

THE LATER MARGINALIA IN THE BOOK OF LEINSTER

*Introduction.*¹

In 1880 the Royal Irish Academy published a lithographic facsimile of the Book of Leinster made by Joseph O'Longan.² A diplomatic edition of the manuscript was published by the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies between the years 1954 to 1983.³ The editorial policy for the production of the *Diplomatic Edition* was set out in the Introduction to volume i, p. xix where it is stated that 'Marginal and interlinear scholia are printed under the text. Later entries, notes, adscripts, and so on, are reserved until the completion of the work'. A number of these later entries which are of direct relevance to the history of the manuscript were printed in the Introduction to volume i of the *Diplomatic Edition*.⁴ The remaining, later material consists of the following items:

- (i) p. 53. Two bardic poems written in English orthography in a fifteenth century Anglo-Norman hand.⁵
- (ii) p. 178. Two poems in fifteenth-century hands.⁶
- (iii) p. 342. The Papal Bull *Laudabiliter*.⁷
- (iv) Eighty-two additional marginal entries spread throughout the manuscript.⁸

¹I wish to thank Dr Caoimhín Breathnach and Dr Pádraig Ó Macháin for their comments on, and corrections to, an earlier draft of this article. I am also grateful to Dr Aoibheann Nic Dhomhchadha for interpreting a number of very obscure readings in the manuscript. Dr Westley Follett kindly checked my transcription of the Latin entries and suggested several valuable improvements. I alone am responsible for any remaining errors.

²R. Atkinson (ed.), *The Book of Leinster sometime called the Book of Glendalough* (Dublin 1880). Henceforth cited as *Facsimile*. Page numbers, unless otherwise stated, refer to the pagination of the *Facsimile*.

³R. I. Best, O. Bergin, M. A. O'Brien and A. O'Sullivan (ed.), *The Book of Leinster formerly Lebar na Núachongbála* (Dublin 1954–83). Henceforth cited as *Diplomatic Edition*.

⁴Pp. 49 marg. sup., 60 marg. inf., 105 marg. sup., 192 marg. inf., 231 marg. inf., 259 marg. inf., 275 marg. sup., 288 marg. inf., 313 marg. inf., 335 marg. inf., 336 marg. inf.

⁵Edited and translated by A. O'Sullivan, 'The O'Moore poems in the Book of Leinster', *Celtica* 8 (1968) 182–6. On the origin of these later Anglo-Norman hands, see W. O'Sullivan, 'Notes on the scripts and make-up of the Book of Leinster', *Celtica* 7 (1966) 2–3.

⁶*Diplomatic Edition* iv, 779 n. 3.

⁷*Ibid.* vi, 1502 n. 1.

⁸The editor of vol. vi of the *Diplomatic Edition* occasionally included later marginalia in her edition, e.g. vol. vi, pp. 1342 n. 2 and 1624 n. 2. Such material is not reproduced here.

The purpose of this note is to catalogue these hitherto unpublished late, marginal entries.⁹ The task of identifying and transcribing the entries was largely carried out by accessing the images of the manuscript pages created for the School of Celtic Studies manuscript digitisation project, Irish Script on Screen (www.isos.dcu.ie).¹⁰ In the case of a small number of obscure readings, the manuscript itself was consulted.¹¹ The eighteen additional leaves stored with the manuscript in the Library at Trinity College Dublin, though not related to it, have not been considered for the purposes of this note.¹² Expansion of suspension strokes and *m/n*-strokes is indicated by italics. Word-division, where the meaning of the entry is clear, is editorial. In the case of obscure entries, I have retained the word-division of the manuscript. Round brackets indicate where the manuscript is illegible. Some readings supplied in the *Facsimile* are now illegible in the manuscript. Where this is the case, the *Facsimile* reading is supplied in the relevant note to the entry. The entries, which are typically brief, comprise a wide variety of material. They range from verse, religious invocations and Latin notes, to single words and letters. I give below what I have been able to read of each entry. I also give the physical location of the entry on the manuscript page. Difficulties and points of interest are discussed in the notes.

TEXT OF MARGINAL ENTRIES

1. Page 9. (a) *marg. sup.* above column a: Viu(...) ad li(...). (b) *marg. sup.* above col. a: Edward. (c) *marg. sup.* above col. b: Edward Edward Der Der. (d) *marg. inf.* below col. a: do rochair i cath dedenud maige tuired.
2. Page 12. *marg. sup.* above col. a: Uii. *meic miled* dond colpt(...)
3. Page 21. *marg. sup.* above col. a: Edward.
4. Page 28. *marg. inf.* under col. b:
Is maith dobhláthiges fer in leabhairse(...)
7 mac hí macasa cinn a chéile go minic(...)ucht(...)
(...)und(...)

⁹In a small number of cases, e.g. nos. 19 and 36 below, the entries may have been made by the principal scribes.

¹⁰Irish Script on Screen (ISOS) is a project initiated by the School of Celtic Studies, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. The ISOS website is hosted by the School of Computer Applications, Dublin City University. The object of the ISOS project is to create digital images of Irish manuscripts and to make these images — together with relevant commentary — accessible on a WorldWideWeb site.

¹¹I wish to thank the staff of the Manuscript Reading Room at Trinity College Dublin and the staff of the Archives Department at University College Dublin for their assistance in this regard.

¹²*Diplomatic Edition* i, Introduction, p. xviii. These additional leaves are referred to by the editor of vol. vi of the *Diplomatic Edition*, Foreword, p. xii, where '(pp. 337–410 *Facs.*)' should read '(pp. 375–410 *Facs.*)'.

5. Page 36. (a) *marg. inf.* under col. b: *Omnis homo primum.* (b) *marg. inf.* under col. b: *A meic muire on beithel bain a crist curpidain comlain.*
6. Page 38. *marg. inf.* under col. b: *enimid.*
7. Page 39. (a) *marg. inf.* under col. b: *ccll-*. (b) *marg. inf.* under col. d: *D(?)y gubrat Is(...)*
thyrr ne aerir
ardrig nac(?) le(...)
(...)abct ar a s(...)al(...)
neghereact(...)
f(...)c(...).
8. Page 44. *marg. inf.* under col. a: Traces of writing.
9. Page 49. *marg. inf.* under col. b: *isna.*
10. Page 51. col a: *beannacht ar in anmain roscribi in leburso.*
11. Page 61. *marg. inf.* under col a: *amen*
12. Page 65. *marg. dext.:* *a carptib*
13. Page 83. *marg. dext.:* *amen*
14. Page 90. *marg. inf.* under col. b: *ba(...)*
15. Page 98. *marg. sup.* above col. a: *emanuel*
16. Page 99. *marg. sup.* above col. a: *laboraui in gemitu tuo lauabo per singu(...)*
17. Page 101. *marg. inf.* under col. b: *an*
18. Page 103. *marg. sup.* above col. a: *emanuel*
19. Page 104. *marg. inf.* under col. b: (a) *Noto ndp.* (b) *emanuel.* (c) *(...)nn(...)* *etare(...)* *da.* (d) *Corrach sin a mhenmu 7 go tuga dfa do les duit. misi seachran seirce.*
20. Page 106. *marg. sup.* spanning both columns: *Speis a claind 7 a crod cora creideam is crabud in doman o duine mar cubar tuinne ac tragud.*
21. Page 115. *marg. sup.* spanning both columns: *Muř acht (...)* *tructr a (...)* *ach da b(...)* *g(...)* *iaigail amuga.*
22. Page 116. *marg. inf.* under col. a: (a) *bennacht agad a domhnaill i(...)* *mhaoil tuile.* (b) *ben a ccruth cherbhuigh.*
23. Page 118. *marg. sup.* spanning both columns: *(...) 7 ac(...)* *cui(...)* *is ca(...)* *mu rabai ar druim in talman(...).*
24. Page 129. *marg. inf.* spanning both columns: *(...)t raind vii.* *(...)ied ficit rand (...)* *reil(...)* *oir oc(...)* *a(...)* *a linnaire leir rigrade.*
25. Page 157. *marg. sup.:* *emanuel.*

26. Page 158. *marg. inf.* under col. b:
Salutem et dilectionem(…)to et .I. homo nos
anobis (…) atque a tempore (…) soller(…)
Ideo vos rogam(us?) quatenus amore nostro (…)
(…) hoc amore nostro non amitat(…).

27. Page 159. *marg. sup* above col. b: *emanuel*.

28. Page 163. *marg. inf.* under col. b: *íesus maría* (…).

29. Page 165. *marg. inf.* under col. b: *Domnoll mac dabítin*.

30. Page 168. *marg. inf.* spanning both columns: Ni fada uaim
aimser throghain 7 mé a mothar mo bhlai fosuidh 7 is tiamdha
lium mhugu fa chapat meic airt mic(…).

31. Page 171. *marg. inf.*: marks of about eight letters, now illegible.

32. Page 176. *marg. inf.* under col. a: is dochredte sin a
Donnachaídh.

33. Page 179. *marg. inf.* under col. b: in satharn ria notlaicc iñdiu 7
ar comairci de 7 a mathar dam 7 a cluain fata atu conchubur qui
scripsit.

34. Page 182. *marg. inf.* under col. b: C slebe fuaít ria fergal.

35. Page 185. *marg. sup.* above col. b: Fland Manistrech cecinit.

36. Page 190. *marg. inf.* under cols. b and c:
Na tri fothaid firsat mac nia lugdach luind daire de(…)
Na tri fothaid f(…).

37. Page 191. *marg. sup.* above col. a: uirgo pdidicia(?) notat(?)
estate puella.

38. Page 193. *marg. sup.* above col. a: bith.

39. Page 206. *marg. sup.* above col. b: fairrged.

40. Page 207. *marg. sup.*: *emanuel*.

41. Page 208. (a) *marg. sup.* above col. a: a muiri matr(…). (b)
marg. sin.: cul .i. comet cul carpat.

42. Page 210. (a) *marg. sup.* above col. a: Approximately six letters.
(b) *marg. sup.* above col. a: Vilior est (…)a(…)a caro (?) pell(?)
ovina cum moriatur. (c) *marg. inf.* under col. b: Gerodh Mac
Geralt. (d) *marg. sin.*: Dare.

43. Page 216. (a) *marg. sin.*: Na fessa (b) *marg. inf.* under col b: ade.

44. Page 245. *marg. sup.* above col. a: Gaisced herenn a conoll. ainus
herenn a bregaib. amainse herenn a llaignib. orddan 7 foglaimm
herenn a mmumain. ollamnas herenn a cruachain.

45. Page 269. (a) *marg. inf.* under col. a: dia mbait. (b) *marg. inf.*
under col. b: from 196 to 204.

46. Page 274. *marg. inf.*: ae. oe. au. eu. quattuor diptungi Diptongus est duay vocalium in eadem sillabba vím suam ret(...) in metro.

47. Page 278. *marg. sup.* above col. b: a mhuiiri is maирg damsа thanic 7 gan sadb do marthain.

48. Page 280. *marg. sup.*: *emanuel*.

49. Page 284. *marg. inf.* under col b: al- .

50. Page 294. (a) *marg. sup.* over col. a: incipit. (b) *marg. inf.*: (...)ners(...)acc(...)acmath negum gancd lucas nouum fl(...)g(...)g on am ard ar mo leabar.

51. Page 310. *marg. inf.* under col. b: m̄ canarimuaid atigde nicleroinn.

52. Page 311. *marg. sup.* over col a: incipit quam *lagionibus*.

53. Page 324. *marg. sup.* over col. a: mun(...)g.

54. Page 325. *marg. inf.* under col. d:
 (...)e ardda im(...)
 (...)re(...)rig(...).

55. Page 328. *marg. dext.*: (a) u. (b) 7 ul-.

56. Page 332. *marg. inf.*: (...)ae(...)ca ta(...)th(...) 7 ni moluim tu bidenida na tusa eomcho(...) dhuchencui.

57. Page 337. *marg. inf.*: (...)y (...) l- am sed p(...) f w v d b a a l-e(...)e(...) x d z (...).

58. Page 343. *marg. dext.*: amen.

59. Page 344. *marg. inf.* under cols. a/b: dlig(...).

60. Page 348. *marg. inf.* under col. h: amen.

61. Page 351. (a) *marg. sup.* to left of word 'Lagnenses' col. d: cu.
 (b) Written under word 'Lagnenses' col. d: dain.

62. Page 355. *marg. inf.*: E(...)conventus Dungal(...).

63. Page 357. *marg. inf.*: Ex libris Conventus Dungallensis.

64. Page 370. *marg. inf.*:
 Corbmac ua cuileannain cecinit
 Maolruain Maoltuile an gnim gle- Maolanfaid na darinse
 na tri Flainn Maoldithreib dil dioman dalbach Feidlimid
 Diarmaid Eochaid - in airde scel 7 oengus án ua huiblen
 lucht noenta sin uile- um Maolrúain um Maoltuile

NOTES

1. Page 9. (a) The *Facsimile* reads: *Uniuere- ad lil.* (b) This entry and the one which follows, i.e. (c), are in a late and untidy hand. Cf. entry no. 3 above. (d) This entry is very faint and represents the last words of col. a and the first words of col. b.¹³ The *Facsimile* reads: *dorochair icath dedenud muige tuired.* This is not the same hand as the main scribe.
2. Page 12. This represents the opening words of col. b.¹⁴ This could be the same hand as that of one of the principal scribes. Perhaps a *promhadh pinn*? The *Facsimile* reads: *iiii meic miled dond colpt.*
3. Page 21. See entries nos. 1 (b), (c) above.
4. Page 28. The *Facsimile* supplies the following for the last two lines of the entry: *7 mac hí macasa cinn a chéile go minic nusin f(...)nundsin.*
5. Page 36. The Latin and Irish hands are distinct, and the Irish hand is not that of the main scribe on this page. (b) A couplet in *deibide* metre:

A *meic* Muire on Beithel bain
a *Crist* cuirpidain comlain

7. Page 39. (a) Perhaps a foliation note? (b) This entry in an Anglo-Irish hand is much faded and difficult to read.¹⁵ The *Facsimile* gives the following:
D(?)y gubrat Is(...)
thyr ne aenir
ardrig nach leos
heahbct air oſcail
neghereact mor
ſ(?)eech(...).
8. Page 44. There are traces of writing here which are now illegible. The *Facsimile* reads (...)ndo atbath(...).
10. Page 51. This entry has been inserted into col. a in a space left between the end of *Túarastla Rosa Failgi* and a story relating to *Túathal Techtmair*. The hand is smaller than that of the main scribe on this page and the ink is lighter.
12. Page 65. This phrase is written in the right-hand margin opposite the word *carptib* in the main text.¹⁶ For similar examples of text repeated in the margins, cf. entries 1(d), 2, 34, etc.

¹³*Diplomatic Edition* i, 34.1092.

¹⁴*Ibid.* i, 48.1505 ff.

¹⁵*Ibid.* i, 184 n. 3.

¹⁶*Ibid.* ii, 290.8584.

13. Page 83. Written at right angles to main script.
14. Page 90. The *Facsimile* reads: basafer.
16. Page 99. Atkinson interprets the reading as: laboravi in gemitu tuo, lavabo per singulas.¹⁷
19. Page 104. The location of this entry is noted in the *Diplomatic Edition*.¹⁸ Among the ‘traces of former writing’ can be distinguished the word *amen*. Entries (a), (b) and (c) appear to be by the same scribe. Entry (d) is distinct from the others. The last three words of this entry are written above the line, ascending the page.
20. Page 106. A quatrain in *deibide* metre with additional endrime between *crábud* and *trágud*. Note that line c is a syllable short.

Speis a claind 7 a crod
cora creideam is crabud
in doman o duine
mar cubar tuinne ac tragud.

The lettering is much smaller and the ink lighter than that of the main hand.

21. Page 115. The *Facsimile* reads: Muīcht contruct a(...) cach dal(...) gñ riagail amuga. The lettering is much smaller and the ink lighter than that of the main hand.
22. Page 116. There is another word, now illegible, under col. a.
23. Page 118. The first part of this entry is almost completely illegible. The lettering is smaller than that of the main scribe. The *Facsimile* reads: (...)hercoill (...)ac(...)cuiciur is calmu rabai. ar druim in talman.
24. Page 129. The *Facsimile* reads: (...)t raind vii. (...)ied ficit rand (...)reil(...)oir cea(...)a (...) a linmaire leir rigrade. The last word of the entry, i.e. *rigrade*, is written above the line.
25. Page 157. Initial *e* partly obscured.
26. Page 158. *marg. inf.* under col. b.: this entry is much faded. Atkinson comments: ‘at the foot of the column is a Latin note, that might have been of interest for the history of the MS. or its owners, but which is unfortunately illegible to me in the present state of the MS’. He then gives the following reading: ‘salutem et delicionem ... ideo vos rogamus quatenus amore nostro (... non amittatis[?] ...)’.¹⁹ The *Facsimile* itself has the following reading:

¹⁷*Facsimile*, Introduction, p. 13.

¹⁸*Diplomatic Edition* ii, 399 n. 6.

¹⁹*Facsimile*, Introduction, p. 39.

Saltm̄ et dilectn̄(...) satia(...) I. homo n̄s
anob- (...) ata(...) tempore (...) uisti sellerarus (...)
Ideo vos rogam(...) qurtenq amore n̄sō (...)
(...) hoc amore n̄sō nō amitatet(...)

28. Page 163. The manuscript reads: iñc maría(...). These are the opening words of an entry most of which is now illegible.
30. Page 168. *Mothar* occurs frequently as a place-name.²⁰
31. Page 171. The interpretation of the eight letters printed in the *Facsimile* is obscure to me. W. O'Sullivan read 'cxl to cxliii'.²¹
33. Page 179. There is another line of text, which is now illegible, beneath this entry. Thurneysen identified the place-name as Clonfad in County Westmeath.²² However, Dr Pádraig Ó Macháin suggests that the area referred to here is in fact Clonad (the townlands of Clonadacasey and Clonaddadoran, bar. Maryborough West), Co. Laois.
34. Page 182. This entry obviously reflects the last line of column b of this page which reads: *Cath. slebe fuaít ria fergal dosfanair foí dluthach*.²³ The hand is different to the main scribe on this page, and the ink is lighter.
35. Page 185. Written in red ink and possibly erased subsequently, but still clearly traceable.
36. Page 190. Note that in the second line the *Facsimile* reads *fathaid* for *fothaid*. This entry reflects text from column b of this page, which reads: *Na tri fothaid firsat mac nia lugdach luind daire deirg*.²⁴ This hand may be that of the main scribe of this page. Perhaps a *promhadh pinn*?
37. Page 191. This entry is very faded and difficult to read. Westley Follett suggests the following: (...) uirgo perdidicit notas etate puellae.
39. Page 206. This entry is linked, by means of a reference mark, to the same word which occurs at the end of the fourth line of column b. The manuscript has been slightly rubbed at this point and the entry may be an attempt by a later hand to clarify the reading.²⁵

²⁰E. Hogan, *Onomasticon Goedelicum* (Dublin 1910) 543.

²¹O'Sullivan, 'Notes', 30.

²²R. Thurneysen, 'Zu Cormac's Glossar' in *Festschrift Ernst Windisch* (Leipzig 1914) 9. Cf. further W. Stokes, *Three Irish glossaries* (London 1862) 45, and Hogan, *Onomasticon*, 264.

²³*Diplomatic Edition* iv, 792.23623.

²⁴*Ibid.* iv, 838.25033 and n. 3 to this page.

²⁵*Ibid.* iv, 206.29095.

41. Page 208. (a) Reading obscure; perhaps stands for *a Mhuire, máthair Dé?* The *Facsimile* reads ‘a muiri morm’. (b) The *Facsimile* reads ‘cul .i. comet 7 cul carpat’. Meyer omits this gloss from his edition of the poem.²⁶

42. Page 210. (a) This entry is obscure both in the manuscript and in the *Facsimile*. (b) This entry is obscure. The *Facsimile* reads: Vilior est(. . .)na ara p. p.llōvina cum moriat-. Atkinson comments: “the note on [210], on careful examination, yielded the hexameter ‘vilior est humana caro quam pellis ovina - cum moriatur’ ”.²⁷ (d) This word is written beside the main text ‘Sect meic ro batar ac Dare dess’.²⁸

43. Page 216. (a) Written beside main text ‘Na fessa’.²⁹ (b) Read ‘a Dé’?

44. Page 245. This text also occurs in the National Library of Ireland MS G1 folio 65v ll. 12 ff. I owe this reference to Caoimhín Breathnach.

45. Page 269. (a) Very faint and in red ink. (b) W. O’Sullivan notes: ‘The seventeenth century estimator of the leaves of this section mistakenly notes at the foot of f. clxxxvii “from 196 to 204”’.³⁰

46. Page 274. This entry is very faint. Westley Follett suggests the following: Diptongus est consonantia duarum vocalium in eadem sillabba vím retinens/retentens in metro.

50. Page 294. (b) This entry is almost illegible.

51. Page 310. This entry is almost illegible.

52. Page 311. In red ink. The *Facsimile* reads ‘quum’.

53. Page 324. One word almost illegible. The *Facsimile* reads ‘mundig’.

54. Page 325. ‘Signs of writing on marg. inf. but only an occasional letter now legible.’³¹

55. Page 328. (a) Perhaps refers to ‘do ultaib’?³² Placed close to erasure in MS.³³

56. Page 332. This entry is very faint. The *Facsimile* reads as follows: aenga tanic thordiri 7 ni moluim tu bidernda na tusa eomchoenthid (. . .) dhuchencui.

²⁶Ériu 1 (1904) 72. The bibliographical reference to this edition in the *Diplomatic Edition* iv, p. xvi, is incorrect. For ‘Ériu 1. 3, 1903’ read ‘Ériu 1. 72, 1904’.

²⁷*Facsimile*, Introduction, p. 13.

²⁸*Diplomatic Edition* iv, 1022.29869.

²⁹*Ibid.* iv, 850.25353.

³⁰O’Sullivan, ‘Notes’, 31.

³¹*Diplomatic Edition* vi, asterisked fn. to 1406.

³²*Ibid.* vi, 1433.43243 and fn. 1 to this page.

³³*Ibid.* vi, 1433 n. 3.

57. Page 337. The MS is rubbed here and difficult to read.
58. Page 343. Written at right angles to main script.
59. Page 344. The *Facsimile* reads ‘dlig et cun(...’.
60. Page 348. This entry is very faint.
62. Page 355. Note a similar entry in the same hand on p. 357 *marg. inf.* Note further the entry ‘Liber Conuentus Dungallensis’ on p. 374 *marg. inf.*³⁴ The hand responsible for these three entries has been identified as that of John Colgan.³⁵
64. Page 370. *marg. inf.*: two stanzas in *deibide scaílte*:
Corbmac ua Cuileannain (?) *cecinit*

Maol Ruain Maol Tuile an gnim gle
Maol Anfaid na Darinnse
Na tri Flainn Maol Dithreib dil
Dioman Dalbach Feidlimid.
Diarmaid Eochaid – in airde scel
7 Oengus án ua huiblen
lucht noenta sin uile
um Maol Rúain um Maol Tuile.

The editor notes that this is a copy by a seventeenth-century hand of ll. 51766–74.³⁶ It has been suggested that the hand may be that of John Colgan.³⁷ For ‘lucht’, *Diplomatic Edition*, vol vi, 1686.51773, read ‘lucht’. The words *gle* in the first line and *uile* in the seventh are followed by vertical strokes to indicate the end of the metrical line. The word *Eochaid* in the fifth line is followed by a number of erased letters.

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³⁴*Ibid.* vi, 1708 n. 1.

³⁵M. Dillon, C. Mooney, P. De Brún, *Catalogue of Irish manuscripts in the Franciscan library, Killiney* (Dublin 1969) 7.

³⁶*Diplomatic Edition* vi, ll. 51766 ff. and fn. 4 to p. 1686.

³⁷Dillon, Mooney, De Brún, *Catalogue*, 9.