub> furbaidhi (with forminn (?) superscr.) K <i>fossaid</i> ] forsaide L firgland	B om. K <i>forsaid</i> ] foireandh M <sub>2</sub> foirmenn S <sub>3</sub>
<i>a des</i> ] L ba he áos R ba hi ais M <sub>1</sub> ba hé a aois etc S <sub>3</sub> H ba hi a ais BM <sub>2</sub> K	29. <i>deēc</i> ] ed. déc etc codd.
30. <i>rosilad</i> ] ed. rosilad L rosilad B rosilaídhe RH dosilad K dasiladh M <sub>2</sub>	31. <i>bern</i> ]
<i>dosiolaidh</i> S <sub>3</sub> dahilad M <sub>1</sub> <i>Hériu</i> ] heř etc codd. <i>ar</i> ] ara M <sub>1</sub> gan B	32. <i>oc</i> ] in L
bn L bñ BS <sub>3</sub> beirn (?) e is superscr.) R	33. <i>Dul</i> ] doluid
(with vel dul superscr.) R teid LcS	34.] furbaidi na fraech lathar etc LcS
<i>romidair</i> ] mídair M <sub>1</sub> <i>tri</i> ] a RBK	35. <i>co torchair</i> ] condrochair etc RLcM <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub>
36. <i>Lugdach</i> ] luideach etc M <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> K <i>tri-</i> ] da BK om. LcM <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> S <i>riabnderg</i> ]	37. <i>Dolluid</i> ] luid etc M <sub>1</sub> K
<i>riabnderg</i> etc S <sub>3</sub> H riab roderg etc LcM <sub>1</sub> M <sub>2</sub> S	<i>liad</i> ] ba luad etc M <sub>1</sub> K luth S <sub>3</sub> <i>ar chacht</i> ] gan acht S iar ceacht S <sub>3</sub>
<i>ina iarmoracht</i> ] L isinniarmoracht etc RH isin iarmoracht etc SS <sub>3</sub>	38. <i>isaniarmoracht cat.</i>
40. <i>Uillend</i> ] cuillend R	39. <i>co torchair</i> ] condrochair etc RM <sub>1</sub> K condorair M <sub>2</sub>



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 eo tech Conchobair,  
 eo torchair a glaice Lugaid  
 in dét in maicc mó-r-phudair.

Uillend fáebur-derg fosfúair  
 mac Find uí Baiscne brat-rúaid : 50  
 táníc di chéin cían im gail  
 conid 'sin tسلیب tathamair.

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 Baiscne'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!

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41. *rroraind*] L duroind B daroind  $M_1 M_2 K$  doroind S doroinn H doroinde R dorindi Le doróini  $S_3$  *fadb*] adb K 43. *tre*] tria BLcM<sub>2</sub>  
 44. *is é*] de R *in gnim*] inní etc RBLcM<sub>2</sub>S indi  $M_1 K$  45. *selat*] selad etc BLcM<sub>1</sub> setal etc *cet*. 46. *dia*] do H *breith*] beith Le bet H *co tech*] a fail Le attech  $S_3$  atech H 47. *co torchair*] condrochair RLcM<sub>1</sub>K condorchair S *a glaice*] anglaic RLcM<sub>1</sub> *Lugaid*] lugad L luga Le 48. *in dét in maicc*] etan in  $\bar{m}$  etc RK aegegan co Le diaghnidh in mc  $M_1$  aedan gan  $M_2$  aghedan gun S indétan *con* etc  $S_3 H$  *mór-phudair*] morphudar L morthula Le morthulaigh  $M_2 SS_3 H$  49. *-dery*] om.  $M_2$  *fosfáir*] combuaid etc RBM<sub>1</sub>K fouair Le mac find S 50.] ba mac dúa bhaisene bhuangrinn S *Find*] dfind etc RBM<sub>1</sub>K dind Le 51. *di chéin*] L cen lén R om. B dochen LeS dacein  $M_1$  docheín etc  $M_2 S_3$  docein HK *cian im gail*] cian in gail Le cia in gabail  $M_2$  cian o thaigh S redg cen rubh R redhg gan on  $M_1$  readg K cruaid iol B 52.] *conasatledhb* ata sun R conid isin *tsléib* thuaid ata son B *'sin*] isin LS *tathamair*] adrochair Le adorchair S ata son  $M_1 K$  tathamail  $M_2$  53. *Ri*] rai  $M_1$  54. *é 'ná cech*] ech each Le e ina each K *ard-ri*] enri etc LeM<sub>1</sub>S 55. *ri corric*] nocotí etc RM<sub>1</sub>K rii conic etc BM<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H co rigi etc LeS *bráth*] in brach R in mbrath Le an mbrath S in brath  $M_1 K$  *bressim*] breissi  $M_2$  56. *ós*] o  $M_2$  *atá side*] ata se B ata sige  $M_1$  ata gach sige  $M_2$

## ÁTH LÍAC FIND

(First version)

MAELMURU *cecinit*

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

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

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

Dasuí Flathgus, gilla Find,  
 a gnuís ri gáir n-éomlaind,  
 docersat laiss, aimr ir-ran,  
 cethri cethrair, dá nónbar.

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

Dia n-éccid, foichne a scél,  
 foceirt 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 ngail  
 for mac Umaill di Laignib.

10

20

## 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:

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**Ath Liac Find I.** LM(158) *Attributed to Máelmuru 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. *cid diatá]* imarata M 2.] amair sloindid na seancha M 3.] cisi cuimni mar darall M 4. *fárgab]* foragaibh M *Find]* om. M 5. *Dia torchair]* Rotuargaib M 6. *trichait]* tricha M 9.] Dooreradar asoin ath M 10. *dá]* do M 11. *dá]* do M 12. *dá]* do M 13. *Dasui]* Arsæ M *Flathgus]* Flathgiùs L flaus M 14. *ri]* re M *n-écomlaint]* ecomlaint L negomlaid M 15. *airm ir-ran]* aiream ndron M 17-28.] om. M 20. *tri conchend]* read trén-chonchend

Dia táníc Sinand iarsin,  
ingen Mongáin as-sídib,  
dóbert líc eo slabraíd óir  
do Find mac Umaill alt-móir.

30

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

Ná melta riss, ruauthor gargg,  
acht gaí nó chlaidib nó chalg:  
ba óen a gessa iar tain  
comrac a thoíb ri talmain.

40

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

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

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

50

Ré secht mbládna iarsuidiu  
co bruinniu lathi brátha:  
ní frith buith immerthas:  
issed 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 Umall.

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.

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30. *Mongáin*] mogain M      31. *dobert*] dorad M      32. *do*] d L *Umail*]  
 cumail M      *alt-móir*] ardmoir M      33. *Rigis*] ed. rugais L raigis M      34.  
*liicc*] ed. lico L lig M      *thrén*] trén L rotren M      35. *a cend*] in ceand M  
 36. *guill*] guil L om. M      *fothroelagair*] sic L foradrablangair M *read* fodro-  
 lagair      37. *Ná meltu*] L ní meaelta M *gargy*] ngarg M      39.] ba éen a  
 geisse iarsain L ba hiad sin a gesa iardain M      40. *thoib*] thóeb L taeb M  
*ri*] fria M      41. *Danarlaic*] danarlaig L dianarlaig M      42. *donnanc*] L  
 riananaig M *lond-bág*] londba M      43. *Senchán acue*] Sencha nachus L  
 seancha 7 M      44. *darochratar*] L rorocradar M      45. *iarum*] iaraim M  
*foss*] fas M      47. *conatorchratar*] L gonastorchar M *Read* conid-tochrathar  
*fot*] forsán M      48. *im thignáir*] L iman tiub gair M      49. *Fagaib*]  
 fogeib M *de*] M moch L      50. *dianid*] L diarba M      51. *cóir*] M  
 báin L      52.] erin dergdrolam neargoir M      55. *buith immerthas* L  
 adbath ni feacus M *Read* mo buith im-merthas      56. *issed*] isse M

## ÁTH LÍAC FIND

(Second version)

Ath Líac Find, cía lía diatá,  
 finnat duinn 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 Echdach abrat-rúaid.

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

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

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

10

20

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

Adrochratar isin áth  
 cethri Conaill, dá Cholmán,  
 cethri Suibni, dá mac Bríec,  
 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 Áes Side, 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 Brecc, four Dubthachs, two Diarmaits.

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**Ath Liac Find II.** BLcM(162)SS<sub>3</sub>H      2. *finnat*] findaid etc LeS *na*] a LeS      3.] ciasa cuimne rodusdall LeS *cia dacuimnigh rodontall* M  
 4. *forfácaib*] rofacaibh S      7. *fri*] for Le *fria* S *in lēthe*] don leith LeS  
 8. *Echdach*] neathach M      9. *Sideng*] Seigeng Le *Sidhseang* M *Sinann* S  
 10. *sair*] saer BM a S *śidig*] sidhoibh S      11. *co tuc*] dorot S      12. *d'*  
*Find*] do LeS      13. *And dorat*] S *arsin tug (in litura)* S<sub>3</sub> *air dorad* etc  
*cet.*      14. *for*] fri M *guill*] gluinn etc LeM      15. *tairnic*] tainig M  
*airmed*] S *airdméd* B *airmid* Le *tairdbedh* S<sub>3</sub> *tairdb-* H *a ślóig*] in *tslóig*  
 etc LeS      17. *asin*] isin LcSS<sub>3</sub> *asin dun* B      18. *Echdach*] eatach M  
 19. *roriast*] roriast- S<sub>3</sub> *co riacht* S *chruth*] cl= H *comul*] B *comhall* *cet.*  
 20. *trén-*] trein B *tar* S *dreim* M *chonchend*] coincind etc BLc *comeinn* M  
*comtrom* S *conerd (retraced)* S<sub>3</sub> *na hirgaile*] an urlaidhe (*in litura*) S<sub>3</sub> *na*  
*hurlaidhe* etc MH      21. *Sinid*] sínis S      22. *dia*] do LeM *don* S<sub>3</sub>  
*tréuill*] treuilligh S      23. *in oind*] an oind S *in enn* Le *imeenn* M *in*  
*cend* *cet.* *muin*] bail Le      24. *forrēblangair*] forrablangair B *foreblangair*  
 Le *forleblangair* S      25-28.] *om.* BM      25. *Adrochratar*] atochradar S  
*isin áth*] S *sin san ágh* S<sub>3</sub> *sin san ath* etc *cet.*

Tarlaic Find a lia 'sa n-áth  
 ón uair táníc a lond-láth :  
 Bran ocus Senach is Sen,  
 is désin dorochratar.

30

Dorochair in lia 'sin lind,  
 dia ndernad enech fíal-Find :  
 iarum nochonfagaib nech,  
 conách é in sét somaínech ?

Fongeib ingen, comul nglé,  
 dianid comainm Bé Thuinde :  
 foceird a coissliásait cóir  
 trena aurdrolam nderg-óir.

40

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

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

## DRUIM CRIAICH

CUÁN ÚA LOTHCHÁIN *cecinit*

Druim Críach, céte cét cúan,  
 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 tri 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.

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30. *ón*] an S *uair*] lo M *a lond-láth*] a lonnath S ann sech each Lc  
 31. *Senach*] senan LcS<sub>3</sub>H *is*] na Lc an S 32. *dorochratar*] adrochradar  
 etc SS<sub>3</sub>H 33. *in lia*] a lia M 34. *enech*] ænach Lc 35. *nochon-*  
*Jagail*] noconadaib Lc nochafagaib etc MS<sub>3</sub>H 36. *conách e*] conuane M  
*Perhaps conacca* 37. *Fongeib*] fogeib LcS 38. *comainm*] ainm M  
 39. *cois-*] cas Lc 40. *aurdrolam*] hurdlomar Lc 41. *motarraing*] LcS  
*motairgairgeann* M *motairrgeann* etc *cet.* 43. *conid-*] conin S<sub>3</sub> *cona*  
*M faraib*] read fácaib *forsin*] fora B isin LcS ara M 44. *isir*] is B  
*tiugnair*] tiughdhai S tiughair M 45. *iarsin*] uad Lc ósin S 46.  
*ti*] tic B LcMH *mesraigthe*] mesraithe etc LeMS<sub>3</sub>H 47. *hé sin*] iarsin M  
*gnim*] ní S 48. *deg-áthal*] athasa LcS

*Druim Criaich. LBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H Ascription in L only* 2. *ciasa*] cersa  
 Lc cen cop L 3. *cid*] cia S *ba*] as S 4. *'s*] is L *om. cet. n-iar*]  
 nuair LLc naig B nait S nanaир (i *expunct.*) M nard S<sub>3</sub> nart H  
*nAirthir*] airther M *i n-ón-ló*] on aen ló etc LS 6. *asar'dáiled*] asrodaillead  
 etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H *thonaid*] tondaig B tannaigh M 7. *tri*] tribh S<sub>3</sub> 8. *óá*  
*n-*] can L on etc *cet.*

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

10

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

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

20

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

Cath im Lothur, cath im Nár,  
cath im Bress, fors' tardad sár:  
trí trichait cét each catha  
eo n-arm-sciáthaiib il-datha.

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

30

Co rosbréc dia póic pheeda  
do šaighthin a comlephtha,  
combad olc a fir 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.

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9. *cach n-écht*] L *intecht* etc LcS *cach echt* etc *cæt. dorochair*] BS<sub>3</sub>  
*darrochair* L *adrochairs* etc LcMH *doronadh* S 10. *ard*] *arda* B  
*slondud*] *soair* BM *sochar* S<sub>3</sub> *sochair* H *slechtadh* S 12. *dorala*]  
*robrostadh* S *do rig*] *la rí* S 14. *ri*] L *re* BLc *fri cæt. firén*] *fidren* Lc  
*fid-liss*] *firdhis* S 15. *dibad*] *dibad* Lc *dibdad* L *dígal* etc *cæt.* 16.]  
*anathair* do *athrighadh* S 17. *A hEmain*] *A emain* L for *emain* etc *cæt.*  
*éirgset*] *erctais* etc BMSS<sub>3</sub>H 18. *dar... dar*] L for ... *tar* Lc 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 SS<sub>3</sub> 22. *im-*]  
L is for LcS for *cæt. nÁi*] *nan* L *erctais*] *eresat* L *ereadais* S<sub>3</sub>H *fuidb*]  
*buirb* LLc 23. *i clár*] L is for LcS *i mag* etc *cæt. na Críachna*] *mag*  
*eruachna* Lc *magh* *Cruachan* S *cróda*] L *cora* etc *cæt.* 24. *na tri*] na  
*ttri* S<sub>3</sub> *catha*] *cathaib* etc MSS<sub>3</sub> (*perhaps rightly*) *commóra*] *comhroma* (*altered*  
*by original hand from comora*) S 26. *sár*] *far* B 27. *tri*] L *se cæt.*  
*trícháit*] *trícháit* etc LBS<sub>3</sub> xxx ad M *cét cach*] *gacha* S 28. *co*] *cona* S<sub>3</sub>  
*il-datha*] *illatha* M *ardlatha* Lc *ardflatha* S 30. *cia*] *ciab* B *dub-*]  
*díbh* etc SM *-dáil*] *dam* etc LLc *dochlu*] *dochru* LLc *dochla* S<sub>3</sub> *dochlai* H  
32. *Echach*] *ech* Lc *fiachach* S *il-chrothaig*] *fial* *scothaigh* S *finn* *scothaigh*  
etc MS<sub>3</sub>H 33. *dia póic*] *dá paic* L *phecdá*] *fechta* B *pheacaidh* S  
34. *do*] *dia* S *saigthin*] L *rochtain* Lc *riachtain* etc *cæt. a*] *na* S 35.  
*combad*] *conadh* S *comba* M *olc*] L *é* S *meidi* M *meisti* etc *cæt.* 36.]  
*roscorip* Clothra a *cæmdata* etc BH *roscorip* clothra *cæmdata* etc MSS<sub>3</sub>  
*a n-*] in Lc

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 Críech.

D.

Orru ria techt dar Druing tair  
cunchis ossud on athair  
co eend mír can chreich cen chath,  
ri teleud no ri giallad.

Ba gabáil etma don ríg  
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 mór immach  
do cholomnaib na Temrach.

Fir na Temrach da leith chlí,  
's é fein 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 firén Fabair.

Anais re troscud andsin  
rí Hérenn in n-aidchi 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.

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37. *Cingset*] cindsead Lc cinsid S assin *Chruachain chriaid*] 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 *cet*. *Druing*] L cruind etc *cet*.  
42. *Glais*] g. L *nElta*] mellta Lc 43. *imluaitis*] roluaid dis Lc roluaigh-  
dis S *imluaidhit* S<sub>3</sub>H 44. *ba hainm dō*] 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 MS<sub>3</sub> tárastar S  
tarrusair H *ina*] L na *cet*. 51. *acht*] is LcM *trichail*] LH tricha etc  
*cet*. *cain*] thair Le 52.] ni uair anu da escain Lc *tóir*] tir 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 cæmhsaimh M caemamsaib  
etc *cet*. 57-60.] in L only 61-64.] not in L 61. *dor*] do S  
62. *ósin*] asin etc LeS *Dá Glass*] dathghlas S<sub>3</sub> 65. *Anais*] ed. antais L  
fuapraid etc *cet*. re] L iar B ar SS<sub>3</sub>H ard LeM 67.] L im dail mis  
ba mor in mod etc BSS<sub>3</sub>H 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 SS<sub>3</sub> re tinol re timsogud Le ratinol (n)o ra(t)éal... H

Rothreissetar a throscud  
a thrí maic eo míhostud:  
ráidset friss, faichled in cath  
isin matin imbárách.

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 throat risna colomna,  
Lothur chucut-su rosaig,  
ucus Nar cussin n-amsaig.'

80

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

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

Lotar sair na slúaig aniar  
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-liath  
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 rotresistar S atreisetar (*in litura*) S<sub>3</sub> *throsclud*] thrascud L throsclad B troscad etc *cæt.* 70. *co michostud*] co minchastad Le cambái in castud L go micoscodod M 71. *ráidset*] maidset L raid M *faichled*] faichlig etc LeSM faichle S<sub>3</sub> 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*] bet S<sub>3</sub> bet H *mar*] feib etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H a] bar S 83.] L bid Bres brege leam bres bras etc *cæt.* 84. *leth-glas*] læb glas Lc 85.] L Nar ni geba ni racha etc *cæt.* 86.] L bid nar ic tabairt catha etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H oc tabairt in tren chatha Lc ic tabhaint an ard chatha S 87.] L *sech ni racat ni gebad* etc BS<sub>3</sub> acht ní racat ni gebat H ni rachad is ni rachad Lc ni rathad is ni gebad M ní rachad an dream a fad S 89. *Lotar*] L soiset etc *cæt.* 90. *atrácht in*] atracht L datracht in Lc *Perhaps ataracht* 91. *cor' chomraicset*] cu rachomraicset L co comrancatar B cu comrancad M co rancadar etc LcS go comhrainic etc S<sub>3</sub>H 93-96.] *after 104 L* 93. *sciath ri*] fri sciath B 94. *a thrichait cæt*] a tricha cet L a trichaid cet etc BS<sub>3</sub> a turelī.c. H a tri chæcaid etc LeMS 95. *ind átha*] a chatha S 96. *ina*] imar etc BLcMH *thoraind*] toraind etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H *tress-brátha*] tren bratha LcS<sub>3</sub> thromratha S *illeg. in H*

Rofíoch Bress dar in sruth síair:  
 raléicset na colomain:  
 ba d' immegud maic in ríg  
 cuná romáitís 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 slúaig uile  
 mar atraeht in deg-duine:  
 rofácsat ocht míli mart  
 ónd áth cosin n-áth-longphart.

Ní deochaid Eochaid dar ár:  
 fríth 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 immatiat,  
 cosin tráig ósin tur thrumm,  
 co tir in Náir i nUmull.

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 southwest of Loch Corrib.

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

97. *Rořich*] L fidis M fíchis *cet.* *dar in*] dari B tara LeM 98.] *ra-*  
*léicset*] L rolaigsead Lc roleicset etc *cet.* *na*] in B *colomain*] colom B  
*coimhlenmhain* S 99. *ba*] bad B *d' immegud*] dimnígad L denmnedhaigh  
*S<sub>3</sub>* dimnegaib H imned B *maic*] mne codd. *in*] i Lc 100. *cund romaitis*] L  
*na ramaiditis* etc BLeM ná romaidhitís S coromaidhtis a *S<sub>3</sub>* *illeg.* in H  
102. *amais*] amsach BMS<sub>3</sub> amsaigh S *illeg.* in H *Echach*] erend Lc each M  
103. *i cend*] L co lár etc *cet.* 104. *cor' chursetar*] L coralsatar etc  
*BMS<sub>3</sub>H* corolasad etc LeS *a*] an LeMSS<sub>3</sub> *illeg.* in H 105-108.] *om.* B  
105. *Soiset*] soichsead Le 106. *mar atracht*] ó trácht L 107. *rořacsat*] L  
*marbhar* dib etc LcS<sub>3</sub>H domarbtha S domarbtha dib M *mili*] *om.* M  
108.] dibh ósin cosin a longpart. S *ónd ath*] L osin LcS<sub>3</sub>H ohoin M  
109. *Ni*] nir M *deochaid*] L teghed etc BSS<sub>3</sub>H theacaid Lc theichidh M  
110. *fríh*] fri S *perhaps rightly lár*] tar *faces* of L: *doubtful* 112. *slaitte*] L  
*rosiacht* Lc roslécht etc *cet.* *na slóig*] L in slogan etc *cet.* 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 *cet.* Áth Fir Fen] L(?) but fir is doubtful mag  
*findfen* etc BS mag finn fén S<sub>3</sub> mag finnen Le magh finen M mag finn  
... H 115. *co*] do S<sub>3</sub>H *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 *cet.* *Dechet*] LLc teithet H  
*teched* etc *cet.* *immatiat*] dú atiad S minathiat M 119. *ósin*] cosin P  
*tw*] tes S *tír* etc S<sub>3</sub>H *om.* M *thrumm*] L tall etc *cet.* 120. in Náir] L  
*inair* etc BS *anair* LeMS<sub>3</sub> *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 eend díb fo leith  
 i e n-aidehi co Druim Crēich. D.

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

Nach gébad nech, gembad gar,  
 Temraig dar eis a athar  
 can rígid eturru neich  
 ón dál sin Dromma Crēich. D.

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

Dorala buachail Banba,  
 ba mac ríg, ba rig-damna,  
 ie comét na crích rochar  
 ar índith a da deg-brathar.

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

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

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 Maelsechnaill 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.

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121. *IN tres nónbur*] L nonbur aile etc *cæt.* 122. *ar*] dar etc BM *fut.*  
 fat L ud Lc *úair*] LB indúair *cæt.* 123. *dar*] L eo LcS sech etc *cæt.*  
 co] do BMSS<sub>3</sub>H *Cléith* etc BMS *Cor*] con L(?) fer S 125.] L  
 rolensta anair na tri Finn S<sub>3</sub> rolensta de na tri Find etc *cæt.* 126. *a*] na  
 LeS 127. *daruacht*] L eo toracht etc *cæt.* *dib*] L *om. cæt.* 128.  
*Criech*] criadh ghe 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 Lc  
 risbudh S risnad etc *cæt.* *ingnáth*] ingnad etc BMH 133. *Nach*] LLc  
 ni S na *cæt.* *gébad*] gebha S nech gembad gar] L mac srethaib gal etc *cæt.*  
 134. *Temraig*] LB temair etc *cæt.* *dar éis*] indiaid etc BLcSS<sub>3</sub>H 136. *ón*  
*dáil sin*] dun daim sin etc B (with vel don dal in margin) MS<sub>3</sub>H ond aimsirsi S  
*Criech*] criaid Lc *All texts but L end here*

Tanic i ndíaid a chrechi  
 aniar ar slicht na srethi:  
 ba comnart euing 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 fir  
 do triur Maelsechnaill ard-mir.

160

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

Ratheich cech oen robo beó,  
 rofacbad Gotán don gleo:  
 meraid eo tí bráth don breith  
 lecht Uí Duib i nDruim Chríreich.

D.

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

170

Domnall mae Dondchada déin  
 maic Flaind maic Melsechnaill feil  
 maic Maelruanaid Rath a in Chraind  
 maic Dondchada maic Domnaill.

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

180

Colman mae Diarmata duind  
 maic Fergusá mae Conuill  
 maic Neill maic Echach na n-each  
 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,

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

Feradach fechtnach fer bend,  
 darbo thuillmech tir nHerend :  
 ni geibtis Gædil nó Gaill  
 ri mac Fiachaeh maic Crimtaind,

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

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

Rofás and óc-druth amra  
 Lachtña mac Taidg hui Gadra  
 is áibinniti fo deich  
 Druim cain cath-buadach Críreich. D.

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

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

190

200

210

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 dindšenchas ?  
 in eualabair 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 ríg nÉrenn, nírb úabor,  
 eo tart hi Temraig na trét  
 slúag ingen dia himhomét.

10

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

Ó rogabsat ríg rige  
 tochmarc Túaige tond-gile,  
 rochúala Manannán mass,  
 eo roscar hi cét-šercas.

20

Cartais Manannán mac Lir  
 techta 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  
 druf de thuathaib 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 Eterscél 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<sub>3</sub>H EdK *Attributed in L to Bard Maile* 1.  
*gáeth]* a gaet B 3. *in]* n̄ B *cualabair]* fetabair etc BEdK *chaire]* mine  
 Ed bine K 4. *tond-glaine]* toindgile EdK toghaidhe S 5. *tainne-  
 mach]* hetrochtach etc LED 7. *rosall]* roalt LcEd *ligi]* laighi SEd  
 loighe H laide M luidhe S<sub>3</sub> 9-12.] *after 16 K* 10. *nirb úabor]* etc  
 LK mor in modh Ed ean uabar Lc gan uamon etc *cæt.* 11. *co tart]*  
 LK go taird Ed dorad *cæt.* *hi]* co K 12. *himchomét]* imchomet LED  
 13. *Áes tri cōic]* Áes tri chóic L Re tri cuig Ed Re trichat K O áes chóic etc  
*cæt.* *mbliadna]* bliadan K *cen brath]* co mblaid L *cen brat* M 14.] ba  
 slan dingin a brathar etc BLLeMS<sub>3</sub>H dingin Chonaill chollamraach S 15.  
*ni leictis]* nocho leigdís Ed nir leged Lc gan aighidh S *fir duib]* dub Ed  
*ná]* no K 16. *chuici]* dfaicsin S *glé-grind]* glaingrind etc BK glebind  
 etc LcS<sub>3</sub>H 17. *Ó rogabsat]* marogabsat K rocharsat S *rig]* ri S<sub>3</sub> *rigé]*  
 ruigi Le 18. *tond-gile]* tonnglone Lc tæb ghile S 19. *rochiala]* LK  
 roseuala etc EdH noseuala *cæt.* 20. *co roscar]* guruscar Ed roscar L  
 ecorochar S rocarsidhe K nuscarand etc BS<sub>3</sub>H nosearcand Lc *illeg.* in M  
*hi]* i L i Ed a LcS ar S<sub>3</sub>HK ara M arar B *cét-sercas]* coimerchas K  
 21. *Cartais]* L curidh Ed *illeg.* in M faidis etc *cæt.* 22. *dia hindsaigid]*  
 gusan inghin etc KS gus inghin Ed dia indsraigd etc LLc 23. *miaid]*  
 mbuaidh etc EdK 24. *fri]* re L co etc BSEdK *Túaig]* traig BLcS  
*anairthuaid]* aniairtuaid M 26. *ba Fer Fí]* ba fer hí K fer flugail B fer  
 fighail etc SS<sub>3</sub>H fer fingail M 27. *lann]* lend etc LK 28. *drw]*  
 badrai Ed *Danann]* donand L

Atnaig in druí, mar rodlecht,  
 ir-richt óc-mná for imthecht,  
 cor-ránic in gríanán nglan  
 i mbátar ind ingenrad.

30

Anais in druí hi Temraig thind  
 teora aidchi 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 rošeind 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, unfaltering, 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 Lc cengur dlecht K 30. *ir-richt*] arricht K 31. *cor-ránic*] guriacht (supplied in later hand) Ed *in*] gusin Ed 32. *i mbátar*] áit irrabha Ed 33. *Anais*] fois B faidis etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> atnait K . . . sig M *illeg. in H* 34. *théit-bind*] théthbind L theidbind etc LcMS<sub>3</sub> tébind K taebseing etc EdB thaibhfhind S *illeg. in H* 35. *fo deilb*] irricht etc EdK 36. *fo*] LED i BM a LcSS<sub>3</sub>H tre K *chorus*] LED corus BS<sub>3</sub>H corthair etc LcMS cairdes K *choir*] eóir etc S<sub>3</sub>EdK cuir etc LBH a LcMS *chomthanais*] K comadhaiis Ed comthanais etc *cæt.* 37-40.] *illegible in H* 37. *Sin chethramaid*] L san cethramadh etc LcK isin cethramadh etc SS<sub>3</sub> in ceathramad B . . . ceathramad M ceathramad Ed *tráth*] trú L adhaigh Ed *om.* MSS<sub>3</sub> *ba tróig*] gan clodh S truagh ceol Ed 38. *canais*] L canaid EdB imsaui K rochan etc *cæt.* 39. *i n-]* *om.* Ed *col-lin mod*] LS<sub>3</sub> colinand B rolin mod M mor in mod etc LeSK ba mor in modh Ed 40. *tuc*] L rue 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 rosein*] is roseafain etc MS<sub>3</sub>H *sian-traiges*] suandargles Lc 43. *ó thaig*] áthraig 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*] barrecaisi M 45. *Fosruirim*] forruirimh S<sub>3</sub> rosfirim LcS fagaídh Ed fagbus K *'sin*] forsin LED is Lc lí san K 46. *luid*] teit etc BEDK *iarrair*] LM iarraid etc *cæt.* *imláin*] imslain etc LeEdK 47. *dotháet*] L doig Ed co tanic etc *cæt.* *in tond*] L tond in Ed tond etc *cæt.* *tig*] thigh BED 48. *báidis dia eis*] gonasbaidh ulf Ed badhaigh dia eis K

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

50

Inber nGlasgamna na ngním  
rop ed a ainm cen anfir  
eo táníc díth mná meic Lir,  
conid de atá Túaig Inbir. T.

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

60

Trí tonna hÉrenn uile,  
Tonn Chlidna, Tonn Rudraige,  
in Tonn robáid mnáí 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.

Eocho, 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.

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49-52.] *om.* L 49.] K doluidh in drai nirbo deis Ed doluid in drai dia tes (thais S) etc BLcMSS<sub>3</sub> *illeg.* in M 50. ó 'tchuala in] K adhe do Ed rodaluaid BS<sub>3</sub>H rodoluid etc MS rodluid in Lc *diless*] dileis Ed dimes S<sub>3</sub>H *illeg.* in M 51. *rosmudaig*] ed. romudaig K gorosmarbh Ed coromarb Lc rodusmarb S nomarband etc BMH nonmarbhann S<sub>3</sub> 52. *úair nach*] o na B mar nach Lc orna M arna S<sub>3</sub>H *riacht*] K rícht Ed ruacht B ruc etc *cet.* *ingen*] ingin M 53-56.] *after 60* K 53. *nGlasgamna*] L nglais nglouna Lc nglais nglanna M nglána B ngalais nglonna Ed glas glonda K glais glonda H glais glanda S<sub>3</sub> glais glenda S *ngnim*] rígh K 54.] a hainm reime nír ainfir K *rop ed*] L robe Ed ba hed etc *cet.* *cen anfír*] 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<sub>3</sub>H 57-60.] *after 156* L *after 52* K *after 64* MS<sub>3</sub>H *not in* BLcSED 57. *Dodechaid*] diandechaidh etc S<sub>3</sub>H iarsin luigh K 58. *il-lurg*] diarraig K *om* M 59.] ni caem cech ar imhaigh de K *oigris*] L roairg etc MS<sub>3</sub>H *Elle*] eile H *Lé*] leo M 60.] maræn re tidbas tuaighe K 61-64.] *after 160* LLc *after 56* *cet.* 61. *uile*] aige L 62. *Clidna*] 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 tuaig inbir Le dianad comainm t. i. etc MSS<sub>3</sub>H 65-end.] *om.* EdK 66. *las' bad*] resbad L risbod Lc 67. *noslingtis*] rolingdis etc LcH *maic*] fir Le 68. *ria*] le B 69. *Eocho*] Eochaid etc LeS 70. *chomadais*] cloidhimhglais S 71. *roléic*] dorad etc LeS *thend*] tind Lc thinn S<sub>3</sub> 72. *ard-ben*] oichen S *Eblend*] aiblind Lc aibleand S

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

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

80

Nirb úathad don dédiu dil  
co n-almaib co n-indilib:  
mile fer móir, maidit raind,  
scurset cen brón oc Bóind.

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

Ansat dar ergaire ind fir  
fescor d' adaig 'na tigib:  
dotháet chuecu, foceird úail,  
marbais a n-eochu i n-éen-úair.

90

Iarsein atbert athesc n-ard  
ri mac Maireda móir-garg:  
'Mani dingbaid dím, chena,  
mairfet-sa far muintera.'

'At móra th' uile rind, a laích,  
ar mac Maireda móir-gaith:  
'ní rucam lind ar erod cain  
iar ndíth ar ngrega glomraig.'

100

Co tart dóib Oengus cen fell  
ech móir, mó d' echaib Érenn,  
dia n-idnacul ón Bóind braiss  
fa crud, eid 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.

Eecho 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 Board.

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 Board bearing their chattels, as far as they should go.

73. *Eblend*] Aeblend L Aiblend Lc *gil*] L glain *cet.* 74. *a*] o BMSS<sub>3</sub>  
*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. *Eecho*] Eochaid etc LeSS<sub>3</sub>  
*eoeh* BM *Eblend*] Aeblend L *ena*] nena L *enaigh* S<sub>3</sub> 78. *maith*]  
*iath* B *mac* S 79. *elait*] etc LLc *lotar* etc *cet.* *do lár*] LLc *di chlar*  
*etc cet.* 80. *amnaiss*] imtais B 81. *don dédin*] daneidiu Le 82.]  
*cona almaib* dinnilib L *cona nalmaib* innilib M 83. *mile*] L *im* B *in*  
*cet.* *mór*] mor sin LeS *maidit*] etc LB moltais etc *cet.* *raind*] rinn M  
85. *ara*] fora B *cind*] cenn S<sub>3</sub> 86. *da thir*] L *na tir* BM *o tir* S *a thir* S<sub>3</sub>  
*a tir* H *droch scel* Lc 87. *mór ind neim*] L *mor ineim* B *buan an ail* Lc  
*buan ind ail* etc *cet.* 88. *in n-aidchi sin*] anænmadain M 89. *Ansat*] L  
*anaid* etc *cet.* *dar*] ar BLc *do MS ergaire*] erngaire B *aimhdheoin* S *ind*  
*Jir*] *om.* B 91. *dotháet*] dotae M *chuccu*] anar Le *arar* M *an fer* chueu  
*S focheird*] focheirt L *foet* H *focerd* S<sub>3</sub> *focheard* Lc *om.* S *úail*] arnuall  
*S* 92. *marbais*] marbaid etc BLcS<sub>3</sub>H *marb*—M 93. *Iarsein abert*] L  
*adrubairt* etc BH *adubairt* etc *cet.* *athesc*] L *a aithesc* etc BS<sub>3</sub>H *do*  
*aitheasc* Le *tria aithisc* S *a heasc* M *n-ard*] ard L *naird* S 94. *ri*] re Lc  
95. *dingbaid*] dingba LcM *dingmha* S *dim*] din M *dinn* S *duin* S<sub>3</sub> *chena*]  
*tana* M 97. *leich*] laech L 98. *-gaith*] gáeth LBM 99. *rucam*] ruca  
*etc* MSS<sub>3</sub>H 100. *iar ndith*] can L *glomraig*] glomhrair M 101. *Co tart*] co  
*tard* L *dorat* etc *cet.* *fell*] ell L *eill* M 102. *mór*] ba S *Read perhaps* ech  
*mou echaib* Érenn 103. *idnacul*] idlucad Lc *iglucad* M *ón*] o MH *go* S<sub>3</sub>  
104. *f'a*] L *foa* HS<sub>3</sub> *fo* *cet.* *crud*] cradh S *noragtais*] nogabdais BLcMS

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

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

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

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

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

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

110

120

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. <i>Abert</i> ] L <i>adrubairt</i> BH <i>adubairt</i> etc. <i>a chartad</i> ] L <i>a chur</i> Le <i>a cor</i> etc <i>cet.</i> for <i>cil</i> ] L <i>ar cul</i> etc <i>cet.</i>	110.
<i>ind eich</i> ] int <i>eech</i> Le <i>mór</i> ] mor Le <i>cosin mirín</i> ] <i>conimad</i> run Le <i>sin gu</i> <i>mirún</i> S	111. <i>suil</i> ] L <i>siu</i> <i>cet.</i> <i>síled</i> ] etc <i>LcS<sub>3</sub></i> <i>siled</i> etc <i>cet.</i> <i>fechoir</i> ] <i>fethar</i> MS <sub>3</sub> <i>fetar</i> H <i>ngnás</i> ] <i>ngnais</i> <i>LcM</i> <i>gnas</i> <i>BS<sub>3</sub>H</i> 112. <i>arnach tisad</i> ] L <i>arna tísadh</i> de S <i>ar tisad</i> de <i>BS<sub>3</sub>H</i> <i>ara tisad</i> de M <i>is na tisad</i> de Le	
113-116.] after 120 all <i>codd</i> , but L	113. <i>Dothiagat</i> ] L <i>atagad</i> B <i>atagat</i> H <i>adaghad</i> S <sub>3</sub> <i>atad</i> M <i>adnadat</i> Le <i>adnadhad</i> S <i>dia domnaig dil</i> ] L <i>for conair</i> <i>cain</i> etc <i>cet.</i>	
114. <i>im-mis</i> ] a mi Le <i>mí</i> S <i>medoin</i> ] <i>imedoin</i> B <i>yogamair</i> ] <i>fogmair</i> LB <i>in fhoghamhair</i> S <i>an foghmail</i> etc <i>MS<sub>3</sub>H</i>	115. <i>laigis</i> ] <i>luidis</i> S <sub>3</sub> H <i>int ech</i> ] <i>aneich</i> B	116. <i>fescor liain</i> ] <i>isin luan</i> M <i>il-Liath-</i> <i>muine</i> ] <i>oc liathmuine</i> etc BM
<i>ord</i> L <i>adagad</i> a <i>erod</i> etc <i>BS<sub>3</sub></i> <i>atagat</i> a <i>crodh</i> H <i>atadhad</i> a <i>erod</i> M <i>adadat</i> <i>di a erod</i> Le <i>adragad</i> <i>di a crodh</i> S	117. <i>Ataig</i> <i>cách a chrod</i> ] <i>ed.</i> <i>ataig</i> <i>each cá</i> etc <i>cet.</i> <i>dind eoch</i> ] <i>dia neoch</i> etc <i>MSS<sub>3</sub>H</i> <i>dia neochu</i> B	118. <i>gatsat</i> ] L <i>cadait</i> Le <i>gadaid</i> 119. <i>dál</i> ] L
<i>bag</i> B <i>bad</i> Le <i>baid</i> etc <i>MS<sub>3</sub></i> <i>baigh</i> H <i>béd</i> S	120. 'na <i>athlorg</i> ] <i>dia</i> <i>rithlorg</i> M <i>na frithlorg</i> etc <i>SS<sub>3</sub>H</i>	121. <i>rofuirged</i> ] L <i>deillig</i> etc <i>cet.</i> <i>and</i>
<i>L andsin</i> etc <i>cet.</i>	122. <i>a immarchor</i> ] <i>imurchor</i> etc BM <i>animochar</i> Le	
<i>a imaghor</i> S	123. <i>silis</i> ] <i>silid</i> etc <i>LeS</i> <i>accu</i> ] <i>seocco</i> B ( <i>perhaps rightly</i> )	
<i>fual</i> S	124. <i>corbo</i> ] <i>gur</i> S <sub>3</sub> <i>is</i> ] <i>LLc</i> as H i B a MS <sub>3</sub> <i>fo</i> S <sub>3</sub>	125.
<i>Dothaef</i> ] L <i>adnaid</i> etc <i>cet.</i> <i>Echo</i> ] <i>eachaith</i> etc <i>S<sub>3</sub>H</i> <i>dremm</i> ] <i>a dremm</i> etc LM		
<i>drend</i> etc <i>BS<sub>3</sub>H</i>	126. <i>dogni</i> ] <i>doní</i> L <i>tech</i> ] <i>a teach</i> M <i>athech</i> S <sub>3</sub>	
<i>itech</i> (?) H <i>inna</i> ] <i>na</i> <i>LS<sub>3</sub></i>	127. <i>chol</i> ] <i>chor</i> Le	128. <i>forin</i> ] <i>forsan</i> H
<i>bádod</i> ] <i>dibad</i> B		

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

130

Airechas nEchach iarsin  
sáegul noídeedai i nEmain :  
ataig col-láechraíd Line  
úair thánie dó a thairngire.

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

140

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

Conid ó Chonaing een chess  
rocinset in chland chomdessa,  
Dál sáer Selle, slúag cor-rath,  
œus 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 thír co Túaig Inbir. T.

Rop sen in flaith, fegait raind,  
tairneec 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!

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129. *Atnaig*] adnaid etc BLcMS adnaigh S<sub>3</sub> *Eochu*] eochaideh S<sub>3</sub> *i*] L a M om. cæt. 130. *ri*] re Le fria S *rioraid*] rindchruaid Lc 131. *ran-nais*] reannais Lc *ri Muiredach*] mac muireadha S<sub>3</sub> 132. *n-Ulad*] ulad etc LBcS *n-Érenn*] nírenn S<sub>3</sub> airmem etc LeS 133. *Airechas*] aithreochus etc LeMS *n-Echach*] eochach etc BLcS 134. *sáegul*] cioghal S<sub>3</sub> *noideedai*] naigeeda Lc naideacha M naoiteacdhá S 135. *ataig*] L oluid etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H doluid etc LeS *Line*] lindi Lc 136. *úair tháinig*] L eo tanic etc cæt. *a thairngire*] i tairrngire H 137. *ina thaig*] L isin tig etc cæt. 138. *and 'ca*] and coa L ocea etc cæt. *athigid*] tathaigid etc LeS hathighi M 139. *ná rosiad*] narsiad L na rosia B na roiadh S *in ben*] iben B 141. *topor*] tipra BM tonna S 143. *Eocho*] eochaid etc LcSS<sub>3</sub>H 144. *acht mac*] L acht mad etc cæt. *dia ngairthea*] L dairiu 7 BLc dairi 7 etc MS<sub>3</sub>H airiu oecus S 145. *o*] on BMS<sub>3</sub>H 146. *rocinset*] rocinset etc BS<sub>3</sub> *in chland*] i cland B 147. *Selle*] saille S<sub>3</sub> *cor-rath*] ga rat B 148. *mBian*] mbuain etc LeS *mbendachtach*] mbennachtnach L Mureadach Lc 149. *ordan*] ordain Le 151. *is desin*] L conid aire etc cæt. 153. *na n-ess*] na nech Le om. S 154. *cét*] cet mbliadna L *iar ngein*] iarnaghen S *do Dia*] odia B *diless*] dúilech etc LeS 155.] doratadh in mbanna mibil S *dorat*] diñ H *Bannai*] banba etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H 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.

Flidais ainm na mná-sin  
 ingen Gairb maic Grésraig  
 ind fairenda fíal-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.

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

Oen tarb ríabach rempu,  
 ba triallach fri tentu  
 oea mbáig ar búaraib  
 ar chúanaib ar chentu.

Mná blegoin nísbáigtis,  
 fir dreuin nísbáigtis :  
 ciambad slúaig noslúitis  
 nísbáitís nísbáitís.

10

20

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.** LBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H *Much of L is illegible* 1. *dam*] damhna S<sub>3</sub> *aichne*] aichi Lc *dige*] ágha S<sub>3</sub> aige etc *cæt*. 2. *hi taithme*] h . . . chme L intaime B ataicme MS atraithme Le itaithme S<sub>3</sub> i taichmea H 3. *cen*] cenn H *bró-guine*] breoguine LcS *báire*] ed. mbáire etc BSS<sub>3</sub>H mbaigi Lc mbaine M *illeg.* in L 4. *biáine*] uaine Lc *om*, M 5. *Fáth*] feacht S *dia*] fa M 6. *ni*] bus S 7. *liaidset*] luaidfid etc BM *im*] mo B *lebur*] lebur L 8. *is*] ad Lc *memuir*] memur L 10. *ngalla*] ngilla Lc 11. *mnaí*] muig M *múaidh* S *luáig*] luag etc LcMS 15.] dobi sin re rogairm Le *fairenda*] aireala S 16. *fésaig*] ésecaidh S 17. *Co rothóed*] S corothæ etc BLcMH gorothaoth S<sub>3</sub> *illeg.* in L 20. *bó*] *om*, S 21. *didu*] dídhú S dioghdha S<sub>3</sub> *denus*] denais B 22. *oc*] eor Lc co S 23. *fán*] san M *nosfóelad*] rosaelad (?) L dosfælad Le nossælad (*in litura*) M 24. *tucsat*] gabhsat S *linad*] lenad Lc 26. *tentu*] tenntuib Lc 27. *oca mbáig*] oca inbaid Le oca mbaid M oga mbáidh S<sub>3</sub> *búarait*] bu . raig (*with 'vel b' superscr.*) L 28. *chentu*] centaib etc BS 29. *nisbligtis*] niblidis Le 30. *dremuin*] demuin L *nisbáigtis*] nosbaigtis etc SH nosraidis Le dospaigdis M *oblit.* in L 31. *ciambad*] ciamba L(?)M ciambaid B *slúraig*] slúag LeM *nosliituis*] nosluidis LcMS<sub>3</sub> no sluidhdis S nossluitis H nosluigatis B . . sluictis L 32.] in búar níasadbaidhdís S ni brudis ni baidis Le *-báitis*] baitis etc BS<sub>3</sub>H baidis M baigtis L

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

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

40

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

Altrom faram aicce  
 ria ríarad cen ruiice,  
 mac Néill co neim, agair,  
 Fíach cadail is cruitte.

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

50

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

Roráid rissa muimme  
 tria luinne co lonn-baig,  
 '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* Lc *nogéissed*] nodgessid L nodgesed B 35. *bó ni bid*] nj bid bo etc BMS<sub>3</sub> 'sin tir-sin] don buar sin Le 36. *risin*] LS ruasin Lc *risin cæt*. Probably *ríchtin in búair-sin*] an uairsin LeS<sub>3</sub> an uair sin with b superscr. S and oair sin H in buar sin M 38. *búair*] buar etc LcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 39. *dia chloisin*] dia sealsi Lc discáilisid S dia cloisi M dia claiassin S<sub>3</sub> 41. 'sin bruig-sin] sa bruidin Le 43. *Echtgal*] L echtagh etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H eeda Lc áine isi S *Uatha*] uathaid Le uath- H 46. *ria*] ro LeM lē S *riarad*] riaraidh S *cen rucce*] each reeda etc LeS 47.] Fiacho m̄c neill náraigh etc LeS *co*] cen L (*hardly legible*) 48.] fear in gabaid gresta etc LeS *Fiach*] fiac BH fiaco M *cadail*] adail M *cruitte*] cruchi M *cruice* H 50. *tresna*] triana (?) L *seónu*] seodu Le sed na M sédo S *sóeba*] sáera LeS 52. *secht*] ocheit S *rosbróna*] rosbrena LB nosbraena S 53. *brugh*] brugh M *bó-sa*] bo-sain etc LSS<sub>3</sub>H 54. *im*] re LeS fo H *thréin-si*] tresse B treisi M trein sin etc SS<sub>3</sub>H 55. *cor-júcaib*] L (?) Lc *forfácaib* etc *cæt*. *fo*] eo S 56. *Fiachra*] . . acha L fiacha M *ind Néill*] meil B ineill Lc aneill S<sub>3</sub> 59. *Fiuchra*] B fiacha etc LcMS fiach- etc S<sub>3</sub>H *oblit.* in L 60. *notimliuaid*] gotiomluaidh S<sub>3</sub> *fri*] re S<sub>3</sub> ra H ro LeM na B in S *oblit.* in L 61. *Éirg hit rémimm*] eirg ad remind Le heirg id remhnim (?) M éiridh rémind S heirg hit erim B *illeg.* in L 62. *sir in*] sir leat LeS sir im S<sub>3</sub>H *n-áithaig*] nathaig etc LBH athaid Le uathaigh M fháthaigh S nsáthaigh S<sub>3</sub> 63. *bó-threib*] bóthaigh etc LeS 64. *gnóthaig*] gnotheich L (?) gnoiteich M gnoitec 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 ruse ó brí brúachaig  
 do sídaib nó śamlaib,  
 d' almaib ocus d' úathaib.

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 mbrainech,  
 rosmarb dar cech mag-ar,  
 ba calad a chlaideb.

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 tríathu tairec,  
 rostenn cen nach n-amarc :  
 tá sund benn i failte. 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 chieftest 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. <i>iarma</i> ] iarum etc LeS iarna M <i>reime</i> ] reimib M	66. <i>Fiachra</i> ] <i>Fiachra</i>
fiacha etc LLeS <i>fer dar</i> ] fer is Le <i>fearus</i> S : <i>perhaps ferais</i>	69. <i>Ni bid</i> ]
in mbi Le	70. <i>ruse ó bri</i> ] ruse o brig B <i>ruscoise bri</i> Le <i>roskos brigh</i> M
	<i>rus coise brigh</i> S <i>ruse os bri</i> S <sub>3</sub> <i>ruse os brig</i> H . . . <i>scob . . . can be made out in</i>
	<i>L : rest of line obliterated</i>
	72. <i>d' almaib</i> ] da linaib B do alinib Le do
	<i>linaib</i> M da . . . b L <i>ocus d' uathaib</i> ] do <i>thuathaib</i> Le do <i>uathaibh</i> S
73. <i>Mar</i> ] ar LeS	75. <i>rith réim</i> ] rath rem Le <i>rath reim</i> M <i>roth rem</i> S
	<i>raith reim</i> H <i>reimim</i> S <sub>3</sub> <i>roglaich</i> ] roglan BLcMS
	76. <i>cen</i> ] an S
	79. <i>rosmarb</i> ] romarbh etc S <sub>3</sub> H <i>dar</i> ] do Le
81. <i>mart-gail móir</i> ] monar mor Le	80.] can anad can <i>fuireach</i> Le
	82. <i>dorigni</i> ] doringni L <i>dorindi</i> etc
LeSS <sub>3</sub> H 'sind iair-sin]	83.] o <i>brogaine</i> in bá
L arna buaib-sin etc <i>cet</i> .	84. <i>in buair-sin</i> ] LS on buar sin Le
sí L <i>bró-guine</i> ] bóbruighe S	85. <i>Fiachu</i> ] fiachaidh S <sub>3</sub> <i>fuirec</i> ] <i>fuireach</i> etc LeM
on uair sin <i>cet</i> .	86. <i>tairec</i> ] L <i>taireat</i> etc BLcMH <i>tuiret</i> etc SS <sub>3</sub>
	87.] <i>fostainten</i> can
	achmore Le <i>biaidh gan fell a fhoillS</i> S
	88. <i>tá sund benn</i> ] an aird treb
Le isin beind S <i>fuil sunn benn</i> S <sub>3</sub> H	

## SLIAB BETHA

Atchíu lecht deóraid do chéin,  
 fert fir threóraig fo thrúag-néim,  
 diarbo chomainn fo gnoí glain  
 Bith mae Nói eo neim adbail.

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

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

Cid Bith, ní búan in balar,  
 rosfuc crith is congalar,  
 a mná fodéin claidset elud  
 isin tسلیib dia adnacul.

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

A Chríst cen chrith ós cach eúan  
 nach arlaic Bith co bith-búan,  
 nírbam trúag hit treib thall trá  
 iar lúad cach neich adchí-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!

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**Sliab Betha.** BLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *lecht*] sliab etc LcMS *deiraid*] ed. ndeoraig M ndeorad etc LcS deorad etc *cet*. *do chéin*] ieen Lc aceín S 2. *fo*] co LcS 3. *fo gnoi*] fo gne B congnaí S *glain*] nglain etc LcMS 4. *adbail*] nadbail etc BLcS 5. *laithe*] lughe B 1. agh (a letter erased) M 6. *saithe*] snaithi Le saitei M *snéd-bián*] snebuan Lc sneighbuan M sírbuan S 7. *Érinn*] eri Lc *re*] iar M 8. *ndírimm*] ndírimaib Lc *-chuirib*] BLc thuirib etc *cet*. 9. *co mbáig*] combaid LcM 11. *báig*] baid etc LcMS 12. *muiridin*] cuiridin etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H *muiridgin* Lc 13. *in balar*] adbalar S 14. *rosfuc*] rofuc B rafuc M nosrue Lc 15. *claidset*] claisett B claisid etc MS *clud*] cladh B(m.s. above line)S clod Lc 16. *isin*] isa B 17. *rend*] rand etc LcMS 18. *mbúaball*] mbuachall Le mbeimenn S<sub>3</sub>H 19.] corp delbde in danfir dana Lc in marb is a sam-hail so S cuirp inair narbu diu M *dia*] dú S<sub>3</sub> 20. *maraid*] is marb Lc *adchi-siu*] adchiu ss Lc adchiu so S 21. *chriith*] erich etc LcS 22. *nach arlaic*] naharlaic B nacharlaic Lc naharlaig M nacharleic S nartarlaic S<sub>3</sub> natarlaic H 23. *hit treib*] i treib BM a threb Lc 24. *luad*] luag Lc *neich*] neach Lc

## ÁTH NGRENCHA

Áth nGrencha, coímhloifid ainm  
 do gníomh Chon, rúanaid rogarib:  
 fail sund gabuil cethri mbenn  
 do cheist for feraib Érenn.

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

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

10

Ogam fail sin gabuil glúair,  
 findat na druíde co húain:  
 is cíá dorat intti in tsain,  
 cíá lín roscland hi talmain.

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

20

‘Rosfuach is rosfuc ria aiss,  
 cid ed, nírb engnam imthaiss,  
 is dosfarlaic síos iarsin  
 dia gait d’ fir 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)BLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. *nGrencha*] ñgrena L ngabla LeS *coimchlóifid*] clairemchlaifid L clæmceloidfidh B clæchoigfid L clæchoifidh M cæmceloidfidh S caomhcloidfidh etc S<sub>3</sub>H      2. *gniml*] gnimui B gnimrad M *Chon*] oh B *rianaid*] ruaid ruaid M      4. *do cheist*] do theasecc etc LeS do cest etc BH do ceast M *ferail*] flora S<sub>3</sub>H      5. *for*] ara BS<sub>3</sub> ar *cæt*. *dá mbeinn*] da bend LeS da beind B *mana n-dig*] mana aig etc MS<sub>3</sub> mbananach S buan in daigh S      6. *Fochnáim*] fochlafmh S<sub>3</sub> 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. *ashii*] asluid etc LeS      12. *at ruamnaidi*] etc BH ad ruamnaide etc MS<sub>3</sub> ad ruamannda Lc na ruamandaibh S      13.] Gá ogum sút ina taeb L *Ogam*] acom Lc      14. *findat*] findaid etc LS *na druide*] a druide L druidhe duin etc S<sub>3</sub>H na heicis S *co hiain*] co næb L éombuaid M ar nuair S      15. *is cia*] ea fer S *in tsain*] B intain Le iartain S innsin etc S<sub>3</sub>H sain L sin M      16. *lin*] laim M *roscland*] rochland etc LeSM *hi*] fon B      17. *gür*] út L gluair etc LeS *co lin gus*] co ngráin guiss L      18. *adchiu*] ita etc LeS atchisiu L *ar Fergus*] for F. BMS<sub>3</sub>H bar F. LeS a Fherguis L      19. *rothesc*] rostesc L *as*] SS<sub>3</sub> ar *cæt*.      20. *do buille*] daenbuilli B *chrithir*] erichid etc LS<sub>3</sub>H      21. *Ros/uach*] rostoc LeS *rosfuc*] rotue Le rostue S      22. *cid*] gerb etc S<sub>3</sub>H *om.* B *nirb*] ni L *engnam*] airimh S      23.] is dassarlaic sis arsain L is rothease rosfarlaic sin Le      24. *gait*] beim S *d' fir*] fir Le *uaib*] uaibsi LM *a*] as L is Le

Aurard, romert isin maig  
i carput Chruain is Chnámraig :  
i Fán Chrúain forsin tóilige  
fofúair bás is bith-bine.

Araid Orlaim, arduseíu,  
i combuch i cróligiu  
(mo chin rosmenta), míad ngann,  
eter lechta is láem-anmann. 30

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

Áth nGrencha a ainm, mad cose,  
méraid la cásca a chuíne :  
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 ris 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 aníar, ní hettal,  
muir n-Orc is muir n-úar-Brettan  
condrecait im garg-bláid ngrinn  
eter Albain is Éirinn. 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. *om. L*                    25. *romert*] romnert Lc roneart etc S<sub>g</sub>H                    26. *i carput*] a charbad etc LcS                    27. *forsin t̄slige*] forsin sligid Lc isin tsli . . . (edge cut) S                    28. *fosfiair*] douair Lc fouair S *bás*] bron Lc *bith-bine*] bith anim Lc bith limhe M                    29. *Araid*] ard LcS *arduscíu*] ardoesci etc BMH ardoesci S<sub>g</sub> andseo rochii Lc annso dochii S                    30. *i combuch*] a chomoch Lc *i comuch* M a comach S                    31. *rosmerta*] rusmbertha Lc rosmberta H dosmearta M rosmearta S                    32. *lechta*] lecht etc LeS<sub>g</sub>H *läiem-anmann*] læchanam Lc laechanmann etc SS<sub>g</sub>H                    33-36.] *om. Le* 33. *a*] B in etc *cæt.*                    34. *glan*] gar M                    36. *int athchomarc*] intotcomare B                    37. *nGrencha*] ñgrena L *mad*] ma S *om. B*                    38. *a chuimne*] L a cuimne B ar chaime Lc ar cuimne etc *cæt.*                    39. *a*] *om. LeM*                    40. *on*] din L *adchí*] dociu M adchii S<sub>g</sub>

**Coire Breccáin.** BLcMSS<sub>g</sub>H                    1. *bail i fail*] baile fail H                    2. *cen*] con S *etíail*] S<sub>g</sub> edail B eatail LcS etail M ettail H                    3. *ris*] sir Lc sir S                    4. *coire*] cair M *céil*] fo. c. B *commesta*] coimesta etc BMH comeasta etc LcS commeasga S<sub>g</sub>                    5. *mibal*] bibal M                    8. *teclait*] tecaid Lc teacraaid M *illeg. in S sáeb-chuithe*] sæbcore etc LcMS                    10. *n-úar*] buan S                    11. *condrecait*] congrecaid Lc *im garg-blaid*] in garbbad (?) M an garbhaidh S<sub>g</sub>                    10-28.] *mainly illegible in H*

Airm condrecait iar n-uide  
 na huisci, na hil-muire,  
 cuirit cor ndúaire, ce bé de,  
 cach díb im chúairt a chéile.

Fairsing in roth co rige,  
 adba troch fo thrúag-bine :  
 becc i n-óenfecht dia lánain  
 slóg sáer-chert sil 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 rofánic  
 ar cúlu ní comtánic  
 assa lár lecc-bán ille,  
 ó roching Breccán Bérre.

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

30

Eól dam senchas na sruithe  
 for trebhas in trén-chuithe,  
 ó fil eech tráth ria thomus  
 in gairm gnáth, in glan-forus.

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

40

Breccán mac Maine, mét snúad,  
 rombáid in coire eith-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 Bérre 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 crowding 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>ndúairc</i> ] nuairec LcM	<i>ce bē</i> ] cidh be S <sub>3</sub>	ciphe etc BMH	16. <i>im chúairf</i> ] ma cuairt etc LcS	<i>19. becc</i> ] beo Lc	leó S	bed M	<i>dia</i> ] fo M
21. <i>in t-ed</i> ] an segh S	<i>22. rosroised</i> ] nosrisead etc LeS	dosrained M	24. <i>co hor</i> ] chore Le	<i>oile S ri</i> ] ra B	re LeMS <sub>3</sub>	ria S	<i>25. fláith-fer</i> ] fláith fir Lc
<i>ó roching</i> ] o rochínn S	<i>rochind S</i>	corola Lc	<i>29. cen</i> ] go S <sub>3</sub>	<i>30. Partholáin</i> ]	<i>31. rombaíd</i> ] rombaig B	<i>32. ilar</i> ] ar lár S <sub>3</sub>	<i>33. -chuithe</i> ] chluithe Lc
<i>il-luing</i> ] re luing etc LcS	<i>38. lond-galach</i> ] lonn-glanach M	<i>39. d' uib</i> ] dua LeS	<i>40. samhthodhail</i> S	<i>41. samthogail</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	<i>42. rombaíd</i> ] robaid	<i>43. cuichi</i> M	<i>44. pártholáin</i> S
<i>28. rosranic</i> Lc	<i>30. cosanic</i> M	<i>31. leng</i> B	<i>32. sláin</i> B	<i>33. fáidh</i> S <sub>3</sub>	<i>34. cæca</i> Lc	<i>35. a' choicait</i> ] cæca	<i>36. fáidh</i> S <sub>3</sub>
<i>37. samhthodhail</i> S	<i>38. samthogail</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	<i>39. a' choicait</i> ] cæca	<i>40. samhthodhail</i> S	<i>41. fáidh</i> S <sub>3</sub>	<i>42. a' choicait</i> ] cæca	<i>43. cuichi</i> M	<i>44. a' choicait</i> ] cæca
<i>38. cuichi</i> M	<i>39. a' choicait</i> ] cæca	<i>40. cuichi</i> M	<i>41. a' choicait</i> ] cæca	<i>42. cuichi</i> M	<i>43. a' choicait</i> ] cæca	<i>44. cuichi</i> M	<i>45. a' choicait</i> ] cæca

Cía rofalaig Breccán mbiúan,  
 maraid a ainm ri imlúad,  
 cona ethur fo aire,  
 fo threthun in tsháeb-chaire. C.

Ruibne trí rand in domuin,  
 a cur and 'na n-urchomuir  
 in tshlúaig rosílad cose  
 suíail do línad in choire. C.

50

Doriacht sunn oígi do chéin  
 fer co noíbí d' uíb níam-Néill:  
 co roلوم rochinge de  
 Colum cáid Cille in coire.

Dia ndechaid síar co Cluain cáid  
 Colum dían ri dúain Ciárain,  
 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 Ciárain.

Mar fuair Colum ón chill chain  
 fiach ná romill a menmain  
 doríacht ass ar cílu aníar  
 co Mag n-Úru, nírb imchíán.

And fuair dreim ndedgair n-ittich  
 do demnaib fo dímiccin,  
 slúag teichthech iarna tuba,  
 cíuan breflech fo brón-guba.

70

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 tsáeb-chaira*] in  
tromthuile Lc na tromtuile S 49-52.] after 24 in S<sub>3</sub> 49. *tri*] tré S<sub>3</sub>  
50. 'na n-urchomuir] na urecomair etc LeSH for aonchonair S<sub>3</sub> 53-56.]  
om. S 53. *sunn*] om. BM supplied above line in S<sub>3</sub> 54. *niam*-] nua B  
naim Le 55. *rolom*] B rolonn etc *cæt. rochinge*] rochindí Lc 58. *dian*-]  
cian B *ri*] ro BM re *cæt. Ciaráin*] ciaran B 59. *eich*] B no eich S<sub>3</sub>  
na eich H na each Lc ná hech S an eich M *adair*] ed. agair BH aghair  
S<sub>3</sub> agar M om. LcS *ór*] na or Lc na hór S om. S<sub>3</sub>H 60. *ni ragáib*]-  
S<sub>3</sub>H nir fagaib etc BM ní roghab S nochorgab Lc 61. *deirg*] S<sub>3</sub> dēc H  
dēg *cæt. déin*] dein BMH den Lc 62. *diamair*] dia reilg S<sub>3</sub> *rúin*] rún  
S<sub>3</sub> *i rochéin*] BM a rochéin etc S<sub>3</sub>H is rochen Lc is rochén S 63.  
*rothúir*] rosúir S rosúir H *fria*] S ra MH fri Le ro B a S<sub>3</sub> *serc-bla*]-  
sreabla M 64. *Ciaráin*] ciaran BM 67. *doriacht*] dorois M *ass*] om.  
LeS *ar cilí*] ara chula Lc 68. *Mag*] .c. mag M 69. *dreim*] dreim  
etc BLcS *ndedgair*] ndegair B deagdair Lc ndeghdhair S *n-ittich*] nitich M  
ndithigh S nitthic Le 70. *fo*] ni Lc 71. *teichthech*] B techech etc  
LcH telcech M teichmehc etc SS<sub>3</sub> *tuba*] thuba Lc 72. *brón*-] mor Lc

Mar atchondaire Colum cáid  
in slúag rolond 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-falaig,)  
roscaíl co comláir mo Chía  
i relic Odráin aird-Hía.

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

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

90

Coire Br.

## BENN FOIBNE

Eól dam co soirbi sercaig  
Benn Foibni maic 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,  
óe 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*.

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73. <i>atchondairc</i> ] daonnaire M	74. <i>cen</i> ] co B <i>rath-báig</i> ] rathbaid etc
LeMS <sub>3</sub> robáigh S	75. <i>dia</i> ] fo B tri M <i>soithib</i> ] soithdhíb M
<i>gnim</i> ] cor S	76. <i>fo</i> ] for MS <sub>3</sub> H
81. <i>ngalair</i> ] ngair M	77. <i>co timm</i> ] rothimh S <sub>3</sub> nar tim H
82. <i>dian</i> ] dia LeM <i>fir-falaig</i> ] fin falaig B fir	
alaigh etc LeM	83. <i>co</i> ] mo LeS
84. <i>i relie</i> ] nirlieic etc LeS <i>aird-Hia</i> ] a airdia Le o airdhía S ardhía etc S <sub>3</sub> H	85. <i>mongáir</i> ] ed. mongar
BM monghaír S <sub>3</sub> mongair etc <i>cet.</i>	86. <i>don óen-iíir</i> ] donaemuir M donnaomhúir S <sub>3</sub>
<i>flaith</i> ] sluag etc LeMS <i>raglain</i> ] roghlain etc S <sub>3</sub> H nadbal LeS <i>cét</i> ] in Le	89. <i>ó</i> ] a SS <sub>3</sub> H
<i>cuire</i> ] S <sub>3</sub> cauire H core Le coire <i>cet.</i>	90. <i>ar rath</i> ] arath
Benn Foibne. BLeMSS <sub>3</sub> H	91. <i>m' áit</i> ] ed. mait B maith S maith <i>cet.</i>
<i>sercaig</i> ] B searchblaid M sercaid etc <i>cet.</i>	92. <i>ri</i> ] ria BMH re <i>cet.</i>
isin M <i>hiarmoracht</i> ] iarmoracht LeS	93. <i>nochraíded</i> ] rochraided etc LeS
6. <i>deogbaire</i> ] deaduini M	8. <i>oc</i> ] o B

1. *co*] BM fri *cet.* *soirbi*] fairbi Le

4. *hairm*] ainm LeS *isa*]

5. *nochraíded*] rochraided etc LeS

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

10

Fer láma ríg Themraig thair  
Illand ergna mac Ercclaim :  
Erclem mac Doithre géir guirm,  
flaith na soichle a sléib Moduirn.

Doluid reime ar fut Breg mbale :  
rolen cách dia thetarracht :  
dar each mbeinn fuair a feithim :  
nírbo greimm in gnó-theichid.

20

Fergna, fer gaíf lethain láin,  
fer co srethaib, co sáer-báig,  
rolen cen táth as each thur  
co ruc ós chách a choseur.

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 roscafles im sceól  
cúa romaídes, is móreól.      Eól.

30

A Ísu, sínes cech sín,  
nímthí mímes ná mígním :  
a choimsid fínd-baile na fras  
tindlaicc dom aib is eolas.      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 Erelam.

Henchman to the king of Temair eastward was Illand, Erelam's famous son : Erelam 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 !

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9. *ndedgair*] ndegair etc BLcMS      10. *romid*] romaid etc LcS      'na] i B  
 11. *imjann*] imand etc LcS      12.] diaromarb Illand angbaid Lc      13.  
*Themra*] erend M      14. *Erelaim*] erail Lc      15. *Erelam*] ereail Le 7 M  
 16. *flaith*] fer Lc sleib M slat S      a *sléib Moduirn*] sl- nad sирn M      17. *ar*  
*fut Breg*] ar sliab mbreg Lc      *mbalc*] om. S      18.] is cacht na dhiaidh ar  
 debedh S      *dia thetarrucht*] dia detarracht B      iar natheomrae Lc      19.  
*mbeinn*] mbend BLc      a] ga S *feithim*] M feicheam Lc fethem etc BSS<sub>3</sub>H  
 20. *greimm*] grind S      *gnó-theichid*] gnotheithidh M gnotheicedh B gnotheithed  
 Lc gnáthteicheadh S gnotheicheamh S<sub>3</sub> gnothetemh H      21. *gai*] gnai B  
*lethain*] leth H      23. *táth*] tā BMH támh S<sub>3</sub> as] is LcS *cach*] can Lc gā S  
 25. *harnaid*] hadbal Lc      26. *Beinn*] benn S *imadbaile*] findadhbail S      27.  
*diss*] des B      28. *n-air-mer*] lanmer Lc narmmear M *n-iair-chiss*]  
 nuairceas B ndfis etc LcS      29. a] om. Lc *ar daig*] araid Lc      30. *ar*  
*Beinn Foibni*] om. M *il-bladaig*] nellbladaich Lc      31. *im*] don M      34.  
*nimthi*] nimhi M *ná*] no BS<sub>3</sub> na cat.      36. *is*] ith M

## ARD FOTHAID

Ard Fothaid, in fatabair  
 in flaith fíal diarbo ferann ?  
 Fothaid airgthech etamain  
 rotecht co eían, ní celam.

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

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

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  
 nimthuca i súan sír-lige  
 in flaith forbarach find-ard.

Ard.

10

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## 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 roehlann :  
 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 Airgthech 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 Boirche, 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<sub>3</sub>H      3. *etamain*] edarglan Le    dfedamair S  
 4. *celam*] cealaim S<sub>3</sub>      5. *etarnad*] etarnaigh S<sub>3</sub>H    eadarnauid B      6. *foatudchaid*] fotudcaid B    fodúcaidh R    fothad caid etc LeS    fotad caid M    *in*] im LeS      7. *rofetammar*] nach fesamair S      8. *Lugdaig*] lugaid Le  
 lugach M    lug etc BSS<sub>3</sub>      10. *cen*] con Le      11. *fo breith*] fa breth S  
 fo breth H    *báeth*-] maeth M      12. *i n-ingnais*] an egmais etc LeS      13.  
*fria*] fri LeM      14. *mbriad-arg*] mbuadgarg etc BLCeMSS<sub>3</sub>      15. *rothocair*] rothorair M    rothogair S<sub>3</sub>      17. *Flaithem*] flaith S    *secht*] na secht S    *sid-nime*] sáer-nime etc LeS    sidumi M      18. *-arg*] garg LeMS<sub>3</sub>      19.  
*-thuea*] tucta B    *i*] om. Le    *sir*-] saer B      20. *flaith*] sl- M

**Mag nItha.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. *itam*] atam etc SS<sub>3</sub>H      2. *n-ard*] nar Le    nár S    *na*] om. R    *n-úar*-] nur etc LeMS      3. *ba*] om. LeS    *Mag*] ma (with d superscr.) R    *mBolg*] H    mboe R    mboge B    mboigi LeM    mbloighi S    mbolga S<sub>3</sub>    *nitha*] nithe etc S<sub>3</sub>H    nith M    *nirt*] M    nert BLCeS    *nt* H    neirt RS<sub>3</sub>      4. *bás*] hoighe S    *imairdiric*] oirrdiric S      5. *bann*] clann LeM      6. *ria*] iar R      7. *Érinn*] eiriud M    *immud*] inad S<sub>3</sub>    *fell*] feill M    fill SS<sub>3</sub>    clann Le      8. *nir*] ni RB    *dia*] de B    *réimm*] remeand Le    *rothenn*] rothinn MSS<sub>3</sub>

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

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

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

Cechaing úadib, ord nárbc 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  
im-Maig Bolg búasaig, cíá bé ;  
nírb ord úasail óen-maige. IN.

## AILECH I

Decid Ailech n-Imchill n-úuib  
sosad slúaig sir-thenn súil 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 rognid issin Bruig.

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

10

20

10

He reached Ailech of the Rock, that ancient land of nobles with its kings of broad Fótla 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, whoe'er 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. *in*] inn H      12. *tri*] trib MH      13. *Co n-epirt*] coneabairt R  
 conderbairt B      conearbhairt etc S<sub>3</sub>H      debairt Lc      condebairt S      conearbaitl  
 M      *saidbri*] saibri etc LcM      15. *indse*] anindsi etc LcS      *itáid*] atat R  
 atait LcH      ittáith S<sub>3</sub>      atái S      *cli nad*] cen etc LcS      *cress*] cheas etc LcS      ces  
 S<sub>3</sub>H      16. *is a*] LcS      a *cet*. *hil*-] LcS      *huil* R      *huili* etc BMH      *huile* (*in*  
*litura*) S<sub>3</sub>      17. *húacht*] B      *fuacht* *cet*.      18. *mochin*] mochean etc S<sub>3</sub>H  
*rigu*] righa S      righi M      righe S<sub>3</sub>      rige H      19. *fíarús*] fúaris Lc      *fri*] re  
 LcS      *snim*] nim M      20. *ná crích*] no crích etc BMS<sub>3</sub>      *nach budh* Lc  
*comliag*] comluadh etc RBS      22. *na mbúar-*] nambuan RLeS      *nar fuar* M  
 23. *luid slíag roglan*] buaidh sluaigh raglain M      28. *uasail*] uasal M

Ailech I. L only

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

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

20

Mathi hErend imma ríg  
 as cach thír tren-šeing co tráig ;  
 niptar tlaithenaid a thíur  
 ó dún meic Fathemain Fáil.

Fríth Corrgend co eridi erao ;  
 ba bráu borb-leṅg inna búi ;  
 dobert ainech ris tre thnú  
 dú ita Ailech indiu.

Dia do glan-fert glan rogníth,  
 fich inid faderc do chach,  
 don Dagdo dil foluig líach  
 i n-iath bil Banba co bráth.

30

Ninbói síd na slán ind uilc  
 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  
 ni toirm-thend in graigech glé ;  
 bói 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 báirc bir-chinn fri ét  
 la tuatha De dremuin dúaire,  
 cuaird i mbái Nemain is Nét.

Imchéll casleóir Dagdai dúir  
 in múir mas-móir magdai muaid ; 50  
 Coblán ua Gairb gaela gráid  
 rodháig im fert Aeda úaig.

Atbath Corcend co crúais chuirp :  
 húais n-uile nad ordnenn a serec :  
 rodechraig fón ail co haircc,  
 ind ailt rodechlaind in fert.

Cia nosfallsige cech suí  
 teora amsera mollé  
 o na trenaib dian treb thoí  
 cen gói co ngénair mac Dé ? D. 60

Ailech Frigrend eid dia mbói ?  
 dia n-innlend aí, uais a lí,  
 Frigriu cerd Cruthmaige Cé  
 i ré Íubthaire ó Hí.

Ubthaire dind Albain óig  
 tuc toir Truchmaige o thír,  
 co fúair flaith glac-neme geir  
 Fiachraig réil Roptene in ríg.

Rogníth tech 'mo ingin n-áin  
 la Frigrind Fáil, ferr cech dín ; 70  
 sneid rosamig dar da sál  
 leir for lar Ailig na ríg.

Rosfuc Eochu Domlén dían  
 gorm-nél na íngál, íngel a gruad ;  
 ni saiched siblig dar sál :  
 aithed n-án d'a ingin úad.

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.

Correend 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 Frigenn, 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 Pictish 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  
74. *nigel a gruad*] read gel a ngruad

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

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

80

Cid airdaire in tairbirt trén,  
 tre garg-nert ñger glethe slúaig  
 ind ríg rothréin ocon rám,  
 arsain oc snam aichde n-úar.

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

In fáth fácbait fri cech rím,  
 Patric dia thír tie iar céin,  
 co toracht cen altu áig  
 ina ndáil co maceu Neil.

90

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

Patric, ni triamain a tlí,  
 dia mbat riaraig i cech ré,  
 tellach nEogain os cech clóí  
 rosbennach a deonaib Dé. D.

100

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

Colum Cille do chlaind Néill,  
 glan-oll gleir glinne co n-áib,  
 sech is aire do Albain óig,  
 mind n-oir 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 glan*

107. *aire*] *read aire*

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

110

## AILECH II

FLAND MANISTRECH *cecinit*

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

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

Derb mar roiarfaig cía sóer doróni Ailech,  
 ní cheil Eochaid arm-ślán airech: Garbán graigech.

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

Fég cía 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 rofacht in fert feb-glan.

Féghar eid dia n-apar Ailech airdairec etir?  
 dond ail túargaib Corrgend cicuil torgenn gletin.

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

**Ailech II.** LRBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H *Attribution in L only (rewritten)* 2. *is gait*] is  
 gait a LR tuc a Le *claidib*] claidhem etc RLc *al-láim*] alaind B illaim Lc  
*Ercail*] Hectoir L 3. *Ermór*] Ce móir S *neich*] nech Le 4. *rosluind*]  
 rossluinn S<sub>3</sub> *ria*] iar RBS<sub>3</sub>H 5. *mar roiarfaig*] B maro iarfaig L  
 roiarfaig R mardofiarfaigh M mar fhiarfaidh etc LeS madofiarfaidh S<sub>3</sub>  
 marofiarfaidh H *cia*] L cuich e an S ciaso etc *cet.* *doróni*] L dongni S<sub>3</sub>  
 dorine H dorigni etc *cet.* 6. *arm-ślán*] armlán etc SS<sub>3</sub>H *Garbán*]  
 Garban is L Gablan RBS<sub>3</sub>H Gabran M 7. *ar cáe*] aice L aeo LeS  
*fin-fer*] ed. Tiner LM finer RH findfer B finner S<sub>3</sub> 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 seion.

If it be asked, what was the cause why it was made ? Round his son's seemly 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 RBS<sub>3</sub>H cālan M [ó gáel] o ghail S a gháol S<sub>3</sub> fáel] LLcS  
saer etc *cæt.* nafiged] rofiged etc LcS 9. *Féig*] L feghar fos etc LcS  
om. *cæt.* iarum] om. LcS glanda] L glannda S glandam Lc glanba R  
glanbheda etc S<sub>3</sub>H gribda glanbda B gribda glanfidba M 10.] Lc omits  
all from tue to line 12, lecht *las tucad*] lasa tucad B leis tue Lc lasa tucad  
etc MS<sub>3</sub>H *i indeil*] in del LS<sub>3</sub> in dael S in delb ni deilb M 11. *ciasu*] cia L  
12. a] an L *im lecht*] milect M *cundail*] condailt L connail M is fair LcS  
rofacht] rofheacht Le *feb-glan*] faglan Lc feedbhighlan (with d superscript) S<sub>3</sub>  
fedbglan H 13. *dia n-apar*] dianab S 14. *dond ail*] dadaile R  
dodail B diagail M *cicuil*] eithil Le *torgenn*] toirrteann S<sub>3</sub> torrted B  
teirted R torged L tortenn H *gletin*] grethuin M 15. *Flatheman*]  
flatheman L faitheman etc LcSH *cluinid*] chluinich Lc 16. *ropo*] om. B  
doba M in tres LcS *don*] in Le

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

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

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Bátar óic Érenn 'ea iarair, amra in lucht-sin,  
eo ná fúaratar dond fecht-sin iarsind ule-sin.

‘Oirrgther,’ or cách, ‘na hanagar dáig na nderna.’  
‘Nítha a díth,’ ol in Dagda, ‘fo bíth 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,  
eo fagba líce bas bert búada for lecht n-Áeda.’

Arigis líe ós loch Fébail, ba feidm fénned,  
eo tórgab súas co crúas chórard, úais int én-fer.

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

‘Cóir cid Ailech doraga ris,’ ol in Dagda ;  
corop ed a ainm in dindgna, aim i tarla.

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

19. *chrád*] LSH thoerádh (*with tho superscr.*) S<sub>3</sub> crád etc *cet.* *for lár*] collar (*with 'vel for' superscr.*) H a] erased S<sub>3</sub> 20. *co romarb*] cormarb LcM iar n-óeth] iarngaeth Lc iarna naeth M aire] aile L aeri Le naire M 21. *óic*] oc RBM Érenn] eir M 'ca] co L oea BM ar R iarair] iarraig etc LcMS 22. *co ná*] noco Lc co S *dond*] he don S iarsind ule] LcS isind lue etc *cet.* 23. *na hanagar*] L nochan angar etc RBMSS<sub>3</sub> is na hainceir Le is na hainether S *na nderna*] an derna LcSS<sub>3</sub> 24. *Nítha*] L nintane etc RBS<sub>3</sub>H nimtain M ni denta LcS *a díth*] om. B ol] L ar *cet.* 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,

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togbudh S *točb* etc S<sub>g</sub>H *fora*] L *ara cæt.* 26. *is ferr*] LcS *ferr cæt.*  
*trá]* trath S<sub>g</sub> *trell*] ní S *om.* B *a]* *om.* BLcMS 27. *Co raič*] corob Lc *cen-*  
*nach]* cendach BLcS *ceannach* M *cid nach R* 28. *co sagba*] eo fag B  
*foda* R *adfrag a M* *for*] fri H 29. *ba feidm fénned*] feidm gan teimil S  
30. *co tórgab*] ed. do faraib S *co tuargaib* etc *cæt.* *co crias*] ba báss S  
*chórad*] coraib Lc *úais*] uas LeSS<sub>g</sub> *int én-fer*] ed. intemer LRB antemear S  
*intémær* M *intreiner* H *in tren fear etc LeS<sub>g</sub>* 31. *Ed*] Aed B Sead  
*Lc asber*] as mberta S<sub>g</sub> *oc breith*] fo brith RBM *ind eire*] inndoire R *dar*]  
*iar etc RBMS<sub>g</sub>H* *sreith*] sleith Lc 32. *do ail*] a ail S *is*] erased S<sub>g</sub> *desin*]  
*dosom* M *dit so S domaid*] romaid etc RBSS<sub>g</sub>H *mo*] cru (*superscr.*) mo S<sub>g</sub>  
33. *doraga*] M doradh etc RLc doradh a S doradh a (with a erased) S<sub>g</sub> do  
*rád* L doradh H a rad B *ris*] risin S<sub>g</sub> *om.* RB *ol*] L ar *cæt.* 34. *a*]  
*om.* L sin (*superscr.*) S<sub>g</sub> 35. *Techtad*] RBM techt LLc techtais S  
*teachtaidh* etc S<sub>g</sub>H *aithar*] L mathar *cæt.* 36.] oecus nemand brethach  
*cathach* co fis fáthach S *a]* in LeS<sub>g</sub> *na cned*] aicned Lc

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

Iarfais nech and cíá díne rogab in insi,  
tan dorigned in gním gland-sa ósind lind-si? 40

Lán-memor lim, it Túatha Dé Danann drongaig  
cona ngáib cona scíathaib cona congaib.

Cíá rí buí for Érinn uile glé-binn glaine,  
acht in Dagda druine? ní chluine nach n-amra n-aile.

A n-ammm i ndernad in dindgna, demne dolaid,  
toimsech trebaid, in tres amser toirsech domain.

Dorócht mór ndíne do Ailiuch i mbíd Imchell,  
ailig airmenn co táníc in fairmenn Frigenn.

Frigriu mac Rudi rúaid roglaig co n-úaill ergnaid  
tuc la hór a hAlbain armaig óg a ernaig. 50

Ergnaid in cerdd diarbo hainter Ailech imgel,  
cifarbo do Fubthaire fónd-gel ropo hingen.

I n-athiud dosfuc dar muir mac Rudi rathaig  
iar enis chlochair, rop fochaid cen fíis dia hathair.

Atracht Fubthaire dia iarair, cíarbo hindsa,  
glice in band-sa, co toracht conici in dind-sa.

37. *Corop*] conid etc RBMS<sub>s</sub>H *asberthar*] L asberar etc LeMS atberar etc RBS<sub>s</sub>H ó] ac Lc 38. *gibis*] cihis R *glaine*] nglaine Lc om. S ór is leis] corob lais etc LeS om. B *ind inis*] indinis indis S in andiñ (*rewritten*) S<sub>s</sub> in inñsis M 39. *Iarfais*] L iarfaid B iarfaidhe R iarfaid- MH iarf<sub>s</sub> S<sub>s</sub> fiarfaidis etc LeS and] dam etc LeS *cíá díne*] cíá dína (?) M cíá duine S *rogab*] rothreb etc LeS digab M *in insi*] indsi R iinnsi M aníðse Lc 40. *tan*] intan RS *dorigned*] dorigned L dorinne S<sub>s</sub> *gland-sa*] glansa B glondsa etc SS<sub>s</sub> coimsi M *lind-si*] rindsi etc RB innsi etc MS<sub>s</sub>H 41. *it Túatha*] atuatad R a t. M i tuathaib H tuatha LeS<sub>s</sub> túath S *Danann*] donann L donamm M dinac R *drongaig*] drongaib R condrongaib Lc conandrongaib S 42. *cona ngáib cona scíathaib*] 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.

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allaid etc *cæt.* *cona congaib*] conac congaib B *cona chongaib* Lc 43. *bui]*  
*robui* LLcS *gle-binn*] gebind etc BMS<sub>3</sub> *glaine*] om. L 44.] in cluine  
acht in D. *druiine* amra aile Lc *acht in*] om. R *acht S ni*] in B *ina* M  
*n-amra*] amra BM *n-aile*] L *aile cæt.* 45. *A n-amm*] an amser L *intan*  
*Lc intam S in dindgna*] nā dingna R 46. *towmsech*] torsech L  
*taidhbhsech S<sub>3</sub> trebaid*] trebaigh SH *toirsech*] torsech L *doirsech* etc *cæt.*  
47. *i mbid*] L *immid* B *imid* M *imad* etc LcS *imind* R *um néid S<sub>3</sub>*  
*umneitt* H *Imchell*] L *ningell* R *ingell* etc *cæt.* 48. *ailig*] L *alic* RB  
*allie* H *alig S<sub>3</sub> aillig* M *failid* Lc *failig* S *airmenn*] armend etc RBMH  
*feidm* lonn etc LcS *in*] and S *fairmenn*] fairirmend B *fairirmind* H  
*saerfer* S *ferghlond* S<sub>3</sub> 49. *Frigriu*] Frigrenn etc LcS *Rudi*] Ruba  
*Lc roglag*] roglain LLcS 50. *la hór*] LS *ba lar* R *la hor* *cæt.*  
*armaig*] ergnaid L *adbail* etc LcS *óga*] occa R *oga* MH *an óg S<sub>3</sub>* fa hoc  
*Lc ba hogh* S *ernaig*] ergnaig B *eargnaid* etc LcS *arnaigh* M 51.  
*Ailech*] elech B 52. *jond-gel*] dondmmer etc RBMS<sub>3</sub>H 53. *I n-athiud*]  
*intaithed S<sub>3</sub> dosfuc*] dofuc L 54. *cnis*] scis Lc *cris* M *rop fochaid*] rop  
*fothaid* R *rop foaig* M *rothochair* Lc *rosfothaigh* S *hathair*] athair R  
55. *iarair*] hiarair S<sub>3</sub>H *hiarraid* LcS *ciarbo*] ciabad etc RB *ciabu* MH  
56. *conici*] om. B *dind-sa*] innsa H

Desin bretha isin daingen co nglúair graigech ;  
úair ba debech rucad úaid Ailech i nAilech.

And ba húamon ri Fubthaire Frigriu Fothart ;  
Fiacha Sroptine rodnanacht noco toracht.

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Tech dorigned and 'ma mnaí la Frigrinn foglaid,  
ropo ergnaid os roí rebraíd ar a robláid.

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 là 'na medón.

Madngiúil dišein Ailech Frigrenn, fégaid find-chill,  
Ailech Néit ní tréic tre thairthim Ailech Imchill.

Ní fil i cri rofessed cach ní acht Día,  
ríagail réa rofitir ó chíanaib cí. C.

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## AILECH III

Ailech Frigrenn, faithche na ríg rígda 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 *graigech*] ngraigech etc LRLeMS<sub>3</sub>H  
 58. *rucad úaid*] rófucad L rucad uadha S *Ailech*] eilech RB eineach S  
*i nAilech*] dia enech etc LcH eineach aileach S na ailech R 59. *ri*] L  
 ria S ra H re LcS<sub>3</sub> ro RBM *Fothart*] fothairt L fogart Le fodhart S  
 60. *rodnanacht*] L conanac Lc conanacht S ronanacht *cet*. 61.  
*dorigned*] daringned L dorinidh R rognid BH rognig M rorondad Le  
 doronadh S dognidh S<sub>3</sub> 'ma] L mo R moan etc BLeM immon etc S<sub>3</sub>H  
 dia S la] sin S *Frigrinn*] frigrend etc LRBH frigriu LeH frigri S<sub>3</sub> *foglaid*]  
 S<sub>3</sub> foglaig etc LRBSH fodlaid Le soghlaigh M 62. *roi*] rí S ro S<sub>3</sub>  
 raidh R 63. *Rogníth*] rognid L rogni LeM *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 *cael.* *ronglen-ón*] L ronglemor etc RBMS<sub>3</sub>H  
 condeadshogh Lc congleadhshódh S 67. *Madngiúil*] mag nguil etc RBM  
 mad ail Lc nodngiúl S *disein*] iarsin Lc *Frigrenn*] frireim B *fégaid*] segad  
 etc BMS<sub>3</sub>H fegat R fedaig Lc *find-chill*] fichill Lc finnicill M 68.]  
 is aileach neit nairdire fo thairm nilach nincill S *ní tréic*] ni treit etc  
 RBM nistreic Lc ni treith S<sub>3</sub>H *tre thairthim*] L tria tairthim etc RS<sub>3</sub>H  
 tria thairim B tria hairim tinn M fo thairm Lc *Imchill*] L inill Lc  
 nincill S nimchill *cæst.* 69. *i cri*] a clí S *professed*] nech rosfidir etc LeS  
 70. *ó chianaib*] i cianaib Lc *acefanaibh* S *cia*] each cíá S *om.* M

**Ailech III.** LeMEDs<sub>3</sub>HV Ed is fragmentary and partly illegible 1. *na*  
*rig*] righrad etc S<sub>3</sub>HV *rigda*] Lc righa S<sub>3</sub> righ H *rí* V tarraidh MED  
*in*] *om.* S<sub>3</sub> 2. *dún cus' roichdais*] dun eus roithdis etc S<sub>3</sub>HV duin a roichdis  
 MED duna roitis Lc *clodaib*] cladaib LeEd comhaibh HV 3. *arar-*  
*chotail*] inrochdail etc MEDV 4. *tere*] ceart Lc beachit MED *chrecha*]  
 breatha MED *cert*] terc Lc

Caislén airard Ailech Frigrenn, ráith in degfir,  
dún ina scailtech ar scolaib, aíl-tech emir.

Inad aíbind 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.

Cach fáth óa fríth ainm ar Ailech cona failgib  
atá lim duib, ma's ed chuindgid, fer 'ca faigib.

Eochaid Ollathair roindsaig Érinn 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'fheraib domain  
óclach d' Eochaid rofúiaig fedain cen úair n-omain,

Géc gillai móir a maig Cruachan co céib ór-glain  
co n-aíb aignig, co n-icht ánraíd, co nirt nónbair.

Iarna rád riss do ríg Érenn tre réim suirge  
tánic Corrgenn ó Chrúach Aigle co túaith Tuirbe.

Tethra bán-gel ba ben Chorrginn in chuirp séim-šeing :  
nocharb áille duine iar ndílinn uile i n-Érinn.

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. S<sub>3</sub>V 6. *ina scailtech*] in scailteach H 7. *Gabráin*] nGabran Lc nGabrain etc MED 8. *fót*] ba dun M dun Ed 'ca fuair] fosfuair S<sub>3</sub>HV in Dagda] imdha M inda Ed 9. *Innisim*] indisfead MED *anai*] H ana LcS<sub>3</sub> an with a superscr. M ana (with a cancelled) Ed ána V *Ailig*] auligh H 10. *nolesaigfed*] nocha loisfed S<sub>3</sub>V nachad loisfedh H rolesechad Lc *in*] a MED 11. *óa*] fa M *failgib*] ailgib H failge (altered) Lc huimribh etc MED 12. *atá lim duib*] ita sund Lc dogebthai sund etc MED ma's ed chuindgid] massed cuinge

A lofty keep is Ailech Frigenn, 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.

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etc HV misi (altered to masedh later) amlaid M nici sead amlaigh Ed  
*faigbid*] faidbe etc LcHV fuighbhír M buighbhír Ed 13. *Érinn*] eire  
 etc MEdH 15. *úair*] fuair LcEdM 17. *fénnid*] fionnigh etc S<sub>3</sub>HV  
*d'fearaib domain*] fear go foghail etc MEd 18. *rosfuaig*] ed. rosfuaig etc  
 MEd do uair Lc re huair S<sub>3</sub>V ri huair H *fedain*] debaid Lc ndebaid etc  
 S<sub>3</sub>HV *cen uair nomain*] gach uair nomain V re fuair ndomain Lc 19.  
*céib*] gebh Ed *ór-glain*] norglain etc *codd*. 20. *aignig*] naignig etc  
 LcEd naienidh M aignedh S<sub>3</sub> aign̄ S<sub>3</sub> aicc̄ V *icht*] ucht Lc *áraid*]  
 nanraid LcS<sub>3</sub>H nanrad Ed 21. *tre réim*] roreim M roírem Ed rorem  
 Lc 22. *túaith*] tuaigh S<sub>3</sub> *Tuirbe*] tuirme etc S<sub>3</sub>HV duirmhe MEd  
 23. *chuirp*] fuit S<sub>3</sub> *šeim-šeing*] ed. thseimeing M chaim seng Lc caemeng  
 Ed caimhseing V caimseing (with 'vel seimching' superscr.) H ceibhfinn  
 S<sub>3</sub> 24. *nocharb*] nirbh M nochabh V *i n-]* ar Lc 25. *hi Temraig*] ar  
 temraid Lc a temraig etc *cæt*. *hi tig fleide*] a tigh fleidi etc LcS<sub>3</sub>HV na  
 trebhe MEd 26. *deb a*] aedh a M aobda etc S<sub>3</sub>HV *haire*] aire S<sub>3</sub>V *cen*  
*co*] ge go M

Dochúaid Corgenn d' fíis a ferainn, nírb olc léi-se:  
dochar Tethra tre tháem ndrúise Áed dia eise.

Dochúaid Aed co céile Corrginn, cíarb ord ainséin,  
do fir 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 échta i n-íarthar Connacht  
iar ndíth Áeda, cen co fríth cáemna ara chomole.

Dochúaid Eochaid d' iarraid Chorrginn i crích nUmaill  
coros-timaire tre dluim ndodaing i cuil eumaing.

Gabthar Corrgenn ina chinaid, acht cíar 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 dénaim' ar in Dagda, 'mar atberar,  
aní nach dír is nach dliged 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 Chorrginn Chnuic na Taíden  
d' airbríg íaram da phíanad ri gaírg-ríg nGaídel.'

Dohimeuired 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 gerb Lc	28. <i>tre</i> ] ger Lc <i>ndruíse</i> ] druisse
Le 29-30.] in MEd only	29. <i>ciarb ord</i> ] gerbo ... Ed <i>ainšeín</i> ] ed.
ainšeín M illeg. in Ed	30. <i>soréid</i> ] doraing ? Ed <i>thaibéim</i> ] tabeim M
taibem Ed	31. <i>IS andsin</i> ] Lc is iarsin MEd airesin S <sub>3</sub> HV 33-34.]
in MEd only: nearly illeg. in Ed	35-36.] om. V 36. <i>dluim</i> ] dluig etc
S <sub>3</sub> H <i>ndodaing</i> ] noghaing MEd nuaing Lc 37-38.] in M only 37.	
Corrgenn] creach (with 'vel coirgeand' superscr. m.s.) M	38. <i>ndogra</i> ]
noghra M 41. <i>dénaim</i> ] denam S <sub>3</sub> HV in] a LcEdM 43. <i>n-anma</i> ]	
manma Lc anma etc S <sub>3</sub> HV 44. <i>bérás</i> ] bheres etc S <sub>3</sub> V beras cat. <i>namda</i> ]	
naemdha MEd in] i MEd 45-46.] om. S <sub>3</sub> V 45. <i>muin in</i> ] muin sium H	
<i>romudraig</i> ] romuaig Lc 46. <i>fagba</i> ] badha Ed <i>cloich</i> ] H clach MEd cloch	
Lc 48. <i>d' airbrig</i> ] darbrigh MEd dairbrid Lc fairbrigh S <sub>3</sub> <i>ri</i> ] re Lc	
lá S <sub>3</sub> HV <i>gaig-rig</i> ] Lc gaigri MEd hairdrig S <sub>3</sub> HV 49-52.] om. M	
49. <i>Dohimcuirenn</i> ] dohimcairead Ed dohimairead etc LcHV dотiomairgedh	
S <sub>3</sub> in <i>dig adbaill</i> ] in airm agmair Lc an cur arnaidh S <sub>3</sub> 50. <i>nocho</i> ] snoco	
Ed <i>ruc ri</i> ] H rue rig etc LcEdV rugadh S <sub>3</sub> <i>amlaid</i> ] saumhlaidh H	

Hi enuc Themra tuargbad in fer forsin fénnid:  
rosuc leis co tech Néit náraig in ngéic nglé-gil.

Rogab Corrgenn dar clár medóin maige Senaig :  
rosiacht 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 'tchondairc 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!'

Atrubairt bodéin in Dagda co ndreich idain,  
(tairm 'na thigib) 'Bid ón ailig ainm ind inaid.'

‘Bid Ailech bías ar in baile seo don Banba  
sech each cnoc mar chnoc tui Temra,’ ar draí in Dagda.

Rotuit Corrgenn fon chloich buirb, robris a chride ;  
ní bo chaise a chur 'na laige do bun bile.

Desin gairther Ailech Áeda na n-ech side,  
ocus Ailech Corrginn Chrúache borb-thinn bithe.

Iarsin tuatha na dá deg-fer ri dán erithir  
Garbán is Imhell co hEochaid find-chenn frithir.

Co n-épert riu ráith do dénum 'mon dreim séim-séing  
combad hí ráith na n-eng n-álaind bad fíerr d' Érinn.

51. <i>tuargbad</i> ] <i>tuarguba</i> LcEd <i>doarcc</i> H	52. <i>rosuc</i> ] <i>ed.</i> <i>nosruc</i> Lc
<i>rosrucc</i> etc EdS <sub>3</sub> HV <i>tech</i> ] <i>ráith</i> Lc	53. <i>medóin</i> ] <i>medon</i> Lc
<i>doriacht</i> Lc <i>rogein</i> ] <i>raigend</i> Lc	54. <i>rosiach</i> ] <i>slodain</i> M
55. <i>rolád</i> ] <i>daladh</i> MED <i>ón</i> ] o H	56. <i>Lotain</i> ] <i>sloadain</i> M
<i>comat</i> Lc <i>chomad</i> MED	57. <i>cloich</i> ] <i>loch</i> M
<i>ed.</i> <i>rosruc</i> etc MEdHV <i>rosfucc</i> S <sub>3</sub> <i>nosrue</i> Lc	58. <i>rosuc</i> ] <i>tre</i> ] na Lc <i>uile</i> ] <i>uire</i> 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' fhuille] M duilleadh Ed uilleadh HV uilleann S<sub>3</sub> tuilleam Lc 59.  
deilb] MEd deilm etc *cæt.* nduabair] ed. núabair *codd.* 60. *Ac-so]* sin Lc  
61. *Atrubairt]* adubairt *codd.* bodéin] co dearb Lc idain] H nidain etc  
MEdS<sub>3</sub>V ndidain Lc 62. 'na] no M thigib] tigib etc *codd.* Bid ón ailig]  
is on oil fuli M is on oil . . . fial (?) Ed 63. *seo]* sin S<sub>3</sub>HV 64.]  
seach gach [ninaidh don ea . . . gleighil (erased) gongruaid (*with nuall*  
*superscr.*)] ar drai etc (*the words in brackets expunct, and cnoc mar cnoc tai teamra*  
*written above*) Ed 65. *buirb]* mbuirb HV mbuirb sin S<sub>3</sub> truim etc *cæt.*  
66. *bo]* badh EdS<sub>3</sub> b H chaise] chas S<sub>3</sub> cás V usa MEd a] om. MEd  
67. *side]* sige Ed sithe S<sub>3</sub> 68. *borb-thinn]* boirbtin Ed boirbind M  
boirbthenn Lc 69. *dán]* dan Lc nā MEdH nach SV *erithir]* LcV  
grithir MEd erithidh S<sub>3</sub> erith H 70. *Imchell]* imchenn Le *find-chenn]*  
findchell Lc 71. 'mon] fan S<sub>3</sub>HV 72. *combad]* comadh S<sub>3</sub>HV *n-eng]*  
Lc renn etc S<sub>3</sub>HV rand MEd *n-alaind]* naibind etc MEd*

Atrubairt riu Néit mac Induí in aicnid doilig  
nocha nderntais deg-ślög domain ermór Ailig.

Rogab Garbán gnímach oc saírse is oc snaide,  
rogab Imchell ara aire timchell taige.

Tarnic dénam daingin Ailig, cíarb ord sáethrach,  
mullach tige na ngíall ngáibthech rofad áen-chlach.

Tánic Néit mac Induí in allaid, in arm lebair,  
œus ruc leis in mnaí mbuilid robaí i mBregaib :  
nocho rucad i tech nAilig nech mar Nemain.

80

Ailech Néit ó Néit mac Induí ainm in baile,  
sul tucad air in t-ainm aile, arm '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 fuilt raglain :  
ní chartad ór derg i ndag-meid cerd óg amlaid.

Ubthaire ainm aird-ríg Alban in eich dreimain,  
nochassad crann gáid i ngonaib dia láim lebair.

Ingen 'con ríg ruc do ríngnaib is do romnáib,  
fófúair Frigriu tre aib n-anbail caín a comráid.

90

Ailech ainm ingine Ubthair, ba ben chaím-fir  
náirig núa-gil, co rosbúadir grád in Gaídil.

Co ndechaid leis do lár Chinn Tíre i erích nUlad  
rogreimm roban imma rolad comling curad.

73. *Atrubairt*] adubairt etc *codd.* in] om. S<sub>3</sub> aicnid] aigneadh S<sub>3</sub> aignigh etc HEd  
etc HEd 74. *nocha nderntais*] nocho dearndais Le conderntais etc cat.  
*domain*] nuímaich M a dhomhain S<sub>3</sub> andomain HV illeg. in Ed Ed ends here  
75.] Andsin rogab Garban guinech sairsí snaide etc S<sub>3</sub>HV *gnímach*] gribdhacht M  
76. *ara aire*] M ara sidhe S<sub>3</sub> ara fide etc HV tara aidi Le taige] taidi Le  
77. *ara aire*] M ara sidhe S<sub>3</sub> ara fide etc HV tara aidi Le taige] taidi Le  
78. *ngáibthech*] ggnathach S<sub>3</sub>HV *áen-chlach*] aelcloch Le  
79. *in allaid*] in alláig M an Oileach Le ahail<sup>±</sup> S<sub>3</sub>H eo hail<sup>±</sup> V  
80. *leis*] le Le in] a M 82. *Ailech Néit ó*] Robo oiléach etc S<sub>3</sub>HV 83.]  
sul tugadh hi onoile (with hi expunct and air ain superscr. in later hand) arm ca  
faire M aire] faire etc *codd.* 85. *Ailig*] nailich 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 Frigenn 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. *Frigriu*] frighrinn etc S<sub>3</sub>HV 87. *ni chartad*] ed. ni cardad S<sub>3</sub> ni cař HV ni garad Le nocho tard M -meid] īc (altered to īg) M 88. *Ubthaire*] Fubdairi Le Ubhthair S<sub>3</sub> Uptair etc HV Uthair M ainm] Le ba hainm cat. aird-rig] Le dairdrig etc cat. dremain] raglain M 89. *nochassad*] dochasad Le dream nochosnadh M 90. *ruc dō*] ruc o Le rugsaidh do S<sub>3</sub> romnaib] rogmhnaibh M 91. *fosfáir*] ed. fosfáir S<sub>3</sub> douair LcH da fuair M do fhuaire V *Frigriu*] Frighrinn etc S<sub>3</sub>HV cain a comráid] cain a chomraidh M cainiu chomraid Le áoibh a comhráidh etc S<sub>3</sub>H 92. *Ubthair*] Uthair M ba ben] da lean Lc 93. nárig nia-gil] narinuagen Lc nar don uaibhrigh M 94. *do lár*] a S<sub>3</sub>HV crich] H třr cat. 95. *regreimm*] roigrem Le rodrem V roban] remar Le rolad] ral Le

Rochuindig Ubthaire a ingin tre fáth ferda  
nó roloisfed 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 comairci ind ríg sin, ríg Themra: 100  
rochuindig air dún in Dagda nó mór Medba.

‘Cáemain, a rí’, ar in rígrad ri ríg Femin,  
‘th’ ainech, th’ agaid, ocus tabair Ailech d’Ailig’.

Iarsin tucad Ailech d’ Ailig sech cach n-imdaid,  
don chais glain-gil co ngrúaid roglain co n-úaill ingnáid.

Desin gairther Ailech Frigenn, fríth a bunad,  
d’ Ailech in Dagda as cach dliged, adba Ulad.

Flaithius Érenn, innister linn isna lebraib,  
iar mbith i n-Ailiuch Néit nemníg rothréic Temraig.

Tánic rí Fáil co fúair Ailig i n-úair folraig, 110  
corb í máthair Cholla chridig Dromma in Domain.

Is é sinnser sáethar Érenn Ailech Frigenn:  
molad is mó iná fulngenn dó ní dignemm.

Dá fíchit bládán acht bládáin, becht dorímed,  
gním glae glé-mer dothéiged le síl mac Míled.

Néit mac Induí aird-rí thúaiscirt na túath ngraigech  
cét-fer colach ’car’tréiced Obach ar Ailech.

Noí ríga d’ óen-ainm a hAilech d’ fine Ádaim,  
ocus Eochaid ainm eech éin-fír ri gairm ngábaid.

96. *Ubthaire*] Ubaire Le Uthair M *ingen*] ingen LcMV *ing* S<sub>3</sub>H *fáth*  
aith Le *fath* etc *cet*. 97. *nó roloisfed*] no roisgedh M *'mo*] fo etc LcM  
98. *Atrubairt*] adubairt etc *codd.* 99. *in*] a LcM *fáth*] ath M *amlaid*  
samhlaidh etc S<sub>3</sub>HV 100. *rig Themra*] rí temra etc S<sub>3</sub>HV 101. *air*  
*dún*] uthair a ingen ar dhun M 102. *a rí*] a rig LcM *in rígrad*] a rigraíd  
M a rígu Le *ri rig Femin*] gídh reir doiligh M 103. *tabair*] tobair Le  
104. *n-imdaid*] ninaid M 105. *glain-gil*] S<sub>3</sub> glegil LcM *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 Mil.

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:

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rogain] raghil M *ingnaid*] ningnaid etc S<sub>3</sub>HV inbraid Lc nidhain? (altered) M 107. *d' Ailech*] ed. dailigh S<sub>3</sub> daligh H do lice V is doilech etc LcM *cach*] om. M *dligid*] inad Lc 108-9.] om. M 108. *Flathius*] flaithe S<sub>3</sub>HV *isna*] Lc inar S<sub>3</sub>HV 109. *nemnig*] ningnad etc S<sub>3</sub>HV 110. *folraig*] alaid Lc 111. *corb i*] dobi S<sub>3</sub>HV *chridig*] cridi Lc crichich M *in*] om. S<sub>3</sub> 112. *sáethar*] sáethair Lc saithir M 113. *molad*] acht moludh M *iná suilgenn*] H iná bfhuilgend V ina bhfuigleam S<sub>3</sub> nandearbaim M ná molbam Lc *dignem*] dingnem Lc dhingnam etc S<sub>3</sub>HV dighnum M 114. *becht*] Lc bes cæt. 115.] Lc gnim glac trenfear roteigheadh re síl mae Miled etc cæt. 117. *'car'tréiced*] gar tregidh M *Obach*] eamhain etc S<sub>3</sub>HV 118. *d' éen-ainm*] amaenainm M umenainm S<sub>3</sub>HV 119. *ri*] re LcS<sub>3</sub>

Eochaid Ollathair in cét-fer rochoisc dograing, 120  
 Eochaid Ét-gothach fúair ingraimm, ba crúaid comlainn,

Eochaid Ophach, Eochaid Feidlech, fer na claireb,  
 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.

Mae don fir sin Níall ronert-gab domain dluigthech :  
 a máthair mór chaím-šeng cairthech Caírenn Chruithnech.

Clanda ro-Néill rígrad Ailig na n-arm n-ágmar 130  
 gillai móra, maiene mér-gel, aicme ánrad.

Eogan mac Néill co nert míled, ó méit lenaib,  
 drech dia ticed indeb enig, find-fer Febail.

Indecht find, ingen ríg Monaig, máthair Eógain,  
 co n-aicniud ríg, co rún trén-fir, 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-Éirinn, airecht Ailig,  
 is íat as ferr 'ma n-íad fedain tíar 'ca taigib.

Secht n-aird-ríg déc dib ar Éirinn d' aicme Eógain, 140  
 nochosoentis cóir in tsáegail dóib a ndeóraid.

120. *rochoisc*] dochoisc Lc rocleacht M 121. *fúair*] dofúair Lc uair M *ingraimm*] ingreim Lc ninglaim M imgloinn S<sub>g</sub>HV 123. *do*] co etc LcM 124. *nomarbad*] namarda M do marbad LcHV marbad S<sub>g</sub> 125. *find-lúth*] finddluith Lc findluit M findlaith etc S<sub>g</sub>V finn *flaith* H *imdlúth*] imdluith LcM imdaith etc S<sub>g</sub>HV *debtha*] ndeabha etc *codd*. 126. *mac aird-ríg*] antairdri etc S<sub>g</sub>HV *Senaig*] Lc henaigh etc *cet*. 127. *muir ar*] murar Lc muine in M *duine*] induine M *om.* Lc *muid*] Lc muigh M luidh S<sub>g</sub>HV *in debaid*] aneabhaigh M 128. *don*] Lc in etc *cet*.

Eochaid Ollathair, first, who checked calamity ; Eochaid Etgothach who met affliction—he was grim in combat ;

Eochaid Ophach, 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 Lc roneart in M dluigtheach] dluitheadach M 129. a] sa Le mó] nior Le chaim-séng] mineang (in rasura) Le coimfhionn S<sub>s</sub> cairtheach] carthach M maifthech (in rasura) Le Cairenn] caereann M cairfhionn etc S<sub>s</sub> HV caireng Lc 130. rigrad] rigrad LeMS<sub>s</sub> righi etc HV 131. mér-gel] mergel etc codd. 133. ticed indeb] tie a hindem etc S<sub>s</sub> HV enig] oilich M 134. Indecht] Indai M fínd] fhid Le 135. rún] rus S<sub>s</sub> 136. viaisle] duaislibh S<sub>s</sub> indd] inda H ina M fhinda Lc na V eir S<sub>s</sub> fine] dfine S<sub>s</sub> 137. foa ngabar] fo.ngabhta S<sub>s</sub> dinne] fainne etc codd. a n-erla] inerla Le nearla M andearlai H 138. síriag] sluaig Le viaisle] ule M 139. 'ma n-iad] HV maniagh S<sub>s</sub> 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 cæst. dib] doib HV d'] om. H 141. coir] cor M in tsdeagail] a saegail Le atsaeghail M

IS dóib gabthar géill cach thíre tara téigim,  
is úatha atá duine dígainn uile i n-Érinn.

Cú Arad eólach roinnis do cach 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 frith ac loch Abdul Febail adbar Ailig,

Sechtmoga ar sé cétaib bláadan, blad do chíana,  
re ngein Críst a cathraig Iúda dath-glainn diáda.

150

Cethracha ar chét ar cúc mile ósna maigib,  
sé mbláadna riu, rann 'na comair thall 'na taigib,  
cor'gabad ac mórláug Monaig ór-dúan Ailig.

Ísu Crist, coimsid cach thalman is each threthain,  
rí dia rí ar ndáin-ne fria deg-thaig, áille fethail.

Ail.

## CARRAIC LETHDERG

Lethderg, taidbritis ar tuir,  
ingen chadla Chonchobuir,  
doreilic 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,  
ruesat 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 cæst*.      146.] *After* drech Lc *inserts* derg, S<sub>3</sub>HV  
*insert* derg ba doiligh *thaigib*] thigib Lc *toighibh* etc *cæst*.      147. *ba ri ar*  
*in*] fa hairdri an Lc *ba ríg din in* M *re graigib*] re groidhibh etc S<sub>3</sub>HV *na*  
*gráidib* Lc *na cróidhibh* M      148. *tan*] an tan Lc *trath* M *ac*] ar S<sub>3</sub>HV

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 S<sub>3</sub>V 151.  
*Cethracha*] caega M *eoic*] LeM sé cæt. 152. *sé*] LeM secht cæt. *riu*] om.  
 S<sub>3</sub>H 'na] ina S<sub>3</sub>H *comair*] gomhair M 'na taigib] na toighibh etc S<sub>3</sub>H V am  
 toighibh M im thigib Le 153. *ac*] ó etc S<sub>3</sub>H V -dúan] mor S<sub>3</sub>V  
 155. *dia ria*] ed. *darfa etc codd.* *ar ndáin-ne*] arnaní M *fria deg-thaig*] foa  
 degh-thoil H fa decechtoil V *fria a dhéghthoigh* S<sub>3</sub> fo dathaib Le ní  
 duthain M *dille*] aile M *feithail*] eathail Le eatail S<sub>3</sub> athoil (with ade  
 added above, m.s.) M atail H afhetaill V

Carraic Lethderg. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *taidbris*] taigbhridhis M  
 taidbhridhis S taidbris (with d superscr.) H *ar*] in S 2. *chadla*]  
 eadhladh R 3. *doreilic*] doreile S 4. *Fothaid*] oth M *aislingeo*] S  
 aisling theó etc RB aislinghó etc LeM aislingó etc S<sub>3</sub>H 6. *mar óen*]  
 araen Le *ri*] ro B ra H *re cæt.* 7. *challait*] collait B callaiddh S  
 ceird] aird Le 8. *don*] do S

Fethlenn mac Fidruí co feirg,  
Lurgu mac Lúaith lasar-deirg,  
fer nárб imrullach dia śleig  
Irnisech mac Inmaisig.

10

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 laich 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 imrfádat fir  
imboí Coba cath-chingid,  
Coba na mberg co mbraine  
ba cerd is ba cuthchaire.

Érimón féin, fichtib sleg,  
tuc do chéin Coba cas-mer:  
d' airniul ar fiadaib, rofess,  
ar íallaib én ba hairchess.

Dogní cuthig, fo chrú cacht,  
dáig ba trú, dia thetarracht:  
dia fis in ba doith rosstell  
tuc a chois 'na chomindell.

10

9. *co*] fri LcS  
imrullach R

10. *Lurgu*] luga Lc *Lúaith*] *om.* M

11. *imrullach*]

12. *Irnisech*] eirisnech S<sub>g</sub>H iseirnisig Lc

13. *Corr*

*Derce*] corusderga S *dag-ri*] ua daighri etc S<sub>g</sub>H daid LeM dait S

14

Fethlenn son of Fidrui, 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.

*ard-less] a airdles LcS Read perhaps ard-mess : see Notes 15. *erctha]*  
ercta etc BLcM earca S<sub>3</sub> ercái H 17. *in]* om. S *ropo]* orobo S  
19. *ránic]* tanic etc LeS *Fothad]* aithedh S *ri]* ra RH ro B re SS<sub>3</sub> lé etc  
LcM 20. *laich]* loich R 21. *Briccem]* biccem etc BM bricenn S<sub>3</sub>  
breitheam Le *nglan]* glan LeS<sub>3</sub>H 22. *doruilli]* B doruilleum R  
dodruilli LeMH dodruille SS<sub>3</sub> *ethar]* a ethar S 23. *fri]* frith S<sub>3</sub> *fallait]*  
fathad Le 24. *don]* do M *imboi]* ambith Le*

**Mag Coba.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *imriadaf]* imriaghaid etc BLcMSS<sub>3</sub>  
2. *cath-chingid]* cath-chuingidh S eutheaire (with i. cathqingid superscr.) B  
3. *mberg]* mbreg R 4. *cuthchaire]* B cuchaire *cæt.* 5. *féin]* fen BSH  
om. Lc *fictib sleg]* fictib gal (with vel sleg superscr.) M fíal in fer S 6.  
do *chéin]* a céin S *cas mer]* coismer M eneisgel Lc 7. *d' airniul]* dairneal  
etc S<sub>3</sub>H dairmul R darmil B dairmeal M dinneall Lc dinnill S 8.  
*ar]* is ar S ara Lc *én]* om. LcS 9. *cuthig]* cuthi Le euthe S<sub>3</sub> *fo chri*  
*cacht]* fo cru smacht B fo eruaid cath Lc clú gan acht S 10. *thetarracht]*  
hetarracht R hetardacht B tédairecht S tadarath Lc taireacht M  
11. *in ba]* in bat R nibad B *doith]* RS<sub>3</sub> doit BH maith LcS dhodhith M  
*rosdell]* nosdeall S

Tindlis a láim, a láraic,  
a chois is a chóel-brágait,  
co torchair Coba cadla  
'na chuthig maith mó-r-amra.

A.

## ARD MACHA

IN mag imrádat 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.

Hí rochum, cen chúairst 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 cach n-aimsir,  
dognithe cen tacha thair  
óenach Macha 'sin mó-r-maig.

IN.

10

IS cóir dam a rád i fus,  
dáig is dál eo ndánatus,  
scél diamboí cless cen chobair,  
Ulad hi cess chomgalair.

20

13. *Tindlis*] tendleis S tinmhis S<sub>3</sub> a láraic] a laaing Le nalaraig M  
15. *co torchair*] atorchair S cadla] cadladh R calma LeS 16. *chuthig*] chuidid Le cuithi etc MS<sub>3</sub>

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-weponed 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.

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**Ard Macha.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      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 neimhiddh S *riana baile]* combaili Lc combuili S *ar]* om. S<sub>3</sub> 6. *romór-slaid]* domortlaig Lc damorslaidh M      7. *is]* om. LeSS<sub>3</sub> *maith]* leir S<sub>3</sub>      8. *im]* in R *réim]* rith S      9. *robráena]* doboráena Lc *cach mbúaid]* combuaid LcS<sub>3</sub>      10. *arm-]* om. Lc      11. *mberg]* mbedhg S 12. *dia rosmarb]* dianus M *Rechtaid]* rechtgi Lc *rig-derg]* riderg BLcSH 15. *deólaid]* deolaig RLc deolegh S *condeily]* ed. coa deilg RBM eo deilg H co teilg S co deil Lc gan ceird S<sub>3</sub>      16. *Eómain]* eomuin BH eómuin S<sub>3</sub> eomhain M emoin R eamain LcS *ós]* ar S<sub>3</sub>H *in maige]* maige B lamhraidhe S (*perhaps rightly*)      17. *coiniud]* cumaid etc BLcS comuid M *ba]* la a S<sub>3</sub> *bunad]* buadar Lc búanadh S *bil]* lib Lc      18. *slúag n-Ulad]* sluagad Lc *cach n-aimsir]* cacha haimsir Lc *cach aimser* etc RSM      20. *'sin mórr-maig]* each ninbaidh R      21. *rád]* rag Lc      22. *is dál co ndánatus]* as dal conatus M as dal conataghust S<sub>3</sub> asi a dhail condathgus Lc isí in dál condathghus S

Laithe doríacht fo glóir glain  
co hóenach coír Conchobair  
in fer trétach ón tuind tair,  
Cruind cétach mac Agnomain.

And tucait, fri hérim nglain,  
dá ech, nach fégaim 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' eehraíd,  
atbert Cruind, in mer mongach,  
ba lúraithiu 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 ríg na fóen-šleg fir-thend  
eo toirsed ó thuind tríathaig  
do chosnum Chruinn chrín-bríathraig.

Doríacht in ben een fuirech  
óenach na reb roguinech:  
a dá hainm thíar cen tacha  
Grían gel ocus glan-Macha.

A hathair, nír thréith 'ca thig,  
Midir Brig Léith meic Celtchair  
ina treib thíar 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 Celtnair; in her roofless dwelling in the west she was Grian, the sun of womankind.

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25. *glain*] *nglain* etc MSS<sub>3</sub>      29. *tucait*] R *tuccaid* B *tucaid* M *tucad*  
etc LeSS<sub>3</sub> *tucē* H      30. *nach*] na MSS<sub>3</sub>H      31. *ech-thress*] *eachras* Le  
*eachrad* M *curad*] *canrad* etc LeMS      32. *fo*] fa M *la* S<sub>3</sub>      33. *raig*]  
*roibi* etc BMSH      34. *dá*] do Lc *Gabra*] *gabla* etc LeS *d' echráid*]  
*inuairsin dechraidh* B *deachraig* M      35. *Cruind*] om. B      36. *luathiu*]  
*luide* H      38. *ar*] *atbert* H *Conchobar*] *cobar* M *cath-chingid*] *caid* *cuingidh*  
S<sub>3</sub>      39. *ben*] *a bhen* S *bán in balair*] *balair* *comblaíd* Le *lé radh a*  
*roghair* S *ban an ghalaír* S<sub>3</sub>      40. *rem*] LeS *rom* RB *rám* S<sub>3</sub> *ram* H  
*ron* M *rogabair*] etc BS<sub>3</sub>H *rogabraib* Le *gabair* M *luathghabair* S *ramair*  
(*with a over first r, and d over m*) R      41. *Etha* Etta RBM *Etai* H *ara*] ar  
R *tara* M      42. *fir-thend*] *bfoirthenn* S<sub>3</sub> *fortenn* H      43. *toirsed*]  
*toirset* R *toirsig* M *toirsidh* S *toirē* etc S<sub>3</sub>H *triathraig*] *diatigh* M      44.  
*do*] da B *chosnum*] *cuīn* M *Chruinn*] om. M      46. *reb*] *rab* Lc      47.  
*thiar*] *ther* M      49. A] om. M *'ca*] *coa* RB *gaa* H      51. *thiar*] *shiar*  
Lc *cen*] om. M *tuite*] *ed.* om. M *tuidhe* RB *toighe* S<sub>3</sub> *taige* H *tuibi* Le  
*duibhe* S      52. *ba hí sin grían*] *isi grian a* M

Mar dorfacht co ngairge im glóir  
 rochuindig cairde a chétóir  
 co slóg na clann ná claité,  
 ó dosdrocht amm asaíte.

Tuesat Ulaid bréithir riss  
 don mnaí theith-mir thúachail-chniss,  
 ná faigbed rath ria rige  
 ó chath chlaidbech cloth-Line. 60

Iarum rosnocht in mer mend  
 roscail 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-šlúag.

Ciaptar lúatha maire in mál  
 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 diis cen athbach n-úaire  
 fiad šlúag cathrach Cróeb-rúaide.

Mac ocus ingen moalle,  
 rosalt imned tria áine :  
 emon ruc Grían cen gním ngann,  
 Fir 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.

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53. *Mar*] amar Lc *co ngairge*] congairece H congaire M congoine S congoil Lc *im glór*] RB nglóir etc *cet*. 54. *rochuindig*] rochuindih R 55. *na clann*] om. M *ná cláite*] fa claiti Lc na cloithi M nach eclaoite S<sub>3</sub> odosrocht S 56.] am asáite bam torrach S *ó dosrocht*] coroch Lc ódriacht S *amm asáite*] ainm osóiti R ainm asoiti B am ahasaki etc LeS<sub>3</sub> anmimsoithi M 58. *théith-mir*] teitmír H treithmer R treithmhír S<sub>3</sub> threith nir Lc theith nar S *thúachail*] tuachal RBLcM *chniss*] mis Le 59. *ria*] tria S<sub>3</sub> *rigé*] rígi R 60. *ó*] re S<sub>3</sub> *chlaidbech*] om. B *cloth-line*] chleitine Lc 61. *rosnocht*] dosrocht B 62. *roscait*] corscait LeS 64. *don*] do LeS<sub>3</sub>H gan S *don* (2)] do H can etc LeS 65. *dia*] re Le laa S<sub>3</sub> 66. *sech*] seca etc BLcM *sair*] sær BLcMS 67. *braga*] brag Le broga broga M *co bían*] combuaid Lc combuaign S 68. *clé mana in*] clemna an Lc cle an mana M cleith mana an S<sub>3</sub> *marc-sluag*] B marc sl<sup>1</sup> RSH mar sluagh M marcsluagh S<sub>3</sub> romare sluagh Lc 70. *thúatha*] tuathaib Lc thua M *fo*] S<sub>3</sub>H f<sup>1</sup> *cet*. 71. *cen*] con S<sub>3</sub> 72. *ba*] bad Lc 73. *rosiacht*] dosiacht M doriacht S<sub>3</sub> 74. *a*] om. R an Lc 75. *athbach*] etc S<sub>3</sub>H athfach R afach BLc athach S fothach M 76. *fiaid*] fia R 78. *imned*] imne R an menn Lc *tria*] tre R 79. *emon*] emuin etc BS<sub>3</sub> *cen*] con S<sub>3</sub>

Fáebaid bréithir co mbúaine  
for cléithib na Cráeb-rúaide,  
a mbeith fri tress fo thirbaid,  
fo chess is fo chomidnaib.

IN bríathar dorat andsin  
don tíslúag thríathach ba tirbaid :  
roslen, nírbo gnó do gail,  
cosin nómád 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 sil Ádaim,  
na mná cen bríg mbaillb ós bla  
rolen a hainm in mag-sa. IN.

100

Co h-Ard Macha, dáltait fir,  
ó thue Pátraic prím-chretim,  
in túaim cen tacha rothag  
is rúaim ratha, eid romag. IN.

A rí, thuc Emain co húar  
iarna dedail ria deg-síslúag,  
m' anmain ní rop trúag it tig  
iar salmaib suád 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.

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82. <i>for</i> ] a LcS	83. <i>thirbaid</i> ] thidbaid Lc	84. <i>chomidnaib</i> ]
choimdignaib Lc	86. <i>ba</i> ] fo BH <i>tirbaid</i> ] trabaid M	87. <i>gnó</i> ]
gnomad S <i>do gail</i> ] RB	don gail LcM diangoil S <sub>3</sub> digail H gail S	89.
<i>Cherna</i> ] cermna B	91. <i>rosbraith</i> ] rodasbraith MS <sub>3</sub> H <i>tria</i> ] tri M tre H	
<i>báig</i> ] baidh etc RBLeM <i>in bine</i> ] mbine MS <sub>3</sub> H	94. <i>don</i> ] du B <i>roglinned</i> ]	
doglinnidh Lc	95. <i>co roclass</i> ] corachla Lc clas a fert S <i>fo thacha</i> ] fotha M	
99. <i>cen brig</i> ] combrigh H <i>mbailb</i> ] mairb Lc	101. <i>dállait</i> ] S daltaid BLc	
daltaid RH daldaid S <sub>3</sub> adtaltaid M	103. <i>in tíaim</i> ] im thuaim LcS	
104. <i>is</i> ] a Lc <i>romag</i> ] romer Lc	105. <i>húar</i> ] fuar B fuar Le huair S	
huain S <sub>3</sub>	106. <i>ria</i> ] R fri LeS re cæt.	107. <i>ni rop</i> ] niro R nirbo
Lc narab S <sub>3</sub> <i>it tig</i> ] itaig RB ittoigh S <sub>3</sub> attaig H ataign M na thigh Le		
na tigh S	108. <i>súad</i> ] RBS sluag etc LcMS <sub>3</sub> H <i>hi</i> ] san S <sub>3</sub>	

## LECHT ÓEN-FÍR 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 chomrae fri Coineulaind.

Rafaíd a máthair anair  
 oces rombí a athair:  
 olc dóib ar óen díb línaib  
 bás a meic a mígnímaib.

Dia athair nírbo chíalla  
 ferg fri mac noí cert-bládna:  
 nímbuí ní nandénad lond,  
 dáig rofitir ba héond.

Mad comáes nodcorad fris,  
 dia rístais, immuserntais,  
 ní bérád a oscur slán  
 coscur laích isa lechtán.

L.

10

Trúag in guba rochachain  
 Cúchulaind garg, rognáthraig:  
 táneatar Ulaid 'na dáil  
 oc caíniud a óen-maccáin.

Rosfuc Cúchulaind iarsin  
 co hóenach Airbi Roír:  
 Airbe Roír, eid diatá  
 acht a hairbe in lechtáin-sa?

L.

**Lecht Óen-fir Aífe.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      2. *lánamna*] om. M *lán*] fir R  
 3. *in*] ar S<sub>3</sub> *talam*] tarim B *tain* Le *talmain* S<sub>3</sub>      4.] mac a eutroma  
 ar crodhacht S<sub>3</sub> *dar*] ar LcS *bad*] bu LeM *dánu*] danu B dano H dana  
 RLcMS *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?

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LeSS<sub>3</sub> *bec*] bic MS      6. *dia luid*] doluid LeS      7. *bri*] bri M *Daill*  
 guill Le      8.] is iomaireacc fri hecloinn S<sub>3</sub> *fri*] fria MH      9. *Rafaid*  
 rafaid Le rofæd RB rofæth M rofaidh SH faoidis S<sub>3</sub>      10. *rombi*]  
 rombith Le      11. *ole dób ar óen*] rob ole doibsiom S<sub>3</sub> *ar óen*] andis etc LeS  
 12. *a maic*] an maic LeS *a*] tre LeS na S<sub>3</sub>H *mignimaib*] morgnimaib Le  
 13. *chialla*] cialldha etc SS<sub>3</sub>      14. *fri*] re LeMSS<sub>3</sub> *. noi cert-bliadna*] a  
 nái m bliadna Le      15.] niba maine in bine oll etc LeS *na*] ne M  
 nandénad] nach denad S<sub>3</sub>      16. *dáig*] om. B *rofifir*] rosfidir M      17.  
 comáes] cæmaes Le *nodcorad*] S<sub>3</sub>H nocorad M nadehorad R nadcorad  
 BLcS      18. *imuserntais*] simserndais R imusrechtdais Le minusferdis  
 M ímusferntais S      19. *bérád*] berdis M *oscúr*] choscar S *slán*] slain Le  
 20. *laich*] an laioch S<sub>3</sub> *isa*] sa S<sub>3</sub> asa LeH *lechtán*] leathlaim Le      21.]  
 truagh galgat is cumha chain S<sub>3</sub> *rochachain*] rognathaigh (with vel eachain  
 superscr.) R rachathaigh Le rocáthaigh S      22. *garg rognátháig*] dorognathaigh  
 Le rod rognathaigh S cia rognathaigh S<sub>3</sub>      23. *'na*] a BMH      24. *oc*  
*cainiud*] oc cainiu R ocoiniud B acained H doeaoineadh S<sub>3</sub> documaid Le  
 ocaumaih M acumaigh S *a*] om. BM mo Le an S *-maccáin*] macaim BH  
 25. *Rofuc*] Rofue RBH rafue Le      26. *Airbi*] airbhri S      27. *Airbe*]  
 airbhri S *Rofir*] om. M      28. *acht a hairbe*] ed. achtta airbi Le acht madh  
 airbri S acht ar bith *cet*. *lechtán*] lechta LeSS<sub>3</sub>

Is imda écht ar bith bras  
iarna dénum tria thétnas :  
isat ili ar Banba báin  
a ligi ocus a lechtáin.

30

L.

## CARN MÁIL

Óebind a tarla ar m' aire,  
nochon eólas óen-baile,  
mo menma oc soillsigud sair,  
ar díamairib in domain.

Cid daíb ná hiarfaig nech úaib,  
diambad áil eólas d' immúaim,  
cid diatá in t-ainm thair nach tan  
ar Charn Mál im-maig Ulad ?

Lugaid mál, is mó r omill,  
rohindarbad a Hérind :  
lucht secht long do mac ind ríg  
a Hérind i n-Alban-tír.

10

Rochossain na tíre thair  
a cathaib 's a congalaib  
ó Letha eo Lochlaind láin  
ó indsib Orc eo Hespáin.

Mar rogab recht ríge rúaid  
tue leis na sochraite slúaig,  
corbat láin inbir Ulad  
do bárcáib 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. *thétnas*] thetnas S<sub>3</sub> tetnas BH tætnas R tenas M degnass Le  
dhiumas S 31. *isat ili*] isad ili Le isidili M isadhile S *Banba*] ban M  
báin] bil LeS 32. *a ligi*] allide H *lechtáin*] leachtraidh etc LeS  
Carn MáiL. LRBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *a*] na LRH i B 3. *oc*] o R  
ar B 4. *ar*] fri L *diamairib*] LRB diamraib dana Le diamradaib etc  
MS<sub>3</sub>H diamhrachaibh S *in*] arn S<sub>3</sub> 5. *Cid*] Ge LeS *daib*] L tait  
RMH taid BLcS táith S<sub>3</sub> *ná*] en Le ga S na *cæt*. *hiarfaig*] B iarfraig L  
hiarfaide R fiarfaigi Le fiarfaideigh M fiarfaighidh S iarfaid H  
hiarfaighter S<sub>3</sub> *nech*] L om. *cæt*. 6. *diambad*] L mad etc *cæt*. *ail*] ail L  
ail dail B ail daib etc *cæt*. *d' immiáim*] dimuaim etc LRS<sub>3</sub>H dimmuab B  
dimluaid M imcruaid etc LeS 7. *nach tan*] om. L 8. *im-maig*]  
umhai M 9. *is*] ba S<sub>3</sub> *romill*] rosmill S 10. *rohindarbad*] gor  
hionnarbadh S<sub>3</sub> do hindarbad é Le 11. *sechf*] tri M 14. *a cathaib*]  
iccatthaibh S<sub>3</sub> 's *a*] L i BS<sub>3</sub> a *cæt*. *congalaib*] comlannaib Le 15.  
ó *Letha*] a lethain L o eadain Le ó étar S 16. ó *indsib*] a hindsi L  
o indsi H 17. *recht rige*] recht is ríge L ríge B recht rigi rígi Le  
19. *corbat*] corbat B corbad LeS curba M *lán*] lana L lain S<sub>3</sub>H lán etc  
*cæt*. *inbir*] indb R inb B 20. *do*] da M 21. *uad*] leis R om. H  
23. *leis*] lei B *i cend catha*] a cenn chatha LeS a ceann cacha M 24. *a*  
*n-*] in RBLc ind H

Iarsin tie anuas eo lúath,  
do chur chatha fo chomúath ;  
cloch each óen-fír tuc '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 robaí ac Dáire dess,  
Lugaid ainm cach meic ria mess :  
dáig na fáistine, ferr de,  
rosirmais óen-ainm uile. 40

Lóeg doilbthe ic Dáire mar daig  
ir-richt oss-gamma 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.

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25. *Iarsin*] Arsain L *co liuath*] om. L      26. *fo chomhiaith*] BM fa comuath R *fo chomhfuath* S<sub>3</sub> *fo comfuath* H ba conuath L na comtuath S *co roluath* Le      27. *óen-fír*] L fir dib Le fir S treinfir etc *cæt.* 'sin] isin S      28. *de dorigned*] L *conad uadha* M *de doronad* etc *cæt.*      30. *isin*] sin L isa Le *chloch-throm*] chlothrom B comtrom LcS<sub>3</sub>      31. *corróemid*] coremaid Le *coromaidh* S *mend*] mind LcS      32. *fíru*] feraib L 33. *il-Lius Breg*] alluss breg L alis bregh R allius breg etc BM allis breg H illios bregh S<sub>3</sub> alos a sleg Le aille slegh S      34. *giallu*] rigi Le      35.] L fer lasrulad carn rochind etc *cæt.*      36. *ar*] L i etc *cæt.*      37. *robai*] robatar L      38. *ria*] LR rea S<sub>3</sub>H re *cæt.*      39. *ferr de*] male M 40. *rosírmais*] rosuirmis M rosilad Le rosgabhsat S roirmais H *óen-ainm*] ananmand L *uile*] eili Le      41. *mar daig*] mar dardaid M fa doigh S<sub>3</sub> 42. *oss-*] fos etc BLc *allaid*] ell- R      43. *cethrur dib*] a cethrar Le do cethrar S *a cúaín*] an chúaín S accuain S<sub>3</sub> a chuaín RBLc      44. *rissin sen-*] riss assin L risasen BH risasin S<sub>3</sub> risasten M *siar-thúaid*] siartúaith 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 *midach*] midach B *maccóem*] morchaem etc LcS morlaech L      49. *Doringeset*] L dorigset R dorigniset B doronsad etc LcS dorinsed M rochuirset etc S<sub>3</sub>H      50. *d*] a L

Dorala do Lugaid Corbb  
 coscrad in loíg, ciarbo borb,  
 conid úad sluinter in chland  
 Dál Mess Corbb i crích Cúaland.

Céin roboí cách ara mod,  
 Lugaid Cál ina chotlod,  
 conid hé a chiniud een chacht  
 Cálraighe cóicid Chonnacht.

60

Dorat Lugaid dig n-uisce,  
 efarb álaind nírb athbruiste,  
 conid hé a šíl-side arsin  
 Corco Oirche i crích Caisil.

Lugaid mórr-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 aegarb écosmail.

70

Airdiu ná cach seól-chrand súas,  
 mó ná both leptha a leth-chlúas,  
 duibe a delb iná cach drech,  
 tromm ar cach eride in chaillech.

Mó a clár ffacail, cid bías de,  
 iná fían-chlár fidchille :  
 a srón fata úaide sair  
 sía indás uarchécht arathair.

• 80

Mó ná clíab co cendaib dés  
 cach dorn don mnaí com-míbés :  
 mó ná ail borb chloiche ar chlud  
 cechtaí 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 [Orc] 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 misnatured 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 ceein S<sub>3</sub> *robot*] rab R *cách*] each dib Le  
 ara] rea S<sub>3</sub> 58.] baoi Lughaidh cál na codladh S<sub>3</sub> 59. *chacht*] acht  
 LcM 60. *cóicid*] choicid L a erichaibh etc LcS i coiced etc *cæt.*  
*Chonnacht*] conachaib Lc 62. *ciarb*] diarb H *nirb athbruiste*] nirbat  
 breite B nirbad bruisti Lc nirbat bruiste H uiruath bruisde M 63.  
*conid*] combad L a] *om.* RH *śil*] chiniud L *-side*] sē L sen R sin Le  
 somh S<sub>3</sub> sam H 64. *Corco Oirche*] corca oirchi R corcoche L corco  
 oirci Lc corca oiche etc S<sub>3</sub>H corcoirci etc BM corcorighe S *erich*] coerich  
 etc RBLcMH 65. *mór*] *om.* R *Maic Con*] ind fir S 66.] *righ erend*  
 maccon cæmghil (*vel dil superscr.*) S ba leis an laogh na aonor S<sub>3</sub> *dó uile*]  
 uile do L a] *om.* M 67. *Lugaid*] lug S<sub>3</sub> *Lóeg*] leog etc BMH leodh S  
 laigi Le *'le*] lee B alé etc RS<sub>3</sub> alle Le 68. *cland*] in chland L *Laigde*]  
 laidhe etc RMH læge B laigi etc LcS 70. *ocon*] L um B imon etc *cæt.*  
 71. *dorsiacht*] L doriacht LeS<sub>3</sub> dorsuacht etc *cæt.* *gránada*] granne L  
 grainne H grainde B *ind ail*] in ail etc LcM an oil S<sub>3</sub> 72. *issi*] si R  
 osi S<sub>3</sub> ishí L 73. *ná*] inda R ina S<sub>3</sub>H 75. *iná*] na L anda M  
*drech*] dath RBMH 78. *iná*] anda L inda M 80. *indás*] andas L  
 ina S<sub>3</sub> no B na *cæt.* 81. *eo*] do RLeSS<sub>3</sub> *cendaib*] dendaib B *dés*] días  
 L 82. *com-*] L ba *cæt.* 83. *mó*] is mo etc LcS *ná*] no BM ina  
 S<sub>3</sub>H *borb*] LR *om.* *cæt.* *ar*] i L 84. *cehtar*] centar B *a dá*] ad B a S

Bolg-medón impe, 's eól dam,  
cen asna coa hachsalaib :  
cend carrach cnocc-remur ciar  
fuirre mar cach n-aittenn-sliab.

Rosfuachtastar is' tech tend  
imbátar meic ríg Hérend :  
trúag in gním, gráonna in bloscad  
doringni friu dia roscaib. 90

Rosofí aicned na mac máeth  
risin n-úath n-olair n-abbaeth :  
rap ferr leó ná a silliud sain  
a tabairt beó fon talmain.

Roimpó a cíall is a cond,  
ropo léim dar lán-chomlond :  
rosdilsgiset meic Dáire  
dochum éca imnáire. 100

Atbert-si friu, aithesc n-ole,  
'Fóed nech úaib lemm innocht,  
nó eter choin is duine ndron  
roforníss uili m' óenor.'

Ó 'tchondaire in gábus nglé  
atbert riu Lugaid Laigde :  
'Faifet-se léi, is lesc in cor :  
lór duib m' esbaid-se m' óenor.'

Mar rodorchaig 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 <i>cæt.</i>	86. coa hachsalaib] co achsalab L	co
hachsalaib R	co haesalab B	coa oesalu H	gan oscallaibh S <sub>3</sub>
can imscarad Lc	ica imscaradh S	88. <i>fuirre</i> ] uirre etc LcS	89.
<i>Rosfuauchtastar</i> ] L	dochuaid chuca etc <i>cæt.</i>	<i>is' tech</i> ] L	sin tech etc <i>cæt.</i>
91. <i>gnim</i> ] greann S <sub>3</sub>	<i>bloscad</i> ] bloscaid L	broscad M	bloscail S <sub>3</sub>
<i>doringn</i> ] L	doroinne etc RBSH	dorigne Lc	doroinni M
<i>om.</i> S <sub>3</sub>	<i>dia</i> ] ria L	<i>roscaib</i> ] roscaid etc LcS	<i>rinn</i> roscailleb S <sub>3</sub>
LeS	94. <i>n-úath</i> ] mnae L	<i>n-olair</i> ] L	nadhbhal M
nanbaoth etc S <sub>3</sub> H	95. <i>rap</i> ] L	ba <i>cæt.</i>	nolor etc <i>cæt.</i>
RS <sub>3</sub>	<i>leó</i> ] le B	<i>ná</i> ] no B	<i>n-abbéa</i> ] ina S <sub>3</sub>
<i>om. cat.</i>	96. <i>for</i> ] fo RMH	97. <i>is a</i> ] sa RLC	98. <i>ropo</i> ] ciarbo
<i>L chomlond</i> ] forlonn MS <sub>3</sub> H	99. <i>rosdilsiget</i> ] nodilsigset L	rodiliset	
R	rodilighedh S	dodisliged Lc	rodilsigset S <sub>3</sub>
imgranne L	100. <i>innáire</i> ] inmaire B	102. <i>Fóed</i> ] foed L	faoied S <sub>3</sub>
faideadh H	faoied etc RBM	102. <i>Fóed</i> ] foed L	faoied S <sub>3</sub>
rosíss L	fotaeth Lc	103. <i>lemm</i> ] leamsa M	104. <i>roforniss</i> ]
gnimrad Lc	106. <i>Laigde</i> ] laidi Lc	104. <i>roforniss</i> ]	<i>ronfoirneas</i> Lc
is] om. LeSS <sub>3</sub> H	108.] leor doib mesbaid amænor etc LeSS <sub>3</sub>	105. <i>gáubud</i> ]	109.
in tene] om. M	111. <i>deilb col-li</i> ] li condeilb L	107. <i>léis</i> ] om. Le	
	112. <i>issi</i> ] ishí L		

Amlaid robátar a roise,  
(nírbat berta brath-tecoise)  
trí gaí gréine cechtaí de,  
baile a silled, ba soirche.

Roscuch in cúach corera cain  
dia cíchib sí s cen sentaid,  
co mbenfaide frigde friss  
'sin tig ar sioillsi a cóem-chniss.

120

Iarsin roiarfaig di in mac  
'A ingen chóem, can tánc?  
sluind do chenél, innis sund,  
ráid rium, ná dícheil orumm!

‘Athbér-sa fritt, a meic míن :  
limm-sa fóit na haird-ríg :  
is mé ind ingen seta seng,  
flathius Alban is Hérend.

‘Duit rotócbus cend innocht,  
acht sain ní bia diar comroec :  
mac bías ocut, óebdu de,  
issé mac las’ fóim-se.

130

‘Atbér 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 Cnocc mBreg mbind,  
Hérind is Albain óebind.'      Óebind.

140

114. *nirbat*] L *nipar* H *robtar* S<sub>3</sub> *niptar* etc *cæt.* *bertha*] *bjāta* L *bjāta cæt.*  
*brath-tecoisc*] *braithecoisc* R *prathecoisg* M 115. *tri*] *om* L *.m.* B *in*  
*M cechtar*] *cantar* Lc *gantar* MS 116. *baile*] RB *bahé* L *bail* S<sub>3</sub>H

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 unreproached: '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.  
 ciúach] L fuan cæt. cain] cain R 118. cen sentaid] a sentaid L (with cem in margin) gan senntaigh S con tsentuin (with vel gan tsentaidh in margin) S<sub>3</sub> go tsentain H cen sentain etc cæt. 119. frigde] frige etc RM frighid H 120. 'sin tig] istig L ar] le M a] om. R 121. roiarfaig] dofar Le 122. chóm] om. S<sub>3</sub> can tánaç] cuin tanac H cartanach M eid atcomhnaic S<sub>3</sub> 123. do chenél] do gein etc RBM do gene S duind 7 Le 125. Atbér] atbert B 126. fóit] fot L fóidhit R faidhit etc S<sub>3</sub>H fháidit S foidid etc cæt. 127.] is me... dha seang M seta] tsegda etc LeS 130. acht sain] acht sin SS<sub>3</sub>H sin s Le diar] L dom Le dar etc cæt. 132. mac] fer LeS<sub>3</sub>H las'] la L lasa LeSS<sub>3</sub>H fóim-se] fæmse Le faimisi M faidim se etc BS ffaoidhim se S<sub>3</sub> 133. Atbér] ad Le adbert S do maic] dot m̄c S 134. a ainm] L mor mac M mor bid etc cæt. ri] rí SS<sub>3</sub> 135. aire a mēt] L arus mo Le arai is mó S aire is mo etc cæt. dechraim-se] LRS<sub>3</sub> dechraim se etc BMSH deachramar Le 136. drui] rí etc RMS 137. friu] fri S<sub>3</sub>H 138. ri] re SS<sub>3</sub> Mac Con cen imnáre] ed. mac con imnáre L mac con con imailli etc LeSS<sub>3</sub> mac con cen imaille RMH mac con gan maille B 139. mbind] imbind M 140. Hérind is Albain] albain is erind etc RBS<sub>3</sub>H alba 7 eiri Le

## RÁTH MÓR MAIGE LINE

Ráth Rogein a hainm riasin,  
 hi fláith Bresail formna gil,  
 conustánic Mór iar tain,  
 ingen Rithir meic Derlaim.

Coíca bláadan dí 'sin ráith  
 tar éis Bresail áith-rínd áith,  
 dia luid Bresal fo loch Laig  
 dia ralsatar fianna faíd.

Dia n-epairt in ben 'sin sceól  
 ná tiefad Bresal dia eól,  
 ba marb Mór ar bélaib cáich:  
 is de roil ainm don ráith.

R.

10

## BEND BOIRCHE I

Boirche búadach, ba búaid fir,  
 mac Rossa rúaid, ríg buidníg,  
 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 conried ria búar mbrecc  
 ar oman chúan is chonglecc  
 notuiled leó cach n-aidche  
 a muirech, a móir-Boirche.

B.

10

Ráth Mór Maige Líne. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *riasin*] artusin (*with tu expunkt.*) Le artus riasin M 2. *hi*] co S<sub>3</sub> *formna gil*] formnad gil Le briathar glain S 3. *conustánic*] conatainic R *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.

*Derlaim*] gerrlaim Lc 6. *Bresail*] om. Lc *áith-rind áith*] reid rindaith etc LeS 7.] for echtra dochuaid Bresal etc LeS laigh Breusal fo loch laigh M 8.] fo loch lai dia rolustar Lc fo loch laidh roluidhestar S 9. *Dia n-épairt*] dia ndebairt S<sub>3</sub>H conn debhairt S 'sin] inar S 10. *ná*] ni S<sub>3</sub> 11.] mor tre bresal ba marb de etc LeS mor ar bela ba marb caich M 12.] a hainm fil for an raith si etc LeS de rolil a hainm an raith M *don*] in etc BH

**Bend Boirche I.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1.] Bend boirche buadhaigh buaidh fir S 3. *nogaired*] rogaired etc LeS *biar*] búair S *co mbennáib*] R coabennaib B co benaib Lc co bendaib etc MSS<sub>3</sub>H 4.] mac rossa ruaidh rothengaith S 5. *Cholptha*] colpa de M *chrúaid*] cas S 6. *sair-thúaid*] særnhas S 7. *notictis*] dothigdis Lc rothigdis S 8. *indsaigid*] innaigid R indagaid B indsaigi Lc hinnsaidig M indaide H 9. *conriced*] condriiced etc LeMS<sub>3</sub>H *mbiar*] BS buar *cet*. 11.] nahuiliead leó a lemainn *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 S<sub>3</sub> 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 breatha, 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.

Atbath Ibel ós muir míl  
 dia guin 'con níth, carad ceól ;  
 'sind léim fofuair in mag már  
 ind ingen án inna heól.

IN.

## TALTIU

CÚÁN ÚA LOTHCHÁÍN *cecinit*

A chóemu críche Cuind chain  
 éitsid bic ar bennachtain ;  
 co n-écius duib senchas sen  
 suidigthe óenaig Thalten.

Trí chét bláadan, fodagaib,  
 teora bláadna dō bláadnaib  
 co gein Críst, coistid rissein,  
 ón chét-óenuch i Taltein.

Taltiu ingen Magmóir maill,  
 ben Echach gairb maic Dúach daill,  
 táníc sund ria slúag Fer mBolg  
 co Caill Cúan iar cath chomard.

10

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 Chaech.

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<sub>3</sub>H 2. *mara ris*] mar airis LcH mar  
raitear S<sub>3</sub> *mben*] mbenn B beand etc LcS<sub>3</sub>H 4. *asnad*] osna Lc asoin  
S<sub>3</sub> *maic*] mae S<sub>3</sub> 5. *bretha*] bechta Lc breacdhá M breachta S<sub>3</sub>  
7. *maic* (1)] mna Lc 8. *lennán*] lenda B 9. *De*] dia M *críde chráid*]  
crídhí crad R crídu cruac B crídi grec Lc críde creach M crídhé crech  
S<sub>3</sub>H 10. *bine*] bindi Lc 11. *Ruide*] ruid Lc 12. *in*] om. B  
13. *mil*] meand Lc 14. *'con nith*] connith R conith B condith Lc  
germíth S<sub>3</sub> ġnít H dogni M 15. *'sind*] sin S<sub>3</sub> isind *cet.* *fófuair*]  
fuair B *már*] S<sub>3</sub> om. *cet.*

Taltiu. LRBMLcSS<sub>3</sub>H *Attribution in L only* 1. *chain*] cáin L 2.  
*bic*] L ruind etc BMS rinn etc *cet.* *ar*] bar B 3. *co n-écius*] condécius L  
conindiser etc LcS *duib*] dib R doib H 5-8.] om. LcS 5. *Tri*] L  
coic etc *cet.* *fodagaib*] L cotangeib etc *cet.* 6. *bliadna*] L mili *cet.* 7.  
*coistid*] cloistig etc RBM 11. *tánic*] tueus R tugad etc BMLcS *ria*]  
re LcS lia S<sub>3</sub> 12. *chomard*] comord etc HSS<sub>3</sub>

Caill Chúan, ropo chléthchor 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 tir Tiprat Mungairde.

Mór in mod dorigned sin  
 al-los túagi la Taltin  
 athnúd achaid don chaill chóir  
 la Taltin ingin Magmóir.

Ó thopacht aicce in chaill chain  
 cona frémaib as talmain,  
 ria cind bládna ba Bregmag,  
 ba mag scothach scoth-šemrach.

30

Seáilis a cride 'na curp  
 iarna rige fo ríg-brutt;  
 fir nach follán gnúis fri gúal,  
 ní ar feda ná fid-úal.

Fota a cuma, fota a cur  
 i táin Thalten iar trom-thur;  
 dollotar fir, diamboí i cacht,  
 inse hÉrend fria hedacht.

40

13. *chléthchor*] cethur etc RM

mhónaigh etc SS<sub>3</sub> mét n-uide] met ude L

Séil] seil L oil S<sub>3</sub> ail cæt. nAssuide] S

nasuigi Le 17. *Assuide*] asuigi Le

15. *Mónai*] moin H manaig Le

co meit nuide etc RH 16.

nassade L nasuide etc RBMHS<sub>3</sub>

asuidhe RSS<sub>3</sub> 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, Crích 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 S<sub>3</sub> 19. *cend*] caill  
(with no *cinn superscr.*) H *carbaig*] L carbaid BLc carpaid M carbait S  
cairpe S<sub>3</sub> carb R carp H *a caill*] acaill H 20. *in*] o HS<sub>3</sub> *áthbéim*] L  
áthfinn etc LcS atinnd R ath innd B iathm̄d M ath uint H áthuinn  
S<sub>3</sub> *for brú*] L acaill R acuil BMLcS aeluid H a cladh S<sub>3</sub> 21. *Commur*]  
comar etc LeSH *Crích*] cend Le *Linni*] L line etc *cæt.* 22. *Manai*] L  
inbanba *cæt.* 23. *táir*] L batar etc *cæt.* *coscraig*] coseraid RLcS cosocra  
M 24. *for tir*] L for brú S<sub>3</sub> ar bru RMH ar tæb B os or Le os oir  
S *Mungairde*] mungairbhi etc S<sub>3</sub>H 25-28.] RBMLcS<sub>3</sub> 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 HS<sub>3</sub> 35.  
*fir nach follán*] fil ní follan L fir na falann R fir na fallain BMLc fir nach  
fallain etc S<sub>3</sub>H *cáich* ga cáinedh S *gnuis*] gnuis RB *gúal*] gnuis S 36.  
ni ar *feda*] na arfeda LH no ar feda S<sub>3</sub> ni hairfheadha M ni harfeda RB  
gnitharfedaih Le do na dánib S *nó fidúal*] na fidúal L na fiduall RBM  
ina fiadhghual S<sub>3</sub> fa deghehús S 37. *cuma*] ema LLc coma RBMH  
*a cur*] táim thur L 38.] Thalten iarna tromšetur L *i tám*] tam HS<sub>3</sub>  
ataim Le atá a (retraced) S *Thalten*] teamř (retraced) S *iar*] iarna LeS<sub>3</sub>H na  
S 39. *dolletar*] L taneatar etc *cæt.* i] om. Le 40. *isne*] isan- Le *ria*]  
ra RB re H na M *hedacht*] hidnaeht H taidecht Le hidhalš (retraced) S

Roráid-si riu 'na galur,  
 ciarb énairt nírb amlabur,  
 ara nderntais, díchra in mod,  
 cluiche caítech dia caíniod.

Im kalaind Auguist atbath,  
 dia lúain, Loga Lugnasad ;  
 imman lecht ón lúan ille  
 prím-óenach hÉrend áine.

Dorairngert fáitsine fir  
 Taltiu tóeb-gel ina tir,  
 airet nosfaímad cech flaithe  
 ná biad hÉriu een óg-naith.

Óenach eo n-ór, eo n-argut,  
 eo cluichib, eo ceól charput,  
 eo cumtuch euirp 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 élud, cen ergabáil.

Óenach cen chol, cen chelggad,  
 cen aithis, cen imderggad,  
 cen imchosnom, cen ellach,  
 cen táide, cen taithchennach :

Cen techt fer i forud mban,  
 cen mná i forud fer find-glan,  
 acht cásch 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. <i>Roráid-si</i> ] L conderbait Lc coneceipt etc cat.	42. <i>ciarb énairt</i> ] cerbo meirb etc LeS ciar benir M <i>nírb</i> ] robo Le <i>nír</i> S <i>amlabur</i> ] labur Le mílabar S
43. <i>ara nderntais</i> ] L arandentais etc RBMHS <sub>3</sub> arecondendais etc LeS	45. <i>Im</i> ] L hi etc cat. <i>atbath</i> ] L cen ail etc RBMHS <sub>3</sub> dia luaiain Lc o thosaigh S
46.] laithi lugnasai lancruaid Le <i>Loga Lugnasad</i> ] laithi lugnasaidh etc RMHSS <sub>3</sub> laithi in lugnasaid B	47. <i>imman</i> ] L imo etc RMSS <sub>3</sub> imoa BH com Le ón] o RBMLeS
49-56.] only in LH	48. <i>áine</i> ] L uile etc cat.
50. <i>ina</i> ] na L	52. <i>ná</i> ] nat H
57. <i>gait neich</i> ] goith neith S <sub>3</sub>	59.
aidbriud] aindbriud R aibriud BM aibreath S fhaitead Le elad S <sub>3</sub> cen dáil] cid aif L dondail Le	60. <i>élud</i> ] eiliugud Le aidbreadh S <sub>3</sub> ergabáil] L athgabail etc cat.
64. <i>taithchennach</i> ] tromeendach R	63. <i>cen</i> (2)] im S <i>ellach</i> ] LS cellach etc cat.
ban mbán S	65. <i>fer i forud mban</i> ] a farradh
66. <i>i forud fer find-glan</i> ] a forad fer fidgeal Le a farradh fer nimlán S	67. <i>fria chárus</i> ] fria charus L ria arus RBM inarus H
na arus S <sub>3</sub> acadhus LeS ó] oa S <sub>3</sub>	68. <i>inna drus</i> ] inna arus L inaruscind etc RS <sub>3</sub> H inarus in etc BM anarus in Le anárus an S

Óen-chairdde in oenaig andsin  
etir hÉrinn is Albain,  
ic techt ind, ic tuidecht ass,  
cen nach n-eeraitius n-amnas.

70

Ith ocus blicht for each dind,  
síd ocus soinenn dia chind,  
doratad do gentib Gréc  
ar firinne do chomét.

Ó chaíniud Talten din tSéil  
co flaith Lóegaire maic Néil  
dogníthe la slúag síabra  
óenach cacha hóen-bládna,

80

La Firu Bolg, bátar and,  
is la Túatha Dé Danann,  
la maceu Miled iarsin  
co Pátric iar prím-chreitim.

Atbert Pátric, 'Ba búadach,  
in recht aienid imuallach :  
cen cop ar Dia dorónad  
boí in Coimdui 'ca chommórad.'

Co tánic Pátric iar Críst  
óenach Talten, tróeta tríst,  
mór marb rochaín a chéile  
hi relic na rath-Féine.

90

Fert óen-dorus d'fir co n-áí ;  
fert co ndíb dorsib for mnaí ;  
ferta een dorsi drena  
for maceu, for ingena.

Aisneis do chorthib fert fadb,  
fulang caindel d' airi marb ;  
cnuic for allmarchaib ánaib  
ucus muir 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 Taitiu 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 Taitiu 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.

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69. *in*] *om.* L      71.] *ie techta ind* 7 *ass* L      72. *n-eccraitius*] *hecradis*  
 B *neceraitech* H *dagra* LcS *n-amnas*] *cohamnas* LcS      73. *for*] L  
*ar cæt.*      74.] *diacind sid* 7 *soinind* B      77. *chainiud*] L *beitsecht* etc  
 RBMHS<sub>3</sub> *chédecht* etc LcS *din tSéil*] L *donteill* R *dondeill* BM *don*  
*feil* etc S<sub>3</sub>H *bo dein* Lc *budh dhen* S      79.] *doronad sum ri siabra* L  
*la*] re LcS      80. *cacha*] *cach* B *ann gach* S<sub>3</sub>      82. *Tuatha*] *tuaith* S<sub>3</sub>H  
*tuathaib* S      84.] *co patraice ceann ar cereidimh* S<sub>3</sub>      85-88.] *only in*  
 LH      89. *tánic*] L *toracht etc cæt.*      90. *tróela*] *tróethadh* Lc      91.  
*rochain*] 7 o *chain* L      92. *relic*] *reilgib* etc LcS *rath-Féine*] *rathéine* L  
*raithfheile* S<sub>3</sub>      93. *Fert*] *ráth* L *co n-ai*] *connaoi* S<sub>3</sub> *conoi* H *connoi* R  
*condoi* B *conndai* M *combái* L *cangéi* Lc *cognái* S      94. *fert*] *rath* L  
*for mnai*] *do mnai* LLcS      95. *ferta*] *ratha* L *feart* BLcM *is fert* S *cen*  
*dorsi drena*] RB *cen doirsib drena* M *i treanaib condagaib* L *cen doirrsi*  
*chena* etc S<sub>3</sub>H *can doirrsib can treanaib* Lc *con doírrsib trena* S      96.]  
*for macecaib for ingenaib* L *do macaib do ingenaib* Lc *for meon for ingena* M  
 98. *fulang*] L *d' fulang* etc RBS<sub>3</sub>H *dfulang a* M *do fulaing* LcS *caindel d'*  
*airi*] *aculuur* Lc *aco ilar* S      99. *for*] *fri* S<sub>3</sub> *allmarchaib*] *allmarcu* etc  
 BMS<sub>3</sub> *ánaib*] L *ána* etc *cæt.*      100. *for*] *fri* S<sub>3</sub> *phlágaib*] L *plaga* etc *cæt.*

Maraid mór Tailten cech than,  
in' rohadnacht ilar mban,  
oeus 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 rígna.

Ríg-imscing don Mumain múaid  
fri rígu Temrach atúaid ;  
teora Connacht, cen nach cacht,  
for forud fer nÓlneemacht.

110

Láechrad Lagen, lór do blad,  
eturru is cóiced Ulad ;  
innisem don leith andes :  
Ériu, dia ríg ba ruidles,

Ulaid 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 chlaim i téob na forud,  
clocha ríme, roth Fáil Flaind,  
coirthé Colmáin, carn Conaill.

Geiss di urchur ná geib greim,  
geiss di tochim cen tairlim,  
geiss oc dul úadi do phraind  
a déscin tar clé-gúalainn.

101. *Maraid*] moraid L *cech than*] LLc nach tan *cet.* S *ilar mban*] can imral Le mór mban S

102. *in'*] innti

103. *foluig*] fölluig 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 Olneemacht.

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<sub>3</sub> fuloing H fulaing MLcS 104. *in'*] ind Lc *gart*] agarb BM  
 105-113.] mainly illegible in L 105. *múr Echach*] muridach M *uaigthe*]  
 snaighthi Lc snaithi S naighthi M 107. *min a mná*] a . . . L sunna  
 mna Lc sunda amna S 108. *a*] na R 111. *cen nach*] cenach BMH  
 cid nach etc LcS *cacht*] cath Lc 112. *nÓineemacht*] BM olneemacht etc  
 etc *cæt*. 114. *is cóiced*] L *γ óicc etc cæt.* 115. *innisem*] L innisim etc  
 etc. 116. *Ériu*] herend L eř R erim etc LcS *dia rig*] do rig L dia  
 raid Lc *ba*] L ni S<sub>3</sub> is etc *cæt*. 117. *cruiche*] curthi etc LcS 118. *co*] L  
 a etc *cæt*. *don*] ón S 119. *ria firu*] ria feraib etc Ls<sub>3</sub> *ré firu* Lc 120. *hi*  
*lurgg*] na lurg S 121. *Gruip*] L luibh S<sub>3</sub> *loip cæt.* *lobur*] labuir H  
 lubair S<sub>3</sub> 122. *in chlaim*] L claimh S<sub>3</sub> clam RBMLeH *cáin* S *i tóeb*]  
 L ar cul etc *cæt*. 123. *clocha*] clotha L cloch i etc S<sub>3</sub>H *clochar* Lc  
*rime*] uime Lc racimthi S<sub>3</sub> *roth*] rot RBM rod Lc ród S *Fáil*] L ful Lc  
 fail *cæt*. 124. *Carn Conaill*] raith chairn chonall L 125. *urchur*]  
 esba L ircra BM *ná geib*] nach gab S nad gaibh S<sub>3</sub> 126. *tochim*]  
 toitim MLc dirim (*in litura*) S<sub>3</sub> *tairlim*] torleng H toirling SS<sub>3</sub> 127.  
*ac dul*] L di oc techt etc RBMSS<sub>3</sub> di techt etc LcH *uaidi do*] uaith can Lc  
 128. *clé-*] gle L

Céti tri decera rostecht;  
 fer cen chend fair 'ca imthecht,  
 mac meic secht mblíadan for meór,  
 táim in tsácairt dind aeór.

130

Na teora fogla filte  
 asrogart Pátric innte,  
 gait dam ar chuing, guin bó mblicht,  
 loscud lés fás, ní prím-ślicht.

Pátric pritchais, conid breth,  
 nad gébad síd nech doneth,  
 céin bes Taitiu cech thrátha,  
 céin marait a ríg-rátha.

140

Ráith airthir, ráith farthair uile,  
 ráith Lugdach, ráith Lort, ráith Luirc,  
 ráith Chon, ráith Chanand, mochen,  
 ráith síl Taideg, tredua Talten.

Tredua Talten sech cech tír,  
 áitt i troiscitis na ríg,  
 láechaib, clérchib, cétáib cenn,  
 na tísad teidm tír nÉrenn.

Hi tredua Thalten, im theirt,  
 rosnír Ísu do Mac Eire  
 na teora plága do breith  
 a hÉrinn, ní hanaichnid.

150

IN giallcherd co ndaigthe immach,  
 bádud na mbare ar Bregmag,  
 mortlaid mac nÁeda Sláine,  
 do Mac Eire 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 LeS timS M 131. *maic*]  
 beg Le *for meór*] L for feor RBS for fer M ar feór etc LeS<sub>3</sub>H 132.  
 táim] L tuitim S<sub>3</sub>H teidm etc *cæt.* *dind aeór*] ahaeór etc S<sub>3</sub>H don  
 daigeoir Le 133. *teora*] dera RMLc tera S (*corr. by later hand*) *fogla*]  
 fodla H folia S (g *added by later hand*) RBLcM *filte*] L fillti 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 Lorc, the Rath of Cú, the Rath of Canu—hail ! the Rath of the Seed of Tadg, 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.

BSS <sub>3</sub> filti M	filtiliu H	134. <i>asrogart</i> ] L	ropritchais etc RBLCs
ropritchais etc S <sub>3</sub> H	napritchais M	135. <i>gait</i> ] L	goid (added by later hand) S <i>om. cæt.</i> <i>dam ar chuing</i> ] L
hand)	<i>dam</i> <i>chuining</i> 7 etc <i>cæt.</i>	136. <i>loscud</i> ]	<i>loisceir</i> B <i>loiscid</i> Lc <i>lés</i> ] L
loisceir B	<i>les</i> etc RH	<i>ilos</i> S <sub>3</sub> <i>leis</i> BMLcS <i>fás</i> ] fos S	<i>(corr. to fas)</i> <i>fos</i> Lc <i>ni</i> im B <i>im</i> (corr. to ni) S in M <i>-slicht</i> L <i>icht cæt.</i>
137. <i>pritchais</i> ] pritchas L	138. <i>nad</i> ] L	139. <i>cein</i> ] LS <sub>3</sub>	140. <i>cein</i> ] <i>om.</i> L
138. <i>nad</i> ] L	na RBHM nach LeSS <sub>3</sub> <i>nech</i> ] LeS	140. <i>cein</i> ] <i>om.</i> L	<i>neich cæt. donech</i> M <i>doneich</i> H
139. <i>cein</i> ] LS <sub>3</sub>	<i>nech</i> ] gan etc BLcS	141. <i>cein</i> ] L	<i>gen S Taltiu</i> ] taillten H <i>tailltin</i> Lc <i>cech</i> ]
140. <i>cein</i> ] <i>om.</i> L	141. <i>cein</i> ] L	142. <i>Lort</i> ] L	<i>taulath</i> MLC a <i>taulath</i> S
141. <i>cein</i> ] L	142. <i>Lort</i> ] L	143. <i>Chanand</i> ] L	144. <i>sil Taidc</i> ] L
142. <i>Lort</i> ] L	143. <i>Chanand</i> ] L	144. <i>genaind</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	<i>sithaig</i> Lc <i>sid</i> <i>taidg</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>
143. <i>Chanand</i> ] L	144. <i>genaind</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	145. <i>Tredua</i> ] tretuaith etc RBMLcS	145. <i>Tredua</i> ] tretuaith etc RBMLcS
144. <i>genaind</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	145. <i>Tredua</i> ] tretuaith etc RBMLcS	146. <i>troiscitidis</i> S	146. <i>troiscitidis</i> S
145. <i>Tredua</i> ] tretuaith etc RBMLcS	146. <i>troiscitidis</i> S	147. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	147. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc
146. <i>troiscitidis</i> S	147. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	148. <i>tisad</i> ] tiad Lc <i>tir</i> ] a <i>tir</i> etc MLcS	148. <i>tisad</i> ] tiad Lc <i>tir</i> ] a <i>tir</i> etc MLcS
147. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	148. <i>tisad</i> ] tiad Lc <i>tir</i> ] a <i>tir</i> etc MLcS	149. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	149. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc
148. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	149. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	150. <i>rosnir</i> ] L	150. <i>rosnir</i> ] L
149. <i>Hi tredua</i> ] hi tretuaith etc	150. <i>rosnir</i> ] L	151. <i>plága</i> ] plaghda R	151. <i>plága</i> ] plaghda R
150. <i>rosnir</i> ] L	151. <i>plága</i> ] plaghda R	152. <i>ni</i> ] L	152. <i>ni</i> ] L
151. <i>plága</i> ] plaghda R	152. <i>ni</i> ] L	153. <i>ciarb</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	153. <i>ciarb</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>
152. <i>ni</i> ] L	153. <i>ciarb</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	154. <i>hanaichnid</i> ] anaithneich S	154. <i>hanaichnid</i> ] anaithneich S
153. <i>co ndaigthe</i> ] L	154. <i>hanaichnid</i> ] anaithneich S	155. <i>doberthai</i> etc LeS <sub>3</sub>	155. <i>doberthai</i> etc LeS <sub>3</sub>
154. <i>ar</i> ] for S	155. <i>doberthai</i> etc LeS <sub>3</sub>	156. <i>do</i> ] ar L.	156. <i>do</i> ] ar L.
155. <i>do</i> ] ar L.	156. <i>do</i> ] ar L.	<i>ni h-</i> ] L	<i>ni h-</i> ] L
<i>ni h-</i> ] L	<i>ni h-</i> ] L	<i>cis</i> R	<i>cis</i> R
<i>cis</i> R	<i>cis</i> R	<i>nirb</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>	<i>nirb</i> etc <i>cæt.</i>

Cíambad termond Taitiu ar thrét  
tuc Dia cairde dia chomét,  
Pátric, Brigit, Becán bán,  
Mac Eirc, Eithni, Adamnán.

160

Imráidem a táníc de  
iar creitim na Trinóite ;  
trena Tailten, tuir théite  
oc promad na fían-chéite.

Fir ar dún ar túis da triall ;  
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 Eirc, Ciarán Cairn don maig,  
at eat na trí comallaig.

170

Cóic cét óenach immosech,  
cid cintech ar écintech,  
ó óenuch Pátric Macha  
co dub-óenach nDondchada.

Dá fíchet ríg rodaacht,  
la cethrur ríg doridnacht,  
ó Níall uile ind rígrad rán  
acht Ailill a óenurán.

180

Óen rí ó Lóegaire ille,  
óen rí ó cheniuil Chairpre,  
noí flaithe síl Aéda áin,  
secht flaithe clainne Colmáin.

Sé ríg déc ar Mide amach,  
ó Eogan issin óenach,  
ocus deich ríg, doríacht so  
a crích Conaill, a chóemo.

A.

Though Taltiu was a sanctuary for the flock, God gave friends to guard it, Patrick, Brigit, white Beccan, Mac Eire, Eithne, Adamnan.

Let us speak of what came next after the establishment of the faith in the Trinity; the triple bands of Taltiu, 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 Taltiu thrice; Mac Eire, 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!

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157-160.] LH only      158. *cairde*] cairdiu L      161. *Imraídem*] imraídim etc MLcHS      a] LR na cæt.      162. *Tailten*] a tailtin Le *tuir*] tair L don LeS      163. *oc promad*] L do molad etc cæt. *fian-chéite*] L primgheige S primeheiti etc cæt.      164. *ar tús*] i tus RBS eathus Le tus M *da*] do LeS<sub>3</sub>H      165. *ndián*] LH dún cæt. *'na ndiad*] nandiaid LRS<sub>3</sub> na diaid etc cæt.      166. *ossaid*] said B      167. *na*] L a cæt.      168. *na*] L a cæt.      169. *fortgella*] portgella B fortchealla Le      170. *tochim*] toithim Le tuitim M *Thalten*] themrach S 171. *mac Eirc*] om. L *Ciarán*] is ciaran etc LeS *Cairn*] cá irad L om. BMLcS don] den H      172. *at eat*] atecht LeS *na*] L a cæt. *comallaig*] S<sub>3</sub> cumhalaibh S cumalaig etc cæt.      173. *cid*] gē S *ar*] eid Le      174. *rig*] ri RLcSS<sub>3</sub>H *rodaacht*] L imroacht RMLcS<sub>3</sub>H imdroacht B imóracht S      175. *la*] L in RBM im LcSS<sub>3</sub>H *cethrur*] sheiser S<sub>3</sub> *doridnacht*] rodasacht L      176. *ind rígrad rán*] L in læchrad lán etc cæt.      177. *a*] na BMS      178. *sil*] a sil S      179. *secht*] ocht S<sub>3</sub> *claimne*] ceneil S<sub>3</sub> 180. *a*] 181. *so*] dō LeS      182. *eo*] co L      183. *so*] dō LeS

Cethri fichit, is fir sain,  
do bládnaib acht óen bládain,  
taichniud Tailten, tróg a fot,  
céte Cormaic cen charpot.

Conostánic 'na chath chass  
mac meic ind ríg mothar-mass,  
ucus mac domeil mid mesc  
ingine ind ríg dodrairmesc.

Rí Temra, togaide de,  
Maelsechlainn Slemna slane,  
sruth nEufrait eirge i n-arrrda  
oen-milid na hEorapa.

Orddan íarthair domuin duind  
dam chobair, Cormac úa Cuind,  
chueund i forud flatha  
do chlaind Domnaill Dondchada.

Tuc gort Gáedel a gábus,  
tuc hÉrinn a herbádud,  
tuc óenach Talten a feór,  
cíarb atharda, rop aneól.

Bec leis a tard dún do maith,  
bec leis d' ith de bliucht de braich,  
bec leis de séót de bíud de brut,  
bec leis de ór de argut.

Bec leis cacha lúaid diar les,  
bec leis d' iasc do mil do mess,  
bec leis dúnn ri cond crúaiche  
óenach cecha hóen-túaithe.

Bec lais caithmít den bith búan,  
bec leis rígad cech fir úan,  
bec leis cach lucht lán fonlen  
conontue d' óenuch Thalten.

190

200

210

220

Four score years (this is true) all but one year, Taitiu 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, Maelsechlainn 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 Taitiu 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 Taitiu.

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189-end.] in LH only	193. <i>chath</i> ] cat H	196. <i>ingine</i> ] H <i>íné</i> L
197-200.] L only	202. <i>chobair</i> ] comair H	203. <i>chucund</i> ] om. L
204. <i>Dondchada</i> ] maic Donchada L	209. <i>do</i> ] dia H	211. <i>biud</i> ] bud L
213. <i>liaid diar les</i> ] L <i>luad ar les</i> H	215. <i>dánn</i> ] om. L	216. <i>cecha</i> ] each L
217. <i>caithmit</i> ] caitmi H <i>den</i> ] 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.

Críst la Máelsechlainn na súad,  
Críst leis ar dothech ar dúad,  
Críst leis ar chocad ar chath,  
dia chomge dia chommórad.

Ríg ná tairnechtar ar ndáil  
ní dlegat ar n-imgabáil,  
Máelrúanaid, Flaithbertach, Fland,  
Áed, Cathal, Dondhad, Domnall.

Duthrachta uí Lothchain láin  
duíbsi, a ócu ind óenaig áin;  
mo báide iar sonad so  
cían bas chomad, a chóemo.

230

### SLIAB FÚAIT I

Foderc dam fri sellad suaire  
oc Ard Asse imma cúaird  
Fert mná Nemid, níth co ngail,  
Med meic ingine Balair,

Port cos' tuesat Lugair luing  
i nDesciurt Maige ind Óendruind,  
Snám in Tuire trén iar trath tert,  
sech is focus is fodeirc. 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,

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221-224.] H only      226. *ar diad*] 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 ingle,  
 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, ni cōi ceirt,  
 for cech oen-leith is fodeirc. F. 25

Finnaid úaim co ségda súaire  
 anf 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,  
 óclach narb uathad 'na loing,  
 toísech úa m̄buadach m̄Bregoin.

Is é a oenur dorell  
 oc tasenam tíri hErend :  
 rosuc ceim gradach ingle  
 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 Moduирn 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. *ain*] Read *áin*      16. *find-ár*] Read *find-áir*      20. *Calland*] supplied  
in margin talland *fac. of L*      29. *úaim*] *uaib L*      33. *bailc*] *bail L*  
40. *na*] *inna L*      43. *rofuirim*] Read *rofuirim*

In tan ba firén in rí  
nobid in fót fo chaem-lí :  
mad dia raded gói nach than,  
suas dochured a foescal.

Is fair-sin, seol cen timmi,  
do chomét a firinni,  
dellig iar céin, ceim co mblait,  
in gerrán buadach Patraic.

Atá sunna, sét col-lí,  
fotán tíri tairngirí,  
in-Nemiuð nár nithach neirt ;  
duib céin co follus is fodeirc.

F.

50

## SLIAB FÚAIT II

Finnaid úaim, co ségda suaire,  
aní dia n-abar Slíab Fúait,  
ar domrala sund co cas,  
co fesabair a šenchas.

[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 nár úathad 'na luing,  
taísech búadach mae mBreoguinn.

10

Fúat úa Breogain, baile a bann,  
ba trén dar tíre trebann,  
rue céim cen gúasacht grinne  
eo 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 Fuait 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] ḥa L (n *expunct.*)

Sliab Fuait II. LeSS<sub>3</sub>H RBM have only 5-8, 21-24, 29-32 5-8.] after  
 12 Lc 5. *beóda*] baile Le 6. *Maigden*] maigin Le maidhen S 7.  
 'na] co S *rémiimm*] reimend etc BLc reminn etc RS reimib M *ráin*] rán etc  
 BLcS<sub>3</sub>H 8. a *hSpain*] co hespain etc RM anespain B 9. *bann*] bond  
 etc LeS 10. *trénn*] trom LeS *tire*] tirib S *trebann*] Lc treabhann S,  
 trebtann H trebonn S 11. *nárb*] nar S 12. *taisech*] taibsi Lc  
*biúadach mac*] mac mbuaghæfí S 13. *bann*] bond etc LeS 14. *tire*] ed.  
 tirib Le tir in S tirthaibh etc S<sub>3</sub>H *trebann*] Lc trebonn S treabthann S,  
 trebtann H 15. *ruc céim*] e rug cem S *cen guásacht*] guasachtach Le  
 nguasacht S

Tuc leis do lár na hindsi  
fót dar tonna trén-millsi,  
eo rofuirim, cadla in chúairt,  
sunna for lár sléibe Fúaitt.

20

[IN fer atbeired gaí nglais  
ós chaín in fóit euchar-glaís,  
don fót ba soblad in sód,  
ní fodmad cen a impód.]

IN tan ba firén in rí,  
nobíd in fót fo cháem-lí :  
mad dia ráided goí in each than,  
súas nochuired a faescal.

[Maraid in fót 'sin tسلیب ثúaid,  
co fúair 'sin rót each robúaid :  
fót ná fuilnged cláine cúaic  
tuc fer cen saibe sáer-Fúat.]

30

IS fair-sin, céim cen timme,  
do chomét na fírinne,  
doluid iar céin móir cen gait  
in t-apstal 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 séól co becht dar' fuaig lib  
cert sléibe Fúait, is finnайд.

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. *tonna*] S tonnaib Le tuinn cen S<sub>3</sub>H      19. *co rofuirim*] cor fuirim S  
 cor fuairig Lc *cadla in*] cadla do Lc ba cadhla in S      20. *sunna*] sunn S<sub>3</sub>  
*Fuait*] sean fuait S<sub>3</sub>      21. *nglais*] glas Lc lais S      22. *chain*] cind Lc  
*cochar-glais*] ochurglais R feocarglais B imglais M      23.] don fod fa  
 hathlam an sodh Lc don fhod rob athlom an sodh S don fodba osoblad an  
 sod M      24. *ni fodmad*] ni fognad B nochananad etc LcS *cen a*] ag Lc  
 gan S      25. *firén*] S firinne etc LcS<sub>3</sub>H *in ri*] a brí S<sub>3</sub>      26. *nobid*]  
 dobid Lc robidh S *cháem-li*] choimlí S<sub>3</sub> comli H      27-28.] *added in Lc*  
*at foot by scribe of text*      27. *in*] om. S      28. *nochuired*] docuread etc LcS  
 29. *'sin tsléib thuáib*] sin sa tsliab Lc      30. *robiaid*] romiad Lc      31. *ná*]  
 nat S<sub>3</sub> *fuilnged*] fulgnend Lc fulghidh M *cúac*] cuach R cuadh Lc  
 gua S guach M      32. *cen saibe*] can aibi M *Fuát*] fuath B      37.  
*eo lí*] cailli Lc      39. *Náir*] nar S<sub>3</sub>H *nithach*] Lc naitheach S nithe S<sub>3</sub>H  
*a nert*] Le annert S gan nert S<sub>3</sub>H      41. *Doáirim*] da airim Lc      42.  
*fóit*] fo S      43. *dar' fuaig*] 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 fríth in Dáel, nárbo dis,  
 hi cloccunn cháel Chonganchnis.

10

Bátar trí coin ina chind  
 Conganchnis, caíme ar each dind:  
 brec, dub, odar, tes a tlacht,  
 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 tسلیب a mart:  
 aige do chéin rocomacht.

## SLIAB CALLANN

Well I know the origin of the name of stalwart Callann's mountain: the hound that Buidhe owned was called by the name of Callann, unalterably.

Buidhe mac Bain 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 Celchar—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 Celchar owned; a law-keeper was noble Dael.

The hound that belonged to steadfast Buidhe, 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.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      3. *ria*] re LcSS<sub>3</sub>      4. *roboi*] boi S<sub>3</sub>  
 5. *ba biaid fir*] buaid fir M can cor de Lc      6. *'na chæm-thig*] eo cæmgne Lc  
 7. *co roméit*] comromhed M      8. *-falaíd*] alaíd RM alaigh S chalaíd Le  
 10. *thíaid*] atuaid Lc *in*] na Lc      11. *frith in Dóel*] dofrith dæl B      12.  
*hi*] in R *cháel*] cruaid etc LcS      14. *caime*] cæm Lc caimh SM *ar each*]  
*ina* M      15. *dub*]  $\gamma$  dub Lc *tes*] om. Lc      16. *in chonart*] co comnart S  
 18. *cú*] is cú Lc *na*] an SS<sub>3</sub> *fo*] fa B fá S *chomnoil*] comnait B chæmnoind  
 Le      23. *comga*] coimhdhi S<sub>3</sub> comdha etc SH      24. *Duind*] duinib M  
 26. *conort*] S<sub>3</sub> (*in litura*) comnart RB comort Lc comart M comairt S  
 comnart H *i crú-*] a cu S      27. *sund 'sin tسلیب*] san tsleib sunn etc LcS  
*a mart*] anart Lc in mart M      28. *aige*] ed. oigi R oige BM oig S<sub>3</sub>H  
 a oigedh Lc aiged S *rocommacht*] RB rocommacht S<sub>3</sub>H docomaet M comrag  
 Lc rocommart S

Is don sceól sin, is fir 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 ślúag faílid dian fir-dil !  
ma tá lib, cen tacha trell,  
aided Matha mic Roíenn.

A Laignib na ferg fuliid  
da bás i erích comaithig  
toisc Matha i mbeól in buinne,  
eól a fatha acainne.

Fid cnúas imda atchúala mé  
i n-iártur Macha maige,  
ar aí bláide ocus bolaid  
daire ní boí a baramail.

10

Bolad noéirged don fid,  
an táeb le gaeíth noglúaised,  
ní fuigbthe adba folaig  
'sin Banba dia boltanaib.

Cach muc nosniged lia sróin  
bolad in doire dímóir,  
maided a croide re cois  
don doire mani dechdais.

20

Tríallaid tocht fon mbolad mbúan  
tréit Cathair móir na marc-ślúag :  
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 fot M *fo feór*] fo eor BM fon feor S 32. *ósin*] isin Lc *rót*  
*is*] rodus R rodas S

**Sruthar Matha.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H *Lines 5-32 in S<sub>3</sub>H only* 1. *maidid*]  
maidid etc RBMH maigid etc LeS maoi<sup>h</sup>idh S<sub>3</sub> 2. *dian*] fial B  
3. *ma tā*] mata RBMH matha LeS 6. *comaitig*] comhuidhig S<sub>3</sub>H  
8. *fatha*] fátha S<sub>3</sub> 11. *blaide*] mbl<sup>2</sup>e S<sub>3</sub>H 14. *táeb*] taoibh S<sub>3</sub>  
16. *'sin*] sa S<sub>3</sub>H 17. *nosiiged*] dosu<sup>h</sup>idheadh S<sub>3</sub> dosuided H 19.  
*maided*] maoi<sup>h</sup>eadh S<sub>3</sub> *re cois*] rea cois H

Filled ná sóud 'na sét  
 nír fét Matha don mó-r-thréit :  
 ránic co Cummar fon chás,  
 ullam tánic a thig-bás.

Maidis a chenn, ba táem 'troc,  
 le tograim is le tesbach :  
 téit co ciamaír fon sruth súain,  
 mar nár guth d' íarraid indúair.

Mac Roírenn mic Rogain rúaid,  
 ríg-muccid Cathair Chonlúain,  
 torchair sund co síair-mer sain  
 co robáided 'sin t'sruthair.

De roráid each fer co fir,  
 'In sruth tar Matha, is mó-r-gním :'  
 méraid ria gairm, bid gním glan,  
 a hainm sír corob sruthar. S. 40

Sruth Nencha, nách scaílenn scol,  
 ria mac Raírenn na rochor,  
 fúarus ós each rús rorad,  
 ba hed ar túis in t'sruthar. 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-bládach, 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, eunning 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.

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30. *togaim*] S<sub>3</sub> togairm H      32. *indúair*] H ionnfhuair S<sub>3</sub>      33.  
*Mac Roirenn*] Matha Lc *Rogain*] rorind Lc      34. *muccid*] muaigh M  
35. *sáir-mer*] særmer R      36. *co robáid 'sin*] corobaidh isin etc RBM  
37. *roráid*] doradadh Lc roraidhedh S doráidh etc S<sub>3</sub>H      38. *sruth tar*]  
sruthair Lc      39. *ria*] RB *re cat bid*] ba Lc      43. *ós*] in RB as MS<sub>3</sub>H  
os etc LcS *rorad*] ré ragh Lc roragh S<sub>3</sub>H arragh S

Odba. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      2. *criais*] RH cruas etc *cat.* *carad*] curadh  
Lc *gais*] craais M gnáis S      3. *ria*] ra RB ro M *re cat.* *gall-echaib*]  
cailleachaib Lc      4. *cuing*] cuind LcS *tláis*] triaif B *bais*] baes etc RBM  
5. *ón*] om. B      6. *na chri*] nā ri R nacri etc LcS nachræ M *romar-cloi*]  
romarbelai Lc rombarclái S romra cláoi (ra *in litura*) S<sub>3</sub>      7. *dét-bladach*]  
dedbladad R debladach M deachladach Lc decladhach S *dui*] drai Lc  
drúi S      8. *oc Cunn*] o cund R o chund S boe o cunn (*with boe struck out*  
*and c written over o*) B bæ o cunn M ba conn S<sub>3</sub> ba acconn H *chét-chathach*]  
cetfadach RB

Ba muccaid menmnach ria mess  
in dún digna, degrach doss,  
fer co solma in slúag-thend sess,  
Ódba, 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 :  
Ódba ass co n-ilar glonn  
nírb idan sonn roslass sund.

S. 20

Ódba, ben Héremóin, and,  
tall 'na glé-medóin hi crunn :  
máthair a macc, in maith mall,  
int app thall rostatlaig sund.

S.

## INBER CÍCHMAINE

Inber Cíchmaine, cid cress,  
gáet eo líth-baile láech-bress  
Maine ergna, úais ella,  
mac Medba ocus Ailella.

Rongáet Fergna fo gaíne,  
fíal-mac fedba Findehaíme,  
eo fil a lecht ara lár,  
airm romert in mór-maccán.

9. *menmnach*] he Lc 10. *in dún digna*] in dun ndidhnad R in dun  
didna B an dunn dighna S<sub>3</sub> a dun digna H in dun astighna M oda an  
dingna Lc ota in dingna S *degrach*] degair Lc *doss*] dois S<sub>3</sub> 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 osgais Lc osges S ossgis M ruscē S<sub>3</sub> foeres H  
oss] uas Lc ois S<sub>3</sub> 13. Airm] anairm S<sub>3</sub> in'] im Lc rohailed] rohoiled  
B a iāg] a uadh RS a huad Lc uad S<sub>3</sub> 14. dianid] donith Le doni  
S airer án] gaire nan S 15. dia mbá-som] diambasom R diabasum etc  
BM diabasam etc LcS<sub>3</sub> diabassom S diebassom H 16. cia thá] ciaha  
M 17. A] om. M amlaid] amlaid amlaid M 18. trumm] trum S<sub>3</sub>  
truim cat. 19. Odba ass] adhba os S 20. nírb idan] nirbadan B  
nirbigan Lc roslass] rolas B rusla Lc rosla M rolos S sund] suinn H  
21-24.] om. S<sub>3</sub> 21. Héremón] deremon etc BM 22. hi crunn] a  
chrunn Lc na cronn H 23. in] om. Lc 24. rostatlaig] rostathlaid B  
rostathlaid Lc rastaclaid M rostathl RSH sund] sonn H

Inber Cíchmaine. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 2. gáet] gæd Lc gaeth RBM co]  
con S<sub>3</sub> 3. iāis] uas RLc ella] alla S 5. Rongæt] rogæt etc BS<sub>3</sub>  
rangaeth M rongaeth R fo gaine] fer firi Lc 6. fedba] ferda etc LcSS<sub>3</sub>  
8. mór-maccán] mor macam etc BS<sub>3</sub> maeth macam etc LcS

Adbal in gním cen gaíne  
dorigne mac Findchaíme,  
bás Maine Andoí na n-ech  
ós cach glan-roí glas-lindech.

10

Immon curach, comol nglé,  
ba mudach, ba mó-r-scele,  
díth Maine múaid, nárbo mer,  
ó fúair a ainm int inber. IN.

Ba hand rogáet, garb in scél,  
mac Ailill find frithir-ehél,  
Cíchmaine, cing crúaid ar chel,  
dia roling thúaid i n-inber. IN.

20

Nó issi a aided féin iar fir  
in fir do chéin cen chaín-gním,  
marbad fir na mall-súl mer  
oc tarrúd éise 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 bén-sin.

Dá én bátar oc in bein  
diarb ainm Cel is Celetir :  
'na ndígail, ba bán ar bruid,  
Nár fo mibail, fo mebuil. M.

10

9. *cen*] om. Le con S *gaine*] chaîne Lc 10. *dorigne*] doroine Le S  
dorinde S<sub>3</sub> dirichne H 11. *Andoí*] adnæ BM annai Le andnai S  
12. *-roí*] re etc Le S<sub>3</sub> rígh S goe H *-lindech*] lainneach S 13. *Immon*]  
imbuin S 14. *ba* (2)] in S<sub>3</sub> *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 Lc 18. *Ailill*] aillella etc S<sub>3</sub>H *friðir-chél*] nichel Lc firthren S 19. *cíng*] om. Lc *ar chel*] a gal Lc tar cel S<sub>3</sub> 20. *dia roling*] robo ling Lc *i n-inber*] int inber etc LeSS<sub>3</sub>H 21. *Nó issi*] ba hi LeS no hinnsi M asi S<sub>3</sub> *a aided*] a aghaid R aidid B a hoig Lc 22. *cen*] do Le iar S *chain*-] chæm Le caim S chlaoiñ etc S<sub>3</sub>H 24. *oc*] da Le do S *tarrid*] tardad Le *na*] nā R

**Móin Tire Náir.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *Mebul*] meabuir etc LcMS<sub>3</sub>H 2. *Móna*] om. M 3. *for ás*] for fás etc RS<sub>3</sub>H *forus* Lc ar fas M *a*] sa BS 4. *la hÉtsine*] la histine Le la hestine S is bithbíne M 5. *Étsine*] eitsin etc RB eistine Le esdine S *ban-jénnid*] in ban feinnidh etc LeS ba feinnid H *bress*] in bres etc RB bras Lc 7. *cosin*] cosa etc BLcS<sub>3</sub> 8. *dofuc*] dafug M dosfuc S *in ben*] in mben B in mbein M an bein H 10. *diarb*] diarbo LeS *Cel*] cæl S *Celetir*] celeieir B ceilcieir M ceilir Le ceiler S 11. *'na ndigail*] na dighail S *bán*] ban *codd.* *ar bruid*] R ai brug etc BS<sub>3</sub>H a brud M armbrugh Le inmbrugh S 12. *fo mibail*] fombidail M fo milaib Le *fo mebul*] R cid mebul etc BSH is mebul M cid mebuir etc LeS<sub>3</sub>

## FÍCH MBÚANA

Dorat Búan, in ben nár bán,  
 ingen Samaír, a sír-grád  
 do Choineculaind 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 mir  
 rue thíar in díne ndaith-gil :  
 co Samáer sáersat a sreith,  
 dáig rofáemsat a óen-breith.

10

Rue 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.

---

Fich mBúana. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H L has the first stanza only 1. *in ben]*  
 om. LLc *nár*] nad LLcS 2. *Samair a]* B samaera L samer a etc LeS  
 samairi a RM sameriu H saimheire S<sub>3</sub> *sir-*] L saer etc *caet.* 3. *co]* L  
 os *caet.* *mbroi]* L broi RBS<sub>3</sub>H bru Lc brae M blai S 4. *diasloï]* L  
 fecht musloei etc RMS<sub>3</sub>H muslaei B feacht rosmai etc LeS *for]* LLcS ar  
*caet.* a] om. LcS 6. *lond-*] lan LcMS 7. *laem]* laemdhá M 8.  
*cláen]* caomh S<sub>3</sub> 10. *thiar]* thsiar Lc triar S *in dine ndaith-gil]* ini ni  
 tathgil Lc 11. a] ar Lc 12. *dáig rofáemsat]* 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 LeS  
*griad]* gradh R 18. *bladmar]* blathmar B 19. *co ticht]* co tiacht etc SH  
 do thig Le dothic S 20. *Nemain]* eo neim S *in níall-gáid]* inuallgaid  
 B inuallgaidh M anullgaidh Le ag nuallgaidh S 21. *rochiala]*  
 dochualaid Le 'mon all] noll Le 24. *ni fuair in mbéim]* ni fuair beim B  
 do fuair in mbem S ni fma mein M

## LOCH DÁ GABAR

Loch Dá Gabar, gním dia fail,  
 úaim eo fir rofesabair,  
 a rígrad ón Bregrus bale,  
 ní do šenches na sen-marc.

Sund robáidit, bríg een blad,  
 echrád 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 fáirtend enech-nár.

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 een chair  
 lus ra cach crécht dia chobair.

Loch Dá Gabar. RBLCMSS<sub>3</sub>H 3. ón] don RH [Bregrus] breg dos Lc breaghush S 4. sen-] saer etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> 5. robáidit] robaidid B robaidheth etc S<sub>3</sub>H robaighedh S robaid Lc cen blad] co mblad S<sub>3</sub>

## 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.] echradh airdrigh muman S 7. *fiad*] fian B *rosforaim*] RH *ros*  
*forad* BM *dosfarraid* Lc *rosfarraigh* S *dusfarraigh* S<sub>3</sub> 9. *Dorucat*]  
*RH* *dorucraig* etc BS *dorugad* Lc *dorucad* M *día* *rugsad* S<sub>3</sub> *ria*] *dia*  
*LeSS<sub>3</sub>*, *don*] *ind* H 10. *do*] *eo* S *thairb-rig*] *sarbrig* Lc *sairbrigh* etc MS,  
*tairbrig* etc *cæt*. 11. ó] *om*, BM *mairc-cend*] *mairend* etc RH *maireand*  
*mor* (*with c supplied by later hand*) B *airmthend* Lc *armcenn* M *airmchenn* S  
12. d' *Enna*] *demni* M *fairtend*] *fortend* etc RS<sub>3</sub> *airthend* Lc *airmthenn* S  
*mairthenn* M 13. *Rosfuaictgi*] *rosfuaidaigh* etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> 14.] *ota hin*  
*robo* *gasgen* Lc *in glenn*] *glen* B *in loch* S *imba*] *ima* B *robo* LcS  
15. *reime*] *rompo* LcS 16.] *coralingsid* *leim* *sin* *loch* M *'sin*] *don* Lc  
*sa* S<sub>3</sub>

**Lusmag.** RBLeMSS<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub>H 2. *li*] liath Lc 3. *te*] thair S 4  
Moncaide] B muncaide R muncaidhe S<sub>3</sub> munchaidi Lc monchaide S  
muncouiche etc MH munchadhair S 8. *lus ra cach*] lusmag can Lc  
lusrad a M lusradh na S lusrachán S.

Conmelt each 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 gnímrád Diancécht na ceól  
drécht co ndírgud rodag-eól.

IN.

20

## BENN CODAIL

Senchas Codail cuimníg dam  
sund ós ruibníb na rogal :  
eid dia fail, fri dáil ndíthig,  
ainm cáid Codail chorr-chíchig ?

Codal corr-chíchech roalt  
Érinn ambrit, ilar marc ;  
sund forin chnuc cúa atchí  
fo brut búan ósa bruinni.

Cach ás noásad in bein,  
Ériu ágmar, ba harm-gein,  
noásad amlaid eo hán  
in enoc ós talmain tonn-bán.

10

Co n-érbairt ria haiti hí  
cen laici tria léitmigi :  
'Ronguin gáeth, rongoir grían grinn,  
atraig in slíab 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. *Conmelt*] combeith M *lus*] om. S<sub>4</sub> 10. *ar*] a LeS 12. *robuidech*] robuidhnech S roguinech LeS<sub>3</sub> 13. *nolaiged*] roluidhedd S noluidheadh S<sub>3</sub> 14. *atraiged*] atraige S<sub>4</sub> *slán*] sair B 16. *nó*] na LeMS. *for ard-chorp*] fordchorp R forard a chorp Le 17. *tan*] than BLcS<sub>4</sub> dō S 18. *na*] an S *labar*] on labró S 19. *gnimrad*] gnimh B 20. *drécht*] drech M *rodag-edl*] re dageol S<sub>3</sub> rondaigeol H

Benn Codail. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 3. *cíd*] om. Lc *ndíthig*] crichich M 5. *roait*] ronalt S 6. *ambrít*] ar mid Lc *marc*] mbarc S<sub>3</sub> 7. *forin*] aran M 8. *fo brut bian*] fora bruth Lc 9. *Cach ás*] canas RBM *noásad*] rofasad etc BLcS *in bein*] an ben LcS in mbein H 10. *Ériu*] erind etc LcM *ba harm-gein*] conairmnem Lc conardnem S 11. *noásad*] is rofas Lc rofhásadh S 12. *ós*] as M 13. *Co n-érbairt*] conderbairt etc BLcH conearbait etc MS *ria*] re BLcS 14. *tria*] tre etc LeMS cen R 15. *Ronguin*] romgoin etc LeSS<sub>3</sub> *rongoir*] romgair LeS romguin S<sub>3</sub> 16. *atraig*] adrai Lc 18. *for ás*] for as S<sub>3</sub> forus B ar fas Lc for fas etc *cet*. *for indeb*] for indemh S<sub>3</sub> for [i]ndem H forinnem etc RM formnem B eo firnem Lc coric neam S 19. *nobiad*] robíadh S

In lá doméla ní de  
ard-rí Bréna ocus Bóinde,  
comaid ar each tress rothag  
mess Codail do ríg Themrach.

IS and roadnacht iar n-úair  
Codal cairpthech claireb-chrúaid  
hi tul-chnuc gurm na ngéc nglas:  
is ed adfét in senchas. S.

## TLAHTGA

Tlachtga, tulach ordain úais,  
forbaid mór ríg eo rochrúais,  
ón chéin rosgab Tlachtga thoich,  
ingen Moga réil ríg-Roith.

Mug Roith mac Fergusa Fáil  
mac Rossa rígda ronáir,  
Cacht ingen Chathmind na cles  
a máthair dath-grind diles.

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,  
ocus máthair chert Cairpri,  
is becht lem ó bláth-bairdni.

Ingen Moga, mílib slúag,  
Tlachtga toga, nár tháeb-fúar,  
luid ria hathair ndímór ndil  
eo Símon sáer sechtmisid.

20

In the day that the High King of Brenna and Board 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 LcSH bregha S<sub>3</sub> 23. *comaid*] RS<sub>3</sub> comraig  
BM combail Le comair S coimde do H *rothag*] rotach H tre chath LcS  
om. M 27. *tul-chnuc*] tul chnuic etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> *gurm*] guirm LcMSS<sub>3</sub> *ngée*]  
neg Le

Tlachtga. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *ordain úais*] arda uas Le ard ahuas S  
ard anuas M 2. *forbaid*] f 5 R forbaid B forambidh Le forba S<sub>3</sub>H  
*mór rig*] mor ri Le morig M 3. *chéin*] chein R cem B ceim M  
cheim S<sub>3</sub> (*in litura*) reim LcS *ros gab*] rogab RS 4. *Roith*] roig B  
8. *dath-grind*] reñ M 9. *Riguill*] rigguld R *roall*] ronalt LcS 11.  
*dá*] do S<sub>3</sub> is *Chorb*] 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 becht romolann bairdni M is becht lem im lan  
bairdne H darbo beacht each blath bairne Lc darbo becht gach blath  
bairdne S rug mor mbert ar blaith bairdne S<sub>3</sub> 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 .ui. maisigh LcS seactmisigh  
M seachtmisigh S<sub>3</sub> sechtmis H

Trí meic la Síomón, ba sám,  
ba dímór a ndíabul-bág,  
Nero, Carpent is Uetir,  
ba balc-gent co mbeó-gletin.

Doratsat na meicc 'malle  
seirc do Thlachtga tri tháide,  
cor' silsat a broinn, cen bréic,  
do chloinn chomadais chomméit.

30  
Tlachtga di thriun, nírbo thimm,  
dorigne in roth rúad rogrinn  
maróen la Mug ndímór ndil  
is la Síomón sechtmisid.

Hí dorat léi in fuidell, fiss,  
forfácaib in roth rochliss,  
lia fairbthe i Forcarthain fainn,  
ocus in coirthe i Cnámchaill.

Dall each óen nodnaicfe sell,  
bodar each óen nodcluinenn,  
marb risa mbenfa ní de,  
don roth garb-grennach gráinne. 40

Iar tuidecht anair don mnaí  
rue tri maceu co mórgnaí:  
atbath dia mbreith in mer menn:  
scél móir cen chleith rocluinemm.

Anmann na mac, líad nad chres,  
Múach is Chuma is Doirb díles:  
in tسلیغ ó Thoraig, rostecht,  
doib (íis comaid) a cloistecht.

21. *la]* ag Le 22. *a ndíabul-bág]* andíabulagh RH andíabulplag M  
anradag Le riamaroagh S 23. *Nero]* nera etc SS, H *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 RS<sub>3</sub> co] a LeS -*gletin*] beithir M 26. *seirc*] om. Le *tri tháide*] tria  
thaithé etc RB tria taide H tre thaidhe S<sub>3</sub> tri haite M ria haide S rena  
haithle Lc 27. *silsat*] silais Le *a broinn*] ambroind R na broind Le  
cen *bréic*] can meid Le 28. *chomadair*] chomaisi Le 29. *di*] R do *cæt*.  
*thriun*] thriur Le siur M 31. *maróen*] moræn RB maré Le *la*] ria M  
re SS<sub>3</sub> om. Le *ndil*] ndaigh R 32. *la*] ra B ria M re LeSS<sub>3</sub>  
*sechtmisid*] sechtmisigh etc RS<sub>3</sub> sechtmisaigh M sechtmossaigh H seacht  
maisigh etc BLcs 33. *lēi*] he M lē etc *cæt*. *fuiddell*] fuideall Le fuigell  
etc *cæt*. 34. *forfácaib*] foragaib etc MS *rochliß*] rotelis M 35. *lia*]  
ba LcMS *forbthe*] forche Le *forfe* S<sub>3</sub> i] a H om. *cæt*. *Forcarthain*] incartan  
R foreartach M *fainn*] fuind LeS 37. *cach éen*] cach æn H cach neaen  
Le each noen etc *cæt*. *nodraicfe*] notfaicfe R nodfaicbe S notnfaicfe H  
nusfaicí Le *sell*] seal Le feal S 38.] 7 bodhar rochluineadh S  
*nodecluinen*] nocluinend etc RS<sub>3</sub> notcluinenn H nocluinfead Le 39.  
*risa mbenfa*] gach æn frismbean H 40. *gráinne*] gruaimde etc LcS  
43. *mbreith*] breith M 44. *rocluinennm*] rocluinem etc RH rocluinenn M  
adchluinem S<sub>3</sub> 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  
LeS 46. *Miach*] much R muac M *Chuma*] cam Le *is Doirb*] doirb R  
47. *in tsloig*] na sloigh R 48. *comaid*] chomaigh R comaign S comhaigh  
M com H

Hi céin béis ós Banba blaid  
anmann na mac ar marthain,  
is scél fir fri sílad sin,  
ní tic díbad dia daínib.

50

In enoc in rohailed úag  
do mnaí na n-airer n-adúar,  
dar each sogairm suí sana  
is dó is togairm tuí Tlachtga.

T.

## MAG BREG

Secht maic Breogain, bríg ean brón,  
Brega, Blad, Cúalu cath-mór,  
Cúalnge, Fuát, Murthemne maith,  
oeus Íth úasal ard-flaith.

Slechtsat maige ar maith dia claind  
in eumann daith derb-álaind,  
conid leó iar n-úairib airthir,  
oeus úaidib ainmnightr.

Roslecht Brega, bág ean chleith,  
in mag-sa imriádat ar n-eich,  
eo mair ria gairm ngel, roglac,  
a ainm sel mar each secht-mac.

10

S.

Dochúaid fri senchas nach snéid,  
iar sreith na súad co soréid,  
Brega ean bine blaide  
ainm daim Dile dell-glaine.

49. *Hi céin béis*] cein beit H h cem bed B biaidh gan bed S *Banba*  
banbann S<sub>3</sub> *blaíd*] mblaidh R combloidh etc LcH bil BS 50. *anmann*  
anmanna S *ar*] i BM 51. *is scél*] iscel BM ascél LeS *fri sílad*] do  
firad Le rosiladh S 52. *ni*] na BMS<sub>3</sub>H *dainib*] ndainib etc LcH

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 *iag*] uadh RLcS uad M  
 54. *n-adiar*] nadfuar etc LcS nardfuar M 55. *sogairm*] sodhghairm M  
*sui sana*] sai so ana S<sub>3</sub> doso ana S sai šerca 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.** RH<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>LcMSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H 2. *cath-*] cloth S 4. *uasal*] ual S  
*ard-flaith*] intardflaith S<sub>2</sub> anardlaith S arflaith R 5. *Slechtsaf*] sleet M  
*maige ar*] read mag-ar *maith*] maigh H<sub>2</sub> 6. *in*] i M *daith*] ni maith S<sub>2</sub>  
*derb-álaind*] daebalaind Lc derbadh lind S<sub>2</sub> ba deghroinn S 7. *n-iairib*]  
*nuair* SS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>M *nuir* Lc *airthir*] H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> airdir R ar fir M a fir S<sub>3</sub> iarsin  
 etc LcSS<sub>2</sub> sin H 8. *ocus*] conadh S 9. *bág*] bad Lc baidh B<sub>2</sub> ba  
 H<sub>2</sub> 10. *mag-sa*] mag H *imriadaid*] imriagaid etc H<sub>2</sub>LcSM *ar n-eich*]  
*na heich'* (with vel ar neich in marg.) H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> eich S<sub>2</sub> 11. *ria*] re etc LcSS<sub>3</sub>H  
*ngel*] seal Lc scel S<sub>2</sub> fer S 13. *fri*] ar R 14. *sreith na*] srethaib S  
*co*] nach LcS<sub>2</sub> *soreid*] roreid M soilléir S 15. *cen bine*] combine R  
*blaide*] bloigi Lc mbloighe S 16. *dell-glaine*] dealbgloine etc SS<sub>3</sub>H  
 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 léog búadach na blaide  
co Mag mbúarach mBolcgaide.

Rolen ainm in daim duilig  
do Maig Breg co mór-chuirib:  
bréit Breg, in dom-airm cen acht,  
rotréic sogairm na secht-macc.

S.

## MAG LÉNA I

Inmain in fert, fichtib slúag,  
ocus inmain lecht láech-búan:  
inmain marbán cen mire,  
dia tuc banbán bith-lige.

Seenb in scél roscalled ann,  
láech nár laíded nach labrann:  
díth lúath Léna cen logud  
dorat úath is airomun.

Léna mac Róeda rathaig  
ailis muic mó cach fachaid:  
rob é sin in torc 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 nár inmain,

17. *Aire*] aráí etc LcSS<sub>2</sub> *rochar*] adrocair Le adorchair S atorchair S<sub>2</sub>  
*dúail*] RS<sub>3</sub> dual etc *cet.* 18. *muirech*] murneach Le -búair] sluag  
etc LcSS<sub>2</sub> 19. *rochin*] rochinn etc H<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 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,

<i>ndath-li]</i> don daithlí $H_2$ dilindsi $S_2$	21. <i>derbdait</i> ] derbaid etc
$H_2B_2LcSS_2S_3$ deruait $H$	22. <i>n-ingin</i> ] ingen $RH_2S$ <i>n-óc-náir</i> ] occnáir etc
$RH_2LcMS_3$ adhnair $S_2$	23. <i>lóeg</i> ] lelg $H$ <i>biadach</i> ] mbuadach etc $RSS_2M$
mbuada Lc	24. <i>mbúarach</i> ] mbuagach Lc mbuadach $MS_2$ <i>mBolgáide</i> ] mbolcaidi <b>MH</b> mbolgaighe $S_3$ mbolgraidhi Lc molgraidhe $S$ 26. <i>do</i> ]
ar $S_3$	27. <i>bréit</i> ] breit $RMSS_2H$ breid $H_2$ breith $LcS_3$ <i>in</i> ] om. $H$
<i>dom-airm</i> ] forainm $S_3$ daimairm $S_2$	28. <i>rotréic</i> ] rothreth $S$ <i>sogairm</i> ] togairm Lc

Mag Léna I.  $\text{RH}_2\text{B}_2\text{LcMSS}_3\text{S}_4\text{H}$  2. *ucus*] 7 is  $\text{H}_2$  *lecht*] an. *lecht*  
 Lc $\text{H}_2$  3. *mire*] *bine H* 5. *Scenb*]  $\text{RS}_4\text{H}_2\text{B}_2$  *sceanbdha* etc *cast*.  
 6. *nár*] *nach*  $\text{MS}_4\text{H}_2\text{B}_2$ . *laided*] *laigned* etc Lc $\text{SHH}_2$  *nach*] *nár* Lc $\text{H}$  na S  
*labrann*] *labram* Le *homann* S 8.] *dorat hua isi romhuin* etc  $\text{H}_2\text{B}_2$   
 9. *mac*] *om. R* 10. *cach fachaid*] *can fhachain* Lc *gach fachain*  $\text{SS}_3$   
 11. *in*] a  $\text{LeS}_3\text{S}_4\text{H}_2\text{B}_2$  12. *las' rort*] *lér thoit* Lc $\text{S}$  *láech-bidba*] in l. b.  
 Lc $\text{SS}_4\text{H}_2\text{B}_2$  13.] IS e sin *frisnera* tuaid M *thúaid*] atuaid Lc $\text{S}_4$   
 14. co *láech-biaid*] *ré henuair* etc Lc $\text{S}$  15. *gas gurm*] *gais guirm* Lc $\text{MH}_2\text{B}_2$   
*nogaibed*] *na gaibed* etc  $\text{MS}_3\text{S}_2\text{B}_2$ . *na gaibe H*. *gail*] *thair* Lc $\text{S}$

Dia lotar 'na tóitib trell  
cóic cóicid áille Érenn  
dia saigid dia Samna sair  
áit i mbáis a hadba inmain.

20

Roalt sab na sír-glec sáer  
Ailbe mí-n-brec mullach-máel ;  
tuc móir slúag fo thalmain tair  
in cù úag arnaid inmain. IN.

## MAG LÉNA II

Muc mic Dá Thó, tlacht-múad tore,  
nocharb í in attrúag immnocht :  
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 raind robaile co rath  
dosromaitl Conall Cernach.

10

Ci aslúi Ailbe na ngrúad nglan,  
cú dianad caidle in cosnam,  
cé dorairg gressa don phurt,  
nírbo messa de in móir-mucc. M.

17-20.] om. S 17. *tóitib*] doitibh etc LcS<sub>3</sub> 18. *áille*] ana Le amra M  
19. *dia saigid*] dia saig M do saigid etc S<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> *Samna*] samla Lc 20. *a  
hadba*] adba LcM a adhba S<sub>3</sub> 21. *sab*] sam LcS *sir-glec*] saerglac Lc  
saerglec M sirglac SH 22. *min-brec*] muinbrec H in mbrég H<sub>2</sub>  
in mbrecc B<sub>2</sub>

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 LcS 24. *in ci]* conid LcS *uag]* S<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>  
uagh B. uad etc *cet.* arnaid] arnaid R ardmuiig Lc

Mag Léna II.	Laud 610 Hrl. 5280 Lcs	1. <i>tlacht-miád</i> ] <i>ed.</i>
lachtmuad LdHrl	tlachtmad LcS	2. <i>nocharb</i> ] <i>no arb</i> Hrl <i>attriag</i> ] Ld
atruag HrlLc	atruadh S	3. <i>cen brath</i> ] <i>comblaiddh</i> LcS
S dia] coa Ld	5. <i>molbhach</i> ] <i>moltach</i> Hrl	4. <i>sesca</i> ] xl
rothair S	7. <i>mbratha</i> ] <i>bá Rath</i> Lc <i>brathar</i> S <i>rodusbrú</i> ] <i>rodus brug</i> Lc	6. <i>sontar</i> ] <i>rantar</i> Lc
rothasbrudh S	roscán clu Ld ruscā clu Hrl	8. <i>fothu</i> ] <i>fothad</i> Lc
fothugh S	9-12.] <i>Also in Rawl. B 512: see Notes</i>	9. <i>Amra cródaib</i> ] <i>Amra</i>
Fiad na crobaib	Rawl. fiadnaib erobaib Hrl fiadnaib coraib Ld <i>Perhaps</i>	<i>crochraib</i> <i>for creit</i> ] <i>fo creich</i> Lc <i>for cert</i> Ld <i>ro cret</i> Hrl <i>chairr</i> ] <i>cairr</i>
Amru cróchraib	<i>for creit</i> ] <i>fo creich</i> Lc <i>for cert</i> Ld <i>ro cret</i> Hrl <i>chairr</i> ] <i>cairr</i>	
HrlLc charr S	10. 'na] ina LcS a Rawl <i>trom-thairr</i> ] <i>trom(harr</i> S	
tarr Le	11. céin] cén S een Ld een cæt.	12. <i>dosromaitl</i> ] <i>domomaitl</i>
Rawl rustomaitl Le rothomaitl S	13. <i>Ci aslúi</i> ] <i>cia ruslui</i> Hrl ce	
ruslu Ld <i>na ngríad</i> ] im grad Ld am gradh Hrl	14.] <i>cú diandechein</i>	
cach cosnam etc LdHrl	15. <i>cé dorairg</i> ] Ld <i>gédarach</i> Hrl <i>gid airid</i>	
(the last i added later) Le diárairigh (?) S	16. <i>nirbo messa de</i> ] <i>niruó mesai</i>	
die Hrl	dó nírbo mesa LcS	

Mess Gegra, Mess Roída rán,  
 dá mac Dá Thó na trom-dám ;  
 mac Mess Roída fri féth, fuit,  
 issé rométh in mórmuic. M.

20

Lotar dó iar tóitib trell  
 cúcóicid ána Hérenn,  
 dosfuc a combág cuicce ;  
 mórm in oll-dám óen-muicce. M.

## ODRAS

Odras, úais ind ingen,  
 fris' indlem laíd lúaidme,  
 Odornatan airme  
 meic Laidne meic Lúайдre.

Ban-briugaid ba brígach  
 in gnímach glan gúasach,  
 céile cáem co cruthacht  
 do Buchatt balee búasach.

Bóaire cáid Cormaic  
 co roblait in Buchatt,  
 dúiscid búar co mblaitne  
 each 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 dia 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*  
 Mess Roida] mesræeda mesgedra Hrl 18. *dá*] do Lc 19. *mac Mess Roida*] an mesroida etc LdHrl is mac mesreda S an mes Lc *féith*] feth LdHrl feith S feithles Lc 20. *rométh*] dometh Lc 21. *iar tóitib*] iarndótib etc LdHrl iar toid<sup>+</sup> Lc iar taidhibh S *trell*] Lc thall S drenn LdHrl 22. *ána*] ana LeS ina Ld inna Hrl 23. *combág*] combáigh S comaid Lc *cuiice*] Lc acú Lc cuco Hrl cucca Ld 24. *mór in oll-dáim*] mór in olldáimh S nirbo olldamh Hrl corbo oldam Ld rob ollaim Lc *óen-muicce*] oen-mhuco Hrl oen mucce Ld a aen mucu Lc

Odras. RLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *ind*] om. Lc 2. *laid*] laigh LcS luais S<sub>3</sub> 3. *airme*] airmhe S<sub>3</sub> 4. *Laidne*] láime LcH láimhe SS<sub>3</sub> 5-8.] om. H 5. *brigaid*] Lc briuga M brugaid etc RSS<sub>3</sub> 6. *in*] ba LcSS<sub>3</sub> 7.] celi caem comeruthachach Lc ceile cæm cu cruathocheat M ceile comcháomh cruthach S<sub>3</sub> 9. *Bóaire*] boair Lc *cáid*] cæm LcS 10. *co robhlaif*] corblaid Lc co robhlaidh etc SS<sub>3</sub> 11. *diúiscid*] diúiscithig M *biar*] buair RM 12. *cach maitne*] om. Lc *muchacht*] muchat LcS<sub>3</sub> 16. *do*] do do Lc *biar*] mbuair R buair M om. Lc *mblasta*] blasda Lc mbasda S 17. *dia mboi*] diamuidé (de expunct.) M 18.] co rogbad guoach etc LcS *groe-*] goroe M 19. *dosoacht*] dorocht Lc 20. *samla*] samlai R samlaid etc MH *dia sóach*] dosoacht S<sub>3</sub>H *dia soadh* S *dia soach* cat.

Tuc léi tarb in tnúthach,  
 in rígan garb gnáthach,  
 baí i Líathmuine láthach,  
 in fiachaire fáthach.

Dairis boin in búaball,  
 tarb túamann 'nar taídenn,  
 ó Themraig tric táraill  
 eo Slemnaib Fraích Ófírenn.

Slemon ainm in tairb-sin,  
 dremon in dóel donn-sin : 30  
 a ainm, mer cen mebsain,  
 'sed rolen in fonn-sin.

Luid co Crúachain cróda  
 iarsind úath-blaid ágda  
 in Mórrígan mórdá,  
 ba slóg-dírmach sámda.

Luid Odras 'na hiarn-gait,  
 iarmait 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 eotlud chuiice  
 in groc-dub cen glice  
 i nDaire úar Íalgud  
 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.

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23. *láthach*] ed. laithech etc RLcS laidteach M laidtech H lúthach S<sub>3</sub>  
 24. *fiachaire*] fiadhuri etc LeS 26. *túmann*] tuaimfhinn Le na  
 túamand S *taidenn*] ed. teiged R thegenn M tegenn H toigfhinn Le  
 toigenn S taoidhinn S<sub>3</sub> 27. *tric táraill*] co tairrlig etc LeS tric M  
 tao (in *litura*, with th *superscr.*) tarraill S<sub>3</sub> 28. *Fraich*] foirech M fraech etc  
*cet.* *Oirenn*] rorenn Le ráoirenn etc SS<sub>3</sub> 29. *Slemon*] slemoin etc *codd.*  
 30. *dremón*] dreemain SH *dóel*] deil MH deilm S<sub>3</sub> 31. *a ainm mer*]  
 na sain a ainm M *mer*] mes LeS *cen*] chon Le 32. *'sed*] ised Le sedh  
 (with a *superscr.*) S<sub>3</sub> 34. *úath-bláid*] tuath blaidh R *ágda*] agda R adhgha  
 M nada etc LeS adhbha S<sub>3</sub> adbhae H 36. *-dirmach*] dírmáidh S<sub>3</sub>  
*sámda*] samda *codd.* 37. *hiarn-gaif*] hiarnaith Le hiarraidh S 38.  
*iarmairt*] iarmait M *nárbu*] nirbo Le narbuds S<sub>3</sub>H *ada*] fhoda Le 41.  
*a*] an M 42. *rofinna*] rofimdhæ M *fiche*] SS<sub>3</sub> fidchi Le *fiche* *cet.*  
 43. *uair áithe*] uraithé Le uair aithe etc *cet.* 44. *búair*] bo LeS  
 46. *luid in*] doluid LeS luid a RMH 48. *co*] om. R *úath-blád*]  
 tuathbladh R huatblad M *alla*] ealla Le 51. *uiar*] fuar etc RH ur Le  
*Fálgud*] ed. algu M falgu etc RH falgha etc LeSS<sub>3</sub> 52. *sárgud*] sárgh H  
 sarghu M sargha S<sub>3</sub> sardub R sardu S sadu Le *sicce*] siche Le

Dosruacht ina tathum,  
 trúag tachur for tulaig,  
 in Mórrígan úathmar  
 a húaim Chrúachan cubaid.

Rochan fuirre ind agda  
 tria luinde cen logda  
 each bricht díán, ba dalbda,  
 fri Slíab mBadbgna mbrogda. 60

Legais in ben brígach  
 fri Segais, sreb súanach,  
 mar each linn cen líg-blad :  
 nísbáí brígrad búadach.

Don tchruthán fáen foglas  
 is ainm sáer co soblas,  
 luid ón mnaí thrúaig thadaill  
 cosin abainn Odras. O.

## CLEITECH

Cleitech in druí diles daith,  
 scél cen mímes, ba móir-flaith,  
 sund roadnacht in fáid fir,  
 ó fil comainm cáid Cleitig.

Bés ba hé in tech turbad and,  
 iar ngrés na n-ugdar nemgand,  
 dia n-ebrad cen tréithe the  
*cléithe tech* nÉrend uile.

Nó ba *cléithe ach* n-anbal  
 mac Ercá do moch-marbad : 10  
 hi Cleitig erúaid cen chrábud  
 fúair guin, loscud, lind-bádud.

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 Bodbgna 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*] daeur Lc *for*] fri Lc      57. *ind agda*] andagda LcS in agda R  
 innagdha etc MH anuaghda (*in litura*) S<sub>3</sub>      58. *tria luinde*] trialluimni M  
 fri hall mnai LcS      59. *cach*] cen etc RLc *dian*] dia Lc di S *ba dalbda*]  
 ba delbda (*with vel a above the e*) R      60. *mBadbigna*] mbadgna RS<sub>3</sub> mbadna  
 H *bladhna* (*with l expunct. and m written over the b*) M bagna etc LcS *mbrogda*]  
 mbrogda R mborda Lc mborgda M brodha S      62. *sreb*] R seal LcSS<sub>3</sub>  
 searb etc MH      63. *lig-*] li Lc liath M      64. *brigrad*] brigmar LcS  
*biadach*] buarach RS      65. *Jáen*] fæ M *Joglas*] Lc faglas RMH fadhas S<sub>3</sub>  
 67. *thriaig*] truagh S<sub>3</sub>H thuaigh etc LcS *thadaill*] tagaill R      68. *cosin*]  
 aran etc LcS

Cleitech. RB<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>LcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. *in*] om. S      2. *cen*] ba M *mimes*]  
 mhineas H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> *ba*] la S<sub>3</sub> *flaith*] maith etc LcS      3. *fáid*] flaith LcS *fir*]  
 fir H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>Lc      5. *Bés*] om. LcMSS<sub>3</sub> *in*] om. M *turcabad*] turgaib Lc  
 turocabad M rotuargbadh S doturgbadh S<sub>3</sub>      6. *ugdar*] uachtar LcS  
*nemgand*] nimgann SS<sub>3</sub>      7. *the*] S<sub>3</sub> te R om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> de LcMSH      8.  
*cléithe tech*] tleithi tech Lc *cléthech* S *nÉrend*] erend etc RLcSS<sub>3</sub>H      9.  
*cléithe ach*] eleithi tech etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> cleite uch H cleiti each M cleithead Lc  
*n-anbal*] ba mórbhad Lc nallbladh S anbhal S<sub>3</sub>      11. *cen chráibud*]  
 angábhadh S      12. *fiair guin*] om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> *lind-bádud*] is lind bhadhadh  
 etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> luathbadad etc LcS

*Cléithe ach* i nErind uill  
dith cáid Cormaic uí chóem-Chuinn  
hi tig Cleitig iar nglíaid glic  
dia lil enáim íaich '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 fir  
co fagbar a maith mórdil:  
in rí as nóebu ná cach 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 móruaill.

Is and atá Cerna cass,  
mac ruc dar berna búaedhas,  
isa athair cert Cairpre,  
tuc mórbert ar bláth-bairdne.

Is and atá Femen find  
ocus Gemen ón gorm-glind,  
ocus Artán, ard aire,  
is Marcán mac Donngaille. 10

Is and atá Fíngen, feith,  
fer nodírged cech ndíán-breith,  
is Guáire glan gáesach grinn,  
ocus Báesach mac Tuilchind.

13. *Cléithe ach*] cleithi each Lc cleithi iach H *uill*] and (*with vel uill superscr.*) Lc 14. *dith*] di H<sub>2</sub> *chóem*] om. M 15. *Cleitig*] cleithi R *glic*] RLc *nglic* etc *cæst*. 16. *dia lil*] diar len LcS *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.

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iach RLc      17. ac] do S      19. and] isand etc LeS *dorigne*] dorigned R  
 dogní Lc rognith S      20. fer] læch LeS *dar*] dian M dā H      21.  
*labrad*] labhraidh H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> labra S comrue S<sub>3</sub> *do flaith cach fir*] dá gach flaith  
 libh S      22. maith mórdil] maigh móirghil H<sub>2</sub>      23. as níeбу ná] do  
 námu R is naoimhdui H<sub>2</sub> is náebhdúi B<sub>2</sub> is noemdou H as cæma na Lc  
 is righdha ná S is nacibhe na S<sub>3</sub>      24. ria] re etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> fri LeS  
*chóemu*] claciodiomh H<sub>2</sub> clæmhíu B<sub>2</sub> cæm Lc cæcimhe S<sub>3</sub> caemu etc *cæt*.

**Cerna.** RH<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>LcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. *Cia bem*] ge beind Lc diambem H  
 2. *na coinnem*] na caemneamh S i caemnemh Lc      4. *drem*] dram R  
 drong LeMS *ri*] ra RM aara Lc ara S righ H<sub>2</sub> rí B<sub>2</sub> re S<sub>3</sub>H *mór-iaill*] mourboaidh H moruaidh LeS      6.] mac righ mhac rug tar bernadh  
 buachas H<sub>2</sub> mac righ . mac rug tar bearna buadhechás B<sub>2</sub> *biadchas*] buades  
 Le      7. *isa*] is H      8. *tuc mórbert*] mor mbert rug Lc      9.] is  
 ann ful fæbar mac finn Lc *Femen*] femac MS      10. *ón*] o R os LeS  
*-glind*] lind etc LeMSS<sub>3</sub>      13-16.] *om.* LeS      13. *feith*] feigh M feath  
 S<sub>3</sub>      14. *cech ndian-breith*] ga ní ainbreith H<sub>2</sub> gach ndí anbreith B<sub>2</sub>  
 gach ndegbreath etc S<sub>3</sub>H

Is and atá co bráth mbúan  
 días cen táth is cen tár-lúad,  
 Find, scaíled cen bedg ri blaid,  
 oeus Derg a derbráthair.

20

Is and atá Néide níá  
 Géide oeus Garb is Gartníá:  
 and atá in slúag-thend cose  
 Alduí úan-chend Iarlaithe.

Is and atá Cían cen chor,  
 oeus Casán cíul-remor,  
 Dub Dá Chonn, dul cen daille,  
 oeus Bresal Breg-lainde.

Is and atát na trí hÁed,  
 Áed úa Temna, nach tár-máeth,  
 Áed úa Húaine, in sonn sercach,  
 oeus Áed donn dúr-bertach.

30

Is and atá Bennán bind,  
 is Loingthe luchair láed-grind,  
 oeus Berr mac Eire uide,  
 is Conán cerr cét-guine.

Is and atá Détla in dul,  
 oeus Cétna cath-labur,  
 Alduí nár athben for nech,  
 oeus Cathgen cath-máinech.

40

Is and atá cethri Gairb,  
 im Garb nGlinde, im Garb mac Scairb,  
 im Garb rige na rúac rot,  
 im Garb cúaic a slíab sen-Chrot.

17. *atá*] atat etc  $B_2$ LeSS<sub>3</sub>H *co bráth mbúan*] go braithni bhuan etc  $H_2$ B<sub>2</sub>  
 18. *táth*] tar (with vel tath superscr.) R *tár-lúad*] tarlúad S<sub>3</sub> 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, unflinching, 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 Iarlaithe.

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 *donn*, 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.

tarluagh etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>H tsarluag LeS tarluagh M 19. *scailed*] S scailid RH<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>M sailtead Le scaili H scoileadh S<sub>3</sub> *cen*] cē RSH can etc LeH<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>M com S<sub>3</sub> *ri*] re RS<sub>3</sub> ra H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> fa M ar LeS cen H 21. *nia*] is garb S 22.] 7 gartnia nan gerrann S 23.] slucat and ag tend euse M *-thend*] techuinn H<sub>2</sub> tecund (with *vel* teacund *superscr.*) B<sub>2</sub> om. S 24. *Aldui*] aill H *ian-chend*] uacenn R uaiceand B<sub>2</sub> ua cuinn H<sub>2</sub> anchend Le na ceann MS 25. *chor*] chol LeS<sub>3</sub> 26. *ocus Casán*] casan croda etc LeS 27.] dachond dubh gan daille S 30. *Temna*] tomhna H<sub>2</sub> *teimhne* S<sub>3</sub> temni H *nach tir-máeth*] S<sub>3</sub> nach tarmaeth etc RB<sub>2</sub>M nach taraoth H<sub>2</sub> nachar moeth H ba mathmain Le ní dhármáidh S 31. *úa Huaine*] ua. s. huaine H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> ua huain Le úa maine S<sub>3</sub> 32. *dúr-bertach*] diubartach LeS 33. *Bennán*] bendan H benna etc RMSS<sub>3</sub> beno Le bernán etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> 34. *Loingthe*] loighi Le *luchair*] luachair LeH<sub>2</sub> *lied-*] R laech etc LeS<sub>3</sub> laimh H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> lán S laem M luaid H 35. *Berr*] bran Le bř M birn S *uide*] iudai H<sub>2</sub> iudf B<sub>2</sub> 36. *cét-guine*] cedghuinid H<sub>2</sub> cathduine S cathguine Le 37. *Detla*] detlaidh H<sub>2</sub> dell Le 38. *ocus Céina*] secht geedna H<sub>2</sub> 7 cetla R 7 enna etc LeS cath-labur] geathlabhar H<sub>2</sub> catb M 39. *Aldui*] alla Le aille H aodha H<sub>2</sub> aedhu B<sub>2</sub> nár athben] na rathben H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> nar athban Le natben M *for*] fri Le 40.] 7 caothgen comaineach H<sub>2</sub> 7 caethgean camainech B<sub>2</sub> 7 cathgen cathmaidhmeach S 42.] im garb mac sonsa shensdairn Le Scarb] stairn S<sub>3</sub> gairb S 43. *rive*] ruidhe S<sub>3</sub> na rúac rot] nar na crot Le im nár na crot S 44. *ciac*] cuach H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> LeMS a slíab] om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>

Is and atá Gúala in gel,  
 ocus Goll mac Da. Gemned,  
 ocus Fiach dar Fálga fraig,  
 ocus Slángra mac Dubthaig.

Is and atá Túathal tan  
 is Tipraite traig-lethan  
 ocus Brúach don Brega, is bind,  
 ocus Trena mac Loiscind.

Is and atá Fúatach fáid,  
 ocus Síthchend sochonáig,  
 ocus 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.

Is and atá Áed Sláine sáer,  
 is Conall láeg Breg bronnn-cháel,  
 ocus 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,  
 ocus na dá Amalgaid,  
 is Cendfáelad Bregach bind,  
 Finnachta fledach fíal-grind.

Cináed mac Irgalaig and,  
 ocus Flaitbertach fúamann,  
 ocus Cernach, cen chur de,  
 is Dúnchad delbach Daile.

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 Amalgais 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.

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45. *Guala in]* gualan H<sub>2</sub>Lc      46. *Goll]* gual H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> oll S<sub>3</sub> *Da Gemned]*  
 da gemned RH daghemded M dogeindedh Lc dagennedh etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>S  
 dogheineadh S<sub>3</sub>      47. *Falga]* balga Lc      49. *tan]* tenn H<sub>2</sub>      51.  
*Bruach]* buach H<sub>2</sub> *don]* do M *Brega]* bregda R bhregadh H<sub>2</sub> bregdus Lc  
*is bind]* bind LcS sluind M      53. *Fuatach]* faithech etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> faiteach Lc  
 faiteech S faidhtheach M      54. *Sithchend]* sicheand B<sub>2</sub> seiscend Lc  
*sochonaig]* sochonaith etc RMS      55. *fine]* féine etc H<sub>2</sub>Lc      56. *Laidech]*  
 laighech H<sub>2</sub> laidh teach M *lór]* om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> -file] féile etc H<sub>2</sub>Lc.      57. *and]*  
 ainn H<sub>2</sub>      58. *Lemna]* laimhne etc LcS *na]* om. R      59. *Cernaig]* cerna  
 RS<sub>3</sub>H      60. *brón-]* móir Lc      62. *is Conall láeg]* R conall laogh etc  
 H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> conall aed etc LcS conall loein M is conall err S<sub>3</sub>H *Breg]* breg is  
 etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>LcS      63. *óc Odba]* o coba R      64.] is conaidd caid caid  
 caem cnomga M *Congal]* conall S<sub>3</sub> *cáem-cholma]* H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> caemchnodhbha S  
 comealma etc RLcS<sub>3</sub>H      66. *nár beó-bán]* narbeol bán S<sub>3</sub> is baedan S  
 67.] is sechnusach seng gose S<sub>3</sub> *sodaing]* S sogaind RLc sodhaind M  
 sodaince H sogaining B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>      69. *Is]* om. S<sub>3</sub>H *Irgalach]* firgalach R  
 iargalach H<sub>2</sub> *aig]* aid H      70. *ocus]* om. H<sub>2</sub> *Amalgaid]* amalgaid daen  
 laim Lc      71. *Bregach bind]* ann H<sub>2</sub> bregda binn Lc      72.] *ocus* Flaith  
 bhertach feimenn H<sub>2</sub> is finnachta flaith firgrind B<sub>2</sub>      73. *and]* brega  
 binn H<sub>2</sub>      74.] is fianachtadh flaith firgrinn H<sub>2</sub> *ocus* flaith bhertach  
 feimeang B<sub>2</sub>      75-76.] om. H<sub>2</sub>      75. *Cernach]* cerna Lc      76. *Daile]*  
 do ele R dó elé B<sub>2</sub> doilie H daile LcS<sub>3</sub> daele M

Is móir ria n-áirim uile  
in slóg failid folt-buide,  
fil fon Chernai chruim chétaig  
do síl Chuinn, roscath-métaig.

80

Fil mnaí fo brut each fir díb  
hi cnuc Cernai fo chét-bríg,  
don tsílúag roáirmius cose,  
co n-áinius, co n-ofbinde.

Dobiur bréithir, nach bec blad,  
dia mbeith nech las' mbad chuman,  
ainm cech fir bregda, cen bréic,  
fil 'sin Cherná a cét comméit.

Is é as tóisech dóib 'na thaig  
Cerna nóisech náimtemail :  
is dó-sin fri foísnaidm fíal  
is comainm cert in Cerníam.

90

Is úad-sin ri togairm thúaid  
comainm Cerna co cét-búaid  
sech cach ngell co nglund guide,  
cúa bemm sund 'nar sír-suide.

C.

A rí na baíde cen bréic  
ar do naíme co nert-méit  
co rísem nem na ngell nglé,  
cúa 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 H<sub>2</sub>  
 carmain etc LcS erenaig M *chruim*] cruind LcS      80. *roscaith-métaig*]  
 roscomedairg etc S<sub>3</sub>H roscainetaid R catmedaigh (with ros added later) M  
 81-84.] after 88 H<sub>2</sub>      81. *mnaí*] a mhnaí etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> *dib*] gil Lc dhil S  
 82. *hi*] in etc RM *fo*] fon LcMS *chéit-brig*] cédbhith Lc cemsin S      84.  
*co n-áinias*] gonadh ionus H<sub>2</sub> *co n-oibinde*] go naibhne H<sub>2</sub> is co naibne S  
 can aibinde M con eroibne H      85. *Dobiar*] daber etc LcS doblfhíur H<sub>2</sub>  
 86. *las' mbad*] lasbud R la esbhadh H<sub>2</sub> lausbadh B<sub>2</sub> lasmod M lasmadh S<sub>3</sub>  
 risbu Lc risbudh S *chuman*] cumann H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>      87.] is adimdhá ainm cen  
 bréicce S      88. *'sin*] a cnue S *a cét*] céd Lc a S *comméit*] om. H<sub>2</sub> coibet B<sub>2</sub>  
 coimed S      89. *as*] an Lc      90. *náimhthemail*] nimdimoil Lc      91.  
*fosnaimd*] fonaidm etc SS<sub>3</sub> *fial*] ngiall H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> ful Lc      92. *in Cerniam*]  
 carmain Lc an caorníadh S<sub>3</sub>      95. *ngell*] ngeill Lc glend M *co*  
*nglund*] gan glund B<sub>2</sub> gan ghoilinn H<sub>2</sub> fri glonn Lc gun glund M *co*  
*ngluinn* S<sub>3</sub> *guide*] R gaile M *nguide* etc *cet*.      96. *cia bemm*] ee beind  
 Lc      97. *baide*] baidheg H<sub>2</sub> buidi Lc baighe S *baide* etc *cet*.      98.  
*naime*] neime R naidi Lc noime H nacimhe etc *cet*. *co*] ar do H *nert-*  
*meit*] nermeid H<sub>2</sub> nert Lc      99. *risem*] risim H<sub>2</sub> rus im Lc *na ngell*]  
 naingeal etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> can geill Lc      100. *sund sel*] sel sund M *'nar*] ar S

## CLÓENLOCH

Sund dodechaid Clóen ar chel  
 mac Ingoir, dóel nár dinged,  
 úa ríg Ala Clúайд, eluin,  
 ruc mór n-úaire dar ard-muir.

Clóen mac Ingoir, clú rochaith,  
 diarbo dú Alba ech-maith,  
 is é cét-fer co gnúis grind  
 táníc fri dúis co Hérinn.

Cí a rosir mór n-airer n-úar  
 fer na cláideb calad-chúar,  
 noco táníc a tháem troch  
 co ránic Clóen co Clóenloch.

Desín adberar cach airm  
 Clóenloch, ná celar comainm ;  
 flaith rogarbad do gním gá  
 romarbad co sír sunda.

C.

## IRARUS

IN eól duíb fri derbhas  
 in senchas fir fobaid  
 fail d' Irarus úasal  
 asa chnúasach, comaid ?

Fechtas diamboi 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

10

## CLOENLOCH

Hither came to his death Cloen son of Ingör, 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 Ingör, 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 'Cloonloch'—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<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>LcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. ar] om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>      2. dōel] del M  
dinged] dingnedh R      3. ua] mac LeS *Ala Cluaide*] al cluaide H ala  
cluaine H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>M aloindi Lc *cluin*] adcluin Lc      4.] rug sin mor nuair  
tar ardmuir Lc      5. rochaith] rocarth M      6. dū] do H<sub>2</sub>      7. gnuis] *nguis* Lc nduis S<sub>3</sub>      8. fri diis] ar túis S<sub>3</sub> for túis R for túis Lc fri  
tuis etc MS co] an SS<sub>3</sub>H      9. rosir] rohir H rarosir M n-úar] mor M  
10. -chúar] chruaidh etc H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>      11. a tháem] an taem H<sub>2</sub> a taeb M  
12. co] nogo H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> co] om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>      13. adberar] doberar R      14. nd] ní Lc  
no M om. H<sub>2</sub> celar] celor H cheil a Lc comainm] codainim H<sub>2</sub>      15.  
flaith] fear LeS<sub>3</sub> rogarbad] rogarbad H<sub>2</sub> do] eo R le Lc re S om. H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>  
gá] nga RLc

Irarus. RB (only 33-end) B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>LcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      2. fir] fior H<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> fir cæt.  
fobaid] fodaid Lc      4. asa] os Le ósa S chnúasach] cnuasach RLcMS<sub>3</sub>H  
comaid] comhaidh H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> comai Lc combaigh S comaich H comaigh etc  
RMS<sub>3</sub>      5. diambor] diambiadh H<sub>2</sub>      8. grithe-chair] grithechaidh H<sub>2</sub>  
glifeachair Lc grifeachair S      9-12]. after 16 M      10. bágda] bada Lc  
bágha S      11. n-úagda] nuadga H nuada LeM      11, 12.] transposed  
with 15, 16 in H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>      12. shiagda] luada Lc

Cantais ceól trúag taidiúir  
 ind eóin ainiúil úagda  
 do Chairpre Luirc lígda  
 ós chind a chuirp chúanna.

Rop iat-so a n-anmann,  
 nírb amgann a n-uide,  
 Tortha oeus Tortha,  
 cóem-días chomtha, atchluine. 20

Ind eóin aile farma  
 don sceóin scíamda scáile  
 Tiagu, Tiagu, in tan-sa,  
 in días ban-sa báide.

I ngalar úais fota  
 tuesat ríg búais buca  
 secht coícait óg aidche  
 céin baí a caibche chuca.

Gairis Cairpre cúanach  
 a druíd dúanach dogbaid,  
 Biene a ainm amlaid,  
 fer co sam-graíd sobraig. 30

Atbert fria druí ndocht-sa  
 ‘Ní bam rui budecht-sa  
 meni dingba in énlaith  
 rothrénn-gaib mo nert-sa.’

‘Cissi aird ó ngairet  
 duit eóin gaig notgabat,  
 a chara chóem Cairpre ?  
 cía halt airgne agat ?’ 40

‘Anair iarum agait,’  
 ar Cairpre, ‘síar 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, Biene 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 <sub>2</sub> B <sub>2</sub> M cuanda R	18. <i>nirb amgann</i> ] niorba gall etc
H <sub>2</sub> B <sub>2</sub>	20. <i>chomtha</i> ] comta RM comtai H comthadh H <sub>2</sub>
<i>Ind</i> ] na h- LcS <i>aile</i> ] ailli Le	21. 22. <i>don</i> ] do S <i>secoin</i> ] secol H
<i>Tiagu, Tiagu</i> ] tiaga tiagu R tiaghha tiaghha S <sub>3</sub> tiagai tiagai H tiaga 7 tiaga	23.
Le	24. <i>baide</i> ] buidhe B <sub>2</sub> abaidi Le
uais Le	25. <i>jota</i> ] ada S
28. <i>cein</i> ] cin Le om. H <sub>2</sub> B <sub>2</sub> <i>caibche</i> ] cairnithi S	26. <i>biais</i> ]
a drai etc B <sub>2</sub> MSH an dráí S <sub>3</sub> airdri Le	30. <i>a druid</i> ]
RH <sub>2</sub> B <sub>2</sub> LcMS <sub>3</sub>	32. <i>sobraig</i> ] sobraid etc
33. <i>fria</i> ] fri M <i>drui</i> ] adrai LeH <i>ndocht-sa</i> ] R indochtsa	38.
BS noehtsu Lc 'andocta M antuchtsa etc S <sub>3</sub> H	34. <i>rua</i> ] rai B ri
LcSH rí S <sub>3</sub> <i>budecht-sa</i> ] don fechtsa Le donachtsa S	35. <i>dingba</i> ]
dingbad R dingma LcH	37. <i>Cissi aird</i> ] ciasa haird LcS
<i>notgabat</i> ] rotgabat 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>thurcibail</i> ] turgabail BLcM <i>glain</i> ] glan RBS geal Le	43. 44. <i>gáire</i> ] ngere R

‘Tucthar dam-sa jarum  
 in drem-sa cen díbad,  
 erand as cach fid óg-maith,  
 ball slóg-daith fri sílad.’

Cachain in druí détla  
 eétla imda oraib,  
 sund in each amm agair:  
 ní fúair erand dia cobair.

‘Fid Frosmuine, fégaid,  
 eo ndosmuire dúinid,  
 ar in druí eo ndúanaib,  
 ‘túagaid oeus túirid.’

Co frith herus chuca  
 iar ndenus nárb fota  
 asin muine mesta  
 don fir chnesta atchota.

Rochan air een fuirech  
 in druí buidech bledech  
 eo roic cen anad  
 a amar, a enech.

Tuargabad in erand-sin  
 eo slúag-balad sinn-sir  
 eo rochoise na heónu  
 cosna ceólu, cinn-sin.

‘Ó ronert eech nósad’  
 atbert in druí dúasach,  
 ‘diar nglé-denus gnásach  
 is Érerus úasal.’

IS deśin atbérar  
 forainm, fégair, filte  
 Irarus na hairgne  
 ó híc Cairpre, is cinte.

50

60

70

‘ 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.

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48. *slóg-draith*] slogmaith LcSH *fri*] fria SS<sub>3</sub> 49-52 *follow 56 in B*  
 49. *Cachain*] Canaid etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> *délla*] dealla Lc 50.] .e. lad ima oraib  
 Lc .e. la imgach ndoraidh S 54. *co ndosmuire*] an dosmuine Lc  
 con dosmuine SH *duinid*] ed. dunuid M nduinigh H duinid etc *cæst.*  
 56. *tíagaid*] tuaraid R *tíirid*] eurigh M 57. *frith*] om. Lc *herus*] ierus  
 R ferus (*with so superscr.*) Lc 59. *asin*] isin Lc 62. *buidech*]  
 baideach Lc 63. *roic*] roich Lc raigh M *cen anad*] can ana Lc *cenan*  
 anad M 64. *a amar*] amara LcM *a enech*] ahenech RB 65.  
*Tuargabad*] tuarasbad Lc 66. *slúag-balad*] snuablad Lc *sinnisir*] sindfir  
 R sindsfir B 68. *ceólú*] ceolaib R *cinn-sin*] cindsi LcM 69. *cech*] co  
 S<sub>3</sub> *nósad*] nosach H 70. *dúasach*] duasad Lc 71. *diar*] iar LcS  
*-denus*] genus LcMS *gnásach*] ngnásach LcS gnasadh S<sub>3</sub> ngaesach B  
 72. *Érurus*] iererus R ererus etc *cæst.* 73. *atberar*] ed. atberar etc *codd.*  
 74. *fegair*] ed. fegair RH fegar B fedghar M feghbar etc *cæst.* 75. *na*  
*hairne*] nahahairne Lc 76. *ó hic*] a tig B o tic M

Dorácbad dia apaid,  
scél ná lacaid logad,  
rotucad réil robreth,  
dia tomled a thorad.

80

IS é sin co sobail  
cen fogail a šenchas  
don sceól na muin min-chas  
in eól duib a derbhas?

IN.

## MAG FINDABRACH.

Diambad mé nothecmad tair  
arin maig imríadabair,  
ní chélainn ria techta as,  
atbérainn a ban-šenchas.

Findabair, ingen Lugdach,  
tathaim sund, tan ba cumthach,  
dia tudchaid aníar ane,  
ós chethaib fían forngaire.

Lugaid Láigde doluid and  
la Cormac, cor ean imroll,  
co torchair in gilla glan  
hi cath Chrinna chomadbal.

10

Na trí Fergus, fichtib bla,  
do láim Lugdach rosleóta :  
dara n-éssi ba cáep chró  
in Lug rosgáet ac Ráith Chró.

Ed roglúais in ingin sair  
éc a hathar úais inmain :  
do derb in sceól ní roscar,  
conid a beóil bebsatar.

20

77. Dorácbad] daragaib Lc doraghbaid S dofaccuad H apaid] abadh S,  
apad H asaid B 78. ná] nar B lacaid] lagaib Lc 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.

S<sub>3</sub> *logad*] lega Lc      79. *rotuad*] rauaid Lc rothuaid S rotuaid M  
 rathughad etc S<sub>3</sub>H      80. *thorad*] LcS<sub>3</sub> torud etc *cwt.*      81. *co*] a H  
 82. *jogail*] fotali H      83. *na muín*] Le namain R mamuin B uamhuin M  
 domuin S na (with ch superscr.) maín S<sub>3</sub> nach moin H      84. *a derbtas*  
 in senchas (with vel derbtas superscr.) R a sencus etc LcS fri derbtas H

<b>Mag Findabhrach.</b>	<b>RBLCMSS<sub>3</sub>H</b>	1. <i>nothecmad</i> ] rachindead Lc
2. <i>imriadabair</i> ] imragabair B	3. <i>ria</i> ] re BM a Lc ar S <i>techta</i>	
techtain B	4. <i>atbáráinn</i> ] doberaind Lc <i>ban-šenchas</i> ] bunudus etc LcS	
6. <i>cumthach</i> ] cuimneach Le	7. <i>tudchaid</i> ] tuchaid Le tuaig M	
tugaid S <i>ane</i> ] amne LcS <sub>3</sub> H aniar M	8. <i>chethaib</i> ] chathaib Lc cethaigh S <sub>3</sub>	
9. <i>Láigde</i> ] laidhe R laige etc BM laga etc LcSS <sub>3</sub> H <i>doluid</i> ] docher S <sub>3</sub>	10.	
Cormac, <i>cor</i> ] cormac. h. cuind Lc <i>cen</i> ] con RBMS <sub>3</sub> <i>imroll</i> ] innall B	11.	
co <i>torchair</i> ] condrochair R condorchair B	12. <i>chomadbal</i> ] na comrann	
etc SH	13. <i>fichtib</i> ] fitthib R co lin Lc <i>bla</i> ] mbla Lc	14.) a
erinda adeeas a lechta etc LcS <i>rosleóta</i> ] R rosleotha B dosleoghta M		
ronleóta S <sub>3</sub> rosleonta H	15. <i>dara n-éssi</i> ] ara nesi Lc <i>cáep</i> ] cræb Lc	
16. <i>in Lug</i> ] lugaid etc SH <i>ac Ráith</i> ] ar gai Lc	17. <i>Ed</i> ] he H <i>ingin</i> ] ingen	
ingen RB	18. <i>éé</i> ] tase S	19. <i>scéoil</i> ] sceol etc RM scel Le <i>roscar</i>
rachar Le		

[Ruc bás cumad een chodnach  
a dalta i ndiaid Findabrach :  
ina dúain dlegar a chur,  
is úaid atberar Bréchmag.]

Robsam eólach and iarsain  
forsin maig imriádabair :  
airm i fil a lecht cen lag,  
cert diambad mé nothecmad.

D.

## LIA LINDGADAIN

IS eól dam aní dia fil  
Lia Lindgadain láech-labair :  
Lindgadan ria líad, dar lenn,  
nosmachtad slúag fer nÉrenn.

Hi flaith Find meic Findtain úais  
ba rechtaire co rochrúais :  
cíarbo rannaire Osraige  
ba callaire coirmthige.

Fecht dia cúala 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 scíth-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.

21-24.] in HS <sub>3</sub> only	21. cumad]	euñ H	23. chur]	char H
24.] is uaithe tá fionnabhair S <sub>3</sub>	Bréchmag]	ed.	Bregmagh H	26. forsin]
isin Lc	isi S	imriadabair]	imriagsabair etc BMSS <sub>3</sub>	imriadsatar H
amri-				amar Lc
damar Lc	27. a]	om. S <sub>3</sub>	lag]	ladh Lc
			28. nothecmad]	nacindeadh Lc
Lia Lindgadain.	RBLcMSS <sub>3</sub> H	1. dia fil]	diatá S	2. láech-]
laeca Lc	labair]	labrá S	3. ria líad]	reil uadh S <sub>3</sub>
coet.			lenn]	RM
4. shiag]	sluaig BLeM	5. Findtain]	bratha S <sub>3</sub>	6. rechtaire]
rechta ri H	rochruais]	robuaus Lc	7. ciarbo]	roba S <sub>3</sub>
milabar M	comhlabhhradh S <sub>3</sub>	11. threthuill]	os tuinn S <sub>3</sub>	10. imlabrad]
13. Dofarraid]	dafarraid Le	14. fri]	serb-]	sreb R
sár Le	builli Le	16. scith-eól]	sciathmor (with vel eol superscr.)	sam B

## GÁIRECH

Baile hir-ralsat gáir een 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 ic sár-gubo,  
 dia cainset 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, cét cumal,  
 súlchar sét na sáer-luban.

Trí coícait luban, dar lenn,  
 ed is cuman, 'ma thimhell :  
 nír chumung fri dímes dóib  
 co n-ubull diles derg-óir.

Ulaid dosfucsat a céin  
 dia ruesat, borb in báeth-réim,  
 ó Dún Dá Benn fri sían slat  
 ba céim eían co Cend Febrat.

Tucesat éc meic ríg Muman  
 ruesat sét na sír-luban :  
 in cétach co cumma glan  
 derb is sunda rocosrad. S.

10

## 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. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      2. *Emna*] nahemna H *for*] ar MS<sub>3</sub>H      3.  
*rosmairn*] rosmairned M *romairn* H      4. *comainm*] ainm S *cert*] glan Le  
*glannda* S      5. *i*] ar M      6. *ic*] in etc S<sub>3</sub>H      9. *ait*] aiti Le  
12. *cach*] gan S<sub>3</sub>

Luibnech. RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H      3. *dechelt*] dochealt etc LeM      4.  
*silchar sét*] súlchar an séd etc LeS *sulcarsad* M *suil scarsad* S<sub>3</sub> *sul scarsat* H  
*na*] om. LeS *-luban*] curadh LeS *uban* M      5. *lenn*] leam etc BLeMS  
6. *ed is cuman*] ead doseumal Le *betis cuman* M *'ma*] na LeS      10. *dia*  
*ruesat*] diasrucesad M *in*] a m- LeS      11. *Dá*] na R *sian*] fian Le *slat*] om.  
M      12. *ba*] eo R      13. *Tucsat*] ruesat B *éc*] om. RBLcS *Muman*] na  
*muman* LeS      14. *sét na*] na set H      15. *co*] om. M *cumma*] cumga M  
*cum* H *cuma* etc *cæt*. *glan*] nglan BLeS      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 dian,  
 dia rascrad 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 slúaig 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 cás é comdessa,  
 ‘ar atá do shaidbre ar slúaig :  
 is í-seo ar n-airle in óen-úair.’

Iarsin cuirther i muir mall  
 in cend eíar isin chathbarr  
 co ticht do each thuinn, nár thé,  
 cosin liec 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!

Tollchend, 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 Tollchend 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 <sub>3</sub> H	2. <i>mid-gairb</i> ]	midgairm B
midhaim M	migairm S	4. <i>feith</i> ]	feid B feig Le fégh ( <i>rewritten</i> ) S
- <i>inuaid</i> ]	chubaid Lc	5. <i>drith</i> ]	drai LeS ria ail]
6. <i>chriaid</i> ]	caem Lc	7. <i>rotrascrad</i> ]	rotascrad B
naserad M	diar hascradh etc S <sub>3</sub> H	8. <i>dia rascrad</i> ]	dia
Lc	dia ruscar Le	9. <i>i torchair</i> ]	diar scar S lúth]
Gáedel]	naar gaeigel M	10. <i>nár</i>	luath
naar	na nuarslegh Lc	11. <i>de</i> ]	na núslegh S
ceann ar M	na cuithchedh S <sub>3</sub>	12. <i>enn</i> ]	nar
<i>cath-labar</i> ]	creathlabar S <sub>3</sub>	13. <i>gláeta</i> ]	gaeltá R
inmuin	commarbad Le	14. <i>imon cend ciar</i> ]	15. <i>co riach</i> ]
ceann ar	comlabar S	16. <i>bian-searhain</i> ]	condricht R
<i>cath-labar</i> ]	frisín etc LeS	17. <i>uile n-oll</i> ]	conricht M
sluagh Lc	sluagh athlum S	18. <i>ná</i> ]	frisium]
superscr.)	sluagh-searhain dianscarad (with vel in	19. <i>ná</i> ]	frisin etc LeS
R buan	sluagh-searhain dianscarad (with vel in	20. <i>ná</i> ]	sluaig athlaim]
scaradh LeS	superscr.)	21. <i>fo tháth</i> ]	sluaig athlaim]
18. <i>ná</i> ]	na LeS	22. <i>ara</i> ]	sluaig athlaim]
na	ná (corr. to <i>nó</i> ) S <sub>3</sub>	23. <i>ara</i> ]	sluaig athlaim]
na S <sub>3</sub>	chatbharr] car M	24. <i>is i-seo</i> ]	sluaig athlaim]
20. <i>ná</i> ]	no BMS <sub>3</sub> H	RB	ised etc cetc.
do <i>sáidbre</i> ]	25. <i>i</i> sin B	25. <i>i</i> sin B	aire
do thaibri Le	26. <i>in</i> ]	26. <i>in</i> ]	áirbi Le
co saidbri M	i R	ciar is a B	áirbi Le
27. <i>ticht</i> ]	27. <i>ticht</i> ]	27. <i>ticht</i> ]	áirbi Le
riacht BS <sub>3</sub>	riacht BS <sub>3</sub>	tig etc LeS	áirbi Le
te M	tig etc LeS	nár thé]	nach
mále S		nathe Le	

Noí tuill isin chind, ba col,  
tuill a chlúas, tuill a óol,  
tuill srón ocus stíl ngér nglass,  
toll fo brón a bél bith-brass.

30

Ó dofuc each 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 Bicne, báid dia fail,  
gilla Conaill cháid Chernaig :  
Bicne, ba brígda blaide  
deg-mac lígda 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 aille i n-óen-úair,  
cíarbo thenn-chol in each thig  
Bennchor Ulad a n-aided.

10

## LOCH SÉTA

Sund robáided in sét sen  
mind Lóegaire Luirc 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 Biene, 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. <i>ba col</i> ] bam col etc LeS	30. <i>tuill</i> ] is tuill LeS	31. <i>srón</i> ] a sron LeS	32. <i>fó</i> ] ba LeS
33. <i>occus suíl</i> ] is tṣul Le	34. <i>odufuc</i> ] o dothug etc LeS	35. <i>lond</i> ] luath LeS	36. <i>a</i> ] an R
36. <i>otafuc</i> M	37. <i>odusfug</i> S <sub>3</sub>	38. <i>a thairm</i> ] an tairm H	39. <i>an</i> ] don LeS
39. <i>Brigida</i> ]	40. <i>cháid</i> ] chaeim Le	41. <i>a</i> in	42. <i>Brigida</i> ]
40. <i>brigida</i> etc LeMS	41. <i>ligda</i> ] lidha LeS	42. <i>illeg. in</i> M	43. <i>Brigida</i> ]
43. <i>i port</i> ] a purt LeS	44. <i>ligha</i> M	45. <i>ainnle</i> B	46. <i>Brigida</i> ]
45. <i>lughda</i> S <sub>3</sub>	46. <i>righdha</i> S <sub>3</sub>	47. <i>ainnle</i> B	48. <i>Brigida</i> ]
48. <i>lughach</i> S <sub>3</sub>	49. <i>chaeim</i> Le	50. <i>ainnle</i> B	51. <i>Brigida</i> ]
51. <i>luatach</i> Le	52. <i>chaeim</i> Le	53. <i>ainnle</i> B	54. <i>Brigida</i> ]
54. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	55. <i>chaeim</i> Le	56. <i>ainnle</i> B	57. <i>Brigida</i> ]
57. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	58. <i>chaeim</i> Le	59. <i>ainnle</i> B	60. <i>Brigida</i> ]
60. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	61. <i>chaeim</i> Le	62. <i>ainnle</i> B	63. <i>Brigida</i> ]
63. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	64. <i>chaeim</i> Le	65. <i>ainnle</i> B	66. <i>Brigida</i> ]
66. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	67. <i>chaeim</i> Le	68. <i>ainnle</i> B	69. <i>Brigida</i> ]
69. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	70. <i>chaeim</i> Le	71. <i>ainnle</i> B	72. <i>Brigida</i> ]
72. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	73. <i>chaeim</i> Le	74. <i>ainnle</i> B	75. <i>Brigida</i> ]
75. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	76. <i>chaeim</i> Le	77. <i>ainnle</i> B	78. <i>Brigida</i> ]
78. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	79. <i>chaeim</i> Le	80. <i>ainnle</i> B	81. <i>Brigida</i> ]
81. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	82. <i>chaeim</i> Le	83. <i>ainnle</i> B	84. <i>Brigida</i> ]
84. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	85. <i>chaeim</i> Le	86. <i>ainnle</i> B	87. <i>Brigida</i> ]
87. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	88. <i>chaeim</i> Le	89. <i>ainnle</i> B	90. <i>Brigida</i> ]
90. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	91. <i>chaeim</i> Le	92. <i>ainnle</i> B	93. <i>Brigida</i> ]
93. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	94. <i>chaeim</i> Le	95. <i>ainnle</i> B	96. <i>Brigida</i> ]
96. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	97. <i>chaeim</i> Le	98. <i>ainnle</i> B	99. <i>Brigida</i> ]
99. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	100. <i>chaeim</i> Le	101. <i>ainnle</i> B	102. <i>Brigida</i> ]
102. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	103. <i>chaeim</i> Le	104. <i>ainnle</i> B	105. <i>Brigida</i> ]
105. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	106. <i>chaeim</i> Le	107. <i>ainnle</i> B	108. <i>Brigida</i> ]
108. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	109. <i>chaeim</i> Le	110. <i>ainnle</i> B	111. <i>Brigida</i> ]
111. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	112. <i>chaeim</i> Le	113. <i>ainnle</i> B	114. <i>Brigida</i> ]
114. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	115. <i>chaeim</i> Le	116. <i>ainnle</i> B	117. <i>Brigida</i> ]
117. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	118. <i>chaeim</i> Le	119. <i>ainnle</i> B	120. <i>Brigida</i> ]
120. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	121. <i>chaeim</i> Le	122. <i>ainnle</i> B	123. <i>Brigida</i> ]
123. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	124. <i>chaeim</i> Le	125. <i>ainnle</i> B	126. <i>Brigida</i> ]
126. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	127. <i>chaeim</i> Le	128. <i>ainnle</i> B	129. <i>Brigida</i> ]
129. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	130. <i>chaeim</i> Le	131. <i>ainnle</i> B	132. <i>Brigida</i> ]
132. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	133. <i>chaeim</i> Le	134. <i>ainnle</i> B	135. <i>Brigida</i> ]
135. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	136. <i>chaeim</i> Le	137. <i>ainnle</i> B	138. <i>Brigida</i> ]
138. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	139. <i>chaeim</i> Le	140. <i>ainnle</i> B	141. <i>Brigida</i> ]
141. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	142. <i>chaeim</i> Le	143. <i>ainnle</i> B	144. <i>Brigida</i> ]
144. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	145. <i>chaeim</i> Le	146. <i>ainnle</i> B	147. <i>Brigida</i> ]
147. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	148. <i>chaeim</i> Le	149. <i>ainnle</i> B	150. <i>Brigida</i> ]
150. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	151. <i>chaeim</i> Le	152. <i>ainnle</i> B	153. <i>Brigida</i> ]
153. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	154. <i>chaeim</i> Le	155. <i>ainnle</i> B	156. <i>Brigida</i> ]
156. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	157. <i>chaeim</i> Le	158. <i>ainnle</i> B	159. <i>Brigida</i> ]
159. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	160. <i>chaeim</i> Le	161. <i>ainnle</i> B	162. <i>Brigida</i> ]
162. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	163. <i>chaeim</i> Le	164. <i>ainnle</i> B	165. <i>Brigida</i> ]
165. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	166. <i>chaeim</i> Le	167. <i>ainnle</i> B	168. <i>Brigida</i> ]
168. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	169. <i>chaeim</i> Le	170. <i>ainnle</i> B	171. <i>Brigida</i> ]
171. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	172. <i>chaeim</i> Le	173. <i>ainnle</i> B	174. <i>Brigida</i> ]
174. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	175. <i>chaeim</i> Le	176. <i>ainnle</i> B	177. <i>Brigida</i> ]
177. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	178. <i>chaeim</i> Le	179. <i>ainnle</i> B	180. <i>Brigida</i> ]
180. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	181. <i>chaeim</i> Le	182. <i>ainnle</i> B	183. <i>Brigida</i> ]
183. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	184. <i>chaeim</i> Le	185. <i>ainnle</i> B	186. <i>Brigida</i> ]
186. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	187. <i>chaeim</i> Le	188. <i>ainnle</i> B	189. <i>Brigida</i> ]
189. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	190. <i>chaeim</i> Le	191. <i>ainnle</i> B	192. <i>Brigida</i> ]
192. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	193. <i>chaeim</i> Le	194. <i>ainnle</i> B	195. <i>Brigida</i> ]
195. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	196. <i>chaeim</i> Le	197. <i>ainnle</i> B	198. <i>Brigida</i> ]
198. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	199. <i>chaeim</i> Le	200. <i>ainnle</i> B	201. <i>Brigida</i> ]
201. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	202. <i>chaeim</i> Le	203. <i>ainnle</i> B	204. <i>Brigida</i> ]
204. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	205. <i>chaeim</i> Le	206. <i>ainnle</i> B	207. <i>Brigida</i> ]
207. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	208. <i>chaeim</i> Le	209. <i>ainnle</i> B	210. <i>Brigida</i> ]
210. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	211. <i>chaeim</i> Le	212. <i>ainnle</i> B	213. <i>Brigida</i> ]
213. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	214. <i>chaeim</i> Le	215. <i>ainnle</i> B	216. <i>Brigida</i> ]
216. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	217. <i>chaeim</i> Le	218. <i>ainnle</i> B	219. <i>Brigida</i> ]
219. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	220. <i>chaeim</i> Le	221. <i>ainnle</i> B	222. <i>Brigida</i> ]
222. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	223. <i>chaeim</i> Le	224. <i>ainnle</i> B	225. <i>Brigida</i> ]
225. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	226. <i>chaeim</i> Le	227. <i>ainnle</i> B	228. <i>Brigida</i> ]
228. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	229. <i>chaeim</i> Le	230. <i>ainnle</i> B	231. <i>Brigida</i> ]
231. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	232. <i>chaeim</i> Le	233. <i>ainnle</i> B	234. <i>Brigida</i> ]
234. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	235. <i>chaeim</i> Le	236. <i>ainnle</i> B	237. <i>Brigida</i> ]
237. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	238. <i>chaeim</i> Le	239. <i>ainnle</i> B	240. <i>Brigida</i> ]
240. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	241. <i>chaeim</i> Le	242. <i>ainnle</i> B	243. <i>Brigida</i> ]
243. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	244. <i>chaeim</i> Le	245. <i>ainnle</i> B	246. <i>Brigida</i> ]
246. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	247. <i>chaeim</i> Le	248. <i>ainnle</i> B	249. <i>Brigida</i> ]
249. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	250. <i>chaeim</i> Le	251. <i>ainnle</i> B	252. <i>Brigida</i> ]
252. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	253. <i>chaeim</i> Le	254. <i>ainnle</i> B	255. <i>Brigida</i> ]
255. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	256. <i>chaeim</i> Le	257. <i>ainnle</i> B	258. <i>Brigida</i> ]
258. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	259. <i>chaeim</i> Le	260. <i>ainnle</i> B	261. <i>Brigida</i> ]
261. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	262. <i>chaeim</i> Le	263. <i>ainnle</i> B	264. <i>Brigida</i> ]
264. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	265. <i>chaeim</i> Le	266. <i>ainnle</i> B	267. <i>Brigida</i> ]
267. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	268. <i>chaeim</i> Le	269. <i>ainnle</i> B	270. <i>Brigida</i> ]
270. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	271. <i>chaeim</i> Le	272. <i>ainnle</i> B	273. <i>Brigida</i> ]
273. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	274. <i>chaeim</i> Le	275. <i>ainnle</i> B	276. <i>Brigida</i> ]
276. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	277. <i>chaeim</i> Le	278. <i>ainnle</i> B	279. <i>Brigida</i> ]
279. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	280. <i>chaeim</i> Le	281. <i>ainnle</i> B	282. <i>Brigida</i> ]
282. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	283. <i>chaeim</i> Le	284. <i>ainnle</i> B	285. <i>Brigida</i> ]
285. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	286. <i>chaeim</i> Le	287. <i>ainnle</i> B	288. <i>Brigida</i> ]
288. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	289. <i>chaeim</i> Le	290. <i>ainnle</i> B	291. <i>Brigida</i> ]
291. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	292. <i>chaeim</i> Le	293. <i>ainnle</i> B	294. <i>Brigida</i> ]
294. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	295. <i>chaeim</i> Le	296. <i>ainnle</i> B	297. <i>Brigida</i> ]
297. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	298. <i>chaeim</i> Le	299. <i>ainnle</i> B	300. <i>Brigida</i> ]
300. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	301. <i>chaeim</i> Le	302. <i>ainnle</i> B	303. <i>Brigida</i> ]
303. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	304. <i>chaeim</i> Le	305. <i>ainnle</i> B	306. <i>Brigida</i> ]
306. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	307. <i>chaeim</i> Le	308. <i>ainnle</i> B	309. <i>Brigida</i> ]
309. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	310. <i>chaeim</i> Le	311. <i>ainnle</i> B	312. <i>Brigida</i> ]
312. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	313. <i>chaeim</i> Le	314. <i>ainnle</i> B	315. <i>Brigida</i> ]
315. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	316. <i>chaeim</i> Le	317. <i>ainnle</i> B	318. <i>Brigida</i> ]
318. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	319. <i>chaeim</i> Le	320. <i>ainnle</i> B	321. <i>Brigida</i> ]
321. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	322. <i>chaeim</i> Le	323. <i>ainnle</i> B	324. <i>Brigida</i> ]
324. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	325. <i>chaeim</i> Le	326. <i>ainnle</i> B	327. <i>Brigida</i> ]
327. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	328. <i>chaeim</i> Le	329. <i>ainnle</i> B	330. <i>Brigida</i> ]
330. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	331. <i>chaeim</i> Le	332. <i>ainnle</i> B	333. <i>Brigida</i> ]
333. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	334. <i>chaeim</i> Le	335. <i>ainnle</i> B	336. <i>Brigida</i> ]
336. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	337. <i>chaeim</i> Le	338. <i>ainnle</i> B	339. <i>Brigida</i> ]
339. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	340. <i>chaeim</i> Le	341. <i>ainnle</i> B	342. <i>Brigida</i> ]
342. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	343. <i>chaeim</i> Le	344. <i>ainnle</i> B	345. <i>Brigida</i> ]
345. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	346. <i>chaeim</i> Le	347. <i>ainnle</i> B	348. <i>Brigida</i> ]
348. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	349. <i>chaeim</i> Le	350. <i>ainnle</i> B	351. <i>Brigida</i> ]
351. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	352. <i>chaeim</i> Le	353. <i>ainnle</i> B	354. <i>Brigida</i> ]
354. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	355. <i>chaeim</i> Le	356. <i>ainnle</i> B	357. <i>Brigida</i> ]
357. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	358. <i>chaeim</i> Le	359. <i>ainnle</i> B	360. <i>Brigida</i> ]
360. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	361. <i>chaeim</i> Le	362. <i>ainnle</i> B	363. <i>Brigida</i> ]
363. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	364. <i>chaeim</i> Le	365. <i>ainnle</i> B	366. <i>Brigida</i> ]
366. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	367. <i>chaeim</i> Le	368. <i>ainnle</i> B	369. <i>Brigida</i> ]
369. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	370. <i>chaeim</i> Le	371. <i>ainnle</i> B	372. <i>Brigida</i> ]
372. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	373. <i>chaeim</i> Le	374. <i>ainnle</i> B	375. <i>Brigida</i> ]
375. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	376. <i>chaeim</i> Le	377. <i>ainnle</i> B	378. <i>Brigida</i> ]
378. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	379. <i>chaeim</i> Le	380. <i>ainnle</i> B	381. <i>Brigida</i> ]
381. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	382. <i>chaeim</i> Le	383. <i>ainnle</i> B	384. <i>Brigida</i> ]
384. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	385. <i>chaeim</i> Le	386. <i>ainnle</i> B	387. <i>Brigida</i> ]
387. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	388. <i>chaeim</i> Le	389. <i>ainnle</i> B	390. <i>Brigida</i> ]
390. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	391. <i>chaeim</i> Le	392. <i>ainnle</i> B	393. <i>Brigida</i> ]
393. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	394. <i>chaeim</i> Le	395. <i>ainnle</i> B	396. <i>Brigida</i> ]
396. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	397. <i>chaeim</i> Le	398. <i>ainnle</i> B	399. <i>Brigida</i> ]
399. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	400. <i>chaeim</i> Le	401. <i>ainnle</i> B	402. <i>Brigida</i> ]
402. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	403. <i>chaeim</i> Le	404. <i>ainnle</i> B	405. <i>Brigida</i> ]
405. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	406. <i>chaeim</i> Le	407. <i>ainnle</i> B	408. <i>Brigida</i> ]
408. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	409. <i>chaeim</i> Le	410. <i>ainnle</i> B	411. <i>Brigida</i> ]
411. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	412. <i>chaeim</i> Le	413. <i>ainnle</i> B	414. <i>Brigida</i> ]
414. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	415. <i>chaeim</i> Le	416. <i>ainnle</i> B	417. <i>Brigida</i> ]
417. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	418. <i>chaeim</i> Le	419. <i>ainnle</i> B	420. <i>Brigida</i> ]
420. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	421. <i>chaeim</i> Le	422. <i>ainnle</i> B	423. <i>Brigida</i> ]
423. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	424. <i>chaeim</i> Le	425. <i>ainnle</i> B	426. <i>Brigida</i> ]
426. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	427. <i>chaeim</i> Le	428. <i>ainnle</i> B	429. <i>Brigida</i> ]
429. <i>lúthmar</i> S <sub>3</sub>	430. <i>chaeim</i> Le	431. <i>ainnle</i> B	432. <i>Brigida</i> ]</td

Mac Duib Dá Roth, détla in daig,  
doluid éc isin cinaid :  
in sét is in fáel fulla  
atát ar óen issunda.

Moncha, Dína, Dalb, ba dú,  
Echen balb oeus 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 imšnайдм :  
Tuirbe trágmar ós cach thráig  
athair grádmar gúr Gobáin.

A thúaig notelged iar seur  
in gilla mergech mór-dub  
ó Thulaig Béla buide  
fri cach ména mór-thuile.

Cían nodecuired a thúaig the  
in muir ní thuiled tairse :  
cid Tuirbe thess na túag trén,  
ní fess can cúa 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 *trágmar*, 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 S<sub>3</sub> doluig deg Lc doluidh  
ég S 6.] asin chinaid mor an bed Lc isin cin sin mor in béd S é] ech BM 7. *in sét is in*] isin sed sin Lc é sa séd sin S<sub>3</sub> mon sed sin faen S mar aon re set H in sed M *fáel fulla*] fael full M fail ata S 8. *atái*] ata RS ar óén] hiraen B adharaen S mar áon S<sub>3</sub> *issunda*] sunda etc LeMSH an áonchuma S<sub>3</sub> 9. *Dina*] díla RM dima LeS *Dalb*] delb R dolb LeS *ba díu*] ba tu Le ba tru S 10. *balb*] dalb RLcS *Biblu*] dibliu Le 11. *rostachair*] R nostachair SS<sub>3</sub> nostacair *cet*. 12. *mar óén*] moaoreen R

**Tráig Thuirbe.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H 1. *turcbaid*] toraib Lc *a hainm*] a ainm RLcM 2. *réir*] réim S<sub>3</sub> *ria imsnaidm*] rima snaidm Lc riana snaidm S 3. *trágmar*] turmar M ós] as B 4. *gír*] glan S 5. *thúraig*] tuagh RB 6. *mergech*] meargdha S<sub>3</sub> 7. *Béla buide*] mbiall mbuidi etc LeS bel buide M 8. *fri cach ména*] frisin mbenann Lc frisa mbenann S 9. *nodcuired*] nacureadh Lc nochuiredh etc SS<sub>3</sub> the] SS<sub>3</sub> de Le te *cet*. 10. *in*] i B *ni*] na Lc *thuiled*] tuile Lc tuiligh M 11. *túag*] tuaidh R 12. *can*] ca Lc cá S ca ?H cana M *nó chenél*] a cenel RB dun cinel Lc da cinel S cenel M 13. *don*] do B *dedgair*] degair LeM deggair S<sub>3</sub> 14. *a*] o B *ria*] la LeS 16. *fír*] fer BLcS

## BRÍ LÉITH

Mebuir lemm aní dia fail  
 senchas Brí Léith meic Celtchair  
 ocus diách na slúag-bann slan  
 for Líath Cúalann na comdál.

Líath mac Celtchair Chúalann chóir  
 carais ingin Midir móir,  
 Brí brúach-bríce búadaig co mblaid :  
 nídusráinie mac Celtchair.

Ní baí bad chaíme 'na ré  
 bad saíre, bad súlchaire:  
 cor' char in didil nár duí  
 ingin Midir maic Induí.

Cechaing 'na báig Brí in ben  
 'na dálí co lín a hingen,  
 co riácht Temraig na tríath tair  
 d' fáilti fri Líath mac Celtchair.

Ní arrlaic Midir Mide  
 in Líath dochum a thige  
 acht roscáil in tríath co taí  
 in Líath ocus in láech-mnaí.

Iarsin dochúaid 'na congaib  
 ingen Midir mó-r-glonnaig,  
 co n-érbait 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-bríce riana seur  
 labrad lúath-glice láan-mebur.

M.

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## BRÍ LÉITH

I call to mind the origin of the tale of Brí Léith meic Celtnair, and the woful issue of exploits of tireless hosts against Liath, from Cualu of the gatherings.

Liath, son of upright Celtnair of Cualu, loved great Midir's daughter, Brí *brúach-brecc*, famous for excellencies, but Celtnair'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 Celtnair.

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 Celtnair northward.

'Though we mate not, thou and I, O Brí, cause of combat, fame unforbidden ! the place yonder shall bear thy gentle name, Bri of Liath mac Celtnair 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.

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Brí Léith.	RBLcMSS <sub>3</sub> H	5-8.] S <sub>3</sub> H only	6. <i>ingin</i> ] ingen H
inglī S <sub>3</sub>	8. <i>ni-</i> ] in S <sub>3</sub>	9. <i>bad</i> ] bat R ba M	10. <i>bad . . . bad</i> ] ba . . . ba R <i>súlchaire</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 <sub>3</sub>	daig Lc <i>in ben</i> ] inber B	
14. <i>dáil</i> ] baid M	15. <i>Temraig</i> ] temair LcS <sub>3</sub>	16. <i>d' Jáilltī</i> ] do	
fhai li Lc dáilidh S	17. <i>arrlaic</i> ] ralig etc LcS	18. <i>thige</i> ] chaomhthighe S <sub>3</sub>	
		21. <i>congaib</i> ] chongaib Lc	23. <i>co n-érbailt</i> ]
conderbaitl B	22. <i>téith</i> ] a thech Lc tei (with blank space) M		
conderbaitl S		24. <i>túaid</i> ] thoir S	25. <i>foam</i> ]
tréith S <sub>3</sub>	25. <i>tain</i> ] sin BM	26. <i>a</i> ] om. Lc	27. <i>tréith</i> ]
roithem Lc	dain Lc	28. <i>geis</i> ] cheis Lc	29. <i>Rop hé</i> ] ra be Lc robe MS <sub>3</sub> H
roichem S			<i>ard</i> ] nard MS <sub>3</sub> H
treth etc RS	29. <i>Rop hé</i> ] ra be Lc robe MS <sub>3</sub> H	31. <i>riana</i> ] ria Lc	32. <i>labrad</i> ]
30. <i>Léith</i> ] leth R	<i>cláides</i> R		
labraid etc LcS			

## TETHBA

Dorat Tethba don tir thuaid,  
ná bad sechna dia sár-búaid,  
a comainm clethach, rochar  
ingen Echach Aireman,

Dia luid la Noisin anall,  
la mac Nechtain find-gúalann,  
Tethba, rothuille cach tech,  
is a muimme móir-Eitech.

Eitech, ingen Lennglais Lúain  
roscar fri dend-mais ndrech-búain : 10  
áit i ragaib duibe a drech,  
ba hé a cend uide Eitech.

Marait a n-anmann dia n-éis,  
conas-fagbam fria n-aisnéis,  
ná mban eo mbríg is eo mblat :  
rotag cách tir dia tarat.

Dorat.

## LOCH AINDIND

Loch n-Aindind ós Mide múad  
sund ar slige na sáer-šlúag :  
Aindind mac Gúmóir gab and  
iar tíachtain tíre hÉrend.

IS Loch nÚair, cía hÚar 'sa loch ?  
cía díb in t-Úar ronúar-chroth ?  
ised ráiter fiad cach dálil  
bráthair d' Óengus mac Úmáir.

## TETHBA

Tethba, daughter of Eochu Airem, gave to the northern land that she loved her secret name—let there be no slighting of her excellence!

When she came thence with Noisiu son of white-shouldered Nechtan—Tethba, who made populous its houses, and her nurse, tall Eitech,

Eitech, daughter of Lennglass son of Luan, parted with lasting beauty of visage: her journey's end was Eitech, the spot where darkness veiled her face.

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.

## LOCH AINDIND

Loch Aindind, famed above vast Meath, is here on the track of the noble hosts: Aindind son of Umor settled there on reaching the land of Erin.

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.

**Tethba.** RBLeMSS<sub>3</sub>H      2. *ná bad*] na ba R nad bad B ni Lc ni budh S *dia*] dar RB do S dá Lc da *cet.* sár-] sair R saer etc LeSS<sub>3</sub> 3. *clethach*] cleitech R cleittech B *rochar*] rachar Lc      4. *After this line H alone adds* isin tir caem (?) taisi tair dochar naisi mac nechtain      5. *Dia luid*] dia roluidh M doluid S      6. *mac*] om. B *Nechtain*] nechta Lc 8. mór-] ur S      10. *fri dend-mais*] tré dennmas Lc *ndrech-bíain*] dimbuaín M      11. *i ragait*] hiregaib R arfacaib B      12. *a*] ar M *cend uide*] cenn uaide R huidi cend etc LeS      14. *conas-fagbam*] conas facbam R condas fagam B conas fadband Lc conas facam M *conus fagba* H *fria*] dia LeMS      15. *mblat*] mblaid Lc mbladh SS<sub>3</sub>      16. *rotag*] rotog B *cách*] ed. gach BS<sub>3</sub> cach *cet.* *tarat*] taraid Lc tardadh S

**Loch Aindind.** RBLeMSS<sub>3</sub>H      1. *ós*] a M *miad*] múaid LeS 2. *na sier-stiag*] cach saer sluaigh LeS      3. *Gumóir*] umoir LeM *gab*] gaibh S baoi S<sub>3</sub>      4. *tire hÉrend*] tire nerenn M a tír nerenn etc LeSS<sub>3</sub>H 5. *nÚair*] huar B 'uar Lc      6. *roniar-chroth*] ranúrcroth Lc      7. *cach*] can Le      8. *d' Óengus*] aonghais etc LeS<sub>3</sub>H *Úmáir*] gumair etc RBSS<sub>3</sub>H

Inann athair ós each dind  
dorigne Úar is Aindind,  
ocus inann brú rosbert:  
dú dóib a mbeith im chomchert.

10

Inann ben rosnalt malle  
in dá mac co mór-aidble:  
inann finde ocus fégad,  
inann mét is mór-dénam.

I n-óen-fecht rucait a ndís,  
Aindind is Úar, cen athscís,  
acht is toísciu robreth brú  
Aindind, roleth each lán-chlú.

20

Ocus rígrad Gúmóir glain,  
lib in clos can dia n-athair,  
acht co Firu Bolg bladmar  
berar a n-ord imadbal?

Ac Point robátar dá mac  
Danaus, Gréucus na nglac,  
ótát Gréic cen ord ndubach  
is Fir Bolg na mborb-churach.

Rogab Gréucus co ngraiimm glan  
rigi for claind a bráthar,  
co mbátar fo mámus mass  
cen chádus cen chairtechas.

30

Tarrúd uire ar airib  
for leccaib ar láech-maigib  
fognítis clann Danai dil,  
ba gníom 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 curroughs.

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 <sub>3</sub>	11. <i>ucus</i> ] 7 is M <i>rosbert</i> ]
rosmbeart S <sub>3</sub>	12.] iat 7 cime caimchert S <i>im chomchert</i> ] im caeimcert B	co coimnert Lc
	13. <i>rosnalt</i> ] R roalt S rosalt etc <i>cæt</i> .	14. <i>in</i> ] na
MS <sub>3</sub> H	15. <i>finde</i> ] fine etc SS <sub>3</sub> H in bean M	17. <i>rucait</i> ] rugad etc
LeS	18. <i>cen</i> ] con Lc	20. <i>roleath</i> ] robreath ( <i>altered from roleath</i> ) M
	21. <i>Ocus</i> ] seneus R <i>rigrad</i> ] B rigraid etc <i>cæt</i> .	22. <i>lib in clos</i> ] ni clos lib
MS <sub>3</sub> H	23. <i>acht</i> ] for M	24. <i>a n-ord</i> ] asord LeS
	26. <i>Danaus</i> ] danus LeS <sub>3</sub> H tanus S dairus is B <i>na nglac</i> ] nangla M geal	27. <i>ótát Gréic</i> ] ota
anglae Le	glan a glac S na nglanglac etc S <sub>3</sub> H	greic 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 RBLcM	30.	
for] ós S <sub>3</sub> <i>bráihar</i> ] athar B	31. <i>mámus</i> ] amus B a mamus S <sub>3</sub> H	
32. <i>chairtechas</i> ] ed. coirtechas etc RBM cordeucus Le chortachas S chorachas		
H charthanas S <sub>3</sub>	33. <i>Tarriùd</i> ] tarraid R taradh Le tarru M <i>ar</i> ] tar	
B for S <sub>3</sub> H na h- S	34. for] ar LeS ar] a RS <sub>3</sub> H <i>-maigib</i> ] maidhe R	
35. <i>fognitis</i> ] donidis etc LeS <i>Danai</i> ] dana Le danae M danis S danuis ( <i>in</i>		
<i>litura</i> ) S <sub>3</sub>	36. <i>ba gnim</i> ] ba' glan ( <i>with da nglan superscr.</i> ) Le <i>gann</i> ] granda	
B om. Le dia nglan-bráithrib] do glan bratrib etc RS <sub>3</sub> H dia mbrathrib B		
dia nderbrathir S		

Ní laimtis usce úar d' ól  
acht in muir múad cen mín-glór  
Fir Bolg 'ea mbráithrib bunaid,  
ciarb ord áith-mer écubaid.

40

Iarsin moslúat immach  
Úar ocus Aindind óach  
fir in chóem-lossa, ba coír,  
d' éis Óengossa maic Úmóir.

Gabsat 'car lochaib lethnaib  
iar scarthain ria móir-ethraib :  
hi flaith Chairpri Níad Fir  
táncatar Temraig taib-gil.

Dochúaid Aindind coa loch lainn ;  
luid Úar úad ass cen errainn  
eo rfacht 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,  
eo slúagaib, eo sídechairib,  
fon druim dúanach eo nduba  
fail Súamach mac Samguba.

Ba fáith, ba fili, fir dam,  
ba suí, ba sencha solam,  
Súamach, cen chaite caceaid,  
aité ríam do ríg-maccaib.

37.] ni lamdais uar dol dool Lc  
S<sub>3</sub> minglor *cet.*

38. *múad*] ruadh S<sub>3</sub> *min-glór*] mínglor

39. 'ea] coa R eo *cet.*

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.

---

raith mechubaid Lc 41-44.] om. Lc 41. moshiat] inulsat (?) R  
 niusluat B nuslaigid S 43.] fer gu cem caomlosa eoir S 44. *Úmoir*]  
 gumoir etc RBS<sub>3</sub>H 45. 'car] ga LcS go etc S<sub>3</sub>H coar etc RBM 46.  
 scarthain] scarthair Le mór-] sgiam S 47. *hi flaithe*] a flaitheus etc LeSH  
*Niad Fir*] nia fer LcS 48. *táncatar*] rangadar S *Temraig*] teindfir B  
*taib-gil*] taebgeal etc LcS tonnghil S<sub>3</sub> 49. *coa*] co etc LeSS<sub>3</sub>H *lainn*]  
 luind etc LcS 50. *riad ass*] uada R *cen errainn*] each erraind Lc cen  
 urraid M gu heruinn S gó errainn S<sub>3</sub> 51. *riacht*] roicht Lc *in*] co  
 LeS *n-iar*] nar R 52. o] i H *luad*] lug R luagh S *-blaide*] laidhe R  
 baile LeSS<sub>3</sub>H 53-56.] om. S 54. 'ca ragaib] coaragaib R corogaib B  
 corfagaib Le coaragabh M coarrogaih H o doraghaibh (*in litura*) S<sub>3</sub> *athach*]  
 atharrach B 55. *cid*] cia R *gairb im ga*] garb agha Lc 56. *in*]  
 don Le

**Druim Súamaig I.** RBLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H *Only the first five stanzas are legible in R ; only the first nine in H* 1. *dara*] dar BMS sunn dar Lc *saigid*] saidigh  
 etc RM saide Lc 3. *druim dianach*] ndruim duamach R druim  
 nduanach *cæt.* 4. *Súamach*] suanach Lc *Samguba*] sanguibi Lc  
 samdube S 5. *fláith*] fláith LcS 8. *aité riam*] ba haide R

INgen Gaimgelta, in glúair glé,  
meic Rodba meic Thúaig Tuile,  
Cainlech, nírb étig ria hail,  
ba sí sin sétig Súamaich.

10

Altsat a ndís immalle  
Cormac, cond na loingse-se,  
mac ríg Ulad co n-úath-bla,  
hi crích curad cáem-Chrúachna.

Diar' chechaing Cormac aníar,  
in borr-šlat cosin bláth-níam,  
ó Chrúachain, nach ɏabáid 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.

Ceachaing 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:  
roscí rí Cuilt, in curaid,  
ina thuirt 'sin trom-thulaig.

30

Ó doríacht cen laice ille  
aite in maic maith 's a muime,  
adcíat in daigid nduilig  
'na brainig don beó-bruidin.

'Díaid oirgne Cormaic adeiu',  
ol Súamach, 'ic serb-laigiu:  
dalta romdechair cose,  
ní béo im bethaid dia ésse.'

40

The daughter pure and bright of Gaimelta 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. *Gaimelta*] caemelta M *in*] om. S<sub>3</sub> 10. *Thiaig*] S tuaid RM tuat  
B tuath etc LcS<sub>3</sub>H 11. *Caindlech*] cundech R caintlech B *étig*] eith  
(*with ic superscr.*) R eitte B etich H *ria*] re MS 12. *si*] hi LcS  
14. *na loingse-se*] ina loingse B na cæmlointse M 15. *uath-bla*] uathblad  
Lc 16. *hi*] a LcMS 18. *borr-šlat*] borbslat R *bláth-niam*] R  
mblathniam etc BS<sub>3</sub>H mblathmhiad etc LeS mblathslia M 19. *nach*  
*rabáid*] nacarbaid M 21. *mbreth*] mbreatha B 22. *duilic*] duileid Le  
*debech*] deileach etc LeS deibeach (*altered from deileach?*) S<sub>3</sub> 24. *beo-*  
*thenid*] bedroneim Le bédronem S bithainib M beotheinid (*with r superscr.*)  
S<sub>3</sub> 27. *a*] om. Le *ér arnaid*] ér ergnaidh S ergnai Le 28. *nDér*]  
nander S *ndron-adbail*] dronadbail M ndrongadbail etc LeS 30.  
*ic*] o B a LcMS *Aeda ó Ath Nō*] aed o athno B aeda athgno Le an cerma  
dó S<sub>3</sub> (*in titura*) 31. *roscl*] ruscai etc LeS 32. *thuirt*] thuir S  
33. *laice*] laidi Le 35. *daigid*] B daidhigh M deathaig etc LeS  
doighir etc S<sub>3</sub>H 36. *brainig*] bruining LeM bruinich H *beó*] be B beol  
S breó S<sub>3</sub>H (*perhaps rightly*) 37. *Diaid*] daig B daid M 38. *ol*] o M  
serb-laigiu] serslaigiu Lc searbhlú S<sub>3</sub> 39. *romdechair*] caimdeach air Le  
40. *ni beó*] B ni biu etc LeS<sub>3</sub> nimbeo M

Ronguil Caindelech, cruth rochar,  
is roscáil a folt find-glan :  
fúair a tairnem, a tuirim  
i nArd Chaindelech comduilg.

Comainm na cnoc, ní celar,  
ó díth na deise atberar :  
réil cen min-dergnas don maig  
dindšenchas Dromma Súamaig.

D.

## DRUIM SÚAMAIG II

Feart Suamaigh sund ara leirg,  
meic Samhdhuba co saer-ceird :  
adbath ara tulaig tric  
gan cath da cumaigh Cormaic.

Dia tainic Suamach slatra  
a ndeadhaigh a dheadhealta  
meabais gan ceird ngaisgidh de  
sa leirg ag faiesin bruigne.

Tulach Dher a hainm ar tus,  
(ader-sa ribh a deadh-rus,) 10  
da raibi in Dagha data  
and a caineadh Cearmata.

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.

Caindech bewailed him, even as she loved, and loosened her fair bright locks: she found her death-bed and her dirge at forlorn Ard Caindech.

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 rogul S *cruth*] crúch S<sub>3</sub> *rochar*] dachar Le  
 43. *fiúair a tairnem*] fuar a tuirnib M 44. *comduilig*] comhchu-  
 blidh S<sub>3</sub> After 44 S<sub>3</sub> inserts a stanza: see Notes 45. *na cnoc*] om. B nach  
 o Le 47. *réil*] eol S<sub>3</sub> *cen min-dergnas*] ceiminnerngnais B gemindeargnas  
 M combindergnus (altered) S<sub>3</sub> can minshencus Le g minnearghnus S *don*  
*maig*] du maig B amuigh Le donmuidh M

Druim Suamaig II. R (illegible) M 7. *read bebais*

## DÚN MAC NECHTAÍN SCÉNE

Necht Inbir Scéne ro scaíl,  
 máthair na mac co móraíb,  
 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 mórr sín dia eochair:  
 cian comdatar minnain fris,  
 ba amne noscarfaitis.

*Mochuma.*      Bile Tortan tareai tres  
 lúadaid fri gáetha graifnes:  
 atá sunn ón úair ba glass  
 cosin lathe bas n-aithmess.

*Mochúa Clíana Dolcan.*

Brónaig fir Thortan uile  
 ac caíned in óen-bile:  
 annsa dóib aní n-adchíat  
 do ní uili nádunbíat.

10

*Croín Galma.* Fir Thortan dia fertais dál  
 'mon crann ndeligthe ndermár,  
 nícostaiddled siled sí  
 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.** BLcSS<sub>3</sub>H (*illegible*) S<sub>3</sub> adds two stanzas; see Notes 3. 'nar] ar B 5. ard] om. Lc 6. lór] loir LcS 7. Cerda] čna S ceardea S<sub>3</sub> fo] fa Lc 8. rosort] rusfortadar Lc ar áth] om. LcS

**Bile Tortan.** BLcMSS<sub>3</sub> The Saints are omitted in S 1. dorochair] dorchair B 2. doruart] danart Lc donairst S doruacht S<sub>3</sub> móir] moir Lc dia eochair] dorochair Lc na fochair S 3. cian] coian Lc om. S<sub>3</sub> comdatar] B combatar etc LcSS<sub>3</sub> comadar M minnain] B mic maein Lc meic main MS imeanmuin S<sub>3</sub> 4. amne] maen M 5. Tortan] torthan here and generally in B 6. liadaid] luagaid B lugaid Lc luaigned S 9. uile] ile S<sub>3</sub> 10. ac] a LcS o M 11. ani] ni (?) B (above line): illeg. in M n-adchiat] nodciad M 12. do ni] daine LcS don M nádunbiat] nadunbiad S nandunbiad Lc nadimiad B nodimiad M nat imchiat S<sub>3</sub> 13-16.] om. B 13. *Cróin Galma*] eron gama Lc erom gallina M croin galma S<sub>3</sub> fertais] feasdáeis S<sub>3</sub> 14. 'mon] moa M mo S<sub>3</sub> ndermár] ndfmár S<sub>3</sub> 15. nicostaidled] nocustaidlith M nochustaidhleadh S<sub>3</sub> siled] silidh M siliudh S 16. bad erchrín] S<sub>3</sub> ba deroín M baderein LcS

*Colum Cille.* Cí a rocrínad nírbo rom,  
cían úad ótá ar domun :  
in Rí dorósat a chrí  
rofuirim afrithisi.

20

*Ultán Tige Túa.*

Coíca ed remet in chrainn  
deread tar feda fir-druing,  
ocus trí cét, comul nglé,  
hi lán-airde a fidbaide.

*Mochuma.* Trí dindgna Erenn, dosci,  
roscarsat fri trebairi :  
Eó Rossa, Eó Mugna múaed  
ocus Eó Tortan táeb-rúaed.

*Mochúa.* Bile Tortan, trom a fúaim  
fri haineiss síne rorúaid :  
rolá sunn mór saithe de  
osnad gáeithe gem-aidche.

30

*Ultán ua Conchobair.*

Rogab foss ós Tortain truimm  
ó ré mac Míled móruill  
co torchair, tan rosaí a gné,  
hi ré mac nÁeda Sláine.

*Cróin Galma.* Gáeth dorascair in bile,  
ní fulaing nach dian cride,  
co foraim trí coíeta troch  
do Chonaillib 'na n-óenoch.

40

*Sinche ó Chillin Íchtair Thire.*

Cí a nodbena-su; a chaillech,  
brosna dia ind fort tellach,  
is móir 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.

*Ultan of Tech Tua.* 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.

*Mochia.* 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.

*Ultan.* It found an abode over strong Tortu from the time of the sons of mighty Mil, 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.

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17. *rocrinad*] rocrionaigh S<sub>3</sub>      18. *ar*] B for *cet*.      19. *dorósat*]  
doacht Lc doroacht S      20. *refuirim*] ra urim Lc rouurum S      21.  
*Tige Tua*] om. Lc *remet*] ed. raemed B remed LcS reimed M remut S<sub>3</sub>  
22. *dercad*] derca B *tar*] S<sub>3</sub> a *cet*. *feda*] om. B *feda* Lc *eda* etc MS *fir-*  
*druing*] flor druing S<sub>3</sub> firdruing Lc *firdroing* S *ferdruing* BM      23.  
*comul*] comall M *cumat* S      24. *hi lán-airde*] an airde S      25. *dosci*]  
fosei LcS      27. *múad*] muaid etc BMS<sub>3</sub>      28.] *inteo* don *torthain*  
*taebruaid* etc BMS<sub>3</sub>      29. *Mochia*] mocuma Lc *Júaim*] *fuam* etc BLcM  
30. *sine*] na *sín* S *roruaid*] roruad BLcS      33. *Rogab foss*] rogabad etc  
BS<sub>3</sub> *ros gab* M      35. *a*] om. B      36. *mac nÁeda*] aeda saeir B      37.  
*Crón Galma*] croin galma BS<sub>3</sub> cron guba Lc *er* . . . M om. S *dorascair*]  
dotrascair LcS      38. *nach*] cach Lc *gach* S      39. *co foraim*] coraim (with for  
superscr.) Lc *troch*] tore S      40. *Chonaillib*] B conallehaib LcS conallaib  
etc MS<sub>3</sub> *na n-*] an S      41. *Sinche ó Chillín Ichtair Thire*] sincin o cillin  
ichtair tire B *sínchi* o chill *sínche* no ó *cill* iochtair S<sub>3</sub> *sinchiu* Lc *sin* . . .  
iet . . . M om. S *Cia nodbena-su*] cian odbeanasu M cian o dobenu B cia  
notbenusa S<sub>3</sub> cian od bensu Lc cian o dobensu S      42. *brosna*] brosnad  
BM *dia ind*] dia inn S<sub>3</sub> dia sain B osrain M doben Lc doboing S *fort*]  
ed. fors S for *cet*. *tellach*] teach etc LcS      44. *conatail*] conachtail LcS  
conach triaill M *foa*] S<sub>3</sub> fon Lc 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 suíl :  
confersat gletin rodúir:  
ní thall in gáeth láma de  
eo foraim bága in bile.      B.

50

*Mochúa.* Atá erchra ar gach rét  
cid fir domuin, tíagait ée:  
is úr derg, is crín a chré,  
cach lucht robuí 'mon mbile.      B.

*Ultán.* Mag Tortan, is mag cen chend  
ó dorosear fria chóem-chrand :  
dá trian a šochair 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  
noásfatis 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.

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45. *Tige Tria*] om. S<sub>3</sub> *roscaill*] rosgai S a] in BM *find*] mais M 46. *cuarán*] erach B euran Lc caruan S<sub>3</sub> *cóem-*] B com- etc cet. 47. *cass*] as Lc *conatbi*] contibe B cona tibhe S<sub>3</sub> 48. *fuirmed*] fuirme BS<sub>3</sub>  
 49. *Cróin Galma*] croin galma BS<sub>3</sub> croine gaillina Lc croin gailina M om. S  
 50. *confersat*] isfersad Lc asfersad S dofersat S<sub>3</sub> (con erased before do) *gletin*] geltain LcS geill din M 51. *láma*] læna (altered from lamha?) M lamhdha S<sub>3</sub> 52. *foraim*] furim LcS foraib M *bága*] baidhe S<sub>3</sub> in] om. S<sub>3</sub> 53. *Mochua*] sínchi S<sub>3</sub> *ar*] for S<sub>3</sub> 54. *éé*] dec M dég S 55. *is úr derg*] as oirdaire LcS 56. *cach*] ca B gon S<sub>3</sub> *robui*] dobidh S 'mon] for LcS 57. *Ultán*] ultan tulca tortan S<sub>3</sub> 58. *doroscar*] dodorchair B dascarad Lc *fria*] fa S<sub>3</sub> fria a B *chóem-*] cod M 60. *doro-chair*] dodorchair B in] a B 63. *dil*] diach S<sub>3</sub> *rontá ne*] rondenad etc LcS 64. *iar*] ar BMS<sub>3</sub> a sár-bile] B is ar mbile MS<sub>3</sub> an tsaerbile etc LcS 65. *Colum Cille*] torna tulcha Lc mocua M *án*] anes etc LcS 66. *-dám*] thres Lc les S 67. *Nathi réided*] našíredeadh B nahíreideag Lc nahi redheth S dathi reded M 68. *frithirt*] frithfirt S frithfirtus Lc frithid S<sub>3</sub> is óen-bile] aenbile Lc asainbile S 69. *adbiur*] adber LcS 71. *col-li*] adchí Lc adhe S 72. *noásfáilis*] rafesfádais Lc rosfasdís S il-bili] aubili Lc bilige S

*Colum Cille.* Bá-sa laithe i n-óen na sam  
ocond fidbaid na ndlochtan,  
dorignius ní bad toise dam,  
romdín barr Bili Tortan. B.

*Mochuma.* Nímtha díl cíá feraid gen  
gáeithe fri feda fortan :  
indíu óen-banscál conben  
brosna do Bile Tortan. B.

80

*Ultán.* Cíá roben gáeth cluiche friss,  
hi céin ba hóc ní rombriss :  
do thalmain 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 Trescait trebair,  
maic Throscraig 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.

*Ultan.* 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 Smirdub, son of Mercell, son of fierce Leedub, son of Iachdub, son of Liburn,

78. *Colum Cille*] B *om. cæt.* *Bá-sa laithe*] ba samalta Lc ba samlaithi S *i-n-ón na*] moenda (a *superscr.*) B maena Lc maen no M inaeni (i *subscr.*) S 74. *na ndlochtan*] S<sub>3</sub> na dlochtach B na dloctan M nád locht an Lc da dlochadh S 75. *dam*] tham B 77. *Mochuma*] Colum cille LcMS<sub>3</sub> *dil*] din B a dil LcS *feraid*] ferad Lc *gen*] gein (with a *subscr.*) Lc gena genaid M 78. *feda*] fedaib Lc *fortan*] M forthan B fortal S<sub>3</sub> findtan Lc finttan S 79. *ón-banscál*] aenbanscan M as aonbanscal S<sub>3</sub> *conben*] S<sub>3</sub> combean BM domben Lc combladh S 81. *cluiche*] cluithe B bili Lc 82. *hi céin*] S<sub>3</sub> gein B agein Lc agen S in cein M *rombriss*] rombris B robris S<sub>3</sub> rodbris *cæt.* 83. *cach*] can Lc 84. *Bile*] bil B

*Lége.* LLcMSS<sub>3</sub>H (1-24 *illeg.*) 1. *láthar*] lathar L luaighi M luaigid etc *cæt.* 2.] in uaithnib an aenaigibh Lc in uaínibh in áonaighibh S 3.] L leir ima nerind anos etc LcS nias fuil ar lo illithi M nochasfail ar lo líthe S<sub>3</sub> 4.] ni is mo no gon lucht an erichi Lc ni as mó ina ag lucht aoincriche S *légnid*] legnid L leigind etc LcS 5. *Trescat*] trescaig Lc trescaigh S 6. *Throascaig*] L troist mæc S boist mæc etc LcS<sub>3</sub> loist mæc M 7. *Booz*] L troghaigh S throascaigh etc *cæt.* *Agaill*] admoill S<sub>3</sub> 9. *Siabart*] L siopuird S<sub>3</sub> cibuirn Lc ciabuирn M sibuirn S *Claraig*] caraid Lc 10. *is*] *om.* S<sub>3</sub> 11. *Mercill*] smeircell S<sub>3</sub> *luind*] duind L linn S 12. *Iachdub*] L iachtaig etc *cæt.* *Libuирn*] liuirnd S lioptuирn S<sub>3</sub>

Maic Lathairn, ris' lúate uilc,  
 maic Soailt, is maic Sibuirt,  
 maic Succait, maic Stairn fíacraig,  
 maic Saitl chláraig crúaid-fachtaig,

Maic Cairr, maic Fuit, maic Ifit,  
 maic Filist, ba feidm trichait,  
 maic Cáim na clóë can scíath,  
 maic Nóë, is maic Lamfach.

20

Genelach Lége, is lór dam,  
 ó Threscait co Nóe nertmar,  
 do réir na n-eólach cáem cass,  
 treórach ní sáeb ín 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 Érinn rop fíach fri hed,  
 trí coicait líag each thened.

30

IS iat tuc in cánaid cóir  
 don mnaí difreera dímóir,  
 Conand mac Fáebair na fled  
 oucus More mór-mac Deled.

IS úadib tucad in cháin,  
 ó Chlaind Nemid in nert-gáid,  
 ó Semión, ó Fergus ard,  
 is ó Erglan fíal fir-garg.

40

son of Latharn, by whom evil deeds were set afoot, son of Soalt, son of Sibort, son of Suceat, 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 Treseat 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' liate uilc*] L co lan meid mbuirb etc LeS eu lan meid euirp etc MS<sub>3</sub> 14. *Soalt*] sothait M soairt S<sub>3</sub> *Siburt*] sith buird etc LeMS 16. *Sait*] cais S<sub>3</sub> *cruaid-iachtaig*] cruadiattaig *fac. of L* (but may be cruadiachtaig in ms.) cruadsciataig Le cruaidechtaig M 17. *Cairr*] L euir Lc eair S cairn MS<sub>3</sub> *Fuit*] L fuit LeS ipist MS<sub>3</sub> *Ifit*] L ifir LeS puit MS<sub>3</sub> 18. *maic*] ba M *Filist*] eilis Le filis S pilist S<sub>3</sub> *feidm trichai*] feid . . . dichit L tren trichim LeS 19.] L m̄c euis me caim roclái sciat̄ etc LeS m̄c cam na cloimdimh gan sgiath M m̄c caim nar claoi ga ina sciat̄ S<sub>3</sub> perhaps rightly 20. *is maic Lamiach*] m̄ Lamiach L ba mac do Lamiach LeS 21. *is*] om. M 22. *Threscat*] trosach S 23. *na n-eolach*] eolach L 24. *n̄i*] sni M 25. *ainm*] L a hainm *cet.* 26. *siur*] ba siur LeS *mór-*] om. LeS 27. *don mnai*] read mná *molamm immaig*] ed. molam immaig L molaim thair etc *cet.* 28. *Conand*] L conaing *cet.* *mac fergach*] forderg mac LeS 29. *lán*] L lánmór etc *cet.* 30. *foúair*] dofuar Lc refuair M rófuair S<sub>3</sub> *cáinid*] eadus etc LeS ó] góa S<sub>3</sub> coa H 31.] fir eirann rob iach re head M ba fiach for eirinn an oil S<sub>3</sub> 32. *thened*] filed M tealloigh S<sub>3</sub> 35. *Conand*] L conaing *cet.* 38. *in nert-gáid*] indergáid L ineartaid Le ineirtgaig M co nertbaigh S co nertghaid H 40. *is ó Erglan*] S o Terglan L is o ferglan Lc o fergalan MH o earghalan S<sub>3</sub>

IN cháin sin rocummad and  
trí coícait líag, 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.

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.

Arsin rocuired in cath  
do fúatuch na Fomórach :  
ba rogarb araf in robud  
arin mnaí do mudogud.

In cath rolád, leth for leth,  
ba cummase 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 Fomoire: 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.

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41. *rocummad*] racummad L rocindest 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 isime oll S<sub>3</sub> 44.] is liaig mini cruthnecta L an tres trian lind do lomam Lc in tres trían do lomom S is in treas do lomlond M an tres trian do linn lomann S<sub>3</sub> L adds in tres fiach linni nir lond liach immi a nanlond 45. *Ropo throm*] ra mor Lc robo mor S<sub>3</sub>] ri L 46. *dluig*] dluid LeS duilic M *debig*] deibid etc LeS deimhin M 48. *Conand*] L conaing *cæt*. 50. *ba réim*] co med Le co rem S 51. *co fúaratar Léig*] dosfarthatar liagh S<sub>3</sub>  
 52. *co ruc béisim ó*] dia thug béisim ar S<sub>3</sub> 53. *rosloit*] roloit M rosloit L 54. *conōg argaib*] corus fagaib etc LeS eunas fagaib M 55. *mod*] meg etc LeMSH *thacha dia thig*] tha cataig L 56. *ria cur*] dia gor M *ria*] dia S ria a S<sub>3</sub> 57. *for*] an LeS 58. *ná*] nach LeMS *beth*] beith LeMS<sub>3</sub> *chind*] cinn etc MS<sub>3</sub> 59. *ria*] fo Lc ón S<sub>3</sub> *ba*] fo LeMS 60. *forsin*] fora S<sub>3</sub> 61. *rocured*] doferad etc LeS 62. *do fíatuch*] da fuatach L seal for fine S<sub>3</sub>H seal for fine etc *cæt*. *na*] L om. *cæt*. 63. *ara*] in ri M in robud] L an ramaidh Lc a romhodh M an ramogh S an roghadh S<sub>3</sub> 64. *arin*] iarsan S<sub>3</sub> 65. *rolád*] dolagh Le rolagh M *leth*] leith LM 66. *cummase*] comairt LeS 67. *i torchair*] dorochair LeS *blad*] lagh S 68. *Conand*] L conaing *cæt*.

Diar' marbad Conand 'sin chath  
ocus More, ba móti in rath,  
diar' fúabairthe isna háráib  
rofúataigthe Fomáraig.

Fríth 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 tir co trom-tharba?

Cá hadbar dia fuil Slíab Fráech?  
fiarfaigid dam an gním gáeth:  
abair frim an fáth co mblaid,  
inní diatá Túaim Regain.

Cá hadbar dia fuil Mag Slécht  
ar Mag Senaig na sáer-écht?  
abair leat tre gním ngosa  
senchas Maige hIndusa.

Bréfne, ban-gaisgedach bil,  
ingen Beóáin maic Beothaig,  
rothuit ag tachor fan tir  
le clandaib Cáim co cláen-bríg.

Regan do chlaind Cháim cholaig  
do šlúag Balair bémennaig,  
láech co ngaisged is co ngluind  
ris' ná gabtha cert comluind.

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When Conand was slain in the fight, and More too—the greater the triumph! when they were cut down in the carnage, the Fomoire 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.

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69. *Diar*] da L *Conand*] L *conraig cat.* 'sin] na Lc 70. *in*] a LcS  
 71. *diar* *fiabairthe*] da fuabairthe L *diar fuapartai* M *dofuagair thes* Lc  
 do fuacartha S *dia bfiaidluighthi* S<sub>3</sub> *isna hárailb*] asna hárailb S *is na*  
*har* M *na thaorai* Lc 72. *rofiaataigthe*] rofuadaichi M *rofúaguirthi* S<sub>3</sub>  
*Fomáraig*] na fomaraig L 73. *in*] a S<sub>3</sub> 74.] *inni diata liagh* for  
*leige* Lc *ní diatá liag ar leghe* S 75. *nech*] L *cach etc cat.* *ná celid*] na  
*cleithead* Lc *ni cheilebh* S<sub>3</sub> 76.] L *isam demin na seanchass* Lc  
*deimin ba saim in seancas etc* MH *demin issámh an seanchas* S *deimhin*  
*budh* sámh a seanchas S<sub>3</sub>

**Bréfne.** LcS 4. *aran*] ara S 6. *fiarfaigid*] *fiarfaig* Lc 7  
*eo mbláid*] gan ail S 8. *Regain*] *dregain* Lc 18. *béimennaig*]  
*borrfadhaigh* S 20. *ris' ná*] *fris nach* S *cert*] a cert S

Regan anglondach can acht  
is é dorinni an comracc ;  
toiseach teaglaig, lin a slúaig,  
Aenguis meic in Óig arm-rúaid.

Luid roime an láech da rírib  
ó domarb in ban-mílid  
d' farraidh 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.

IN baile ar' benad de a chend  
don Fomóir, ba gníom rothend,  
ní cheilim ort fáth dia fail,  
is úad atá Túaim Regain.

Fráechnat do muintir Chesrach  
ráinic an slíab sáer-thestach :  
dofuil fo dumha glan gáeth,  
conad úaithi atá Slíab Fráech.

Indusa, ingen Breis búain,  
do Thúraith Dé Danann drech-búain  
dotuit le fer-gníom ngosa  
a Muig úathmar Indusa.

Deich cét oeus trí mile,  
issé in rád foirbthe fíre,  
dorochedar, 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.

Regan it was, dangerous beyond dispute, that engaged the combat ; he was leader of the retinue of red-armed Oengus mac ind Oe, 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.

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21. *anglondach*] glonnach Lc      27. *d' iarraigdh*] diarr a Lc      28. *ar*]  
 a Lc      *gérb anrecht*] ed. ngerb annracht Lc      gerb aimchert S      32. *Asúail*]  
 aifuaire Lc      33. *ar'benad*] inarbenad Lc      34. *Fomoir*] obair S      36.  
*uad*] uada Lc      *Regain*] dragain Lc      39. *fad*] fad Lc      *glen gáeth*] nglan  
 ngaeth S      40. *uaithi*] uadh Lc      43.] dotuit re gnimhaibh gosa S  
 48. *le*] re Lc      *Sléchtan-maig*] slechtan .m. Lc      sléchtanaibh S      51. *raind*]  
 rind Lc      52. *Odbgen*] foidbgen Lc      obgen S

Mé Findtan mac Lamfach 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  
noco' báidéid Laiglinde.

Táinie 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.

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Tipra Dera meic Seera  
rob é sin a hainm chena :  
Tipra Dera, ba hainm dí  
noco' báidéid Laiglindi.

Delgnat ingen Lochtaig luind,  
ben Parrthalóin don phrím-thuind,  
máthair Laiglinde co mblaid,  
ara tuc tonn trom-dígail.

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Cáeca ban, ba mór an gním,  
im Delgnait, 'ma mnaí in aird-ríg ;  
dochóid 'sin dum a ra n-éis :  
romarb guba re n-aisnéis.

IS misi Findtan abus :  
ragab isa maithreachus :  
atá lem can cadhús de  
senchus Locha Laiglinde.      Loeh.

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 Seera 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 Lc

**Loch Laiglinde.** LcS 9. iman] arin S 13, 15. Dera] Gera  
 Lc 14. hainm] Lc ainm S 17. Delgnat] dealbnat Lc Lochtaig] lochta  
 Lc 22. im Delgnait] ma dealbhā Lc aird-rig] righ Lc 26.] sic Lc  
 rogab issa maithrichus S : see Notes 27. cadhus] Lc deghehus S : see  
 Notes

## LOCH CENN

Loch Cenn, eid na cinn diatá?  
 adfiatar a iarmarta,  
 ó docher la Cairpri trá  
 Colmán mór mac Diarmata.

Colmán mac Diarmata gnó  
 rogab Érinn cen iargnó :  
 dorat a lecht, líth nad gó,  
 i Maig Femin dia tig-ló.

Cairpre mac Crimthainn eo saf  
 úa Cuind catha cráeb rochlaí :  
 línais in Loch Cenn dia chró  
 úa Echdach meic Aengusso.

Noí cét cenn, ní comdáil gann,  
 im chenn Colmáin na corr-lann,  
 Cairpre Caisil, coimnert cing,  
 dobert for linn Locha Cenn.

Loch Síenn, rossáer rosmenn  
 a ainm ar thús úas dígenn :  
 craithfid ela finnайд find  
 ós linnib Locha Sílind.

Loch Cend  
 maírg doimir *fora* bruach ;  
 dolin Cairpri do chinnu é  
 condad cru é sis isuas.

Loch Síenn ósin anall,  
 ar dodríméim líníb 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.

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Loch Cenn. LcS 2. *adfiatar*] ed. adfedthar S dofegar Lc 6.]  
 dolen a ainm *nó* dogab erinn co higró Lc 7. *lecht*] leth Lc 8.  
*Femin*] fheim Le *tig*] dig Le 15.] C. C. dobeir cind Lc 16. *for*] co  
 Le 17. *rossáer rosmenn*] ed. russairus menn Lc rosaidh rosmenn S  
 18. *a ainm ar thús*] om. Lc 19.] crafid ela find finnaidh Lc 20.  
*Silind*] silenn Lc 21-24.] Lc only, as printed 22. *doimir*] read roimair  
 26. *dodrimem*] dorimam Lc 28. *de*] e Lc *a*] om. S *Locha*] loch Lc

## MAG NDUMACH

Tír Úa Failge, fót na fían,  
 in rót riám 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.

Éremón is Éber úais,  
 rosglúais gaisced glé-mer gléis  
 imon raind raindset na ríg:  
 maraid 'ca síl tara n-éis.

Ro thríallsat a rainn 'malle  
 Érenn, iar tomus chrainn gaí,  
 im thrí druimníb, soillse sét,  
 co tríchait cét for each n-áí:

Druim Cresaig, cert Maine múaid,  
 Druim Bethach fo baile bríg,  
 Druim Fingin i Mumain móir,  
 fotha bunaid bróin don bríg.

Atbert Éber, úair nár fir,  
 co líín a nglond nglé-mer nglúair,  
 bec leis áen-druim aige díb  
 ocus a dó 'sin tir thúaid.

Atbert Éremón cen úath  
 do glé-medón Gáedel ngnáth  
 coná d' athchlaind mar dochúaid,  
 ná bad athraind úaid co bráth.

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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.	LeS	2. <i>raighe</i> S	4. <i>in dara</i> ] an
darna	Le	a tarla S	5. <i>Lechet</i> ] leced S
reithedh	Le	<i>min</i> ] minn Le	6. <i>Rechet</i> ]
14. <i>rosgluais</i> ]	ragluais	Le	7. <i>ngúr</i> ] gur Le
<i>rig</i> ] na ri	Le	ina righ (i of ina added) S	8. <i>min</i> ] mind Le
<i>taru</i> ]	ara S	18. <i>chrainn gai</i> ] ed.	15. <i>imon</i> ] mo Le
ar gach	ngai	<i>crann</i> ngai LeS	16. <i>maraid</i> ] om. Le
with a	Mumain	20. <i>for each n-ai</i> ]	17. <i>ca</i> ] aga Le
brigh	Le	21. <i>Maine</i> ] muaine Le	22.] fo baile brig transposed
30. <i>ngnáth</i> ]	ngath	22-24 seem to be rewritten in S	25. <i>fir</i> ]
conad	ag a	26. <i>a nglond</i> ] nglond Le	29. <i>cen iúath</i> ] conruath Le
chland	Le	31. <i>coná d' atchhlaind</i> ] ed.	30. <i>conadhlaind</i> S

Atbert Éber, úair nár ming,  
 'Nímba féimed, óir ním fand:  
 mina raindter ar mo rath  
 dobérthar cath tara chend.'

'Do chath i cind míos ó 'niu'  
 ar Éremón, 'tri chís cró  
 co Tóchar eter Dá Mag  
 co brú Brí Dam, toisce nad gó.'

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Tinolais Éber andess  
 cona thress trén-fer 'na ais,  
 co slúagaib in descirt déin  
 ó Áth Cliath co Loch Léin lais.

Atracht Éremón co n-fír  
 do glé-medón Gáedel nglúar  
 ó Šrúib Brain co Brig Molt moch,  
 ó Chrúaich Aigle co Loch Cúan.

Co ráncatar in dá ríg  
 'sin tir táncatar na slúaig:  
 romeайд in cath fodess  
 óir ba trumma in tress atúaid.

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Tóchar mór itir Dá Mag  
 's a chlad fri bóthar anair,  
 Éber mac Míled rosmert  
 is dia lecht indister sain.

Slige flatha Lugach lán  
 Mag nDumach na ndám dar dúal,  
 at imda and dumá ndúr  
 'na mór ar marbad na slúag.

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Resíu ba Mag nDumach ndúr  
 airm ir-rubad in rí rán  
 a ainm Mag Tendais na n-uch  
 co n-imad guth oeus 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.

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34. <i>Nimba</i> ] ed. 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> ] toghar Le	42. <i>trénn-fer</i> ] trénmer S
<i>'na ais</i> ] na fais Le	<i>nár thais</i> ] déin] déin S
<i>Cliath</i> ] om. Le	45. <i>co n-ir</i> ] condír S
49. <i>in dá</i> ] ina Le	47. <i>Brig</i> ] bri S
52. <i>óir ba</i> ] orroba Le	48. <i>Loch</i>
<i>Cuan</i> ] locuan Le	<i>atiúaid</i> ] tuaid Le
55. <i>rosmert</i> ] rusmbert Le	56. <i>indister sain</i> ] sin sin tair Le
<i>Dumach</i> ] numach Le	59. <i>at imda</i> ] ed. a dimda etc LeS
duma anur Le	<i>duma ndúir</i> ] sluaigh Le
60. <i>mír</i> ] muir S	63. <i>Tendais</i> ] ninais Le

Adrochair Palap don gláid  
 mac Éremóin áin cach thír  
 la Connáel mac Ébir uill  
 ar taidecht ó thuinn do thír.

Tír.

## CNUCHA I

Cnucha, canas rohainmnighedh? Ní ansa. Dia tangadar cúc  
 meic Deal a meic Loíth eo hErinn, Gann 7 Genann, Rudraighe 7  
 Sengann 7 Slaine. Doradsad cúc righna leo .i. Fuat ben tSláine,  
*a qua nominatur* Sliab Fúait 7 Inis Fuata. Étar ben Gainn, ist  
 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 roadhnacht, conidh uaithi  
 raiter Cnucha frisin tulaigh, dia ndebradh:

Coic mna tucsadar ille  
 coic meic Deal a co nduileadh:  
 da mnáid dibh Cnucha co mbladh  
 is Étar étrocht imghlan.

Adbath Cnucha sunna trá  
 'sin chnue fria n-abar Cnucha:  
 adbath Étar ben Ghaind glúair  
 a mBenn Étar fri haen-úair.

Desin atá Étar án  
 is Cnucha céatach comlán  
 is Inis Fuada gan ail  
 ocus Sliab Fúait co mor-blaigh.

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## 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.

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Cnucha I. S Eg. 1781      2. *co nduile* [can duilgi Eg.      4. *é trocht*]  
o trocht Eg.

Cnucha II (prose).      LcS Eg. 1781 (see Folk-Lore iv. 77)      Connnaid]  
chonaing Le      *hiath* [hiathaibh Eg.      Eg. ends with ina tigh fen      Connad]  
conraig Le      *chnuc ugad* [enocán S

Cnucha, cnoc ós lind Life  
 roboí úair 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.

Cnucha, ingen Chonnaid chais,  
 a híath Luimníg lethán-glais,  
 dochúaid éec do thám 'na tig:  
 robo gád la Gáedelaib.

Adnacht in ben, cíarbo brón,  
 isin chnuc 'na chert-medón,  
 conid Cnucha ósin immach  
 a chomainm co bráth mbrethach.

IS é sin, a lucht nad gann,  
 a rús fir ósin anall,  
 senchas na tulcha-sa ana  
 ria n-apar co cert Cnucha. Cnucha.

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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 (verse).** LcS 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 Driad*] druim na ndruadh Eg. *ainm*]  
hainm LeEg. 6. *ri*] ré LeS co 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*]  
co haimsir S 13. *Cnucha*] cuncha Lism. 15.] dochuaidh éecthall  
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  
cotí in brath breathach Lism. a ainm goti mbrath breathach Eg. 21-24.]  
om. Lism. Eg. 21. *sin*] om. S 22. *a rús fir*] arus fir Le

Here Lc 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 eidh díatá? Ní ansa. Aird-rí rogabastair for Erind .i. Eochaídhe Ollathar a ainm, ainm anaill dó an Daghdha. Rofoighail-sidhe Erind etir thúaith De Danann. Dorat Magh Fliuchrois dá mac .i. do Aedh. Báit óclach laissián forsin fearand-sin, Codhal corr-chíchach. Báit ben rochaem laissidhe .i. Eachradh ingen Garainn glúnmháir. Dorat Aedh mac in Dagdha grad dissidhe. Faidhis Aedh a draidh dia hedarguidhe. Asbert an ben nach treicfedh a fer fesin for aird-rígh nErend. Indister d' Aedh éra do tabairt don mnaí fair. Luidh-sidhe d' acallaimh an Dagdha 7 adféd dó a éra do ingle Garaind 7 albert na biadh co coir meni chomraicedh fríá. 'Bentar ar éicin de hí', for an Dagdha. '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 Dagdha, 'indás do mugugad-su tríana gradh, 7 gan a rochtain. Gabar Codhal aeod', for sé, '7 faí la mhnaí iarsuidhiu.' Dognither samlaidh. Gabar Codhal la hAedh, 7 berar a ben dá sai[g]thin, 7 faighis lé. Berair Codhal 7 trí nonbair leis dá coiméad. Rosoich an fis eo Garaind 7 co Danaind 7 co Guirm ingin Danaind 7 co Sen mac Senghaind. IS and rouatar-sidhe, ac fleghugud a tigh Garainn. Roíagsad 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 Dagdha a muinter 7 a maiúne .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. Doghniad corai faromh do réir Elemaire an brethiman. Is í breth ruc-sidhe, an ferann in rosáraighedh Codhal a dílisiugad dó 'na enech, 7 a cinta a šaraigthe, 7 can ingrem Aedha 'na chind tríá bithu sír. Doberthair rátha dho-sum indsin im dílisiughadh 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 Fliuchross 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 Elemaire 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 Eachraighe, is úaidhibh-sidhe ainmnighther  
Codhlín din tulaigh aile, dia n-ebradh andso *ut sequitur*.

Tug mac an Dagdha dhimoír  
serc gan tarba fri hanbail  
do mnaí Chodhail a charad,  
d' Echraighe con n-amharc n-anbail.

Torchair an dún a ndernadh  
do Chodhal na rún rind-mer:  
esce Aedha is cned Chodhail  
adaigh n-adhaigh rohíndledh.

'Meltair lem an barc bleidhech  
a rí na rend n-imrebach :  
uaim-si ainm forsin tulaig,  
for Chodhal chubhaigh chnedhach.'

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## SLÁINE

Slaine, eidh dia[tá]? Ní ansa. Slaíne rí Fer mBolg, 7 a  
mbrethem, is les roslechtadh a caill din Bruigh. Atbath íarom a  
nDruim Fúar frisa n-aparthar Dumha Slaine, 7 rohadhnacht ann,  
conidh uadh raiter Slaine din tulaigh, dia n-ebradh :

Adbath sund [Sláine na] slogan:  
fair atá in dumha dímrí,  
conidh Slaíne is ainm don chnuc  
a ndechaidh bás sin prim-purt.

## DUBAD

Dubadh, eidh dia[tá]? Ní ansa. Rí rogabustar for Erinn,  
Bressal bo-díbadh a ainm. Taínic díth do buaibh Erenn frí a linn,  
con a rabatar acht secht mba 7 tarb indti. Rothinolaid fir Erenn  
as gach aird chuice do genam thuir occa fo chosmuilis thuir  
Neamhruaidh, comadh de nodigisit do chum nime. Taínic a síúr

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, *z* adrubairt rofosaighfedh an ngréin a clethib<sup>1</sup> nime cen rith, comadh lá sír doib fri dénam a saethar. Luidh inn ingen for leth do dhénam a drai[d]echta. Luidh Bresal na diáidh *z* comraicidh fría, conidh ón chul doronadh and raiter Ferta Chuile don inadh. Táinic adhaidh doib fársin, ar romilledh a draighecht mon n-inghin. ‘Tiagháin as dono’ oldad fir Erenn, ‘ar nír gheallsom acht bith aen-lá oc denamh an chnuic-si, *z* ó rodubadh fornn ar ngnímh *z* o thaíníc adhaidh, *z* dochóidh an lá ass, tát cách diá n-inad.’ ‘Ba Dubadh a ainm eo brath an inaigh-si’, ol an ingen. Conidh de atá Dubadh *z* Cnoc Dubadha.

### RÁITH CHRINNA

Raith Crinna, eadh diatá? Ní ansa: ó Chrinda mac Cuind chét-chathaig, romarbadh and la hEochaíd find Fúathnairt, rohainmniughedh. Co rug Eochaíd a chend leis a teach Theamhrach co rochuir for cleith cháerthaind, ar ulc fría hArt mac Cuind, ar ba ges dó anní sin. Conidh desin rohindarbadh Eochaíd il-Laignhibh, conidh de atáitt Fotharta indtiu aniu.

Crinna mac Cuinn, erúaidh a gá,  
do robo dún Dún Crinnaí:  
cidh é a ainm-siumh gairther dhe  
ann robo bec a buaine.

### UMALL

Umhall, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. Umall gilla Fíntain meic Bochra itorchair ann la Tuáith Dé Danand, in tan tucadh cét-chath Muighe Tuiredh atorru *z* Fir Bolge. Rohadhnacht iárom a Muigh Réidh, ar rob é sin a ainm ría nUmhall: diá ndebradh:

Umall gilla Fíntain fél. rohadhnaicedh a Muigh Réidh:  
na celidh for buidhnibh clann. inní sin diatá Umhall.

<sup>1</sup> 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 frí a hedh cían tria druídhecht, 7 comadh ón all umha sin adberthaí Umall fris.

### MAG LETHLUACHRA

Mag Leathluachra, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Leathluachair 7 Furudrán, 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 míghnímh, co roadhnacht isin muigh sin, conidh de raiter Magh Leathluachra, *ut dicitur*:

Leathluachair mór-óglach Finn . gilla is úallcha baí a nErinn, is é robai sunda ana . is uadh sloindter an mag-sa.

### CONACHAIL

Conachail, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Corann ingen Daif doróna sealee and for mucaibh allta eo romarbsat na muca nái coin da conaibh, co roadhnacht lei-si fat acus co ndernad dumha úasa. Conadh desin atá Conachail, dia ndebradh :

Corann, robo ben co céill,  
ingen Dail, is domhna fél :  
dorighne selg for an muigh,  
conadh de atá Conachail.

Marbaid na muca móra  
nái coin da conaib erodha :  
a fert roclaidhedd cen ail,  
conidh de atá Conachail.

Cidh Corann a ainm anfu  
ac na hócaibh fir-Fochlú  
in caille, etar slíabhb is chaill,  
dob ainm do riamh rí 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 Cumhaill, 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, eidh [diatá?] Ní ansa. Croch mór mac Daíre dornnmaír do Chlandaib Deadhadh atorchar ann la Coineulaind mac Sualtaimh for cath Finnchoradh, *a quo* Ath Crócha *nominatur*. Nó Crochán cenn-derg romarbsat Maic Morna ann, dia ndebradh :

Atorchair leo na hinis . a siúr budhén Maighinis :  
atorchair ann Cróch na celc . '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 forsin áth út, conidh uaidhibh roghabh a n-ainm Ath Crócha.

## MAG N-ÚRA

Mag nÚra, eidh diatá ? Ní ansa. Colum Cille dorighne moladh do Chi[a]rán mac an tSaír íarna écc. Énna macu Laighsi, issé robáei for cínd Cholaim Chille. Bearchán a farrudh Cholaim Chille, air issé rob aite dó, 7 is uadh fuaír irmhór a taitsine. IS ann rorecadh an t-immond, aít a fuli Cros Cholaim Chille forsin faichthi. Tarcas lán téire na manchán do búaub do Cholaim Chille, nó. xx. cét uinge d'argat, 7 nír gab Colum Cille sin, acht a trí mámanna do úraibh Cíaráin. Tucadh dosum sin, 7 rucc 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 horaib Cíaráin rolen Magh n-Úra dhe. Mag nDerg a ainm ar túis, 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 iartain óna horaibh 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 Finnchora, *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 tŠaír 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 Coinculaind 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 sríab-nderg, romarbsad-som trí formud, nórtaite 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 trí maceaibh Cermada meic in Daghda annsin a Cáendruim frisa raiter Uisnech, fri Lugh mac nEithne, do dhenamh chórá fris a lus a n-athar .i. Chermuda, rosmarb-som ic éd 'ma mhnaí. Rococradh Lugh<sup>1</sup> dino la maceaibh Cermuda .i. Mac Cuill, Mac Cécht, Mac Gréne, Lugh do marbadh. Saidhis Mac Cuill sleigh inna traged<sup>2</sup> an fir. Doluidh-sim íarom uaidhibh a n-eisimul cusin loch ucut. Marbthair 7 baiter andsin hé, 7 issed adberad-som, conidh fair rogníadh in carn fil isin phurt frisa n-abur in Sidhán. Conidh Lecht Logha in carnn-sin, 7 conidh Loch Lughborta 7 Carnd Lughdhach íarom 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 maceaibh, íarna fogra díá inghin fesin dó a ferann d'fagbáil disi 7 díá fir .i. do Thrad mac Tasaigh, is é port rogab-som in erích út, eo nderna-som tene druidhechta far sin, cor' muighsed cóic sruama eisti, 7 cur' lái-sium mac fri gach sruaim díbh .i. dá mac fri hOirbsen anfar .i. Gnó beg 7 Gnó mór, Baetan i mBeathra, Andiledh a nDelbna móir, Anlenn a nDelbna

<sup>1</sup> omit Lugh<sup>2</sup> read thraigid

### MAG MANDACHTA

Mag Mandachta, whence the name? Not hard to say. Mand of Muiresc 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 nógabadh 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 Condrach dorochair and lá Cromderg mac Connrach uaír . . . Clíara cedach romarbh 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.

Cruachán 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 :  
ann robith ingen in Scáil  
isa clíar ótha Espáin.

Is Druimne, cidh diatá an t-ainm ?  
ann ba Luat mac in Scáil Bhailb :  
ann robith Bairend a ben  
dár' bhris a druim trén-galar.

Ecaill atá for an linn  
an feas duibh cidh diatá in dínd ?  
Ecaill ingen Aedha deirg  
and robith, meic in Leth-deirg.

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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 diatá ? 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 íarom for Fomoraibh rolen each a toghraím 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 Badhghna ina sleib i n-airrthiur in tslebe, conidh uadh raiter Slíab Baghna. Dorochair dono Fer Dá Laarc oc Buill, conidh uadh raiter Ath Dá Laarg for Buill. La Lugh lámh-fhada atorchradar. Atorchair Clárach a Corann, conidh uadh raiter Clárach. Cnamha a Cuil Cnamha.

### TULACH EOGAIN

Tulach Eoghain a n-Uaib Failghe, cidh diatá ? Ní ansa. Eogan Bruighne Dá Chocca roadhnacht innti. Is aire imorro adberthe Eogan Bruighne de, air is a mBruighin Dá Chocca rucadh 7 ro-hoileadh hé .i. Eogan Bruighne mac Nathí meic Rossa Failghe meic Cathaír móir, 7 is uadh ainmníghther Tulach Eogain, dia 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: Rechet also reared him, Dian’s daughter. He it was who gave her in fee the plain that is called Mag Rechet, and it would be from her that it got its appellation. In that hill too were buried Cathair *mór* and

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Tulach Eogain. LSS<sub>3</sub> H (only a few lines legible) Prose introduction not in L Quatrain, l. 4.] ua Catháir meic Feidhlimidh S<sub>3</sub> (sic leg.)

tulaigh sin dano roadhnacht Cathair mór 7 Rossa Failghe 7 Nathí  
7 Eogan Bruighne, dia 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.

Failet sund cethrur calma  
i n-óen-áit i n-óen-adba :  
bith for lepaid nal-láech lond  
is deccair, is díchumung.

Cethair, is rúss, rúamdais gail,  
Nathí úais athair Eogain,  
Eogan Nathí, Ross na rath,  
Cathair cóir in cethramad.

Sé meic Rosa Falge feil,  
bítis Lagnig dia lán-réir,  
fir allaid ar each achud  
co nostarraid trom-thathum : T.

Oengus find, Oengus dub dían,  
Brenaind, Dalán, daig dar sliab,  
Eochaíd, ba airech achaid,  
is Nathí, co trom-thathaim. T.

Macloce, 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.

10

20

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 Nathi, 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 . . .

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3.] dar leam nit féta go fior S<sub>3</sub>      4. *ingnais*] a ggnáis S      5. *leathaib*  
*trá]* leachtaibh S na leptaibh S<sub>3</sub>      6.] L fri sercblaith fri sírdecreaibh  
etc SS<sub>3</sub> *Read* serc-naid      7. *iat-somjó*] siadsomh fri S<sub>3</sub>      8. *cen sód is*]  
*ed.* can sód L cen a sodh etc SS<sub>3</sub> *cen sóinmige*] eo somhaíne S fa som-  
haíne S<sub>3</sub>      9. *cethrur*] milidh S<sub>3</sub>      10. *-áit*] toigh S<sub>3</sub>      11. *for*] ar L  
*lepaid*] leptaibh S<sub>3</sub>      13. *Cethair*] *ed.* cathair L cataír S catháoir S<sub>3</sub>  
*is rüss*] Rosa S<sub>3</sub>H      15. *na Rath*] S<sub>3</sub> naned L co Rath S      17-48.] *in L*  
*alone, as printed*

*Siat* sain a meicc 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 líath Lugna luath-moingach  
 'sin Bothur eter Da Mag  
 tát sin tóchur 'na tatham.      T.      40

Secht fir secht fichit secht cét  
 secht rig-fir 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 thathom.      T.

Mór láech, mór ligé, mór lecht,  
 mór fine ocus mór n-airecht,  
 dars' tic túr ocus tachud  
 noco rún in ríg-thathom.      T.      50

Cormac úa Cuind, cen chur de,  
 roalt sund Eogan Bruidne:  
 ainm a muimme cen mafad  
 Rechet, rue in ríg-thathom.      T.

[An tEogan-sa, as i do oil,  
 Rechet, inghean Dein dírmáigh:  
 dorad roinn dia muime maith  
 gan coing uirre *acht* an t-ard-ílaith.      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 Mfl, 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.

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35. *read* Lugna leth-liath      48. *read* perhaps fota      51.] L tarsa  
 tuethar is tachadh S tarsa tugadh túr tachur S<sub>3</sub>      52. *in rig-thathum*] na  
 rímhathhumh S na righthaim with e written over na and th over th (nach righ-  
 thathaimh ?) S<sub>3</sub>      55. *ainm*] ba sí SS<sub>3</sub> *mafad*] mathamh S<sub>3</sub>      57-end]  
 S<sub>3</sub> alone, as printed      62. *dianmaith with dath superscr.* S<sub>3</sub>

An lo tall a dalta di  
 do Reichet an magh mín-si  
 gan chárait gun mnaoi mun magh  
 búi, go ttáinig a tathamh. [T.]

## GLAISSE BULGA

Glaissi Bulga, eadh diatá? 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 táníc Glas aniar al-Luachair Deadhadh do chaínedh a dalta co tech a hathar. Ó 'teonnaire 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 :  
 robris a cridhe gan cheilg . forsin leirrc a nGlossa Builce.

## LOCH SEMTIDE

Loch Semdidhe, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. Semtell mac Saibhce, tren-fer Airt mhic Cuind chét-chathaig robaighed and, far marbadh dhó Becloingis meic Eiris tríá ímhrasrad. 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 comlann dar ceand Airt, 7 docer Begloingseach leis, 7 taínic dia thig, 7 rosfothraic isin loch, 7 rosbaighedh ann iarom. Conidh uadh ainmnighther Loch Semtillé.

## INIS SAMER

Inis Samér, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. Díambáí 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 chuartughudh an feraind. Aentaighid imorro dia éis a ben 7 a gilla, 7 ebbait dígh 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 Semtillé.

### 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 tríasin euslind órdha baí as, 7 airighis fair an días do ól as, 7 foreitir andsidhe eo nderndsad míhostudh. Tie an chú chuice farsin, 7 dobeir-sium bem dia bhois do, conadhromarb. Conidh é sin céd-éd Erenn. Conadh ón choin-sin raiter Inis Samér frissin n-[in]si 7 Samhér frisin n-abaind, conidh e sin ced[-éd] Erenn 7 cedna druis Erenn. Luidh an gilla ass farsin for baí chai, 7 noseathat coin 7 eathaide hé. Sé bliadna .x. imorro do Párrtholón farsin 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 Sarah sáer dorighne do Phadraig a chumdach fa deoidh. Atá comla fris, 7 atá sab forin comlaidh sin ó ré Padraig cosaníu, 7 níad críne achach, 7 ní fes cíá cinél crainn íad. Atá dano a tairrngire don dún-sin a brith a tir tairrngire cona lán daíne 7 inndile leiss .i. secht lán faicti an dúine, 7 atá radhare isin faicti. Itá dano a mbriathraib Patraic each úair bus écen, cidh mór do bhuaib berthair chuice, co taillfe ann, co n-abra mac bantreibhaighe 'Ní thalla and'; 7 cibedh úair adbérthar sin and, raghaidh Dún Roissárrach 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: Sarahach 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 Sarahach: 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 forsin linde 'na comair amach for Sinaind. Robaighedh annsin dono a chethri cornnaire, conidh de raiter Línd na Cornnairedh.

Bás Dubthaigh<sup>1</sup> duind icá thaigh,  
bass Lughdach a Muighen-muigh,  
Cormac a mBruidhin, báss laeích,  
badhugh Ithair mic Édgaíth.

## SÍD DUMA

Sith Duba, cidh dá[tá]? Ní ansa. Duma ingen rígh Sidhi Fer Femin dodheachaidh a coinde Labradha lendánaigh do Feruibh Bolec, eo torchair eodladh furre, eo rofáss ceó uímpé, 7 eo ndechaidh for merugud isin sidh, 7 eo bfhuil ann beóus. Conidh desin atá Sith Dumha.

## MAG CORAINN

Magh Coraind, cidh diatá?<sup>1</sup> Ní ansa. Corann cruitire do Dhíán Cécht mac in Dagdha, rogairm-sidhe asa chruit Cáelchés do mucuib Dreibrinne, 7 roreith-sidhe fothúaidh far nirt a cnámh, 7 roreth cúaart Olnécmacht 7 al-laechradh ina dáidh 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 Naoí lucht curaigh eo hErinn. Tainic Eaba in bánláidh léi, cho rocodail isin trácht, eo robáidh in tonn iarom. Conidh de raiter Rind Eaba 7 Traigh Eaba dona hinadhaibh sin osin ille.

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Dún Clúana Ithair. <sup>1</sup> i. dail ulad superscr.  
Mag Corainn. <sup>1</sup> 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 *lennáach* 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 Drebriu'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, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. Búan inghen Saméra dodhechaidh a ndeaghaidh Chonculainn, dia ndeachatar triúr do chosnam an míre curadh i. Laeghaire 7 Conall 7 Cúchulainn. Forfemdhes breth uime doib a nEmain Macha, co túdehadar 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 lorec na trí carpad. Athgeóin slicht fonnaigh Chonculainn, fódaigh nach sed cumang notheigedh. Rochlaidheth<sup>1</sup> na múra, 7 nofairsingedh 7 nolingedh da gach thelaigh for araile. Roleblaing sí lem n-úathmar ina dhíaidh-seom, co n-ecmaing a tul imón all dofuiris in carpat. Conidh desin ainmnighther Uaigh Búana.

## MAG MUIRTHEMNE

Magh Muirtemne, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. Tricha bláadan iar ndilind baí muir thairis, conidh de adberar Murthemne de i. temhe (?) in mara, nó fo seemil 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 táinie in Dagdha 7 a lorg anfaidh 'na laim 7 rothom uadh for an muir-tselche 7 rochan na bráthra-sa. 'Tá do chenn cúasachtach. Tá do chorp eisachtach.'<sup>1</sup> Tóí do thul toghuidhe.<sup>2</sup> Báig thúaigh.' Co rothraigh an muir-tselche desin cosin muir ndruidhechta 7 comadh desin adbertha Mag Murthemne de.

Úaig Búana. <sup>1</sup> read Noclaided

Mag Muirthemne. <sup>1</sup> Read perhaps eisearach  
to súighe

<sup>2</sup> Read perhaps

## 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 Cliach, copied, apparently, with very slight changes, from LL 288, 24-49, where it forms an introduction to Cath Maige Mucrama, 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. Féic 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 robaí and ó aímsir Thúaithe Dé Danann, *γ* demun doberedh fregartha dó ass. Co n-apradh fri cach n-áen tairisem oca dia adhradh. Co tairblingedh cach aen nótheighedh seacha oca co mbidís icá adhradh. Co rofás desin coná téid neach ósin ille isin tulaigh 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?<sup>1</sup> Ní ansa. Día luidh Laegaire mac Néill rí Erenn co Ferta Fer Féece d' innsaighe Patraicc, dia táníc do síladh chredme a nErinn. Tangadar toirne *γ* saighnéna móra andsin tría mírbaile Patraic co rolái seuru Erenn for fiaseur. Conidh and fríth<sup>2</sup> aeon tslíabh amne, conidh de dogarar Bri Graighe .i. tulach nó ard na n-ech *nam 'brí'* ard no tulach *dicitur*.

## SLEMAIN MIDE

Sleamain Midhe, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. An tan dogairthe<sup>1</sup> cach do feis Teamhrach la rígh Erenn, nochommórtha<sup>1</sup> feis la rígh Midhe isin tulaig amne, ar ba ges do rígh Midhe cen fes na

**Brí Graige.**

<sup>1</sup> cidh. c. d. ms.

<sup>2</sup> Read frítha

**Slemain Mide.** SS<sub>2</sub>

<sup>1</sup> S<sub>2</sub> reads dognithi fess temrach la ri erenn

rocommortha

## 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 panie. 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 *brí* 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 an<sup>2</sup> tan dogníthe fes Teamra lá righ Erenn. Bá coll geisi dono do righ Temrach cen fes Slemna do commóradh lá righ Midhe<sup>3</sup> an tan dogníthe fes Teamhrach lais. Conidh desin raíter Slemain .i. sliab maíne, ar ba mór an main do rígh Midhe seach each rígh a nErinn cen imthuilleodh fessi Teamrach, [et reliqua.

S[1]emain .i. Sliab Main .i. Maein aidhi<sup>3</sup> Moraínd mic Cairbre Cind Cait boi and, in tan boi nert aitheach-tuath for Erinn.]<sup>4</sup>

### ATHAIS MIDE

Athais Midhe,.cidh díatá? Ní ansa. Una (.i. gorta) mór dodheachaídh a nÉrinn uile, co nderna each áen forar'thoill a nErinn domun-chuiledha daingne acu ic taiscích a mbidh 7 ica choigill. Dorónadh teach ndaingen ac rígh Midhe a Tulaig an Comlained. Dodheachaídh araili duine 7 rotholl in teach 7 rosin a láim tresi[n] aidherbi d' iarráidh bídh. Roairighsit an lucht robái isin tigh sin 7 rotescadh a lamh thall de. Rosín-siumh dano an laim sláin tráasin aidhérbe céadna. Roghabhsad an lucht robai thall issidhe, 7 tangus díá saighidh 7 rogabadh hé. 'Cidh 'mo tarrdais do láim,' ar íad, 'a ndiaidh na láimhe aile dia beim dhit?' 'Baí dom ocarraighe', ar sé, '7 do saint bídh ocom, corbo cuma lím each ball ar úair do bem dim, acht eo bfaghbainn biadh.' 'IS mór in athais do feruibh Erenn anní conraidhe', for cás. 'Bidh de dano bías Athais forsin tilaig a ndernadh eo brath', for an druí. Conidh de rodngiúil 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 líne. Dúisether torc allaidh oeo. Marbaidh-sidhe *coícait* don tsluagh 7 brisis da ghaí Rudhraighe.

<sup>2</sup> S<sub>2</sub> reads 7 ba geis do rígh erenn gan feis slemna do denam in tan sin 7 gan a commorad la ri midi

<sup>3</sup> Read aiti

<sup>4</sup> The words within brackets are only in S<sub>2</sub>

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

Tie Rossa mac Rudhraighe a foírithin a athar 7 desela an tore 7 térnaid, a ghaí slána leis. 'Rob buana do rei', for an rí, 'as slan-ghaítheach tice on torc.' Conidh desin atá Slíab Slangha fair.

No Slangha mac Partholáin a[n]cethramadh aire Erenn rohadhnaice[d] ann la Partholán, *unde Slíab Slangha nominatur*: 7 is é cétna liaigh Erenn é, amail adberar sunn:

Slanga, mac Páirtholáin grínd,  
leighis doróne a nErind  
Laighlind rogaed ina blai  
i cath mór Muighe hIthai.

### 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 fédhma. Etrighe a ainm: is uadh raiter Mag nEtrighe don muigh, *ut poeta dixit*:

Liag is Leemagh cona lí  
Imaire 7 Etrighí  
in ceathar-dham co ndír dám  
rothrebsad tir Parrthalán.

### TIPRA BROTHLAIGE

Tipra Brothlaighe, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. Día romarbsad Maic Mórna Dornnmár 7 Indascland 7 Imdán do muintir Fínn ui Baísene, co roláiset a trí cindu isin tibrait, conidh ón brothlach sin adberar Tibra Brothlaige.

Tuesad cend Dornmáir dhaltaidh  
is Innascaind 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 Slan-ga 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, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. Dolludh mac Cairpre Nia Fer dorochair innti lá Coinculaind. Amrún Fer nDea a ainm ó chéin, fobith ba hann ceda-ímraidheth tochestol chatha Muighe Tuiredh lá Deo Danand.

## OIN AUB

Oin Aub, eadh diata? Ní ansa. Baí óglach amra la Gaidhela ir-righi. Alais dá each for aës Sidhe Earemon, hi scaitib Auae Cenindáin.<sup>1</sup> Nemedh mac Namha ainm an rígh. Doleicthea dó farom an da each asin tsídh. Domeabaidh sruaim ina ndeghaidh asin tsídh, 7 baí aúan már forsin tsrúaim sin ina ndeghaidh, 7 lethais tarsan tíf 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 táníc'<sup>2</sup> i.e. an tan táníc do thochmure Eimire. *Unde Oin ub dicitur.*

## GLENN BREOGAIN

Glend mBreoghain, eadh diatá? Ní ansa. O Breoghan, o sinnser mac Míledh ainmnighther Magh mBregh 7 Glend mBreoghain, 7 as fris adberar Glend an Már-daimh i.e. damh Smirgaill mic Teathrach, ba rí for Erinn. Adbath dino an dam sin ó thoidin mná Fatae<sup>1</sup> oc esradh<sup>2</sup> Muighe Bregh síar co beólo dúin, 7 as frisin magh sin adberar Druim na Már-mhuice i.e. ar ba delb muice tarfás do macaibh Míledh for each tilaig 7 for each ndingna a nErinn, annsin immerensat<sup>3</sup> 7 adcobarsat gabáil in tire.

Oin Aub.

<sup>1</sup> Cenidnáin ms.

<sup>2</sup> Read tánac

Glenn Breogain.

<sup>1</sup> Read Fuata

<sup>2</sup> Read escrad

in tan immeráiset

<sup>3</sup> Read

### 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 Eremon, 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 ambrit leis: mór imorro a túaithé na mná. Nobíd dano in ben oca chomét col-léir, conna comairsed fri mnai 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-builde ingen Dínil ó Chum Dínil i crích Chóreó Duibne ir-Ros Túascirt. Tie 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 cuignétar nem na talmain. Ité clama bodra. ISsed ruc a ech inní Dubthach, co tech a ingine búi issind faithchi i. Ethne thóeb-fota, ingen Dubthaig. 'Ole ón imorro', ar sí, 'soifet-sa uile: úam-se rucad in t-eolas di.' Imthéit-side impu, conidrala díb acht in buidre nammá. 'Ní huaim-se rucad ón', or sí. Ní rolá díb iarom. Gaibthi síar. 'Táet Dínel' ar se 'ar mo chend dom sénad.' Druí side. Noséna-side, condarala de. Do tháet ind ingen immach do ferthain fáilte frisin ríg. 'IS cóir duit', ar Dínel, 'ferthain fáilte fris: is tú doroacht do maith ocus do líth duib.' 'Ba maith ón ám, a Díneil', ar ind ingen, 'dia mbeth iartaige de.' 'Bíaid', or Dínel. 'Cíd bías de?' or ind ingen. IS and asbert Dínel:

'A Fedelm, a folt-builde,  
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 Śín.

**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] forith L Dínil] diniuil S ó Chum Dínil] om. S ebert] erbairt L uile a munter] om. S cuignétar] congnadar S talmain] tal- L talom S ruc] rodnuc S inní] intí S Ole] oe 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.'

*Noséna*] rosen S      *duib*] doibh S      *Biaid*] biaid imorro S      *bias de*]  
bias and S

Poem.      5. *iar nglind*] arglind S      6. *imrind*] imgrind S      7. *regtait*]  
regtar L      8. *for Clanna*] do claind S

Bíaid cét mblíadna i flaithius,  
bid airdire a mórraithius :  
genfit adamra 'na ré,  
nad co tancatar cose.

Finnai cid lethán al-loch,  
occus cid mórr a anfod,  
traigfid, ní bia banna fair,  
i flaith meic Dubthaig dornmair.

A tír fil la tóeb Cláre,  
otá Cnámchaill eo hÁne,  
ní nad raibe fair cose,  
doniefa immed dáme.

Bairend, cid soréid uile,  
ásfaid comba Cloch Daire :  
bíaid immad aittin ann  
i tírib aillib Érann.

Femen cid sescand cose,  
occus cid rota Raigne,  
dorega seoth-šemmor ind  
i flaith Chairpri chotut-chind.

Báidfidir iarom túaid Buí,  
is and atbeir Dinél druí  
díth meic Dubthaig, trúag n-élang,  
caínsfítit túatha Érann.

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  
eenna do thíroccus muir  
la toibh nÉrann, érim nglé,  
condaben fri Bentraige.

10

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‘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 Cnamchaill 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 Dinel 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 Bentrage.

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11. <i>’na</i> ] fria S	12. <i>nad co</i> ] nocho S	20. <i>donicfa</i> ] dosricba S
<i>dáme</i> ] dafne S	21. <i>cid</i> ] cia L	22. <i>Cloch</i> ] loch L
24. <i>áilli</i> ] áilli ( <i>with b in margin</i> ) L	25. <i>áilli</i> ] ailli S	23. <i>aitlin</i> ] aitine S
26. <i>rota</i> ] rotá L	27. <i>dorega</i> ] doraegha S	28. <i>i flaith</i> ] om. L
30. <i>atber</i> ] atber L	31. <i>tríag n-élang</i> ] truaghnel ann S	34. <i>oe</i> ] os S
37. <i>Rafáid</i> ] rafaid L	39. <i>la toib</i> ] a taeb S	40. <i>condaben</i> ] condosben S

Ó docomce Corpre clí  
colla for crích mBentraig  
nícon bia senchas iarsin  
do mac Dubthaig meic Eogain.

Regthair etarru ocus tíf  
oc buain míanna, mór in bríg;  
it é dogénat in mbrú  
síl mBuinne do Bentraigiu.

Tiefa rí rúnda aile,  
Cobthach dít huib tarraige:  
is leis bérthar aittreb ind  
for Druim Corpri chotut-chind.

Biaid cain lind  
condaticfat in Tálchind:  
fíal étrocht, aille srétha,  
bid leó tria bithu betha.'

50

## EMAIN MACHA

Eamhain Macha, cíd 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 dói mbatar<sup>1</sup> ac fuine thuire allaidh isin chaille. Berigh gach fer ar úair les hí do aentughudh frí, 7 nochengladh-si iarom. Beridh-si iarom lei co hEmain fon chruth sin cóic meic Díthorba .i. Baeth 7 Brass 7 Bétach, Uallach 7 Borbhass a n-anmand-sidhe. Fororchongairt-sidhe dino in ráith do chlaidhe, ar bá fearr lei moghsaine forro andá a marbudh. Rothoraind doibh ímpí 'ma cíáirt dói dealg farsin in ratha<sup>2</sup>, 7 rosclaidhset-som. *Unde dicitur Eamain .i. eomhuin .i. eo imma mhuin Mhacha .i. delg immá braigit.* Acht chena féigh in Réim Rigraidi, si desideras inuenire prolixius, 7 causa breuitatis hic praetermito.

Nó dano is de Eamhuin Macha. Dia luidh Macha ingen Sain-

<sup>1</sup> díamabatar ms.

<sup>2</sup> 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 Caipre 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-muin*, 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 Crunnehu had declared that his wife was swifter than the king’s horses. The king told Crunnehu

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42. *for*] fri L      43. *nicon*] nocho S      46. *oc biaain*] óchlúain S *in*]  
a S      47. *in mbrú*] imbrise bru S      48. *do Bentraigiu*] meic fergusu S  
49. *rínda*] ríanda S      50. *dit hubb*] dithuib L      dothaib S      *tarraige*]  
tharrigi L      53. *Biaid*] bid S      55. *aille*] áille S      *sretha*] datha S

rith meic Inboith do choimling fri dha ghabair an righ Choncobair isin aenach, íarna radh do Chrúnnechoin ba luaihi a ben andate eich an righ. Asbert in rí fri Crundchoin, foghebadh báss mene thíasad 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 cach fear, conidh o sin rolen an cess, 7 conidh on Macha sin 7 don eamon rosfuc ata Magh Macha 7 Eamain Macha.

## TECH NDUINN

Teach nDuind, cidh diatá? Ní ansa. IN tan dolotar meic Miled aniar don Erinn, asbert a ndruí fríu: 'Fear raghas isin crand siúil', for se, '7 madh é chanus ar tus dchiedla for<sup>1</sup> Tuathaib Dei, maighfidh in cath forro, 7 lindi iarsin co brath a tir: 7 bebas in fer cuirfes in mbriacht.' Fochres crandehor forro, 7 tachraidh do Dhonn taidhecht isin seól. Dogníther farom samlaid, 7 luidh Dond isin seól, 7 canaith tinechetla fríu, 7 doluidh sis 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 farom do Thuaith De dofáinie erith-ghalar fo chétóir isin luing. Asbert Amarghen: 'Bidh marb Dond', for se, '7 ní seghdha dund congail<sup>2</sup> im athgabail an ghalair. Ar dia ructhar Dond i tir, bíaidh an galar-sa co brath a nErinn.' Asbert Dond: 'Berar mo choland-sa', for sé, 'a n-oen na n-ínnsi, 7 dobéra mo chinél bendachtaín form co brath.' Tice farom ainbhtine doibh tria thinchedlaibh na ndruíadh, 7 báiter an bárc a mbái Dond. 'Berar a choland isin carraic n-aírd thall', ol Aimhirghen: conidh de dogarar Teach nDuind. 'Tiefad a munnter an maighin sin', ol Aimhirghen. Is aire sin adellad na han-manda peccacha co teach n[D]uind ría techt a n-ifearn, do reír na ngennti, cédis, co tabraid a mbendachtaín for anmain Duinn. Madh anum firén imorro fir aithrighe is di chéin adeí-sidhe, 7 ní berar fordul. As i sin tra cédfaidh na ngénnti. Conid desin dogarar Tech nDuind.

<sup>1</sup> for for ms.<sup>2</sup> read a chongbáil

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 dím, comul ingle,  
mad áil dúib eolas d' aichne :  
ni triamain intí notaírg  
eter Liamain is laech-Mairg.

Cethri meic ic Sétnu šeñg,  
ba díb Nuadu Necht nar-thend,  
Mess Delmond, Oengus Ochach,  
Ugen urgnaid il-chrothach.

Se meicc ic Ugen een ail,  
ba rún-mer im cach rogail,  
tumsat . . . cen tacha trá,  
cumsat ratha is rodindgna.

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 Ladrand :  
Finteñg os mur Muadall na mbress  
erichi Cualand contuiless.

Noe i n-iarthur Rechet cen fell  
fuair each indechelt ñdag-feraind :  
Másc een mannur, ba mó gá,  
ina dangon dithogla.

Atchuala treib is' tir thair  
ic Nóe mac Ugein aurgnaid :  
ole fath dia mbái, borb in col,  
Rath Núi i erichaib Garrehon.

Dibaid a chland aichri alt,  
gnímaig os aichthi ecrat :  
rosmucha in rí rechta thor,  
acht mág Ucha, oen-chethror.

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## DÚN MÁSC.

Ask of me if ye desire to learn knowledge—happy meeting ! unwearied is he that offers it, between Liamain and martial Mairg.

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 *cúar*, 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.

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Dún Másc. L only                    8. Ugen] Eogan, with 'vel Ugen' superscr. L  
 19.] omit mur.                    28.] read uá nGarrchon                    30.] read aigthib

Luad oc Dún Chuair, cumnig lat,  
co rubnib is co rigdacht :  
fuair Alb, cen min-dergnas de,  
dindshenches for Albine.

Clanna Ugein láth ñgaile  
batar rúinig rath-maige :  
ni sil deoraid ar daigid  
am eolach na n-iarfaigid.      **Iarfaigid.**

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### 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,  
each 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 fatabair  
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 eain,  
Druim Bethaig i Connachteib,  
is impo sin, ní slán so,  
rolád a n-ár, a éicseo.      **A.**

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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 Connaught, for these was their carnage wrought—no wholesome deed, O poets !

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Duma Oena, etc. L only 4. read immaserntar 8. *teif*] read taet  
 Druim Fíngin I. LBLc<sub>1</sub>Lc<sub>2</sub> 2. *fagbaid*] L fagbai Lc<sub>1</sub> findtai BLc<sub>2</sub>  
 3. *ima ndernsat*] ma ndernsat L immo tardsat Lc<sub>1</sub> ma tugsat etc BLc<sub>2</sub>  
*oath*] in cath BLc<sub>2</sub> 4. *ocus*] is L 5.] Indoosad daib sunda soin B  
 Innisfet duib sunna sain Lc<sub>1</sub> Indoosad sa sunda sin Lc<sub>2</sub> *súairc*] ed. suair L  
*sain*] saein L 6. *inn*] cach ni Lc<sub>2</sub> 7. *drommaib*] L dromandaib  
 etc cat. *cona ndreimm*] condreim etc BLc<sub>2</sub> een drem Lc<sub>1</sub> 8. *is ferr*] as  
 deeh Lc<sub>1</sub> 9. *Classaig*] classach B 10. *Bethaig*] L bethach etc cat  
 11. *is impo*] ea cosnam Lc<sub>1</sub> ni slán] ni sár etc BLc<sub>2</sub> nirsat Lc<sub>1</sub> 12.  
*solád*] landh Lc<sub>1</sub> *éicseo*] colcho Lc<sub>2</sub>

## DESCERT

Athair Cailte, comul ingle,  
 Goscen cerd do Chorpraigé :  
 ainm a mathar, moltais raind,  
 Finnigu ingen Umaill.

.F. Ar a grésaib co ingle  
 rorog fóir fri fir-suide  
 Goscen na inglean-grés *cach* dú,  
 foirb narb amdes do cherdu.

.F. Fid ocus uisce ocus moin  
 cuinchset fria coir . . r coméin,  
 scel na celair, uar ni celg,  
 conid de atberar Descerd.

Dorat Find ar-rogain raind  
 d' Finnigin ingin Umaill :  
 sund frith failti cen tachail  
 do Chaitli is dia deg-athair.

A.

Cach fuither dia frith cose  
 gairm cen dith ara deise :  
 nolen and fir ind fachain  
 cen cop dir do deg-athair.

A.

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## CEND FINICHAIR

Cend Finichair, *unde nominatur?* Ní ansa. [Finichair mac] Gollain meic Gainmedaig brithem ocus fath-liaig ocus ba[rd Fin]d meic Cumaill ocus úa Echach Find Fuath nAirt é, ocus Find mac Cumaill [rodna]lt. Co tuc grad do mnai Chathniad choingnaid, conostar[raid] Cathnia i noentaid dormaine, coromarb cérch díb araile, ocus d[orat] Cathnia cend Finichair forsin tsleib út, ocus *a quo mons nominatur.* Murend mor-ainech, ingen Echach Find Fuath nAirt a máthair. *Et* Tuirend Tamnaige a ben, ocus atbathadar dia chumaid. Coica bládna a aes ocus coica

## 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 Cumhaill, and grandson of Eochaid Fuath nAirt, and Find mac Cumhaill [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-ainech*, 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

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**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 faid', et cetera.*

DINDSENCHAS CIND FINICHAIR, I SAMUD CHAEMGIN.

INmain in fáid Finichair,  
 ba haigni cáid eridiehair  
 in gil gluair nar grith-eail,  
 ind fir lúaith o Lifechair.

Dual do Chormac caurata  
 in borr-slatt cen bith-ecla,  
 brithem bind, ba bunata,  
 faith-liaig Find, ba fileta.

Hi Cabraid a chomnaide,  
 i talmain a thig-laige,  
 coíca traiged talmaide,  
 amgaire cen inmaine. In.

Romarb Cathnia congbaide  
 a aithgne ba hibraide,  
 ic ét moa mnai mong-buide,  
 dormaine cen inmaine. In.

Dith dessi tria dormaine,  
 a treisse rostimgaire :  
 ba bét ar bruc Bregmaige,  
 éc rosfuc cen inmaine. In.

Mo chara ba coingbaide,  
 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.

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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.

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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 fiadnaisce  
 im triamain-se timgaire :  
 rue fath-brithem Almaine  
 adgaire cen inmaine. 40 In.

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 sén-athair,  
 fuair eladaine il-maine,  
 cosindiu ni roseáilius  
 ni romaidius a inmaine. 50 In.

Coica miled mong-buide  
 moan ríg cen ríg-duibe,  
 cóica ban, chor comnaide,  
 coica con co n-inmaine. In.

Cóica mac romúnestar  
 ro seilgg is ro siblaige  
 cóica cen báes inband-gaile  
 ina aís co n-inmaine. 60 In.

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 unhonoured ; 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.

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32.] *This line rewritten over an erasure : read cride dám 47-48 and 51-52 are transposed in L, but with marks showing true order 50.] read eladain 52.] read nír' maidius 54.] read immon rig 57.] read ban, eor 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, nooco roich uaim.

Ni thoirchet mo dálí 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 dálí,  
 menip áil mo šechna ar ée.

Bid Mag Da Gési co bráth  
 dia n-esi *cach* tráth, *cid* truag :  
 bid maigen dedail cen dil  
 on tsíl rošelaig rosúan.

Robith mór láech ar *cach* ló  
 sin maig maith co n-ilur chia  
 dar Mag Da Gés in *cach* 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.

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Mag Dá Gési.      6. buan-ban gleo] read perhaps búan a ngle6      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 HÉILE

IS eol dam-sa in dluig diatá  
 Lecht Heile cen immargá :  
 fuair bás braiti brí na mbreg  
 do seeol Raitte co romer,

Diar' cechraig fri fiansa fecht  
 Fergal, flaith feidil find-chert,  
 co hAilill co Cruachain crúaid  
 co rig Connacht claireb-rúaid.

Da síair occu dib linaib,  
 Héile is Medb co móir-gnimaib,  
 grinn-gela im garg-bríg rosstell,  
 ingena d' ard-rig hErenn.

Dolluid atuaid a tir Breg  
 Herc mac Echach na n-inber  
 dar eis Fergail na fogha,  
 cen ergail áig imgona.

Ni thormaitl biad no bronnud  
 no caemna no comloingud  
 ie fir thiri no thalman  
 icon díni dam-adbal.

Nogairthi a síur 'na dochum,  
 ni d' ág no d' hule no d' fochun  
 cor' thiomled 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-etrocht,  
 fail Heile inn óir is na n-ech  
 ic céile chóir chomaithech.

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## 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.

Herc, 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.

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Lecht Héile.      15. *foga*] In ms. the o is altered from a 21-24 follow  
28 in ms.      29.] Raitte is glossed *proprium*

‘Teine tulcha taircther di,’  
 ar Fergal cen firinni,  
 ‘ar-rochur ind dia harggain  
 corop tind in timmargain.’

Doringned amlaid uile  
 ie 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  
 eo Caillin fial Fergaile.

Doel ainm am-mathar moalle  
 ruc d’ Eochaid Herc is Eile:  
 in bás rosfuc as each eól  
 fail sund dune dan dag-eol. IS.

### LUMMAN TIGE SRAFÁIN

Lumman Tigi Srafain canas roainmniged? Ní ansa Lumman  
 ainm do each scíath .i. leoman, ar ni bíd scíath 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 tecusca dognítis insin.  
 Bóe dano scíath la Corbb mac Cinain, 7 ni 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 Find mac Regamna, *et oca-saide bói Teite*  
*ingen Meic Nia, a quo Oenach Teite nominatur.* INund mathair<sup>1</sup>  
 la Currech mac Cathair 7 la Fothad Cananne 7 la Teiti, la mnáí  
 Find meic Regamna, 7 inund athair la Fer Bern 7 la Find mac  
 Regamna. Luid dano Fer Bern 7 duan leis do athchungid in  
 scéith co Corbb mac Cinain, 7 rob é ainm in seeith la Corbb .i.  
 Dubgilla. Tucad dano in sciath do Fir Bern 7 ba fálid de Fer  
 Bern. Ocus issí sin amser robás oc fúr chatha Cerna eter Art mac

<sup>1</sup> *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 Herc and Heile: there is one here that knows well what death removed them from the knowledge of all.

39.] *has dognid with first d expunct and r superscr.*

47.] *read rosnuic*

### 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-chicchech*, 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 Dafl Araide. Documlái dino Fer Bern o Brius Bérre do fromad a scéith co Cerna i mBregaib. Ronimber iarum issin chath, co n-eemaic tri choicait álad and, 7 atbered cárth ba leth catha la Cond (i. la hArt mac Cuind) Fer Bern a oenur. IMsói ar culu da thaig do iarair a leigis, co toracht Tech Strafáin, 7 forrgither andsin é ó chnedaib. A gai gér 'na láim, a scíath 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 lummann<sup>1</sup> 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 fogeb-sa failti leo ic Dia, cid mór coscor 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,  
ni da tinail consius,

Acht lend na daim a diablad,  
na gaib culend no craebrad,  
ditiu della fri lummain,  
celtar cunnail co ndael-dath.

Dligid aif, nirbo uabur,  
fri dail iar n-áine faebur,  
bratt *cona* srengat noidin,  
forbaid oen-fir a oenur.

Etiud gnathach cuirp rethi  
nad reith snathat nō snathe,  
tugan martra, mind naire,  
bratt nad ralad dar fathe.

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<sup>1</sup> *marginal gloss.* i. a scíath

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 Strafaín: 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 Strafaín.

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 6en (?)  
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 een indech,

Cen garmna cruind co ndruine,  
 cen chlaidbe adma fige,  
 cen lamda deg-mná deimne,  
 cen deilg n-eirrgi dia rige.

Reidfid Dubgilla delbda,  
 dín mo debra, mind ingaible,  
 in bratt condaig Fer Berna,  
 acht ni trebrad ní coimge.

Ni find, ní liath, ni lachtna,  
 ni derg, ní gorm, ni corera,  
 ni breccan raenach riabach,  
 ni hetgud srianach socera.

Sossad n-aidche, secc lige,  
 fossad fri gaethaib gubae,  
 cumthach brunni, barr feibi,  
 fot aidche daille dube. D.

Mo duan ni dub, ni dous :  
 slug don t̄sluag cosnaius  
 slicht mo lám, niptar slemla :  
 is me Fer Berna ó Brius.

Missi is mo lumman lomda,  
 sund donrubad, tor tedma :  
 iar ingním fri gliaid ingáithi  
 biaid fóithi Fer Berna.

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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 Brios.

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.

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22.] *read* conceil      29.] *read* perhaps cen druine      43.] *read* cumtach  
 45.] *perhaps* doas in ms.      46. *cosnaius*] *read* cosa sius

Torsat sund, bid slicht sona,  
 dias dont 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 cét bliadna iar saine,  
 ni siabrat sét consuide,  
 conambeir mac Dé nime  
 i ngné ngile cen duibe.      D.

Buan in breth iarna broga :  
 is tech truag cen nach tuga :  
 ni comga in cél, ni 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.

Mo daig-fer, in dual díriuch,  
 ni laimed slúag a sárgud :  
 rop é m' ainm i cath Cherna,  
 ar mbrath Fer Berna in brá-dub.      D.

Crúaid in sét sund ar saine,  
 mo cholc na thruaill uimi,  
 is lumman chiar nar chained,  
 triar rodáled co dubi.

IN oenecht baidmis braine  
 is nochraidsmis cech cuire :  
 innar cethrur chrúaid chetna  
 i n-úag fri det-bla dubi.      D.

A Thuír tabair dot aire,  
 dont úir nofalaig uile,  
 lessaig mo laid im lige,  
 dail 'com díne co nduibe.      D.

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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!

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60.] read síabra      71.] read daiger      74.] brádud *facs. of L* *wrongly*  
 76.] read ina thrúaill uma      83. *Thuir*] glossed *proprium*      84.] read  
 nonfalaig      86.] read dine (*Bergin*)

## DÚN CUIRC

Dún Cuirc, cia lín uaib dan eol,  
 tan rolinad corbo lán  
 coire ar berbad, cuit in phuirt  
 cetadaig Cuirc ara lar ?

IS lé rolinad, ni gó,  
 ri Laithrind ingin Da Thó :  
 is í raorddaig in lucht  
 trí cét mucc is tri cét bó.

IS í rochumsig iar fir  
 ar cind meice in rig co run :  
 is hí rodáil dóib in flaithe  
 diambái in fer maith iss[in] dú[n].

10

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 Lue[h]ta ille,  
 feib docuhta celmuine,  
 atberad tria chabra a cind  
 co ñgebad Banba mbarr-find.

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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 Core?

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.

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Dún Cuirc. 1, 2. dan eol tan rolínad] *rewritten over erasure* 12.  
iss . . dú. L iss . . dá *fac. wrongly*

Druim Fíngin II. 2. ferggach *fac. of L* 4. -móir] *so facs.*  
now illegible 8. omit con 12. -jind] *so facs. now illegible*

IS é sein ba sonsnaidm slecht  
o fail in comainm comchert,  
Druim Fingin eo ñgarb-šin gle  
issind amsir ir-raibe.

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Sund rognid in graibre gel  
airne i ndeochedaid Fingen:  
Druim nElgga cen elgnus ingle  
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 Rudraigí rigda  
Bresal bladach bo-dibda  
ba flaith os chuan cach curaich  
fobái slúag in bo-chumaid.

Aice robui duanach drui  
diarb ainm Buadach mac Birchlúi :  
is do nogairthe cen fell  
in sen-Bodb Bairchi bél-cherr.

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Do Budb tuc Bresal na mbreth  
a boin is a tharb maeth-mer  
ar rath féile in rig cor-rath  
do chosc aithgeire a druäd.

Fuaerais in drúi dia daltaib  
comét in buair bee-lachtaig,  
fer díb cech lái fri seirc sét  
dia ńgeilt is dia lan-chomét.

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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.

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17.] *read* sošnaidm      22.] *read* ina ndeochedaid      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  
diarbhí in muducht mor-adbal.

Rodelbus gleri cen gua  
do šenches Sleibe sen-Chua,  
drong rand raglan im gnim inglese :  
oll in t-adbar trias' tanie. T.

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## CELL CHORBBÁIN

Cell Chorrbain, clár cen chreidim,  
eus' tathig dám is dirim,  
la Pátric Macha a mó-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.

Molling dia lluid a Breg-dáil  
dessid 'sin chill chaid chomláin  
Sraphan, Lucan is Lugná . d,  
Muadán, Cerbán is Chonlaid.

Corrbán, rochind for crábud,  
fail sain chill fo chraibaib :  
Baetán, nar brónach álaig,  
in nomad naem da naemaib.

Failet nái ríg, reím n-ága,  
i Cill Náis fo neim niamda,  
Murfcan moen cen merball,  
Cerball is Cellach cialla,

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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, Cerbán, and Conlaid;

Corbán, 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,

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Cell Chorbbáin.      5.] read náeim      8.] *facs. of L* reads ard tend-  
blaid      11.] read Lugnáid: the i has been erased      12.] a punctum delens  
under the i of Chonlaid seems due to a later hand      14.] read isin chill

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-úraig,  
 Ailbi ocus Aife fir-fíal,  
 Uasal oen-gel, ben Faelain,  
 mór saer-fer diarbu fir-mian.

Nonbur ríg, nonbur rígan  
 tucsat sir-blad da sámud,  
 is nonbur náem bud naemdu,  
 bad oebdu cin ó Adum.

IMdai ríg ocus rignai  
 is gillai gribdai grada  
 aes uird is cheóil fri cóbh  
 la toeb tri nonbur ndana.

INmain cathir is chlith-rúaim  
 eos' tictis maith-fir mochrad :  
 alaind in senud seing-thae,  
 euiri cend-caem dar clochan.

Cech erraig, uair cen faille,  
 tictis sluaig luath, dar linne,  
 co Cerball daith cen dognus :  
 ba maith a corgus cille. C.

Gormlaith glórda cen gainni,  
 rígan ríg Fómna finni,  
 doringni gnímu grána,  
 ingen ríg Traga Tinni :  
 Aillend is Chellach Carmain  
 dosfue i talmain cilli. C.

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Colman, Broen, and the lusty Bran, Find, Faelan, bold Dunchad ; at Cell Chorrbain, 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 trow, 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.

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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 dám cen deg-raind  
 i flathius Cherbaill chend-glain.

Cerball, nir duí ciar dót-mer,  
 diar' chlúi ar Cormac in chetáil  
 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 rig déc, cen daidbri dám,  
 gabsat rám os Raighni rúad  
 o Faelan, cen daidbri dál,  
 cosin n-ár i nAlbe úar.

70

Nir šamla Cherball ri nech  
 hi cein bess Bregrund ar bith:  
 nir chumma nech ris im chath  
 nir chumma a chrech nach a chath.

Ni raibi ríam 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 fled ba forlond,  
 tri fichit med ba med-rand;  
 tri fichit rig, reím nídeccair,  
 leis dia lepaid la Cerball.

80

Ba holлом 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 craití cana cille. C.

90

IAR ñdola i ndebaid ñdeg-theind  
notheilged foga frithgrind,  
ba gnáth a haithle affrind  
eo 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 ñbind,  
cath Liamna, labrad lan-grind,  
Caemgen in dag-fer nosding,  
Brigit Lagen dia lar-chill. C.

100

## DRUIM N-ASSAIL

Druim nAssail, iarfaigther dam  
eid diatá in tilach thond-glan ?  
dund fir rothreb fora foír  
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  
im-medón Muman, miad ingle,  
uas Chliu Máil meic Úgaine.

10

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 !'

---

Druim n-Assail.

3.] *read dind fir*

‘Cid’, ar Fergus, ‘cid diatái?  
du menma cid araclóe?’  
‘Innocht,’ ar Assal, ‘mu brath,  
itá i tuethin mo marbath.’

20

‘Ni rag-sa’, ar Fergus, ‘istech:  
ní maith aíge anairech:  
rout, a gillai, dar druim sair,  
seuir in carpat iar sodain.’

Áth Carpait Fergusa itá  
aness do tháib na tulcha:  
dessid and ed bec ón rót:  
bai fer ocon forceomeót.

Im-medón aidehi tie dám  
assin tír dianid ainm Espán:  
suil dressed súas, fir raclos,  
bái tricha gae i Fergos.

30

Atnaig Fergus na ferga  
imna rennaib roderga,  
marbais tricha dib didu,  
rofacaib ’na chró-ligu.

Tiagait ass na slóig iar sain,  
gabait tall im thech nAssail,  
co ruesat cend Assail áin  
ó hÉrind co hEspáin.

40

Othrais Fergus ilair ingle  
i tig Conchind meic Dedad:  
tanic Cú Rúi d’ fis scél  
otá tír Franc eu fortrén.

Accaínis a imned fris  
Fergus fri mál Maige Mis,  
co ndeocharat 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.

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23.] *ádar* ms.      28.] *forcomét* (*with o under -ét*) ms.      30.] *read diand*  
 36.] *read cró-ligiu*      40.] *read óthá Érinn*      41. *ngal*] *the n is added*  
*above: read ilar ngal or ilair gal*      43.] *read probably d' f'is a scél*

Cathir in ríg ruc in cend  
tanie dias trén 'na thimehell,  
muchsat marbsat immon ríg  
in slóg direcra dírim.

Co tucsat leo na da cend  
ó hEspáin co thír níhErend,  
cend in ríg ronert innair,  
cend níAssail co Druim níAssail.

D.

50

## SNÁM DÁ ÉN

Snámh Dá Én cidh dia 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 Derc a Crúachán Duibthíre. Nothathaighedh iarom Buidhi ocus a chomalta .i. Luán mac Lughair meic Luigheach ir-richt dá én co hEstin ocus nochantaís céol sirrechtaach don tšluagh, conoscuiredh a suán. IN tan iarom ba codludh dóibh notheightis ina rechtaib fén andsidhe, ocus nocodladh Buidhe fri hEstin. Rofiarfacht Nar dia drúidh can asa tigtais na heono út co hEstin. Roinnis in drái do corb íat bái ir-rechtaibh na n-én .i. Buidhe ocus Luan. Tancadar iaromh arnamarach for Sinaind co mbatar oe snám fuirre. Luidh Estin na comdháil. Tic Nár fora culo ocus nosdibraic na heona, condaromarb d' áen-urchur. Conidh on tšnamh sin dorónsat na heóin fair raiter Snam Dá Én de. Fágaibhther dano betha bec a Luán ocus luidh-sidhe lam fri sruth conérbaitl oc Áth Luán, conidh uadh ainmnighther an t-áth. Luidh dano Estin co Magh nEstin co n-apadh ann, conidh uaidhe raiter Magh nEistin. Marb dano Nar do eumaigh a mhná oc Móin Tire Náir, conidh desin asbert an senchaidh :

IS de sin atá Áth Lúain  
is Snamh Da Én fri haen-uair,  
is Móin Tire Nair, niamhdha an dal,  
is Mag nEstin 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 unmatchable 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.

### SNÁM 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 ocus dobreth Ferrdomhan éra fair. Ar isedh rotairrngiredh dó bass d' fagbail an tan rofáifedh a ingen fria fear, conidh uime sin na tabradh-sam a ingin d' fir. 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 Find do chongnam leis .i. Remur ocus Cael a n-anmann. Robatar iarom ie snamh na linne na fiadhnaise, ocus comadh on tsnamh-sin adbertha Snamh Dá Én dhe. Lotar a sidhe ir-rechtaibh dá chon. Dorónadh iarom an comruc, ocus dorochradar a cethrar comthoitim ann. Conidh desin adberar Snamh Da Én ocus Ailén an Comraic ocus 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 Feíc meic Conaill chais,  
n[í]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  
ucus Lúan a chomalta  
ir-richt da én, aebda sin,  
tictis *co hEstin* imglain.

Andsin dochantais don tslúag  
ceol seíng sírechtaich 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 conourse, the origin of the ever-glorious Crossing.

Nár son of Fiacc 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.

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**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. *sáir*] fire OP   *fíor* Q  
 6.] *nrsat bria* L      9.] *connírí* L      *go ndíre* OPQ (*sic leg.*)      12.] *datháin* L  
*with calma or talma in upper margin*      *dathchalma* OPQ

Trath nachotlad cách do chéin  
tictis 'na rec[h]taib fadéin :  
dobid Buide, nir 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-ni 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

Faithair bethu bec il-Lúan,  
cor-ránic in n-ath n-induar,  
ocus 'conn áth túas atbath  
Lúan mac Lugair meic Lugdach.

Luid Estiu lám frisin sruth  
ocus nir garit in ruth :  
is úadi sluinter in mag,  
bail is marb im-maig Eisten.

Luid Nár co Tír innair  
ar cinniud ara comdáil ;  
is marb do chumaid 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 Tire Nair, after their tryst failed, and died of sorrow for his wife—Nár son of Fiac, one that never fled.

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25.] read nosiarfaigenn      27. *assa*] as O (*sic leg.*)      30. *ort*] fort L  
 40. *do*] read *don*      49. *co Tir innair*] go Móin Tire 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 'ea innise.

60

Aed mac Rónain cor-rathaib  
 Find romarb a deg-athair:  
 desin ba foglaid dond Feín  
 Aed rind mac Rónain rogeir.

Aed mac Rónáin meic Aeda  
 meic Imchada, ba haebda,  
 is meic Laigsig, láthar índl,  
 meic Conaill meic Amairgin:

Cét n-armach n-álaind n-argda  
 im thrí rígaib rogarga  
 i torchair leis, mod cose,  
 co cath Masten mórgairge.

70

Trath romemaid in cath  
 ar Aed am-Mastin immach,  
 foeraid comrac oen-fir úad,  
 forin Feín, 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 Tire 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.

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55.] *read 's Móin*      56.] *read 's Mag*      71.] *read a torchair*      73. *Truth*  
 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 Cumaill Almaine.

IS and asbert Cailti cáid  
'a Find tairind do throm-gáir !  
comrac oen-fir, aidblib ingleo,  
nitriefa céin beor-sa beó.'

90

IS andsin atrubairt Find  
fri Cálte ait bai asa chind,  
'ni ferr lim-sa th' ascin marb  
inna me féin tria chruad-arm.'

Asbert Cailti, cruaid a chrf ;  
'na geib-siu acut, a rí,  
a chend for Áed eo hellam,  
is missi do dichennad.'

100

Asbert Aedán mac Deirg dein,  
asbert Aed cul-dub cen chéill,  
rodingebtíais 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 ingle  
oe ascin na hirgáile.'

'Nach facci na tri curaid ?  
dar lem is mor romudaig,  
ni thanic im Féin cose  
triar aile bud ágmaire.'

110

'Na hapair-siu sein, a rí !  
ciarbtar inmain let-su th' úi ;  
im feirr-sa uair cinnim cath  
indá ind óebad amulchach.'

Uprose then Find himself, when the Fianna shirked the fight ;  
he grasped all his weapons, he, Find mac Cumhaill 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.'

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86.] *read ón Féin*  
repeated in L

100.] *read da díchennad*

115.] *im ferr-sa*

‘Narb aichnid duit Nectain nár?  
 narb aichnid duit lúas a da lám?  
 ba comlund cét cirthi cráeb,  
 arapa raforraig Áed.’

120

‘Dard laim-siu, a Find aidblib níad,  
 darm gae, darm [chla]ideb, darm sciath,  
 noco geib armu fri fee[h]t  
 láech frisimbia mo thig-lecht.’

Berid Cailte ceim neime  
 ina sturaig thruim tentide,  
 co tarla dó forsin maig  
 oeus mac Rónain raglain.

IS and atrubairt Cailte  
 ‘ina ndernais ní maitte,  
 rofaethais féin innossa  
 ma darónais erndmossa.’

130

IS and atrubairt Aed rind  
 ‘ni 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 dál,  
 tairchi arm foesum, mad maith latt,  
 co racceillem in n-airecht.’

140

Andsin nostecat ar óen  
 Cailte coscrach oeus Aed:  
 rop ingnad ri fiannaib Find  
 damthain d’ Áed d’ fir in hErind.

IS and atrubairt Find Fáil  
 ‘im fáilid fríb cen rograín ;  
 fota atáthi for sessam,  
 ní maith aicned anfossad.’

‘Knewest thou not the noble Nechtain? knewest thou not the swiftness 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 wouldest 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 śuidiub,’ ar Cailte cáem,  
 ‘oeus noco suidfe Áed,  
 noco tartar a ferand do Áed,  
 eo 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 tṣid rodnalt ;  
 sel dó ic Find i comaitecht ;  
 cor' fer eter dá domon,  
 corb ainm dó feín Ferdomon.

160

Masc ingen Maigni míadaig  
 robúi oc Aed isna Fiannaib ;  
 di ba cland, ba cáem in ben,  
 Énán oeus Celg caem-gel.

Cach fer nochunged Cheilg cáemí  
 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 aít imbáい in mor-śluag.

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.

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151.] *read noco tarta a ferand d' Áed* 165. *Cach fer*] *read* *cách* *caími*]  
*chaoin* OPQ *read* *caíme* 166.] *fa dho budhdhein a dhomhaoin* OPQ  
*read* *domáine* 168.] *read* *notuited* 169.] *read* *Ossíne* 173-174.]  
*Conán lonndhearg* (lonngarg Q) *mac an Léith isbeartas aris tre chéill* OPQ  
174.] *read* *atbert* 175. *ársit*] *órssad* OPQ 176. *na rabais*] L *nach*  
*rabhair* OPQ (*sic leg.*) 177-196.] L *is damaged here: words in brackets restored*  
*conjecturally* 179.] *gar chuingidh an ingean ócch* OPQ *Ceilg uad Marstrander*

‘Dober-sa duit,’ ar Aed rind,  
 ‘com[rac o]enfir innisim,  
 ocus nocon faigbe mnái  
 a Chonaín [meic in] Dagdái.’

Noscoisc Find ba ferr san tسلúag,  
 con-nacharlaimed a lúad,  
 con-narchumnig nechtar de  
 úair baeth briathra brócoite.

Bliadain i Formáil na Fían  
 d’ Ossín cen dul sair no síar : 190  
 issed nasfast, forom ńgrind,  
 [serc ingi]ni Aeda rind.

Tecaiscid 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:  
 ‘córú duit ferg fri Aed rind,  
 rofócair fort ina thig,  
 rotérastar 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 Cáel, na da cranna,  
 da mac Medbi is Ailella  
 oen-ben rostuargaib cen tá  
 ’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.] *read in mnaí*      186.] *Conán nach lamhad a luad OPQ*      192.]  
 searc inghine Aedha airmrinn OPQ      196.] *molbthach OPQ*      200.] *read*  
 'mon      203.] *read cor' chunnig*      204.] *read nó in n-ingin*      209.]  
*nach cranda OPQ*      *read nad cranda*

Tancatar as Síd Ban Find  
ir-richt da én os each dind ;  
snaílt in sruth, súaire in dál,  
is on tsnám atá in Snám.      S.

IR-rechtaib da chon co Áed  
dolluid Remur ocus Cáel,  
co rabatar 'ca mescad  
is Conan 'ca chruad-tescad.      220

Nocor chomrae oen-fir d' Áed  
Remur is Conán is Cáel :  
atrochratar a cethrur,  
rop hí inn irgal imathlum.

Conan is Aed rind nar-riád  
rohadnaccit i nGargdiad ;  
ic Áth Chind Gargden cen gád  
etarru siar issin Snám.      S.

## FERT MEDBA

Fegaid fert, forum ingleanni,  
Medbi fáeli folt-finni :  
baí lá ni lecfaitis eich  
ar ingin Echach feidlig.

Robaí d' allatas Medba  
ocus d' febas a delba  
co traethad da trian a gal  
im eech fer ica fégad.

Dofaíd Medb, dofaíd a slúag,  
is fata a ail, is cían . . .  
apraid in fail de sin,  
ráidid fir ocus fegaid.      F.

They came from the Sid 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!

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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 sin*

## ARD RUIDE

Eochaid mór mac Luigdech meic Laisre meic Troitha meic Deirgthened cona brathrib, is aco bái int airechas mór i n-Ard Ruide, dia roráid Find :

Trí tuili  
bit i ndún Arddha Ruidi,  
tuile ócán, tuile ech,  
tuile mílchon meic Luigdech.

Trí ceóla  
bit 'ca ríg, ségda sodain,  
ceól croit, ceól timpán, comaig,  
dord Fir Thuinne meic Throgain.

Trí gáire  
bit ann cen úair do therca,  
gáir chetnata da faithche,  
gáir graifne, ocus gáir erca.

Trí gáire,  
gáir a mucce ndronnmar ndega,  
gáir a slúaig ós blai bruidne,  
gáir muirne ocus gáir meda.

Trí enúasa  
bitis ann úasa slattaib,  
enúas ic tuitim, foram ngnáth,  
enúas fo bláth is enúas abbaig.

Trí meic rofácaib Lugaid  
cárdat rulaid a febda,  
Ruide mac Luigdech lethain,  
Eochaid is Fíachó ferda.

**Ard Ruide.** L LismFrRl *Preface from L* 1.] Tri tuile sin tri tuile  
Rl 2. *bit i ndún*] ed. bit a dún L tiedis a dún Lism tiedis do dun Fr  
tigdís d'fis Rl Arddha] ard LismFr 3. *ócán*] macámh Rl macam Fr  
5.] Trí céola sin tri ceola Rl 6. *bit 'ca rig*] 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 dún 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.

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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 Fir Thuinne] is dord tuinne Rl 9.] Tri gáire sin tri gáiri Rl 10.] bít and can húair do therca L bid ann eech 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 jaithche] da faighthi L da faighthi Lism da faithcib Fr na faithche Rl 12. graifne ocus] a grafni L erca] echda Rl 13-16.] om. Rl 14.] gair a muc ndrondmór nega Fr gair a muc ndornmhar ndeigha Lism gair muc ndrogmar ndeiga L 15.] so Lism gair a sluagh os blai bruindi Fr gair as bla brune (with gloss [i. ua]s faighthi in b[ai]lle) L 16.] g. mne 7 g. mheagha Lism gair mogh os findlind ena Fr gair i qle aslú dena (with gloss i. gair moil in mulind over line, and i. usce after dena) L 17.] Trí enuasa sin tri enuasa Rl 18.] bitis ann uasa slataibh Lism bit ann tuas ara slataib Fr bíts and ásuasaib slatta L bid ann uasna slataib Rl 19. foram ngnáth] enuas na bláth L 20. fo bláth] gnáth L 21. rofácaib] forfacuibh Lism 21-24.] om. Rl 22. cárusat] L gersat Lism Fr rulaid] L rul- Lism rulaigh Fr sebda] fedna etc Lism Fr 24. Eochaid] ecaind 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.

Dobér-sa teist ar Fiacho,  
 cársat rulaid a febda,  
 ná baí cen airfítiud gnáth,  
 ná baí tráth cen ól corma.

Tricha ruirech, tricha níad,  
 tricha tríath, ba foram rí:  
 ba hé lín a šlúaig thrétaig  
 tricha do chétaib fo thrí.

Trí.

30

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. *ucus ní riarr*] L 7 nar ia  
 Lism is nír cuingid Fr nír athchuinngidh 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 ní bad gó] guth bud ro  
 Lism 32.] L is ní bái laech bud amro Fr is ní bhdh budh mo calma  
 Lism in ríogh is mo budh amhra Rl 34. *cársat*] L gersat etc *cet*  
*rulaid*] rul- Lism rulaigh Fr *sebda*] L faghla Lism forba Fr adhbha Rl  
 35. *ná bai*] ni bídh LismRl *gnáth*] word erased in L 36. *ná bai*] ni bídh Lism  
 ní bí Rl 37. *níad*] triáth LismRl 38. *triáth*] níá LismRl 39.  
 a *slúaig*] in tslúaigh etc FrRl *thrétaig*] L cetaigh Rl c. Lism co táí Fr

## ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED IN THE NOTES

Ac. na Sen.	= <i>Acallam na Senórach</i> .
Aisl. M.C.	= <i>Aislinge Meic Conglinne</i> , ed. K. Meyer.
Amra C.C.	= <i>Amra Choluim Chille</i> .
Anecd.	= <i>Anecdota from Irish MSS.</i> , ed. O. J. Bergin and others.
Ann. L. Cé	= <i>Annals of Loch Cé</i> , ed. W. M. Hennessy.
Archiv	= <i>Archiv für celtische Lexikographie</i> .
AU	= <i>Annals of Ulster</i> , ed. W. M. Hennessy and B. McCarthy.
BB	= <i>Book of Ballymote</i> .
BNE	= <i>Bethada Náem nÉrenn</i> , ed. C. Plummer.
Bodl. Ds.	= <i>The Bodleian Dindshenchas</i> , ed. W. Stokes (Folk-Lore iii).
Br. D.D.	= <i>Togail Bruidne Dá Derga</i> , ed. W. Stokes.
Bruchst.	= <i>Bruchstücke der aelteren Lyrik Irlands</i> , ed. K. Meyer.
C. Cath.	= <i>In Cath Catharda</i> , ed. W. Stokes (Irische Texte iv. 2).
CGG	= <i>Cogadh Gaedhel re Gallaibh</i> , ed. J. H. Todd.
Chr. Scot.	= <i>Chronicum Scotorum</i> , ed. W. M. Hennessy.
CMR	= <i>Cath Muighe Rath</i> , ed. J. O'Donovan.
Cóir Annm.	= <i>Cóir Anmann</i> , ed. W. Stokes (Irische Texte iii. 2).
Contr.	= <i>Contributions to Irish Lexicography</i> , by K. Meyer.
Corm. (YBL)	= <i>Sanas Cormaic</i> , in <i>Anecdota iv</i> .
Dán Dé	= <i>Poems of Donnchadh Mór Ó Dálaigh</i> , ed. L. McKenna.
Dinneen	= <i>Dictionary of the Irish Texts Society</i> , by P. S. Dinneen.
Ds.	= <i>Dindshenchas</i> .
Edin. Ds.	= <i>The Edinburgh Dindshenchas</i> , ed. W. Stokes (Folk-Lore iv).
Fél.	= <i>Féilire of Oengus</i> , ed. W. Stokes.
Fl. Br.	= <i>Fled Bricrenn</i> , ed. E. Windisch (Irische Texte i); ed. G. Henderson (Irish Texts Society).
FM	= <i>Annals of the Four Masters</i> , ed. J. O'Donovan.
Frags. Ann.	= <i>Three Fragments of Irish Annals</i> , ed. J. O'Donovan.
Gen. C.L.	= <i>Genelach Corca Laidhe</i> , ed. J. O'Donovan (Miscellany of the Celtic Society).
Heldens.	= <i>Die irische Helden- und Königsage</i> , von R. Thurneysen.
Hy Fiach.	= <i>Genealogies of Hy-Fiachrach</i> , 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 = *Foras 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.

Ml = 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 RUAIÐ I

ESS RUAIÐ 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 húair fessa* somewhat awkward. With *léir i sceól* cf. Th. P.-H. ii. 314, 23 *ba léir*, (gl.) *i crábud*.

6. BM read *cia rochin ga chian* '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.

*baib* 'mute', and therefore inglorious: cf. p. 130, 99, *na mná cen brig mbaib*.

10. Better: 'from him (is named) the cataract' (E.K.): *ramuircn*, either 'clamour' or 'impetuosity'. Read *ar tir 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.: *Ni fairgéba-su ar do chind laech bas andsu . . . ná comlond aesa radsia co trian*: LL 250 a 46 *nocon faca ni rosaisseid leth no trian do chruth*: and for the preposition in *for Aed* cf. Fl. Brier. § 91 *ni rabi láth 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 Desa*. 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 Cín Dromma Snechta (see ZCP x. 219) he is called *Maine millscothach mac uæ Aurbaith*, 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

*habebatne?*

I have not seen this used elsewhere as a verbal element. L's reading, which seems to be *rodosomairn* (but the *f* is perhaps *s*), suggests the correction *rodasomairn*: the other texts omit the infixd pronoun and add *sin* or *sunn* 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 [*s*]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 *Labraíd less-brecc*. This, according to the *Ban-ſenchas* (LL 137 a 35), was the name of the father of Nechtain, husband of *Boand*: cf. *Sil. Gad.* ii. 474 (vii) b; in the ds. of *Boand* (MDs. iii. 27, 2 and 29, 41; Rev. Celt. xv. 315) Nechtain is called 'son of *Labraíd*', 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 Námáit*: so in MDs. ii. 18, 17; iii. 36, 47; LL 10 a 17.

37. *Mag Moeín* = M. *Máín* = *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 tulí* LU 40 a 4.

42. 'Abeán the poet' must be the *Abcán mac Bic Felmais meic Con meic Deinceácht*, '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-chuithe*.

55. *bluga* seems to mean something like 'spell' or 'charm': cf. p. 382, 54.

56. The prose has *co cuala dord na samguba isinn inbiur nach cuala nech riám*, 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 murdhuchan bhios isin bſairrge*. 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-thuile*, *sam-ildánach*) meaning 'chorus of wailing'.

57. *dailb ndét*, 'falsehood of the teeth' instead of the commonplace 'lips'.

59. *díalus* 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. *roriaraid* for *roriaraig*, 'satisfied (him)': cf. *Anecd.* ii. 64, 18.

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. 1. 1049.

22. The ms. has *aenð*, 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 *foenán cuma* (i. e. *fo éenán cuma* 'in the same way'): cf. *ibid.* 1435 *faenan scor scothas*. Cf. Laws Glossary. But perhaps we should read here *éen do lá*, which occurs = *éen do laithib*. See note on Bile Tortan 73, p. 441 *infra*.

35. I refer *gaith* to *gáeth* 'sea-water, estuary'. Cf. p. 68, 151 and MDs. ii. 38, 80: O'Cl. has *gaeth* i. *fairge*: so Eriu vii. 224, st. 89: 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. *fuiri*.

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 LL 189 c 52. Stokes identifies Dun Barc with Dunnamark in Bantry Bay.

7. *ós each 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 *tarclaim* 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 *glen-*: 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 *corach* and *mór-chorach* probably mean 'skilled in spear-throwing'; so also *Failbe 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 digail*. From this phrase and from line 23 it appears that Caurnan's raid was a reprisal for an attack on Druim Cliab, made probably by Leo *lámhota*, 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-uail* 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, *tráig-se* : *maig-se*; 344, 88-84, *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 fothrugud i snighi :*

*do deoraibh muimme co moch . dib dorigned Loch Gile.*

*Carnn Romra a carn airtherach : 7 Carnn Omhra in carnn ele :*  
*dias nach denann ni do bairc . intib sin ait 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 *glaicc* : *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 *bergg* 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, Worthk. 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. *fl̄lim for* (*ar*) sometimes means 'I fail (a person)': here perhaps 'betrayed'; or else 'turned upon, attacked'; cf. *a n-impódh fort*, p. 268, 18, *supra*.

23. *Ri na sine*, more exactly 'King of the weather', or 'of the storm'.

12. *āile* is probably the abstract of *ái* 'timid': cf. TBC (Wi.) 8276 *ni dlegar din(n) āle*: in the corresponding passage YBL has corruptly *nocho dluig ali*. The meaning here may be 'ruth'. Cf. MDs. iii. 342 *ba gnim āile 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 *flexionem*.

In the glosses on Mart. Oeng., Aug. 15, there is a notice of an idol very similar to Crom Cruaich. *Clochar* i.e. *cloch óir* i.e. *cloch ima raibe ór ag na*

geimntibh oca hadradh, 7 demhon nolabradh 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 electo 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 éo* 'of the peel comes the salmon' (Eriu ix. 49 z).

55. *gallacht* seems to be the abstract of *gallada*, which means (1) foreign, (2) barbarous, fierce, (3) valiant. Cf. L. na Cert 230 *Is mórr gallacht a gaile* and MDs. iv. 70, 10 *gábit 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.

Sampait 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 each 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 chlocend, co ndernai sticrig 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. *prull*) 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 siere 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 *chacht* 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, *détan in meic* (or possibly *détin in meic*): cf. *detan* i. ó *detaib* : *dorrala detan fris* i. *flacuil*, O'Mule. 299. (Meyer, *Contrib.*, renders 'food', but the glossator clearly meant *flacuil* to explain *détan*.)

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 *tiäc* (disyllabic, 1), *cissi* and *roddall* (3), *torpart* (17), *Umaill* (29 and 32), *danarlaic* (41), *donnánic* (42), *diä* (disyllabic, 48), *builh* (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 Rf. 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 'swordsman'; cf. LL 148 a 14, *mac in chirb, 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 *coicait*: L has *l.* which I have expanded wrongly.

20. The other version has *trénn-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 *incúaid*) 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 *fodroelagair*, 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, ii. 569). In Middle Irish we have (without *ro-*) *foelangtar*, *fóelangatar*, Ir. T. ii. 1, 140; (with *ro-*, enclitic) *ni 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 Cailleach Bérre poem, line 8: *ni 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 *docuiriur* 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, Fél. 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 *foceird* 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 *derbhas*, MDs. iii. 336, 31; *trebhas*, 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 glinse* 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 Drumree, 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 Criach, nó Cath Átha Commair* (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-builde*. 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 Féne), 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 Coreo 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 Assail (*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 medium 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. 418. He came of a North Meath family: hence the local knowledge which he displays (O'Curry, MC ii. 189). 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 *ín éan-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, glaíd*, etc.

22. Three texts (LBM) treat *Ái* as a disyllable: LcS write *is for Mag nÁi*, and S<sub>3</sub>H alter *erctais* to *ercadais*. Cf. 122.

*erctais fuidb*, literally, 'which spoils filled'—if that is the true meaning of *ercaim*.

33. Lugaid *riabnderg* was the offspring of this incestuous union.

48. For the term *telcud* see Laws, Glossary.

49. *gabáil etma*: 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 des in(d)obtarras* '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, *rudilsi 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 chóigidh Laighean, 7 go collamhnaibh Chriche Breagh*,

and still more clearly the passage in *Hy Fiach*, 170-2, about the Colamhuiun 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, cxxx), and so brought their fate on their own heads.

67. The Delt is mentioned among the rivers of Conaille Murthemne in TBC (W.I.) 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 leór*: 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 Adreccai* LL 232 a 43 (= *othá tonna in mara Aratacadai*, Ir. T. ii. 1, 21): also, perhaps, ZCP vi. 269 st. 13, *itir tuile 7 traig is tor*.

120. *Tir in Náir*: cf. *Móin Tíre Náir*, *supra*, p. 178.

122. LB again treat *Ái* as a disyllable: the other texts make it a mono-syllable, reading *indíúair* 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 ua Neill, ri Temhrach, do innarbu a Midhe do claind Colmain*: (FM 969 add *tar Siabhd Fuaid folhuaidh*.) 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 = ua* (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 Maelsechnaill, and Gotán (*in Got*, 163) must be Ua Duban. This is curious, because *got* was a common sobriquet among the family of Uí 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. *erēad 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 Uí Fiachach neighbour its stony flank': *re for ria*: *cness* is used of hills, e.g. MDs iii. 104, 6: Uí Fiachach (spelled Uí Fiachaid) were settled in Cúil Fabhair, in the barony of Fore, somewhat north of Druim Criaich (McFirbis, 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 Fi 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 Eterscél, see FMJ i. 82.  
 7. *lige siúil* 'birth-bed' : cf. *ben siúil*, Ir. T. iii. 226.  
 13. The use of *áes* for a period of time is unusual : the two Kilbride mss. substitute *rē*.

17. *rig rige* : cf. MDs ii. 32, 78 *Riad 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 Aillill ólomm's quarrel with the Sid-folk, which led to the battle of Mag Muirme; 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 187 b 34, the stanza referring to Tuag's fate should read as follows :

*Tuag ingen Chollomrach Conaill, Conaire ro(s)nalt, glan grés :*  
*Fer (Fi) rostuc asin Temraig, gel hi 7 gemmaid a bés.*

In the prose Ban-shenchas, BB 283 b 8, Tuag is called *ben Fir Hi (meic) Eogabail*.

34. L reads *théth-bind* : there was perhaps a confusion between *téit-* and *téith-* 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. 18, *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 MS<sub>3</sub>H 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. *dimoir* 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, 18 *tánic fer móruchu ocus díomaid doib asind fherunn* : 97 with 234, 17 *dorignis móru d'ulc frinn chena* ; 113-116 with 234, 21-22 *imthiget iarsin dia donnaig isin mis medónaig ind fogomair co ráncatar Liathmuine* ; 119-120 with 234, 24 *ni rossí nech dib aiged ind eich in frithlorg* : 123-4 with 234, 24 *sílis in t-ech oco iar sin combe thipra* ; 138 with 234, 26 *occus oen-ben oca haithigid* ; 145-148 with 234, 31 *is on 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 hörse: 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 *Tomaídum 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 Torchí 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 Torchí Corco Ché*.

65-84. These lines are edited in *Silv. Gad.* ii. 484, 532.

76. Sliab Eblinne (spelled *Eblíne* to mark the rhyme) = Slieve Phelim in the north of Co. Limerick: they are called Sliab n-Eblinni ingini Guaire in *Messa 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 liain 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 infix 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 *refuirmed* (from *forigim*) to *dellig*, the reading of all other texts, and of the corresponding prose versions.

122. O'Clery explains *iomarchur* by *mearugad*, 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* Lc), and render 'the horse that carries them' (E. K.).

134. *sáegul noidecdai*. 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 māne*.

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 *glín-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 Sobaирche. Cuchulainn follows the raiders and kills, among others, 'Bogaine in his marsh (*grellach*)'. This implies that there was near Dún Sobaирche a place called Grellach Bogaine. Dún Sobaирche 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 ; Heldenage 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 *áige* 'joint' and *áige* '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. *báire* perhaps = 'lordship', cf. Bruchst. no. 19.

4. The long *ó* of *Bóguine* is, I think, merely etymological: as to its form cf. Marstrander, Festschr. A. Torp, p. 249. But see also Worth. 146.

10. For *galla* = *gallda* cf. note on Mag Slecht 55, p. 380 *supra*.

11. Literally 'without leanness of price': *luraig* for *luáige* (*lóge*) 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 *lóeg* favours *rothóed* (S): S<sub>3</sub> has *rothaoth*. The prose versions have *co rothae* etc. except S<sub>3</sub> *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 *dossim*. But cf. FM i. 508 z, *an brí 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 aoningen*; Le, *curtho a bru oeningin*; M, *cortho a bru anaengin*; S, *gurthóth a bru aeningin*; S<sub>3</sub>, *rothaoth a bru an aonininghin*.

In both passages the rhyme (: *Da Cáech*, : *lóeg*) 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 S<sub>3</sub>) *rotháeth a brú in aén-ingin*, rendering 'her womb bore a single daughter'. The prose version has *rothuism oen ingin* (RC xv. 432).

18. I take *lúth* as = *lúid*, O. Ir. *lúud* '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 tir 7 ac taistel na tire*. Cf. note on the simplex *sirim*, p. 432 (Cloonloch, 9).

23. *-fóelad* seems a mid.-Ir. form of the conditional of *folongim*, based on 3 fut. *-fóel*; for O. Ir. *-foilsad*.

27. *oca mbáig* 'fighting for them': cf. TBC Wi. 3497, *inn ingen asa tái oc báig* 'the maiden thou fightest to win'.

28. The dat. and acc. forms are used indifferently as the metre requires.

29. *nísbligtis*: 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 nísdáitis* 'savage men could not burn them': *dáitis* for *dóitis*, from the rare verb *dóim*. As to the killing of cattle and burning of byres, see p. 156, 185-6.

36. The reading *risin* may have arisen from *richtin* written with *ſ* 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 *silad* '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 (*búaileda*) 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*, Le Ec(h)da (verse) or *Echdar* (prose). *Úatha* is not a good rhyme for *bríachda*; read *Úathga*, gen. fem. of *Uathach*, which may have been her mother's name. Stokes treats *Brúachda* as a proper name in the prose.

45. It seems better to take *altrom* here in a concrete sense, on account of the nom. *Fiach* 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 *cruite* 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 mbiáid*.

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-shedding', 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 *nt*.

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. *bán* 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 *snéd-brian* is doubtful: *snéid* sometimes means 'swift': at LU 9 a 25 it is glossed *suail vel bec vel diriuc(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, *ni arlaic a biachaill doib-ide Dond Cualnge*: from *arleicim*. 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 *coimchlóisid* 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 coiceda 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 lxxxv, *epsycop Sanctán, is mo chen*. For the negative form, *ni 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 Aillill 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 Granairet in northern Tethba (later Granard in co. Longford): and here LU 57 a 31 adds a sentence not found in YBL: *iar tabairt imthusa*

*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 Cuilenn, 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 imdiad a mbretnas 7 a forcha 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 13 identify it with Crossa Cúil, which is no doubt = Crossa Cail, 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 Breccán* 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 dhéra uadh cen ettáil, buaid Beagán cen cuid criad* 'his tears flowing without cease (?')'. Meyer writes *ettáil, Beagán*, but cf. Sil. Gad. i. 35, 2, *dias naomhdha gan dochta n-edráin, Mochta ocus Beccán mac Cíil.* *ettáil* perhaps < *ess-dáil*.

3. *ar mesca* 'intoxicated', metaph. 'astray': cf. *ni rosmaírn mesce*, MDs. iii. 460, 28.

7. *ecraim* 'I range in order' is here used intransitively.

9. *etall* seems to mean 'a gust, an impulse': *etall gáithe* O'Cl., *etall 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 *condrecait* instead of the more correct *condrecat*.

17. *co rige*: cf. note on *Tuag Inbir* 17, p. 389.

29. *cen sam-thoddáil sláin*. Nearly the same phrase is used of Breccán's father Partholán, when he and his people died of a plague, *ní slán sam-thoddáil* LL 6 a 3: cf. L. Gabála, ed. Macalister and MacNeill, p. 68, with O'Clery's explanation of the phrase, *nír bo slán* *7 nír bo sáimh iad* on *sgaoileadh marbhach do dáileadh co tostánach 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 córait*, *cid iter dá duine*, *cid iter di eoch*, etc. (O'Clery's modern editors confound *córait* 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 *bid 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 *tuilled* '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, S<sub>3</sub>, 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. Set. 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 n'Ura, *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. *itech* = *ettech*, written also *itech*, Ml. 40 c 9.

82. I take *-salaig* to be gen. of *solach* '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 *comláir*, explaining *cía* as = fear and *comláir* = *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 talmain* for *iar talmain* '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 all-lethan*: see FM a.m. 4787.

16. The name of Sliab Moduирn is preserved by the Mourne Mountains.

19, 20. All texts except M have *feithem* and *-theiched* (variously spelled), but *fethem* 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. *uairchiss* is adjectival gen. of *uarchess*: 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 Rudraig 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 *airgtheach* 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 mbiat mám*; 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-bine* 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) *toeraitis* '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 Deeble converge to meet the Foyle near Strabane. It is mentioned in L. Ardm. f. 15 r<sup>o</sup>. 2, 'in campo Itho', and f. 18 v<sup>o</sup>. 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 rígu . . . co tri 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 tire* Ir. T. i. 133, 2; *garmnach caillige* V. Bran i. 67, 31. LcS read *maith an indsi atait cen cheas, maith in indsi atá 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. *sním sniúd* '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 Bolge 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 *daénaib*; the *b* would easily fall out before *Banbai*: but then how explain *mbáin*? besides, *daéna* 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-šeng* '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. *indnu* should be *idnu*, and *bidba* is for *bibdu*.

18, 19. Cf. MDs. iii. 246, 51-2.

22. *trén-šeing* must refer to *mathi*. With *as each thir co tráig* cf. MDs. iii. 4, 39 *torad each thalman co tráig*.

23. The rhyme with *dún* shows that we must read *a thír* (nom.). I take this to be *tír* 'pursuit' used in a concrete sense, as a collective noun, with plural verb and predicate. As to *tlailhenaid* I can only guess that it is written

for *tlaitheanig* from an adj. *tlaithenach*, formed from a verbal noun \**tlethiu* (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 imbri[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. *lia* 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 chlói* : 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 *dia do báirc* cf. *dia do chumail*, MDs. iii. 62, 106 ; *dia do chléirceacht, dia 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 dremuin díaire* : 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. *aitl*, gen. of *aitl* 'fostering', depending on *fert* : but the repeated article (*in fert ind aitl*) 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 'Ringín or Rigrín' ; 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 luinc*: 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 *glém* '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 *Frigen(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 *Tir Eogain*: see Laws, Glossary.

103. For *mid* 'estimation' cf. Lism L. 3471 *dligid mid*; L.Gab. (Macal.-MacN.) 168, *sofuaire miodh. fáitha*, 'subjects of poetry'.

104. The poet calls Colum Cille 'brother' as a member of *Ui 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 *seólaib*. 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 sesmach a seol sein*, CMR 214 z; *tri caeacht 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 *eólach* ua Ceirin ; and that the poem referred to is our Ailech III. The former supposition would in itself be plausible enough, seeing that Eochaid *eólach* 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 *eólach*, 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 *eólach* 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-ślán* : *Garbán*, and *airech* : *graigech* ; in 18 *opair* : *cotaig* (rhyme) : *-chetaig* (assonance) ; in 24 *díth* : *bith* (rhyme), and *Dagda* : *Temra* (assonance) ; so in 26, *ferr* : *trell*, and *thoil-seom* : *guin-seom* ; 28, *bert* : *lecht*, and *búada* : *Áeda* ; 31, *breith* : *sreith*, and *eire* : *slige* ; 34, *ainm* : *airm*, and *dindna* : *tarla*. 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 cás* is given by most texts : it seems to be for the older *for coí* 'on the way', here 'on the spot'. L's *aice* gives good sense, but it is unlikely that *aice* would be corrupted to *ar cás*. The rhyme supports the reading *fíner* 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 *Féig cia 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 *cóirrcheann ciogail* i. *cóirrcheann ghabhas fa gcuairt* and *toirtenn gleidin* i. as *tóirtheann a ngleodh é*.

15. Some copies write *Corrcend*, others *Corrhend* and *Corrgend*. He is called in most copies *mac Flaithemain*, but in Ailech i. 24 the name is *Fathemain*.

20. *iar n-oeth 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 colraig* means 'liegeman', not 'husband'.

22. *iarsind ulc-sin*, the reading of LcS, 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 *Áeda* and assonance with *méla* suggest that *caemna* is a corruption of *cáema*, put for *colme* 'tenderness'.

30. I write *tórgab* for *tuurgaib* of most copies, to mark the rhyme with *chórad*.

Alliteration and *conachlann* suggest my reading *int én-jer*.

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 Lc's satisfies the metre.

46. *toimsech trebaid*. O'Clery explains these words by *treabh no baile da dtóim-sidhí cios*. 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*: *Frigenn* is a genitive form put for the nominative, like *Cathbad* for *Cathub*. Such substitutions arise naturally from the use of patronymics: so *Derbrenn*, *Eiblenn*, *Etadon*, in Rennes Ds. index; other examples in ZCP viii. 291 seq., as *Smirtho*, *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 luing*.

59. *úamon* seems to be used as an adjective; unless the meaning is that 'Frigiu 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 *rogliúil*): 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 *S<sub>3</sub>HV*, 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 *S<sub>3</sub>HV* line 140 refers to sixteen kings of Ailech who were also kings of Ireland. The names of the sixteen are given in Flann *manistréch*'s poem *Cind cethri ndine*, 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-airdig 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 rofuaig* (from older *iagim*), which seems to denote the leader's power to keep his men together: *figim* and *sníim* are similarly used. The reading of *S<sub>3</sub>HV* will not do, as it would require the genitive *debtha*, 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 *céim-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 ngnuisse*, 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 *Dochuaid*.

34. *chomolc* is a bad rhyme, and perhaps corrupt.

47–50. I can make nothing of *dohimairged* (or *dotoimairged*), 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 *ni 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 *bithe*, 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 *bithe* we must render it 'uxurious' and read in 67 *ech side* 'horses of the *æs* 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 *arfennim* = 'fencing': or we may read *fhige* (*side* 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 Indiū 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 Femin i mBregaitb*, 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. *dóthéiged 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 *briadach* (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: *dluighech* 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<sub>3</sub>'s reading may be right.

147. The vague cheville *gnim re graigib* suggests a conqueror riding across the world at the head of his cavalry. Or *graigib* may mean 'throng of men'. As the line stands, it wants a syllable: this may be cured by writing *for* for *ar*. LcM read *domain*. The metre of the stanza is upset in S<sub>3</sub>HV by the insertion of the words *derg ba doiligh* in 146: Lc 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 tسلوig*. Here it may have the modern sense, 'I see in a dream' (Dinneen).

4. *aislingeo* is apparently written *metri gratia* for *aislingiu*. RB have *aisling theo*, as if *theo* = *thé* 'warm': but this spoils the alliteration.

7. Cormac (Aneed. 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 ruin in callait* (*challait* L). The word cannot be a loan from *callidus*, but may mean 'cunning'. In our passage aspiration is marked only in RLc, 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 Irnaisech '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. *eolás* 'guidance' must be connected closely with *co Tromda*, so that *ercta* 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, *raercc in comás etir nem 7 talmain*. In *andar lat batar frossa find-némand ercta is ina cend* (ibid. 208) the passive seems to mean 'were packed': so Ir. T. i. 79, 20 *i ndáil lendo, erctar sair* (sic, leg.) 'at the carouse where nobles are crowded'. R here reads *ercta 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, Eccl. 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 *ri 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 *daili* '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 *mongráid*, daughter of Aed mac Baduirn 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 'Crunniue', in Harl. 'Cruind' and 'Crundehu', in Tochm. 'Cruinn'.

8. *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 *ni 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 mbúada rosbróena*.

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 *comuin*, etc., and no doubt a reference is intended to

the derivation of Emain from *eo* '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 feur', *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. *bris-cibriathrach*: dry wood is a figure for futility.

51. *cen tuige*: because the *aés side* 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. *each 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 *téitmér* 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, 28 *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 *thúachail* 'wary' there is a homonym which is found as a noun at BB 269 b 18 *cét mbó ag taídí* 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 S<sub>3</sub> *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 mina be gell de anmannaib* 'unless there be risk of life', Reeves' Culdees 85, 24; *go ngell dó dia anmain* 'upon peril of his life', ZCP v. 524, 9.

88. So Harl. *biaid forib co nomadh nao* i. *co haimsir nonhair*. See Thurneysen, ZCP xiv. 2. But alliteration favours Stokes's explanation of the phrase as *co nómad n-á*, supported by O'Brien, ZCP xiv. 320.

89. Read probably *cherna* and render 'victorious C.'. Conchobar would hardly be associated with a place in Meath.

99. *cen brig mbaib*: 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-FÍR 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 *díthraib* here an adjective? or does *díthrub dall*, 'the blind desert', mean the sea?

16. *éond* 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 Sirchreachtach? 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 Calraighe, Lugaid Leog a quo Corco Loegdi, Lugaid Orc a quo Core Oircethi'. 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 f10, H. 2. 7 (TCD) col. 85, and BB 196 e 11 (without ambiguity as to the number). The Lecan tract on Corea 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. Cúir 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 roghabh in domhan ó Bhreatain Leatha co Lochlaid acus ó Indsib Orc co hEspan acus is é thuc cath Cairn Mail 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 corghabh 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 Mucrime* 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 Cuinn*, 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 Mál* is on the coast of Down or Louth, whereas *Mag Mucrime* 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 'Cnoce Breg' in 139 corresponds to 'il-lius Breg' in 33. The compiler of the *Dindshenchas*, finding the *airí* of *Carn Mál* 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 Mál* 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 *slúaig* is put for *shliagu* 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 chomuath* '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 Worth. no. 113, and add *secht-bairgen*, ZCP ix. 174, st. 32, Todd L. xvii. 50, 1, O'Don. Transl. 1628. At p. 190, 12, *sechl-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 Moseorb (or Messcorb) in Leinster. Cf. 1. 56.

61-64. This Lugaid is called in Rawl. B 502 Lugaid Orc, in Genel. C.L. 31 Lugaid Oirche. In Cóir Anm. he is called alternatively Lugaid Core and Lugaid Oerde, the latter name being apparently derived from a word *orc* meaning 'pitcher' (cf. *orcél* 'trough', Laws, G1.). In 64 the mss. vary between Corea 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 *Loig*?) 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 Laigde 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 *achsalaib*.  
 87. *cnocc-remur*: see Contrib. for *cnocc* 'a wen'.  
 89. L's reading *rosfuachtastar* may be referred to *fosraigim* 'I distress, annoy': the *ro-* pret. would be *foruacht*, in Middle-Irish *rosfuacht*, or with deponential ending added *rosfuachtastar*. 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 *foruchatatar*. The other texts have avoided the unfamiliar word.

91. *bloscaid* is written in L metr. gr. for *bloscad*, as conversely in 86 *achsalaib* for *achsalaib*.

94. L alone has *mnae* (for *úath*) followed by a blank as if a word had been erased. Most texts read *oler*, which I do not understand. L has *olair*, which may be adjectival genitive of *olair* 'grease'.

104. *reorniss* is fut. of *ithim* with infix *-forn-* (for *-b-*).  
 111. *molta* is probably adjectival genitive of *molad*.  
 114. If *brath-teoisc* 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 Fergus of Dál Araide, with the note 'qui subintravit Loch Laig' (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 *tir fo thuinn*. Loch Laig is Belfast Lough. The genealogy makes Bresal father of Tipraite *tirech*, 'qui occidit Conn céchathach'. 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 regnauit 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* *mac Rigbuidre*; 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 Fiacc's hymn, 29, found in the Franciscan Liber Hymnorum: *Bairche boare Rossa Rigbude rig Ulad, is uad amnigter 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 mbennaiib*: the other texts read *co bennaiib*, 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-ág*, 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 Benn 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 S<sub>3</sub> reads *már* in 15, but it seems to be required by the metre (:á*n*).

## TALTIU

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<sup>o</sup> 2: cf. Westropp in Trans. R. I. A. xxvi. 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 Taitliu.

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 mili*, which is nearer the mark. Perhaps the variants of the verse arose from mistaking *m.* (= *mili*) for *iii.* in line 6, and we should read *ocus mile*.

*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 *slectaither lé in chaill corbo mag scoth[š]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 S<sub>3</sub> adds the following stanza:

Taillti ingen Mogha mhoill . as i 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<sup>o</sup> 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-tia*' (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 S<sub>3</sub> 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 cíul 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 fer nErenn.

85-36. 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 Taitliu's death? If we read *fir nach follán* the meaning may be that it was not worth Taitliu's while to kill herself with the labour of wood-cutting (*ar Jeda = ar Jedaib*). 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 lúain 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 *ceil charput*? is it a compound?

57-60. Cf. MDs. iii. 18, 221-224.

58-59. Cf. *Bethada Naem n'Erenn*, 130: *gan dál 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 'flumen Sele' of L. Ardm. quoted above; elsewhere the name is written *Sale*, *Saele*, or *Saile*; see Onom. Perhaps the true nominative was *Sél* (*Sial*), and in *flumen Sele, sruth Sele*, we have the genitive which later replaced the nominative.

79. The epithet *slíag síabra* 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: so 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 macu Lugir (Laws i. 16, iii. 30-32).

90. *tróela* 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 *combáí* 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, ingenaib*, 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 S<sub>3</sub>H.

98. We might read with B *co ndōi* (see Wi. *doe* (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, Eccl. 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 chorrib*: 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'furlang* 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 *mir* be said to 'support' the dead? I take the *mir* 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: *Rohordaigittra fir Erenn for foradaib ind oenaig i. cásch 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 Taitliu'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 Sil 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 bés 7 ba dligead acu-sum, in tan bud rig o Uibh Neill in Deiscirt nobiad for Erind, cumad he rig Connacht nobiad for a laim deis: mad ó Uib 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 Carmun seven games were held; see MDs. iii. 14–16 (169–192).

105. *úraigthe* is gen. of the verbal noun of *úagim* '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, Abacue, or *an bacue*, will be found in Sil. Gad. ii. 78 and 453, Ir. Nenn. 206, FM 589. 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 278 b 28 *seg.* But, if so, why have we not *tothaim sacairt* in 132? Is *táim* 'swoon' properly the simplex corresponding to *tothaim*?

133. The meaning of *file* 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. dclxi), it has been often quoted as evidence of human sacrifice. The weight of ms. authority is heavily for *ni* as against *im*: and as *ni prim-icht* ('not a chief progeny'?) gives no satisfactory sense, I prefer L's *ni prim-ślicht*, 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 *loscud lés fós im prim-icht* 'burning also of byres round the chief increase', sc. calves: (*lés* = *lías*, O. J. B.).

138. *doneth* is written for *dogneth* to mark the alliteration.

150. This Mac Eire 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 783 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 Eire 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. Cainnech (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 *condraigthe* (written in full in L) to *taigim* (inf. *táin*), cf. *adised*, Wb. 25 a 6 (from *ticcim*); *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 Eire 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 Eire had the credit of putting an end to it, though the Annals do not mention this. It is true that the relics of Mac Eire 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 *conacháinn* (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 Cáin Adamnáin (ed. Meyer, § 6) we find him with his mother in Bregia.

163. O'Cl. has : *treana Tailltean i. bualadh bas no égáointe dobhiodh a dTailtin* : but Bergin is no doubt right in taking *trena* as pl. of *trian*. It may perhaps mean 'triduum': cf. *trénae 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: Ciaran 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 r° 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 (S<sub>3</sub> alone says forty-six). He pointedly ignores the usurper Brian, and he also seems to omit Diarmait mac Fergussa *cerrbeoil* (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), Finnacha (674), Fogartach (719), Cinaeth (720), Congalach (948) :  
 seven kings of Clann Cholmáin (cf. MacNeill, Celtic Ireland, 129), viz. : Domnall (789), 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 *rímíd* (595), Aed *uairidnach* (601), Suibne (611), Fergal (709), Aed *allán* (730), Niall *frossach* (759), Aed *ordnide* (793), Niall Caille (832), Aed *findliath* (861), Niall *glún-dub* (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-miled* (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 Tailtiu is called *céte Cormaic*.

213, 217-219. The translation of these lines is due to Bergin.

215. My rendering of *ri cond criúache* is a guess ; *cond* 'head' might very well mean 'completion' (as *cend* 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 Muinter 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 LeSS<sub>3</sub>H, 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 Fews, north of Dundalk, is called in AU 962 Sliab n-Uait. Fuat is mentioned in LL 16 a 11, etc., as one of the 'sons of Mfl'. 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 2? (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 Maelduin, son of Fiachna m. Demmáin, was killed (ZCP viii. 329, 17 = LL 330 d 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. *ni 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 Magdene 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 léiginn* 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 m'Berride, dia roimarchuir corp Conchobhair meic Nesa a aenur. Ar rogellsat Ulaidh righe don aenfer doimarchuirfedh a chorp otá Magh Lamraighe co h'Emain cen a fuirmedh for lár 7 cen tairisim foa. Dosfucc iarom Cend Berraide cen airisim cen fuirmedh for lár co toracht Sliabh Fuait. Foruirim a dha bonn in righ for lár andsin 7 abertadar Ulaidh ní budh leis an righe ar fuirmedh for lár do bonaibh Conchobair. Abert-som fod budh comlethan frisna dá bond do thabairt fair. Dobreth dono fairsim, 7 is on sód sin rohainmnighedh Sliabh Fuait, ut dicunt quidam. Marb imorro Cend Berraide iar cur an fir de. Et is de sin ata an derb-arusc Gaeidhelach 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 mae Nessa unaided. For the Ulstermen had promised the kingship to the man who should carry his body from Mag Lamraighe 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 Sliabh 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 Sliabh 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. *folaid*: 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. Taitliu).

### 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-Usce. 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 fotha* (: *Matha*).

9. *atchuala 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 *rannaigecht mór* metre with a profusion of rhymes, which as usual make the diction artificial and obscure.

3. Alliteration shows that *rognaíis* is a verb, formed from *gnás*.

4. *lláis* and *báis* (gen. of *báes*) are both adjectival genitives.

6. *romar-cloí* 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 *dignae* 'frown' : or perhaps of *diguin*, cf. *maigen digna* '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 swine-pens : *oiscim* 'tend sheep' is found in SnR 2844: if we adopt the variant *roscess* 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 *ian-chend*. This adj. perhaps means 'foam-head' ; see Meyer in Sitzber. 1912, 486 n. But cf. Tain (Str.-O'K.) 1288 *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 *dia bá-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 18 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-cloí* : 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° 2.*

The last of these is a detached note, as follows : *Oigid Maine Tai so sis. Luighi dino Maine Tai feacht ina curach for cuairt ainisa co hInnbir nDorcha a mBreaghaibh. Dorala dino Fergna 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 oigid 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 Gnaf, *fer in ghai leathan*, 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<sub>3</sub>'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 Aillill *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 Tire Náir must therefore be placed somewhere not too far from the upper Shannon. The Tír Náir mentioned in the prose ds. of Druim Criach 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 fine*.

9. The dative *bein* is an archaism, modell d on the old acc. *bein*.

11. *ban ar bruid* looks like a proverb for a bad exchange, current among professional scribes.

### FICH BUANA

This incident is taken from *Fled Bricenn*; 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. *diasloí*: for the reflexive infix'd pronoun cf. MDs. ii. 68, 33, *mosluit*. In SnR 166 *noshluí*, Ir. T. i. 183 *z conusluí*, MDs. iii. 48, 7 *rosluí*, we have a non-reflexive infix. See further note at MDs. iii. 485.

7. *ar bri 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 *bla* = *blái* 'field (of battle)'.

18. I read *nach sín samail* (: *mir*) 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 Muinter Doire, 'that is, Ui Gilli 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 Ui Garrchon.

### 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 Abla, 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 Abla 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-chichech 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. 342. 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 dáiil ndíthig*: 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 brut* 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 *for in nem*, but this would spoil the alliteration.

21. The prose has *al-laithi domela (domelad R) comorba Erenn 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. *Fói*, 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, *roforbad 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-bairne* 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. *Cnamchaill*, probably Cleghill, near Tipperary (Onom.).

37-40. These lines are taken from the genealogical tract referred to above : *Dall cech oen notnaiufe, bodar each oen notcluinfe, marb each 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. *óis Banba blaid* 'above the fame of Banba', i.e. 'more famous than the rest of B.'

53. *rohailead iúag*: cf. p. 176, 18, and ZCP iii. 8, 4 *co rallaor mo ferte-sa lat* (unless this is to be referred to *láim*): *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 tui 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 tir 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 Bolegaide may be identical with Mag Bolce, now Moybolgue, a plain partly in Meath, partly in Cavan (Onom.).

25. *duilic* '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 B<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>. 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 dindshenchas, to judge by some of the verbal forms employed in the prose, must be drawn from an early tale other than the *Scél Muicce 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 rodmícháit*). 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: *congbais 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) *Tri scenb Érenn*

'Erin's three pangs'. Meyer, however, translates 'three places to make you start', identifying *scenb* with *sceinm*: 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 lugod*, '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. *töt-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 Muiice Maic Dáthó*. I have relied on Windisch for its readings. There is a closely similar copy in Laud 610, f. 58 v°, 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-miád* *tore* (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. *molbhach* is a word of doubtful meaning. Windisch and Stokes (SnR index) accept O'R.'s 'praiseworthy', but in Cath Muighe Ratha 194, 6 *mian* 7 *molbhaigi*, the substantive must mean something like 'eager desire' ('thirst', O'Donovan). Possibly, then, we should render here 'vehement' or 'greedy'. In SnR 4324, however, *molbhogaib* (= *molbhachaib*?) seems to mean 'musicians' of some sort: cf. Sned.-MacR. 23 *enlaith molbhach*. But *Is molbhaide 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 *bái a n-eiri and*; perhaps then we should read in line 9 *fo chreit* (not for *creit*). But *crobaib* cannot be right, as a rhyme to *nónbuir* 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'!

18. 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 *tiárgim*: but the variants suggest corruption.

17-24. All copies give these stanzas in the inverse order; and possibly *dó* in 21 and *cúicce* 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; S<sub>3</sub> 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. *féith* '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 *iarndótib drenn*, 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 H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>, and therefore must have been omitted from B. In LcMS it follows Bile Tortan: in S<sub>3</sub> 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 *caid* 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 Liáthmuine*: this refers to the bull, if we may trust the prose. There were several places so named.

26. O'Cl. has *tuamann* i.e. *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 Fraech Oirenn*; S<sub>3</sub> has *Ráioirenn* in 20 with *taoidhinn* in 18: I take the latter word to be dat. of *toiden* 'troop', here 'herd of kine'. Perhaps *tarb tiamann* means a bull kept in a paddock for stud purposes.

Fraech Oirenn 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 nOirend*: this is also the reading of MSS<sub>3</sub>. 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 *sámod* 'gathering' rather than the adj. 'useful'.

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 Fálgud* from the prose of R: LL 168 a 32 has *D. Talguda*. Should we read *iair* (agreeing with *Fálgud*) to rhyme with *fiúair*?

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 Morrígán 'sang spells over her'.

58. O'Cl. has *gan loghda* i.e. *gan lagsaine*, which is no doubt taken from this passage: the word seems pl. of *logad* 'remission', etc.

60. Sliab Badbna is Sliab Baune (Onom. Sliab Badna, Sl. Bodbgna) 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 Erc 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, Anead. 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. *iaich*. Or else *gliaid gleic* (d. of *glec*) with *iaich*.

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 Sil 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. Caire pre mac Etnai, a legendary poet : see the prose and Meyer's Primer of Metrics, 31.

10. Cf. TBC (Wi.) 4787 *co Geimen co a glend*. Glenn Gaimen is near Dungiven, co. Derry : *v. L. na Cert*, 50 n.

12. Marcán m. Donngaile may perhaps = Marcan m. Duinn *do muintir Chuind cét-thathaig* 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; Féilire, Aug. 9.

15. This Guaire is probably a poet, as *gáesach* and *grinn* both denote artistic qualities.

19. The texts point to *Find scaled cen bedg* : I take *scaled* 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 *cathmainech* with mark of length.

42. Garb Glinde may be the eponym of Glenn Gairb, now Glengariff, co. Cork.

44. *cúac* means, I think, 'crooked', not 'narrow' as Contrib. has it. Cf. p. 168, 31 *clainne cúac*, where *cúac* 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-builde* 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-Ri 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-Ri in 595 jointly with Colman. He was the founder of the dynasty known as Sil 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 Sil Aeda Slaine (ZCP viii. 293, 1 and 5).

64. I prefer the reading of H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub> (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 Bláthmae 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 18, and cf. note on *agair* at p. 393, 47.

70. *na dái 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 Sláine's race, FM 782 (= AU 736).

71, 72. Cendfaelad succeeded his brother Sechnasach in 670, and was followed by Finnachta *fledach* 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 Cluaide* is now Dumbarton on the Clyde.

8. *fri díuis*. 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 this*, 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 *Sluáiged la Ruaidrí ia Conchobhair la ríg Connacht eo hÁth Féine co hIoraras*, = 'Tigernach', Rev. Celt. xviii. 190 *Sluáiged (etc.) co*

*hAth Féine 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 fil otá Féine in Huib Tigernan im-Midi co Dín 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 Féine andib* (= *i n-Uib*) *Tigernán Mide co Dín na nAirbed i Crich Ráide fri Hirrus* (sic) *anoir. Nó Dún na nAirned o Thig Munda siar.* (Tech Munnu = Taghmon, at the southern end of Lough Darryvarragh.) At LHymn. i. 164 we read: *Hic áth Féini din im-Midi rochanad in molud-so . . . is ar Sligi Assail rochanad óiha Dín 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 Clonlronnan, 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 B<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>, 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. *Lorc* seems to be an old name for part of Leinster: cf. MDs. ii. 12, 38 *Cellach roslat leirg for Lorc* (sic leg. cf. ZCP vi. 247): *Life Luirc* frequently occurs, e.g. LL 50, 2; 51 b 42; 139 b 5; 308 b 1. *Lorc* becomes a cognomen in Loegaire Lorc, Labraid Lore: it is even a personal name in *Lorc mac Maistin*, see Thurneysen, *Heldens*. 282.

19. The prose has *Tortha, Tortha, a dó díb*: *Tíagu, Tíagu, 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. *caibche* = *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 mariadge 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 *choghir*' (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 *amlaíd* 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, *ni bat rúi it robethaid*.

57. I follow Stokes in rendering *herus* by 'spindle-tree'.

62. *bledech*: possibly 'enriched with cups' (*blede*).

64. *amar* means, perhaps, the druid's 'perplexity', lit. 'darkness', cf. *amar-dall*, *amar-dine*.

66. *sinn sir*, because it was a patriarch of the wood? O'Cl. has *sinn sior i. iubhar* quoting *go snuad-baladh sinn sir* (Lc.'s reading).

68. For *cinn* as a cheville cf. MDs. iii. 510, 169.

72. *Érerus* = 'lofty *erus*': so the prose.

73. I read *aibéar* to rhyme with *fégar*.

75. *na hairgne*: cf. 40 *cía hall airgne agat*?

79. The prose explains that 'to his (Bicne'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* Ballynabracky, in this district. For Lugaid Láigde's share in the battle of Crinna see Silv. Gad. ii. 361 *seq.*

7. The particle *ana* seems the same as in *sis-ana*: so *sunda ana* MDs. iii. 40, 7; 238, 27; *ón dál sin ana*, p. 12, 25 *supra*.

8. Literally, 'a command over showers of warriors'. The phrase *ó 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. Seetha 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* (18).

15. *cen cheól*: because Lindgadan had killed the echo?

16. *scallac* is perhaps a byform of *scellic*: Dinneen quotes from O'Rahilly *géim na sceallag*.

*scith-eol* 'of wearisome ways', i.e. fatiguing to climb (E.K.).

### GÁIRECH

In the Táin the *macrad* of *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 Cuchulainn'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 Cuchulainn was killed, or from the shout which the boys of Emain uttered round Cuchulainn 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 carpait ocus arm ocus alchaingi i ngrellachaib ind atha, co mbátar amail tinniu fubthaide i tenid éda* (sic) *cherdda for fichud ocus for scenmnig ar méit in nuallgaire doringensat ic coinivid a comaltai*. Here we have instead of *ailche, ailchi* 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 *Brislech 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. 409.

4. RB here have *sulchar*, LeS *sulchar*: 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 *Dúnchaid*: 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 *dīb*.

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 chelltar chomga taris don tlacht-dillat tīre tairngire dobretha ó aiti druidechta*, Táin (Str.-O'K.) 1926 = Táin (Wi.) 2586: so too *ceallair comhga*, Táin (Wi.) p. 359, note 6.

### LECC THOLLCHIND

Nothing is known of this place. The death of Niall *noi-gíallach* 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 Tollehend: 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 *táith* 'covering' cf. passages quoted MDs. iii. 479, 298: at LL 187 c 28 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 *lag* or *lagh* 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 Cír 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 Lagin 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. *jáel 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 *óen dona hespadaichaib*, 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-thíatha* 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 Glomraighe 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 aidche . . . dia indeoin*.

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. *brúach-brecc* means, as Miss Knott suggests, 'of the varied borders': *brecc* often means 'gay with colours'.

19. *co tai*: literally 'till silence'.

21. Read perhaps with Lc 'na chongaib, lit. 'in his grip': cf. MDs. ii. 48, 32 *dia chongaib chruaid rochengaíl*.

### 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 Nōisiu's father Nechtan is no doubt Nechtan mac Labrada (or, mac Námáit), who belongs to the same cycle: see ds. of Bóann, MDs. iii. 28; Thurneysen, Heldenage, ch. 76, 77.

1-4. The order of words is confused, but *rochar* seems to refer to *tir*.

7. *rothuille* can hardly belong to *tuillim* 'earn': rather, it is for *\*rotuilni* from *\*dolnaim*, whence *tuilled* 'increase'. So probably *mac nothuilled trén-muintir*, 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 Maistiu (Rev. Celt. xv. 334, MDs. iii. 184), 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 (30 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 Gumoír (MDs. iii. 44) probably belongs to the clan.

X 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. *roniar-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 *tardúilh iúire* for *sléibe garba combtar maige 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. *chóem-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, Heldenage, 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 n'Ulad*: all copies have the gen. plural.
30. As to Aed 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 N6, which was apparently somewhere near Cnámchaill, = Cleghill, near Tipperary (Onom.).

36. *beó-bruidin* is a strange compound; like *beó-thenid* in 24 *sup.* it may be compared with *beó-chaindel* 'lighted candle', Contrib. S<sub>3</sub>H read *breó-bruidin*: so at 24 S<sub>3</sub> corrects *beo-theinid* to *breo-theinid*.

44. After this line S<sub>3</sub> 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 min-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 allandeas ias Diún 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. Sith na Céile, Eriu vii. 242). The place is called *Dún tri mac Nechtain Scéne* in YBL; LU has *Dún tri mac Nechta Scene*, with a marginal note: *Fer Ulli mac Lugdach a n-athair 7 Nechtan Scéne a mmathair. Ullaid dano romarbsat a n-athair. Iss air robatár hi cocud faraib.* The name Inber Scene '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.

S<sub>3</sub> 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 gluair . úa Beccaltaigh go mbith-bhuaidh  
an ced-lá roghabh aimh 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 Ardbraccan, close to Navan in Meath: it is called Bile Torten in the Book of Armagh, f. 15 v° 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 (*unnias*), 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, Anecd. 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 Ardbraccan († 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. 'Sinech 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 S<sub>3</sub> 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 *tiargim*, 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 sbj. as protasis to *noscarfatis* in 4. LeMS agree in reading *meic main* (or *maein*), but who or what are they?

B's *minnain* may point to *mennán* 'kids' or *mintáin* 'titmice', and *cian* (or *co*) should probably be *cia*, but what of *comdatar* (*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 ni* in 12, the construction is an extension of the type *ferr do láech*, as to which see Marstrander, Acad. Dict. 148. xxxiv. Reading with LcS *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 *Loch 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. Reicne 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. *rolá 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 *rosclar*.

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. Cormae s.v. *anart*, *adart*, *lathirt*. *S<sub>3</sub>* 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 *gáithe* 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 Uis 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 Portnahinch [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 Fomoire (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 Lége ingine Cuarnatan (Ir.T. iv. 1. 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 *érnim* = 'solve, explain' cf. the stanza quoted from S<sub>3</sub> 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. *liate* from *liайдim* '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 SS<sub>3</sub>.

19, 20. *clóe, Nöe*, 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, clothib* (see Wi. s. v.) point to disyllabic value. *Nöe* is used indifferently as one syllable or two in SnR : it is monosyllabic in line 22 of our poem. But perhaps the reading of S<sub>3</sub>, *nár chloí gái 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 *Leb. 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 mnai*. 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. *Fragm. Ir. Ann.* 74, 8. Keating, i. 182, quotes L's version, with *bainne thacha* 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 *bid uathad, ni 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 Eргlan (see LL 6 b 1), a chieftain of the Clann Nemid, mentioned in ds. Lége 40. Her opponent Regan is one of the Fomoire.

Brefne was an extensive territory comprising the present counties of Cavan and Leitrim; Tuaim Regain, usually written Tuaim Drecain 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 *i*). Sliab Fraech, perhaps = Carn Fraech in Rosecommon, 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 Fomoire: 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 Oc, 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 *Bitha* (*Bith mac Noe*)? or is it a place-name?

## LOCH LAIGLINDE

In *Lebor Gabála*, LL 5 a 12, Laiglinne is said to have been one of Parthalon's three sons, 'from whom comes Loch Laiglinde in Uí Meicc Uais Breg'. There were at least three territorial groups known by the name Uí Meicc Uais (earlier Uí Mœu Uais): (1) Uí 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) Uí 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) Uí M. U. Airgall, 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 Uí 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 ñes 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 *deghchus*. Read perhaps *cen dergnus* 'with no lack of honour', cf. p. 288 *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 Femin, and is said to have been won by Cairbre m. Cremthainn against Colman *bec* son of Diarmait m. Fergusa *cerrbeoil*, 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 *Ui 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 *tſreib*, 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 528 (FM). See also *Cóir Anm.* 49.

The Ds. and the Life of Findchua both say that Loch Cenn was originally called Loch Silenn. It was in Mag Femin (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. *iarmait*, 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 iarmait 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 *cét-chathach* was ancestor of the Ui Néill.

18. I take *digenn* as = *dichenn* (*nime*): see Contrib. But it may be *digenn* 'fortress'.

19. *finnaid* seems to be written for *finnad*, a later form of *finndfad* (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. *immráim*: 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. *Leige*, 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. cccxlvii. 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 *dán-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 brig* 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'athchlaínd* cf. Ml. 27 c 10 *is do ruccai 7 melacht teit*. But the reading of our passage is uncertain.

47. *Brí Molt* is used as a terminus in LArdm. f. 20 v° 2, 'a pinna montis berbicis (= vervecis) usque ad montem Miss.' 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 Tenus na treb, 'sin maig i torchair Éber: BB 42 b 39, *nó is for Tenus im Dibh Maigibh O Failgi rofearad 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 *thir:thir* 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 Lífe* (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. 28 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 nō 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 Findabhrach 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 saeír Herenn arcanaí : sluaig Arad co n-aib Ulad,  
Cond, dan ceól-adart Codal, oecus 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 Fluiachrois. Codal *corr-chicchech* we have already met in the legend of Benn 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) ep. *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, 63 *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 ard 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 (Onom.). 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 Fedilmhe R. mic Tuathail techtmair, derbráthair do C.C.*

### UMALL

This name survives in the Owles of Mayo and Burrishoole (Buirghes Umaill).

### 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 Chorrbáin 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 Heldenage, 364.

Maignis daughter of Garaid *glín-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) mociu Loigsi was the first abbot of Clonmacnoise after Ciaran: see VSH i. 210 *z*, and Plummer's note, *ibid.* p. xl ix: AU 569, 576.

*robáei for cind* C.C. 'was (at Clonmacnoise) to meet C.C.' : *for cind = ar chind*.

Berchán is also called *Mobh clár-ainech*: 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.

*roread* may mean 'was recited', cf. *reccaire*, Worth. 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. *Muiresc* = *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 11b 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. 3 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 uaidhribh a n-eisimul* compare TBC (Wi.) 5679 *regat-sa fom rémim 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 Clíaru is obscure: some words (perhaps *ba dalta 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*: Eccail, 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* (Heldenage 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 Laare 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 cár a t(h)ograim*, 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 n'Dumach 5), and RC xvi. 271.

I print the prose introduction from S: the other text, S<sub>3</sub>, 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 S<sub>3</sub>. 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*. SS<sub>3</sub> 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?

18-16. 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 *cethch*, 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. *tamthata* 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 Beclonges 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. S<sub>3</sub> writes *dian* as one word, but *dúlhaig* is fem. We cannot read *Dian* (Rechet's father), as the gift is Eogan's.

65. *tall* (for *rotall*) seems to mean 'deprived himself of'.

67. Literally 'it was the woman's, without yoke concerning the plain', i. e. she held the land free of dues: *gan chárait* (= *chórait*), like *gan c(h)oing* in 60.

## GLAISSE BULGA

This is, no doubt, the same as Glaiss 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. Samaír, which is the lower Erne, near Assaroe. The story of Parthalon's jealousy is told in *Lebor Gabála*, in the poem *Parthalón canas táníc?* (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 Bricrenn*, § 66 *seq.* : cf. ds. of *Uaig Buana*, p. 294.

## DUN RUISSARACH

The fate of the sons of Gárach (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. 218 (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. 181) 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. Rose. 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 Uí Senchainnig, a branch of Cland Mathgamna (probably Cl. M. of Breifne) ?

*níodud 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 Bhríain 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 Dín Cluana Iardam iarna 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. 1085) 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 Gill 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 Sid Duma in Luigne Connacht, a name now represented by the barony of Leyney in Sligo. Hogan's entry under Sid Duba is based on our text, but is misleading: the ds. does not imply that Sid Duba or Duma is another name for Sid Fer Femin, which is in Tipperary.

### MAG CORAINN

See MDs. iii. 488.

### 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 Bricrenn* (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 roserb co Samér* are difficult, there being no subject for the verb. LL 166 b 24 reads: *Lotar co Cruachain do brith breithe dób, 7 rofimdes o Ailill. Co roserb co Samaér co Ess Ruaid, etc.* I propose, therefore,

to read in our text *co tudchatar 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-iáthmar 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 *✓reg-:* cf. ZCP xiii. 256, 18 *dofuiris in tai[d]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-buili*, gen. of *autsad-bolc* (*etsad-bolc*), 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 *tosüigthe*, as *adjectival gen. of tosiagad* (cf. *is olc in chelg tosüigthe 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 *tógaide*.

*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° 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<sub>2</sub>, 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 buaile 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 Domangoirt, 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 hUltu* (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 18 must be an error for *L. L. la Hui Meic Uais ind Fhochla*.

## 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: *Roslechta cethri maige la P. in Herinn. Mag nÍtha la Laigniu, Mag Tuired la Connactu, mag Lí la Hú meic Cuais,*

*Mag Ladrand la Dál nAraide.* In BB 23 b 12 we have: *Meaidrighe nó Tuireadh la Connachtaib, . . . et Mag Li la hua mc Uais eter Birra 7 Chamus.* (Here *Meaidrighe* for *Mag nEdrige* seems due to confusion with *Medraighe*, for which see *Onom.*) In FM i. 8, the plains cleared are *Mag nEitrighe* in Connacht, *Mag nIthe* in Leinster, *Mag Lii* 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 Latrann* in *Dal Arайдhe*, and *Lecmagh* in *Hui Mic Uais* between Bir and Camus. O'Clery's L. Gab. (MacN.-Macal. 55) has *Magh Etrche*, *Mag Iotha*, *Mag Lii* in *Ui Meic Uais* of *Bregha*, between Bir 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 *Lecmagh*, 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 móir*, 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 ndáir dám* are obscure: BB has *co nírdam*; some copies read *disli dál*.

### 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 Tochmarch Emire (see ZCP iii. 240 § 35 and Meyer's translation in Archaeological Review, i. 153), where the clause *is fuiorre 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 aigí oca n-aillimain dó a Sid Ercmon a scátháib aba Cennman do Tuaid Dea*; the words *a scátháib 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 *scáthib* of our text to *scata* 'flock', which is used of birds, fishes, men, and might presumably be used of horses.

The words *for ián 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 cp. LL 137 a 3, BB 26 b 35, FM i. 9. It may be observed that Macha of Noinden Ulaid 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 *nemid*. 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. Heldenage, 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 Cescrad M. B. should be deleted.

For *annsin immerensat* T. Em. has *an tan imbered* (v.l. *immerset*).

### AILÉN COBTHAIG

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 *cetut-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. Oilella) 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* (= *flónnán*, Dinneen).

*Prose.* Dubhach'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.

Corco Duibne is now Corkaguiny, the Dingle peninsula. It was formerly divided into Ros Tuascirt and Ros Descirt, LL 324 *g* 32.

*cungnétar*, see Contrib. *congninim*.

*is tú doraocht* : a common formula, especially in greetings ; cf. Ir. T. i. 120, 19, *Issed doruachtamar* : so too LU 130 *b* 30 ; 131, 15.

*Poem*, 18 *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. Cnamchaill is Clehile 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-daire* 'forest of stone'. Mag Femín 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 Femín 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, *roda* in S :

it seems to be the same word that is used in ds. of Carn Ui Neit, the *rota rúad 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; *docome* seems a form similar to *adcomce*; cf. *nech adcomga a chéili* '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 Bérre, 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. *bondraidi*, *bonnraige*, *bun draidi*)? Their name seems = 'bellows-folk', smelters; cf. *airbuinne* '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 *dit huib*. But what of *tarrage*? The phrases *aidche 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-riúad* 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 Rígraide* 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. Imbaith 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 Rathcore. 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 *síthbac*'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 Aucae): 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 *cíar*. The genealogical tract allows Ugen thirteen sons.

15. As to the meaning of *fásc* see Meyer, Worthk. 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 Nuí 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 dul do Nuí co mnáí a bráthar i. Masc roinnarbad iad am-maig Rechet in h. Garrchon co Ráth Nuí in Uíb Garrchon.* (But it should be rather *a Ráith Nuí am-maig R. co R. N. in Uíb G.*)

31. I take *rechta* to be gen. of *recht*, inf. of *rigim* (usually *rigē*).

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 *áth* seems to show that we must write *tóla*, with long *ó*: if so, we must also write *fóla* and *éga*. As there is double internal rhyme in 5, 6, it follows that *róet*, *teit* are intended to rhyme; this points to reading *tæt*. 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. 30 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 Cálte 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 *glen-grés*; if we are to read *amdés* 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  $\sqrt{cel}$  'hide, steal', etc.: cf. *dichell*, acc. *dichill*, *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 *dēsse* 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. *aigne* 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. *rostimgaire*, 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-máine* seems = *il-máine*, 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-graids*, 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 connaide* : '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 side*, 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 *di ingen báid*, *bían 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 tígéal*, *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 *bid mag cen dedail*, *cen dil* : the next line should perhaps run *don tsil roselaig re súan* 'to the seed that wrought havoc before the sleep (of death)'. But *rosúan* 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. Aneid. 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 Boinde, also Táin, ed. Wi. 15). Fergal sets out for Connacht, accompanied apparently by his wife Eile. Her brother Erc (or Here) follows them *atiaid a tir 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 Erc (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 '*ea 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 *dognitis* in 26 must refer to Erc and his sister.

22. I regard *d'fóchun* as a conjunction 'to the end that she should eat'. Here's only object was to see his sister again. But possibly *fóchun* 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. *os* 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 *bétagh*, adj. to *bé* '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 Srafain (or Strafan) 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. *lomain* i.e. *sgiath*, O'Cl., and for *lumain* 'a thread-bare garment, sack-cloth' see Meyer's Caillech Bérre, st. 21, and V. Bran, glossary. The double meaning has suggested the imagery of lines 9-40 of the poem.

*Juillite* = *uilli-de* (*oll*): so too *furfuath* = *eruath*.

(p. 330) *co n-eccmaic tri choicait díad 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 seith robai ic Aod mac Duach duibh ri Airgiall, agus is aire dorad Dallan Forgáill in duain-se ar in sciath dó*. This refers to the tale *Imthecht 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 dín*. 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. *tuus* (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 tráth*, 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. *forbaid* 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. 84, *dín mo débra*, *mind ngáible*. 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 fossud a mullaich*, *Táin* (Str.-O'K.) 1207: as a compound, *fossad-mullaich*, *Tain* (Wi.), p. 608, note 3. In these passages it denotes apparently the solid base of the skull.

22. For *coссар* cf. SnR 639 *coссар chaid* (of the nine angelic orders) 'array'? *class* 'trench, groove' perhaps means here 'scar'. Or possibly it = *class a dá chulád* 'the hollow of the nape', see Contrib.

25. *ellach* = *ellach in mó-r-chatha* 'joining of battle', C. Cath.

—30. I take *adma* as = *aidme*, from *adem* (*adim*): but see Contrib. *adma*.

31. *deimne* (with *deg-mná*) 'sure of hand, deft'? or 'genuine'?

32. I conjecture *eirrgi* to be = \**en-rige*, 'tightening', 'straining'.

34. *debra* seems to be a compound like *dedam*, *degabal*, etc.: see Wortk. 221, where the name *Loch Debru* is similarly explained. To Meyer's examples of such compounds may be added *dedruim* 'double hill', MDs. iii. 533, note on Sl. Echtga 34. I do not understand *mind ngáible*.

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 *cosnáis* seems corrupt. Possibly *cosa sius*, 'which I shall seek': cf. *co Cíanaig 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 *Srafán* or *Srafán* who gave his name to *Tech Srafáin*, perhaps the same as the *Sraphán* mentioned at p. 340, 11, among the nine saints of *Cell Chorbain*. He may be the *Srafán* or *Srafán* of *Cluain Mor* (in *Ui 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

*rudhā* 'point of land'. Cf. *fid-ruba*, MDs. iii. 96, 10; *fid dā ruba*, Sil. Gad. i. 364, 28 and Onom.

59. For *iar saine* 'differently' see PH: here it means 'particularly', 'precisely'. Meyer, Worts. 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.

68-66. 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. Core is no doubt Conall *corc*, usually called Corc mac Luigdech (also Corc mac Láre): see the story of his hiding under the caldron in Coir Anm. § 54.

4. I take *cētadaig* to be derived from *cētad* 'seat'.

6. Laithriu (or Laithrenn ?) 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 *āes* side is the subject of Airne Fingein; see Anecd. ii. This poem is printed in ZCP xiv. 48.

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 domenna mór*, § 13), hence the *bith-toirse* of line 8, *supra*.

15. *samla* 'descriptions', pl. of *samaill*.

17. L has *son-snайдm* 'conjunction of sounds' (Druim Fingin), but this does not make a good rhyme to *comainm*.

21. Cormac (Anecd. iv) explains *grāibre* by *gáire trom*, § 708, and *briathar gráta*, § 724. In the stanza quoted at § 724 the rhyme requires *ā*. It follows that

*airne* has long *a*, and so Meyer's derivation from *aire* (Wortk. 127) falls to the ground. The word *grāibre* occurs also in Toch. *Feirbe* 279, (Ir. T. iii. 482), where the quantity is uncertain.

22. The line wants a syllable : read *ina ndeochedaid*.

24. I suggest *dofuil* for L's *dosail* : cf. MDs. iii. 408, 24 *dofil 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. 483 : 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. Baireche may be Sliab Bairche, a mountain which 'seems near Ros mBroec', 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 mìn-gaire*, lit. 'without piety'.

28. *chochlaig* : cf. p. 26, 18 *hi fidbaid chochlaig*.

*cith-riúad* perhaps means 'besprinkled with blood of the slain beasts'.

32. *diarbhi* : the *bh* for *b* is quite exceptional in LL.

35. *im gnim nglice* : better, 'concerning a cunning deed'.

### CELL CHORBAIN

'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 Chorbnatan ; 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 Chorbnatan' 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 Muricáin), 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 *glindub* (who became her third husband), see the story in LL 52 b (summarized by Atkinson in Contents).

1. *crēdem* 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; *triana* 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 Héirenn*, 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, + 787 (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 grádha*, p. 274 *supra* (Mag Lethluachra).

42. For *mochräd* (:) *clochán*) see Tog. Tr.<sup>1</sup> 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 *úair* should be taken as adj. agreeing with *errraig.*

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 díúi*: 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 Fragm. Ann. 216 as six thousand: in a poem, LL 43 a z, as 6105.

62. *Etar* = Benn *Etair*, 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 Fragm. Ann. 207.

71. *Nír samla* may be subj. of *samlaim*: one would expect a noun to balance *nír chumma*, but this would not accord with the tense of *bess*. Perhaps we should read *ni 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-[ʃ]eor* is dat. of *fann-ʃér* 'weak, soft grass'. As to *scèle* 'pity', see O'Grady's note in Oss. Soc. iii. 194: but the *e* is short, cf. Worthk. 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 *rí co fresabra*.

90. If, as Bergin suggests, *craiti* is gen. of *crothad* (*crothad*), it is probably used here, like *silad*, of scattering the seed of religion. O'R. has *crailhaim*, *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. Clúi Máil meic Ugaine is part of the adjacent plain: see Onom. Hogan gives a second Druim nAssail 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 *fri* is difficult to understand. *Fóir* also seems to mean 'home', 'haunt' (or 'land')? at p. 318, 6 *supra*, *fóir fri fir-suide*: LL 107 *bz*, *i fóir maige M.*: Rev. Celt. xiv. 420, 1 *rolraig siad i fórib* ('lairs', Stokes).

8. 'excluding only the Fomorian race', O'G.

18. 'thy spirit wherefore changest thus?' O'G.: but v. Contrib. *arclóim*.

22. *aige* = *óegi*: so O'G. Or perhaps it is *áige* '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. sbj. 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. Inb. 117; *im* perhaps means that Fergus gathers all the spears in his arms, like Arnold von Winkelried.

36. We must read '*na cró-ligiu*': 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 Clúi Mail m. Ugaine was in Mag Mis.

50. If '*na thimchell*' is sound, it probably means 'without his knowledge': cf. O'Cl. *timcheall na macraide* i.e. a *n-egmais na macraide*; he probably took the phrase from the prose ds. of Cnogba, *timcheall na macraidi cen fios 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 díb linaibh co hairm i mbói Find hi tig Caba in briugad i. oc Rait(h) Chaba hi Granairiut Sinda i. Magh in Cairn indiu. Ingen do Chaba oc Find i. Bairrend a hainm-side: is uadi-sen ainmnighther Cluain Bairrend. Tic Finn leo iarom co Snam Da En hi fiadnaisi in chomraic. Sudighir pupull Find iarsin i Gardiat i. Cros Greancha indiu, 7 ni roleic comlond.* (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 Moycarn (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 Tire 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 Sinainn i. dá én romarb Nár mac Finnchad mic Conaill cernaigh for gualainn Eistine ban-sheinnighi.*

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 Conán has been Finn's enemy: *atú secht mbliadna ac foghail ocus ac dílseirg 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 Conán 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 Conán gets his

death-wound. Aed's daughter, here called Ergna, is forcibly married by Conan, and afterwards seduced by Oisin. 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 blanching 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. *cia'dera*: cf. Archiv ii. 138 *cia'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. *atrochralar*, 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 adhuiucc*.

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 osa 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 ri*. 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 tri 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. *érge de*, lit. 'going thence'; here 'desisting from the fight', cf. *dá chéad-mhionnaibh eirighe niorbh' 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 *abert* 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-éntama* '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 Fíann* 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.

218. *Sid Ban Find*, the home of the fairy *Bodb Derg*, also called *Sid ar Femen* (Ir. Text. iv. 2776), or *Sliab 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. *eirim nglindi*, *Sned. MacR.* 45, *céim grādach 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. 18 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 *Erann*, was by the genealogists hypostatized as the common ancestor of the *Eoganachta* and *Dal Cais* : see *LL* 319 b 28-32 and 320 b 32, and cf. *Eriu* vi. 149.

1. This first stanza has found its way into the *Caillech Bérre*'s poem : in Meyer's edition (st. 27) it runs thus :

Tri thuili . tasenat dún Ard[a] Rude  
tuile n-ooc, 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 : perhaps 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 *bruidne* and meaning 'mill-paddle' (if the glossator is right). The form *ashí*, together with *tuile n-ooc* 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 *rulaid*, a word otherwise unknown to me. Can *cársat rulaid* have arisen from a wrong analysis of *cá atrulla (atrullatar)*? cf. O'Malley, Eriu vi. 14, note.

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