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VOLUME IX.

EDWARD GWYNN

THE METRICAL DINDSHENCHAS

PART II.



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PREFACE

Of the eighteen poems here edited, five have been already published: those on Ráth Essa, Faffand, and Almu I., in the Todd Lecture Series, vol. vii.; that on Inber n-Ailbine, in *Atlantis*, iv. 235, from materials left by O'Curry; that on Lagin II. in Stokes' *Bodleian Dindshenchas*, p. 7, and in Atkinson and Bernard's *Liber Hymnorum*, ii. 58.

As in former volumes, I have based my text as far as possible on the Book of Leinster, and have taken the ordinary practice of this codex as my standard of orthography. The critical apparatus is, I hope, reasonably full; the symbol "&c." is used to include various spellings of the same reading. In the text of Almu I., which is found only in L, the expanded contractions are scrupulously italicised: this has not been done elsewhere, except in doubtful cases. I have given more weight than formerly to the readings of S_3, a late, but accurate, codex. I have made use of M, a copy which I had unaccountably overlooked until my attention was drawn to it by Prof. Meyer.

My thanks are due to two friends: to Prof. Atkinson, who has given me constant sympathy and advice; and to Mr. W. J. Purton, who has read my proofs, and helped me with useful criticism.

EDWARD GWYNN.

Trinity College, Dublin,
May, 1906.

MANUSCRIPTS OF THE *DINDSHENCHAS*

CITED IN THIS VOLUME.

LU = Leabhar na Huidhre.

L = The Book of Leinster.

R = The Rennes MS.

B = The Book of Ballymote.

Y = The Yellow Book of Lecan.

H = Trinity College, H. 3. 3 (1322).

E = Trinity College, E. 4. 1 (1436).

M = The Book of the Hui Maine, Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, D. II. 1.

S = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, D. II. 2.

S_2 = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, B. II. 2.

S_3 = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, B. III. 1.

V = Royal Irish Academy, Reeves, 832.

PART II

RATH ESA.

Sund dessid domunemar,
iar tíchtain bruthmar báire,
ingen Echdach Aireman
ocus Étáine áine.

Esa ainm na hingine;
is di atá Ráth Ésa;
cét cech míl cen timdibe
tucad lé, ba búaid mbésa.

Midir roalt in find-ben-sin
fri hól fína ocus meda;
nói mbliadna dond ingin-sin
i mBrí Léith, láthar nena.

Tar cend Echdach Aireman
ruc Midir Étáin n-ólaig
a Fremaind, ciarb aire-glan,
co farcaib Banbai mbrónaig.

Asbert Codal crín-chossach:
"Ní écen dúib a fochmarc;
i mBrí Leith ar fír-thossach;
é leth luidi for tochmarc."

La tóeb Echdach Aireman
lótar slúaig Érend áine
a Fremaind, ciarb aire-glan,
do thogail Brí Léith láine.

LRBYMSS$_2$S$_3$HV. 2. *tíchtain*] tíchtu L. *bruthmar*] bruthmair S. 6. *is di*] is de RBM; uaithi, &c. YS$_2$; is uaithi, &c. HS. 8. *buaid*] bóan L. *mbésa*] LRB; fheasa M; mesa, messa, &c. *cæt.* 9. *roalt*] ronalt S$_2$; dalt RMIISY *ben*] mnai RBMS. 13. *Tar cend*] do chinn L. 14. *n-ólaig*] colaigh, &c. SS$_2$. 15. *ciarb aireglan*] LL; gerb oreglan V; ciarb airerclan R; ciarboreagail M;

RATH ESA.

Here settled, as we believe,
after coming to a goal eagerly sought,
the daughter of Eochaid Airem
and of Etain the noble.

Esa was the name of the maid,
from her is Rath Esa called:
a hundred of every [sort of] beast without abatement
were brought by her, it was a choice tribute.

Midir kept the fair woman
with wine and mead to drink;
nine years did the maiden spend
at Bri Leith with the spirit of a handmaid.

In spite of Eochaid Airem
Midir bore off the festive Etain
from Fremand, though bright of brow;
so she left mournful Banba.

Said Codal of the withered foot:
"Ye need not to search for her;
in Bri Leith is the beginning of our search;
'tis thither she has gone a-wooing."

By the side of Eochaid Airem
came the hosts of noble Erin
from Fremand, though bright of brow,
to sack bright Bri Leith.

---

ciarbairerglan, &c. *cæt.* 16. *co farcaib*] co fargaib L; foragaib BS; for facaib, &c. RMYS$_2$H. 17. *asbert*] atbert, &c. LM. 19. *ar*] a YS; iar HS$_3$V. 20. *é leth*] is é leth, &c. HS$_2$; alleith M; is and S. *luidi*] luide LR; doluidh SS$_2$; luid H. 21. *la*] ro L. 23. *aireglan*] L; ore . . glan Y: oiredh glan S; ainsiubal S$_2$; imairi M: airerglan, &c. *cæt.*: *see Notes.*

Nói mbliadna 'con togail-sin,
nírbo romór a hoibne ;
Midir ocon dolaim-sin,
oc admilliud na hoipre.

Iar togail in tsída-sin
doluid cóica fer fuilngech,
(ropo delbda in díne-sin)
d'acallaim na ríg ruibnech,

Tuctha and dia cétáine
(ba scél n-irdairc rochúala)
do Echdaig i richt Étáine
tri cóicait ban, bríg búada.

Is díb-sin doróega-seom,
a ingin fír-glain fessin ;
ba gó aní romáide-seom,
conid sí dál forsndessid.

'S í sin ruc Meiss mBuachalla
máthair Conaire chélig ;
ba dál amnas fuachalda :
rosalt for slúag n-ard n-Ébir.

Dia luid Eochaid atherruch
do thogail Brí Léith láine
tuc a mnái iar n-athelluch
ó Midir, monur n-áine.

Is andsin dorimgart-seom
a eneclaind for Midir
Eochaid firén find-balc-som,
conosruc iar ndáil dligid.

---

25. *'con*] don YHS$_2$. 26. *a hoibne*] a opre (vel n *superscr.*) L ; a noipni MS$_3$. *dolaim*] doloim L ; dolum, &c. RB ; dolmad S dlomad *cæt*. 28. *na hoipre*] anoipre, &c. RBS$_3$. 30. *fuilngech*] furmech, &c., LYS$_2$; fuigleach M. 31. *delbda*] delba, &c. RM ; dédla, &c. YS$_2$S. 33. *tuctha*] dafuctha M ; tucadh S. *and*] *om.* LRB. 36. *cóicait*] L ; fichit *cæt*. 37. *díb*] L ; and *cæt*. *doroega*] doraga YS$_3$; doraighi H ; doraidhi S$_2$. 39. *aní*] an L ; inní S. *ro máide*] L ; romaīd H ; romaigi Y ; imaigi S$_2$; romaid M ; romaidhedh S$_3$; romaighedh S ; domáid R ; domaidid B. 40. *conid*] conad, &c. YSS$_3$H. *sí*] L ; í, &c.

Nine years were they about that sacking;
its speed was none too great.
Midir was causing that delay (?),
he was busy destroying the work.

After the sack of the fairy fort
there came fifty hardy men,
(shapely was that tribe)
to talk with the slaughtering kings.

Then were brought on a Wednesday
('twas a famous tale, I have heard)
to Eochaid, in form like Etain,
thrice fifty women, excellent might!

From them he chose out
his own right pure daughter;
false was the declaration [Midir] made
that this was the meeting agreed upon.

She it was bare Mes Buachalla
mother of friendly Conaire,
(it was a cunning . . . union),
she reared her to be over Eber's high race.

When Eochaid went again
to sack bright Bri Leith,
he bore off his wife, having reunited with her,
from Midir—glorious feat!

'Twas then he demanded
his honour-fine from Midir—
did Eochaid the upright, the fair and strong—
and obtained it after award by law.

---

cæt. *forsndessid*] forsneidseon M. 41–44.] *om.* S. 42. *chélig*] chelig LR; ceblig *vel* ceillig B; ceolaig, &c. MYS$_2$; ceillidh, &c. HS$_3$V: *see Notes.* 43. *dál amnas*] L; scél n-irdairc, &c. *cæt.* *fuachalda*] L; nuachalla, &c. RBS$_2$Y; nuachalda H: nuacolla, &c. MS$_3$V. 44. *rosalt*] roselt L. *sluag*] L; síl *cæt.* *Ébir*] Eogain YS$_2$: *see Notes.* 45. *dia*] L; do *cæt.* 46. *Brí*] bria L; brith M. 52. *conosruc*] L; comoruc, &c. *cæt.* *iar ndáil*] L; dodail, &c. RY; dail B; adail SS$_2$; andail MHS$_3$V.

Is é-so in cetharda
doróegai Eochaid Airem,
co n-ilur drong decharda
co lín scíath ocus claideb.

Tochur for móin Lámraigi,
fid for Brefni co feochra,
dichlochad más már-Midi,
ocus luachair for Tebtha.

"A ingen domrimgair-se"
ar Eochaid "ráid 'sind úair-se
ca dindgna dom dindgnaib-se
cosnotidnastar úaim-se."

Is andsin doróega-si
Ráith n-Ésa, fál fri find-blai,
suide asnasoerad-si
asnaccad na tri dindgnai.

Síd in Broga belgaig-se,
in tress dindgna cóir cétach,
Duma nGiall is' Temraig-se,
Dún cáin Crimthaind i n-Étar.

Is andsin doridnacht-si
ó Echdaig, rád cen fulla,
co cach neoch dorimgart-si,
co n-ilur a sét sunda.

Midir iar cúl mithisi
doluid imon dáil ndétla
co Echdaig doridisi,
imon caingin cóir cétna.

---

53. *so*] sin L. 54. *doróegai*] L; dorimart RB; dorimgart *cæt.* 55. *decharda*] L; n-dreacharda, &c. YS; ndrechferda, &c. *cæt.* 57. *for*] L; tar *cæt.* 58. *for*] L; tar *cæt.* 59. *mar*] &c. SS_2S_3H; mór, &c. *cæt.* 60. *for*] L tar; *cæt.* 61. *domrimgair*] L; domimgair, &c. *cæt.* 63. *ca*] LM; cia *cæt.* 64. *cosnotidnastar*] L; gustignastar S_2; cosatidnastar, &c. *cæt.* *uaimse*] in uairse S_2. 65] *doroegai-si*] dosregaimsea, &c. RB; daragasi YS; doraidhesi S_2; roraegaisi M. 66. *fal*] LS_2; fial *cæt.* 67. *asnasoerad*] L; asasoerfad RB; asa

This is the fourfold demand
that Eochaid Airem made,
with many a distinguished company,
with tale of shields and swords:

[To build] a causeway across the bog of Lamraige,
[to plant] a wood growing wild over Brefne,
to clear stones from the Bottoms of great Mide,
and [to set] rushes over Tebtha.

"O daughter, demand of me,"
said Eochaid; "tell me now
which fortress of my fortresses [thou desirest],
and it shall be bestowed on thee by me."

Then it was she chose . . . . . .
Rath Esa, a precinct with a fair lawn,
a seat whence she might plunder (?),
whence she might see the three fortresses.

The Mound of Brug of the roads,
one of three fortresses built aright, fit for a hundred,
Duma Giall in Tara,
fair Dun Crimthaind in Howth.

Then was [the Rath] bestowed
by Eochaid—a word without delusion—
with everything she demanded
with plenty of treasures therein.

Midir after the expiry of truce
came about the bold award
to Eochaid once more,
about the same just business.

---

soerfaid M; as a sailfead, &c. YHSS$_2$; as a saillfi, &c. S$_3$V: *see Notes.* 68. *accad*] L; aicfed, &c. *cæt.* 69. *belgaig*] belgaid, &c. RBYMSS$_3$H; braenaidh S$_2$. 70. *in*] i L. *cetach*] L; cetsut R; cedsud B; cedsuth M; cetsaith (?) Y; cetna, &c. *cæt.* 71. *nGiall is'*] L; nGiall sa RY; nG·sin, &c. MS; naG·is S$_2$; nanG·sa BS$_3$H. 73–76.] *not in* L. 74. *rád*] dail S$_2$. 75. *neoch*] ní, &c. YSS$_3$. 77. *cúl*] coll L. 78. *imon*] mo LL. 79. *doridisi*] L; afrithisi, &c. *cæt.*

Gáid Midir in find-bile
'mo les ndían 'mondernta
Sigmall mac a ingine,
fail i Síd noithech Nennta.

Ogniad ainm a máthar-som,
ingen-side do Midir;
nochon olc a láthar-som
cen descin cirt ná dligid.

Rucad Étáin aire-glan
siar, ciarbo tolcda in tustiu,
la cend Echdach Aireman,
co mbói i Síd Nenta iar n-usciu.

Atá thiar in slóg-drongach
oc Sigmall, síd cen fulla,
oc úa Midir mór-glonnach,
ocus ní thoracht sunda.

---

81. *'mo les*] móles L; moleis S_1; molais S_2; imoles, &c. RS_3V; umon leas M; moales, &c. BH; modoles Y. *ndían*] dian LR; indail S_2; ni Y. *mondernta*] L; mandernta S_2; conderna B; conearnta M; condernta, &c. *cæt.* 84. *noithech*] nathach R; nætheh B; naitheach YS_2. 86. *side*] isein M. 87. *láthar*] luthar L? 88. *descin*] L; decain, &c. YSS_2; detin, &c. BHS_3V;

Midir prayed the noble prince
for the strong keep where was begotten
Sigmall, his daughter's son,
who dwells in noble Sid Nenta.

Ogniad [was] his mother's name;
she was daughter to Midir;
not evil was her disposition
though she knew not rule nor law.

Etain of the bright brows was borne
to the West, though proud was her birth,
with the head of Eochaid Airem;
so she was in Sid Nenta beyond the water.

In the West is the mistress of numerous hosts
with Sigmall,—a fairy place without delusion—
with the valorous grandson of Midir;
and she has not returned hither.

---

didin M. 89. *aireglan*] L; oiredhglan S; airedglan H; aireadha M; airerglan *cæt.* 90. *siar*] siur RBM. *ciarbo*] cobo, &c. RB; corbha M; nibo S_2. *tolcda*] tolc YS; olc S_2. 91. *la*] ro L. 93. *thiar*] hiar M. *morglonnach*] morglonnaig L. 96. *toracht*] &c. LS_2; tainic, &c. *cæt.*

BRUG NA BÓINDE I.

CINÁED UA HARTACÁN *cecinit.*

Án-sin a maig mic ind Óc,
fairsing do rót, rethaib cét:
forolgais mór flathe fír
d' aicme cech ríg immotrét.

Rotbrecai cach n-ingnad n-án
a chlár find-glan, fichtib slúag,
a thir férach fénach féig,
a iath n-énach n-indsech n-úag.

Tech mic ind Óc ós do dind,
rígda fót fri féle find:
taircet éim ós do lind duind
géill a sídib Érend ind.

Ingen Foraind fort lár luind,
cáin mál, ba molbthach in mind:
furri rolád in tor thall:
ní gann in nath ós a cind.

Atchíu lind find Féic na Fían
frit aniar, ní timm in gním,
co lá brátha, brígach bág,
meraid hi fán rátha ríg.

Lánamain contuiled sund
iar cath Maige Tuired thall:
in ben mór, in Dagda donn:
ní duaichnid a n-adba ann.

LURBMHSS$_2$S$_3$V. 1. *a*] i B. *maig*] bruigh SM. 2. *do*] i H: da M. *rethaib*] LUB; srethaib *cæt.* *cét*] LU; sét, &c. *cæt.* 3. *forolgais*] LU; dalais did M; rolais dit *cæt.* *flathe fír*] LU; fian iar fír RBMSS$_3$; fian co fír HS$_2$V. 4. *cech*] LU; na S$_2$; mór *cæt.* *immotrét*] V; mótret LU; imotréd, &c. RBSS$_2$S$_3$; imatret H; rigatred M. 5. *Rotbrecai*] LU; dogabais S$_2$; rogabais, &c. *cæt.* *cach*] LU; mór *cæt.* *fichtib*] fithib R; fitib H. 7. *férach fénach*] ferach ténach LU; fremach ferach *cæt.* 8. *n-uag*] LU; n-uar, &c. *cæt.* 9–12] *in* LU *only.* 13. *Foraind*] araind LU. *fort lár*] LU; cain ar S$_2$; ar lár, &c. *cæt.*

BRUG NA BÓINDE I.

Bright is it here, O plain of Mac ind Oc!
wide is thy road with traffic of hundreds;
thou hast covered many a true prince
of the race of every king that has possessed thee.

Every bright wonder hath adorned thee,
O clear shining plain with scores of hosts,
O lucent land of grass and waggons,
O virgin mead of birds and islands!

The house of Mac ind Oc above thy stead,
a royal sod with true hospitality;
there come in sooth above thy brown stream
hostages from the fairy-hills of all Erin thither.

The daughter of bold Pharaoh [lies] on thy floor
a kind princess, precious was the diadem;
over her was set the tower in that place,
not sparing was the dirge over her head.

I see the clear pool of Fiacc of the warriors
west of thee,—not feeble the deed—
till the day of Doom—mighty boast—
shall he abide on the slope of the royal rath.

Here slept a married pair
after the battle of Mag Tuired yonder,
the great lady [and] the swart Dagda:
not obscure is their dwelling there.

---

luind] LU; luing *cæt.* 14. *cain*] *om.* S_2. *mál*] LURB in mal, &c. *cæt.* *ba*] da M. *molbthach*] molfach R; molbtha BH; molta S_2; mholaind M. *in mind*] LUH; mind mind M; mind *cæt.* 15. *furri*] LU; impi, &c. *cæt.* 16. *in nath*] BS_2; iná R; anath S_3V; inath MS; annad H; ignod LU. *Read perhaps* in gnod. *ós*] uais H. *a*] do LU. 17–20] *only in* LU. 18. *timm*] tim LU. 21. *contuiled*] contuilled, &c. RBMSS_2. *sund*] sann BS_3. 22. *iar*] ria LU. *cath*] *after this word a folio is missing from* S. 24. *duaichnid*] duaithnid R; duichnid H; duithnidh M.

Lecht in Máthai iarna guin
léir fort a Bruig, breccas graig:
a chnáim rochorbai in muir,
diatá Inber Colptha cain.

Sechi bó Boadain buain
ós grúaid a liac budi báin:
Termond na Fían fedil féig
im réid airthir Nemid náir.

Hi Fertai na Fáilenn fand,
is and romaided in glond:
mór in gním n-úalle do rind
écht Find forfein Lúagne lond.

Génair inneot mellach mac
Cellach roslat leirg for lorc;
ba túalnge trebe, rotchacht,
conappad éc n-úalle fort.

A barc brainech na tor tromm,
tathig trethan-tonn do dind:
otha Chrimthainn Niad co Niall
ba tu relec na fian find.

Fintan Feradach fecht fiand
rothecht do thalmain in trom:
Tuathal Techtmar, triath ar cland,
foluing do land lechtach lom.

---

25. *Lecht*] *cnoc* LU. *Máthai*] LU; mata, &c. *cæt.* *iar n-a guin*] ar mag uin B (*corr. by a later hand to* iar n-a guin); ar in maigh S_2; ardamhuigh M. 26. *léir-fort*] LU; o raith S_2; orut, &c. *cæt.* *a*] in S_2. *Bruig*] muicch H. 27. *a chnáim*] LU; is é a cnám, &c. BH; isedachnamh M; se cnama S_2. *ro*] *om.* M. *chorbai*] cobra (*corr. by a later hand to* corb) B; corb HS_2. 29–40] *in* LU *only.* 31. *fedil*] fedeil LU. 32. *réid*] reid LU. 33. *fáilenn*

The Grave of the Matha after his slaying
is plain to see on thee, O Brug, studded with horses:
The sea has rotted his bone,
whence pleasant Inber Colptha is [named].

The Hide of the Cow of undying Boadan
over the cheek of his yellow-white stone:
the Precinct of the staunch keen warriors
about the eastern level of noble Nemed.

At the Trench of the gentle Seagulls
it is there was wrought the deed—
great the proud feat of the spear—
the slaying of Finn whom the bold Luagne smote.

In thee was born a beguiling boy,
Cellach, who plundered the plain on his track;
he was able to face a tribe, he captured thee,
and died in thee a death of pride.

O beaked bark of the strong towers,
the sea-tide visits thy stead:
from the days of Crimthand Nia to Niall
thou wast the burying-place of the fair-haired warriors.

Fintan Feradach, of bloody battles,
possessed thy land, the strong prince;
Tuathal Techtmar, lord of our clans,
thy bare sepulchral soil sustains.

---

failend LU: *see Notes.* 36. *Lúagne*] Lúagni LU. 38. *leirg*] léirg LU. 41. *brainech*] brænach RB. 42. *trethan*] traetren B. *tond*] trom LU. *do dind*] LU; do lind S_2: fo lind BH; fot lind, &c. RMS_3V. 43. *otha*] LU; o *cæt.* *niad*] LUB; nía nár, &c. RS_3V; níathnar, &c. MH; nia ceitri S_2. *co Niall*] nall S_2. 44. *ba*] LU; is, &c. *cæt.* 45–48. *in* LU *only.* 46. *thalmain*] thalam LU.

Fedelmed Rechtach it rím,
ba gein gleccach fri cech tóir ;
nidat écradach hi tír,
focheil Conn cét-chathach cóir.

Ní thoracht Art, aidble uird :
immanaigtís luirg ar leirg :
rogab lige n-uachail n-ard
arg na láech i Luachair Deirg.

Ní thoracht Cormac cen lén :
déad na fírinne, rodfír,
rogab fos ós Bóind báin
forsin tráig ic Ros na Ríg.

Cairpre Lifechair fort lár :
Fiachu Sraptine rán réil :
Muiredach tírech dim Brí :
in rí Eochu athair Néil.

Ní thoracht Niall, nuall nad gó ;
dirsan dó in rian rorá,
iar ndul co hElpa fo secht
ro fes a lecht áit itá.

Iarsin tánic cretem glan
for Mag Fáil, bés nirbo rom,
co fail cách i reilcib noém
dia scarad fri clóen fri col.

---

49. *Fedelmed*] LU ; feidlim, &c. *cæt.* *Rechtach*] LU ; rechtaid, &c. RBM ; rechtmar, &c. HS_3V ; rech- S_2. *it rím*] LU ; art lár B ; ar do lár RHS_3V ; ar triall S_2 ; ardha lar M. 50.] LU ; nirbu elcmar fri gach toir, &c. MHS_2S_3V ; nirbu elcmar ar gach coir B ; nirbo helcmar ar each tóir R. 51. *nidat*] LU ; nirbo S_2 ; ciarbo, &c. *cæt.* *écradach*] brec brathach S_2. *hitír*] LU ; iar fír *cæt.* 52. *focheil*] LU ; do riacht HV ; do triacht, &c. RBS_3 ; dotriath, &c. MS_2. 53. *aidble*] LUV ; aille, &c. *cæt.* 54. *immanaigtís*] *ed.* ; immánaig tess LU ; imon gebdís, &c. *cæt.* *ar*] for LU ; tar HV. 55. *n-uachail*] nuachal LU ; n-uathaid, &c. *cæt.* ; naid B. *n-aird*] nard LU. 56. *arg*] LUS_3 ; airg *cæt.* i] &c. LUBM ; a, &c. *cæt.* 58 *déad*] LU ; dáig *cæt.*

Fedelmed the Lawgiver is in thy tale;
he was a warlike wight on every chase;
they are not at enmity in the ground:
thou hidest Conn the just, the hundred-fighter.

There came not Art, highest in rank,
round whom rode troops on the battlefield;
he found a grave proud and lofty,
the champion of the heroes, in Luachair Derg.

There came not Cormac free from sorrow:
after receiving the Truth (he affirmed it)
he found repose above limpid Boyne
on the shore at Rossnaree.

Cairpre Lifechair lies on thy soil,
Fiachu Sraptine noble and famous,
Muiredach Tírech from the Hill,
the king Eochu father of Niall.

There came not Niall (a cry that is not false)
unlucky for him the course he rowed!
after going seven times to Scotland
the place where his grave is was known.

Thereafter came the pure Faith
to Mag Fail, a law that came not too soon,
so that each lies in burial-grounds of holy men,
to sever them from iniquity and sin.

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rodfir] LU; notfir HS_2; nodfír *cæt.* 59. *ós*] LU; ic, &c. BMS_3; a *cæt.* 60. *forsin*] LU; acon S_2; isin *cæt.* 61. *fort*] LU; art LRBH; ard V; ar do S_3; ar S_2; ad M. 62. *Fiachu*] fiacra LU. *Sraptine rán*] rán roiptine LU. 63. *dimbrí*] LU; it tír, &c. RBV; a tír, &c. MS_2S_3; athir H. 66.] *so* LU; ro fess a luam [uam S_2; ruam (*with* vel l *supersc.*) H] leth rola [rora M, *corr.* rola], &c. *cæt.* 67. *iarndul*] LU; i cuaid H; rogabh M; do chuaid *cæt.* *co*] do LU. 70. *for*] LU; co *cæt.* 71. *fail cach*] LU; fail S_2; failet, &c. *cæt.* *i*] it S_2. 72. *scarad*] LU; snadad, *cæt.* *fri—fri*] LU; ar—ar RBV; ar—'s ar MHS_2S_3.

Focheil cúane calma cáin
a mag mic in Dagda déin:
ná dersat adrad Dé móir
andso dóib hitát hi péin.

Iatsom dimbúan, tussu búan,
immotréide cech slúag slán:
iatsom dosrogæth a ngæs,
tussu fogéba æs n-án.

Bóand bale roglas réil
mana sechut la séil sláin
cenn indais ui úabrig úaib
Senbic a túaim immais áin. Án-s.

Congalach col-lí cond fían,
dían a buille, dond a dál:
is búale rán-tor co rian,
is cúane n-ard-chon, is án. Án-s.

73–76] *in* LU *only.* 73. *caima*] *colma* LU. 75. *ná*] na LU. *dersat*] *read perhaps* dernsat: *see Notes.* 77. *iat*] LU; siat *cæt.* 78. *immotréide*] LU; imdasraidhi M; amraidhit S_2; imusraidi, *cæt.* 79. *iat*] LU; siat *cæt.* *dosrogæth*] *ed.*, dosrogæd LU; dosrubaid RB; dosrulaid S_3V;

Thou hidest a brood bold and kind,
O plain of the son of the swift Dagda!
let men not punish the worship of the great God;
it is worse for them where they are in torment.

They are transient, thou abidest:
every believing band rides around thee:
as for them, their wisdom has befooled them;
thou shalt attain a noble age.

Boyne, a spot right green and bright,
an omen with sound . . . beside thee
. . . from you of the proud grandson
of Senbec from the stead of noble poesy.

Warlike and splendid is the centre of champions!
swift their stroke, noble their assembly!
it is a fold of glorious chieftains, with a track,
it is a kennel of high-bred whelps, it is glorious.

---

dosruluaid H; dosrulluaidh M; rosroluaidh S_2. *a ngǽs*] *ed.*; a mbés LU; in gæs, &c. *cæt.* 81–88] *in* LU *only.* 83. *úabrig*] *read perhaps* Ebric: *see Notes.* 87. *rán*] ran LU. 85. *collí*] *ed.* culli LU.

BRUG NA BÓINDE II.

MACNIA MAC OENGUSA *cecinit.*

A chóemu Breg, bríg nad bréc,
co rinnib reb, rígda in rót:
in eol dúib senchas cech thuir
fuil sund i mBruig mic ind Óc?

Fégaid in síd ar bar súil,
is fodeirc dúib, is treb ríg,
rogníth lasin Dagda ndúr,
ba dín, ba dún, amra bríg.

Fégaid Imdai nDagdai deirg:
forsind leirg, cen galmai ngairg;
rofer surge sóir iar seilg
fri mnái cóim cen meirg cen mairg.

Fégaid Dá Cích rígnai ind ríg
sund iar síd fri síd-blai síar:
áit rogénair Cermait cóem
fégaid for róen, ní céim cían:

Dia luid ben mic Námat náir
i ndáil ar chend Dagdai déin,
ocus in cú in a diaid,
ciarbo thurus cian do chéin:

Dia luid Midir a Brí Léith
fri tócbáil tréith, ba fó fríth:
co tuc mac ind Óc ónd áth
co scíath 'na scáth, ciarbo scíth.

LRBYMHS (81–*end only*) S_2S_3V. *Oengusa*] oenna R; oen B; aonagain H. 1. *chóemu*] cæm S_2. 2. *rinnib*] raindib M. 6. *treib ríg*] tre brig R. 7. *rogníth*] rognid RB; do gnith S_2; rongní S_3V. *lasin*] risin L; lasinin S_2. *ndúr*] ndún (n *expunct.*) L; núr S_2. 8. *bríg*] a bregh S_2. 9. *imdai nDagdai*] L; imda in Dagda, &c. *cæt.* *deirg*] ndeirg LS_3. 10. *cen galmai*] foran galmagh R. 11. *ro fher*] rob fherr, &c. MS_2; robfear Y. *iar*] ar BR. *sóir*] soer, &c. LRMB; sair *cæt.* 12. *fri*] YS_3; ria L; for *cæt.* *cóim*] cáin R.;

BRUG NA BÓINDE II.

O nobles of Breg, a might that is not deceitful,
with featful points (royal is the road):
know ye the story of every lord
that is here in the Brug of the Mac ind Oc?

Behold the fairy mound before your eyes:
it is plain for you to see, it is a king's dwelling,
it was built by the harsh Dagda:
it was a shelter, it was a keep renowned for strength.

Behold the Bed of the red Dagda:
on the slope, without rough rigour;
he paid noble court after the chase
to a fair woman free from eld and sorrow.

Behold the two Paps of the king's consort
here beyond the mound west of the fairy mansion:
the spot where Cermait the fair was born,
behold it on the way, not a far step;

Whither came the wife of the son of noble Nemed
to a tryst to meet the swift Dagda,
and her dog after her,
though it was a long journey from afar:

Whither came Midir from Bri Leith
to bear off the prince, it was a lucky find;
so he bore the Mac ind Oc from the ford
with a shield in his protection, though he was weary.

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coem, &c., LB. 14. *sid blai*] sithbla RB; sirbla YS_2. 15. *dit ro genair*] L; airm i ngenair, &c. *cæt.* 16. *for róen*] L; maróen, &c. *cæt.* *ní*] in RBS_2; an (*with* vel ni *superscr.*) Y. *céim*] *om.* S_2. 17. *dia*] do S_2; da M. 19. *in*] a $RBMS_2$. 20. *thurus*] theros LRM; theras Y. 21. *dia*] do RHS_2. 22. *tocbáil*] LBM: togail, &c. *cæt.* *fó*] LV; fou H; fo *cæt.* 23. *ind Óc*] nOc LYH; in óic M; in oc, &c. *cæt.*

Iarsain tucad, cialla cor,
in mac dia nói mbliadna mbil,
coa athair, ba cadla gair,
dia thaig cosin Dagda ndil.

Dogníth ergnam leis dond ríg
isin tšíd, tre brégrad mbúan,
de atá, ní ceist cen rún,
Duma Treisc ar súil na slúag.

Iarsin dlomais Dagda dúr
asa dún, níb adba mbróin,
co mbái i n-Ochain, fecht co núaill,
iar n-othur slúaig, iar n-úair óil.

Ferta Escláim, érimm sruith,
a telctís cesta fir maith,
fót co mbalc-raind, gním cen chleith,
do mac Calpraind ba rót raith.

In eol dúib Derc mBuailc bil
comarba fíl immon mag,
asa n-ésib loimm lúath lib
a dig don tšlúag, fiad glund glan.

In eol dúib Lecht Cellaig crúaid
co núaill ellaig, erctha gáeth :
atbath tre beirt láechda lúaith,
dia mbói thúaith for báethla báeth.

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25. *cialla*] cialda M. *cor*] L ; in cor, &c. *cæt.* 26. *in*] *om.* B. 27. *a*] *om.* BYM. 29. *dogníth*] dogníat S_2. 30. *tre*] fria M. *mbúan*] buair L. 31. *de*] desin Y ; is de M. *ní*] *om.* B ; in S_2. 32. *Treisc*] L ; intreisc, &c. HYV ; in treist M ; in tres RB ; in treisi S_2. *súil*] sur R ; uil Y. 33. *Dagda*] in Dagda R (*corr.*) S_2. *dúr*] ndúr LR. 34. *asa*] a sin Y ; isin S_2. *níb adba*] L ; ba badba *cæt.* *mbróin*] L ; bróin *cæt.* 35. *in Ochain*] oc Ochâin L ; inacind (*with* anochain *superscr.*) Y ; innochain S_2 ; in Ochaind, &c. *cæt.* 36. *othur*] othrus R. *óil*] oir B. 37–40.] *not in* L. 37. *ferta*] fert H. 38. *a telctís*] in t-eiges B ; hi teilgdis, &c. RYM. 40. *do*] di H ; da M. 41–44.] *om.* S_2.

Thereafter was brought, a clever compact,
the boy, on that day nine full years after
to his father, it was a short-lived joy,
to the loved Dagda at his house.

Entertainment was made by him for the King
in the mound by means of lasting deception;
thence is [named],—it is not a question without a key—
Duma Treisc before the eyes of the hosts.

Thereafter the stern Dagda refused his request,
to whom belonged the keep, it was no abode of grief:—
so he dwelt in Ochan, a journey with lamentation,
after warlike labour, after a time of carousing.

The trench of Esclam, pilgrimage revered,
where good men used to cast questions:
a sward with a brave portion, a deed without concealment,
for the son of Calpurn it was a path of grace.

Know ye the Well of Bualc the good,
his successor throughout the plain,
from which he drew a draught . . . .
a drink for the host, in presence of a bright hero (?).

Know ye the Grave of grim Cellach
[surrounded] by wailing in unison, the breeze was filled
[with the sound]:
by a swift heroic pair he died,
when he was in the north on a foolish act unwise.

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41. *mbuailc*] &c. HS_3V; ṁḃa Builc L; mBualc, &c. RB; mbuilc Y; muaalc M. *bil*] L; mil Y; mbil *cæt.* 42. *comarba*] comsarba L; a comforba R; a comarba, &c. BYMH. *fil*] *om.* L. *imon*] imo B; fon M. 43. *asa*] asasa H. *ésib*] deisib, &c. RB; eibsib Y. *loimm*] luim L; lomm M; lom *cæt.* *luath*] luaith L 44. *a dig don tsluag*] asanib dig M. *fiad glund*] B; fiad glonn H; fiad glun L; fidglun Y; fiaglunn R; fiaglond M; fiadhnglonn S_3V. *glan*] nglan YM. 45. *crúaid*] cain (*with* vel crū *superscr.*) H. 46. *náill*] nuill R; naill B. *erctha*] ercda YH; erc S_2. *gaeth*] gáith, &c. LYS_2H. 47. *tre beirt*] tre beir L; tria beirt, &c. $RBYS_2H$. 48. *dia mbói*] diai L; combói S_2. *baethla*] lethblai L; baethbla, &c. MS_2HS_3V. *báeth*] báith, &c. LYS_2; mbæth H.

In eól dúib Lecht Gabra ind ríg
Cinaeda cen galma ngáid;
ruc búaid a siblachaib sréin
do réir mic Irgalaig áin.

A Cír a Currel na mná,
cia bale itá cechtar de,
meraid ó 'ndiu co tí bráth;
ní ba messu ar chách a ngné.

Fégaid lib, ba bág cech báird,
ba fert fir áin, fuaim cen meirg,
forglitís iath ngáela gairg,
síd Æda Lurgnig for leirg.

And dogníth rúamna dia thríath
for cúan-bla clíach ocus crích;
ba h-ed slóg-dígal na túath,
Mórrígan múad áitt i mbíth.

In eól dúib tre gnímrad ngnáth,
fri fáth fír-glan, fichtib tríath,
iath n-acht-glan i mbátar scéith,
Carcar ind Léith i mbái in Líath.

In eól dúib tre chátha cend
in glend i mbíd Mátha mall?
robíth iar n-inriud slóg seng;
dogníth mór do imniud and.

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50. *Cinaeda*] cinæth S_2. *cen*] con Y. *galma*] calma Y. *ngaid*] L; ngráin H; gráin, &c. *cæt*. 51. *ruc*] tuc S_2M. *siblachaib*] siublachaib RS_2S_3. 54. *cia*] ciap B. *bale*] bail MH. *cechtar*] centar B; gantar M. 55. *meraid o ndiu*] L; is dóig mberaid Y; is dóig meraid, &c. *cæt*. *bráth*] in bráth, S_2: brach R. 56. *ba*] L; *om. cæt*. *ar chách*] sa cach, &c. YMHS_2S_3 (*see Notes*). 57. *ba bág*] fa bad Y; fadhbaigh S_2; ba baid M. *báird*] dind L. 58. *fuaim*] uaim S_2. 59. *forglitís iath*] furgliadh a sidh S_2. *gairg*] L; ngairc H; ngairg *cæt*. 61. *and*] L; tan *cæt*. *dogníth*] dognid L. 62. *cuanbla*] cuan bladh S_2. *cliach*] cliath H; sciath S; sciath (*with* vel cliach *superscr.*) Y. 64. *mórrígan*]

Know ye the Grave of the Horse of the king,
Cinaed free from rigour of need?
he bore off victory from fleet ones of the bridle
at the will of the son of noble Irgalach.

The Comb, the Coral of the woman,
in whatever place each of them is,
it shall abide till the Doom come;
their beauty shall not grow less and less.

Behold before you—it was the boast of every bard,
it was the grave of a noble man, fame without decay—
they celebrated the meadow-land of a fierce slaying (?)—
the mound of Aed Lurgnech on the hill-slope.

There was caused bloodshed by its chief
upon the resort of ridges and territories:
that was a general vengeance of the tribes
in the place where the great Morrigan was smitten.

Know ye for noted deeds,
with true-clear learning, with scores of chiefs,
the plain of bright actions, where shields used to be,
the Prison of the Grey, where the Grey Steed was?

Know ye by the refuse of heads
the Glen where the sluggish Matha dwelt?
it was slain after the incursion of lithe hosts:
much havoc was wrought there.

---

mon rigi S_2; morghlana M. *múad*] ruadh L; mbuaidh S_2. *ditt*] L; airm *cæt*. *i mbith*] i mbíd LS_3V; a frith M. 65. *eól*] *om.* B. *tre*] tria MH. *ngnáth*] ngæth M. 66. *nacht*] L; nac R; nach BS_3; dat H; ndath, &c. YMS_3V. *scéith*] *om.* S_2. 68. *i mbái in*] imbái L; uman M. 69. *eol*] *om.* B. *tre*] tria RBYH; tri S_2M. *chátha*] *ed.* chatha, &c. $LYHS_2$; cáta R; chata, &c. BS_3V; cath M. 70. *mbíd*] mbai, &c. RB; mbít Y; mbith S_2; mid M. *Mátha*] matha LS_2; in mada S_3V; mata *cæt*. 71. *ro bith*] do bid S_2; nobith R. *inriud*] indred B; indrad Y. *slóg*] RBM; sluaig *cæt*. 72. *dognith*] dognid dognid L; rogníth RB; dognid M. *do imniud*] dimniud L.

Iarsin tictís, gním cen chleith,
ind ríg dia leith ó thír thoich,
do descin in Máthai múaid,
co cland cách fair crúaid a chloich.

Clandais Buide a liic laind
'sind raind forsmbíd Suide Find:
fácaib fiad churib na nglend
a chend for Maig Murid mind.

Iarsin lótar Ulaid uill
Leth cubaid Cuinn ar a chend,
do gleic fri nert Máthai maill,
combrúithe a baill for Líic Bend.

Doringned leo duma ndúr
do múr for cnámaib in míl:
ba hé in coscur, fecht co núaill,
rothecht fri búaid ocus bríg.

Caisel n-Oengussa cen chol,
Airther n-Oenlussa rodlen:
mic Crundmáil forsndessid cin
dia n-essib mid corbo mer.

Forsin Róot rígda in gleó
in mic Óoc, cid dia mbói?
dia robriss súil Midir múaid,
in fail úaib nech asidchói? A.

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73. *cleith*] clith B. 74. *ind ríg dia leith*] *om.* L; in rig ar leth S_2; na righ dia leith, &c. S_3V; in ri dia leith RBY; and ri dia leth H. *ó*] dia L; oa H. 75. *descin*] feachsain S_2. *mátha*] matha LS_2; mada MS_3V; mata *cæt.* 76. *cland*] clannad R. *fair*] *om.* L; fir S_2; fer R; uair M. *a*] fair R; o B. 77. *clandais buide*] lintais uile L. *a liic*] alsag (*with* vel alig *superscr.*) Y; abraig M; alsat S_2. *laind*] lind S_2M; lind (*with* luind *superscr.*) Y; luind H. 78. *raind*] rind YS_2; druim S_3; rannlind M. *forsmbíd*] *twice* L; forsmbæi, &c. RBH; forsmbith S_3; ambidh S_2; forsmœ M. 79. *cuirib*] cuibrib, &c. BM; curid R. *na nglend*] *om.* L. 80. *for*] ar Y. *maig*] mac HV. *Murid*] Murida L. 81. *uill*] il L. 82. *Cuinn*] *om.* L. 83. *do gleic*]

Thereafter came (a deed without concealment),
the kings from a pleasant land on account of him,
to view the vast Matha,
and each planted on him pitilessly his stone.

Buide planted his keen stone
in the portion which is called Finn's Seat:
in presence of the hosts of the glens he left
his head on the plain of Muired Mend.

Thereafter came the mighty Ulstermen
(Conn's proper Share) against him,
to strive with the might of the sluggish Matha
so his limbs were broken on Lecc Bend.

A solid barrow was built by them
for a rampart over the bones of the beast:
that was the trophy, a fight with lamentation,
which it possessed with victory and might.

The wall of Oengus the blameless,—
([the name] Airther Oenlussa clave to it,—)
the son of Crundmael on whom fell guilt,
when he had drunk mead till he was mad.

Royal the contest at the Cast
of the Mac ind Oc—whence did it arise?
when the eye of mighty Midir was broken:
is there any of you who can recount it?

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glend L. *máthai*] matha S_2; máta ỾR; mada M; mata *cæt*. 84. *baill*] mboill Y. *liic*] L; lic R; leic *cæt*. *Bend*] mBend S_3. 85 *ndúr*] *om.* L; núr S_2. §6. *do múr*] ṅdrena (*with* vel dremur *superscr.*) L. 87. *nuaill*] nuall LSS_2S_3; naill B. 88. *fri*] ri L; for S_2. 89. *cen*] *om.* L. 90. *airthir*] athesc L; airthír Y; airthir H; ardior S_3. *oen lussa*] enlussa B. *rodlen*] rod rodlen L; rotlen H; ro lean Y. 91. *dessid*] essid B; eissead Y; edsiudh, &c. MS; deisib R. *cin*] sin HS_2; sin (*with* vel cin *in margin*) Y. 92. *essiḃ*] desib R. 93. *forsin*] ní L. *gleó*] geo B. 94. *in*] i B; *om.* S. *Ooc*] an oog S. *cid*] ced L. *mbói*] bói L. 96. *fail úaib nech*] fuilneach uaib Y. *asidchói*] assidchoi, &c. LS_2M; asatcai R; asasidcai B; isadcai, &c. HS_3V; isidcai S.

INBER N-AILBINE.

A fhiru Muirid, miad ngle,
do nach tuirim tailmire,
ráidfed frib im threbthus te
senchus n-aithglicc n-Ailbine.

Bái riam fri rót-bla rorá
uas Fótla cen fodála:
ba lúam cech líg-druing fria lá
Rúad mac Rígduind rodána.

Riacht réim raith, roga cen raind,
dar muing maith mora moch-maill,
d'acallaim a charat Gaill:
ba réim rabalc co Lochlaind.

Luid tri nóithib, noithech glé,
ba soithech co sír-gairge:
sochtsat, duba domna de,
for formna na fír-fairge.

Femidset lúd as nach leth,
robo dúr in dron-fuirech;
isin muir múad már cen meth
doluid Rúad rán roguinech.

RBYMHSS$_2$S$_3$V. 1. *fhiru*] fiora H. 2. *tailmire*] tailmhiri M; toilmhire, &c. S$_3$V; tuilmire, &c. YSS$_2$H; talmire R; taimire B. 3. *frib*] daib RB. *im*] am HS$_3$; cen, &c. *cæt.* *threbthus*] trebthus, &c. *codd. te*] de RBYMS$_3$V. 4. *naithglice*] ndaithglic R. 5. *ro rá*] rogha SS$_2$; rorádh R. 6. *fodala*] fologha S. 7. *fria*] re B; fri YS$_2$. 8. *duind*] druing BM. 9. *riacht*] recht RBS$_2$V; rieacht S$_3$; racht M. *raind*] rinn, &c. SM. 10. *moch*] mor S$_2$. 11. *gaill*] goill RYHS. 12. *ba*]

INBER N-AILBINE.

O men of Muired, bright honour
among any headstrong company!
I shall tell you in my warm dwelling
the cunning story of Ailbine.

There was once [a prince] famed for travel who rowed
north of undivided Ireland:
he was pilot of every brilliant band in his day,
Ruad son of valiant Rigdonn.

He fared on a lucky journey, a choice without dispute,
over the goodly mane of the sea early and late;
to converse with his friend the Norseman,
a right brave journey it was to Norway.

He came with three boats, splendid and bright,
it was a vessel ever terrible;
they stopped short (the deeper dole!)
on the shoulders of the open sea.

They had no power to stir on any side,
firm was the strong durance:
into the mighty main without shrinking
went noble Ruad the smiter.

---

fa Y. *rabaic*] YM; rabailc B; robailc R; robalc *cæt.* 13. *nóithiḃ*] noitib RB; næithe YS_2; naithe, &c. SS_3; noite H; noiche M. *noithech*] othech S_2; nœthech S. 14. *soithech*] soigteac B; sœthrach Y; sœtrach SS_2. *sír*] sith RB. 15. *duba*] doba H; dobo S_2. *domna*] domnu RYM. 17. *femidset*] femid B; feimdis M. *lúd as*] luth ar YS; lathar S_2; lúth as, &c. *cæt.* *nach*] cach, &c. YSS_2M. *robo dúr*] robádur R. 18. *dron*] droch RBS_2. *fuirech*] śuideach M. 19. *isin*] forsin YSS_2. 20. *-guinech*] fhuilech R.

O mosláí dia tairdbe tra
dar sál fairge sruth-sóeba,
fuair, i sain-delgna rosná,
nói mbain-delba dluth-chóema.

Ráidset ris tre gle-alt nglan
ba hed . . . fodroirgetar
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
a nónbur ban búadach bil
bá crúadach a n-indsaigid.

Fois nói n-oidche lasna mna
cen doirche cen dér-guba,
fon fairge cen tonna tra
for nói longa créduma.

Ciarbo halacht ben díb de
(robo malart mithise)
luid uadib cen chísal clé
co tísad afrithise.

O rafáid co muintir múaid
ráid fri tuintib a throm-slúaig:
ba soalt sochlaind ní súail
co toracht Lochlaind lonn-gluair.

---

21. *mosláí*] *ed.* mosluid Y (*originally* moluaid) H; musluidh S_3V; moluidh S_2; doluidh S; moluaid RBM. *tairdbe*] hairdbe, &c. Y (*with* t *added later*) SS_2. 22. *dar sál fairge*] *ed.* fairgi tar sal, &c. RBMHS_3; tar fairgi sal, &c. YS_2V; tar fairgi sáil S. *sruth-saeba*] sroth-saoba H; saebtshrotha S_2; saebsrotha, &c. *cæt.* 23. *i sain-delgna*] *ed.* in sandelgna RB; in saindelcca H; in saindealgna, &c. S_3V; isindelgna, &c. YMSS_2. *rosná*] rosna *codd.* 24. *mbain*] H; mná SS_2; mbna M; mban RBYS_3V. *delba*] delbda BYS_3; remhra S. *dluth*] RB; dath Y; deagh S_2; ro MHSS_3V. 25–32.] *om.* S_2. 25. *tre*] tria YMS_3V; fria S. *nglan*] *om.* B. 26. *hed*] hét R; het B; he fhad M; ead (*with two letters obliterated*) Y; heat H; héat S_3V. *A syllable appears to be wanting. Read perhaps* ba hé fast: *see Notes.* *fodroirgetar*] fodroirngertar R; foruirgetar H; rodfuirgidar S; rofuirgeadar Y; fotoirgeadar M. 27–30.] *Four lines*

When he hastened to cut loose the ship in truth
through the salt depths of the sea's treacherous waters,
he found, in the secret spot he swam to,
nine female forms, fair and firm.

They said to him in pure clear strains
this it was that delayed him:

. . . . . .
. . . . . .

. . . . . .
. . . . . .

nine women of them, excellent and strong;
hard it was to approach them.

He slept nine nights with the women
without gloom, without tearful lament,
under the sea free from waves
on nine beds of bronze.

Though a woman of them was with child by him,
—it was a disfigurement of a little space—
he departed from them without wrongful offence (?)
on condition that he should come back again.

When she had let him go to his noble comrades,
he rowed with the companies (?) of his strong host:
it was a happy start, . . . no short space
till he reached Norway of pure valour.

---

seem to have dropped out: see Notes. 31. *in nonbur*] o nonbur B; ononmur M; a nonmur HS_3V; inænmar Y. *ban*] *om.* Y; ba R. *buadach*] buadh R. 32. *cruadach*] cruadbach, &c. $YHSS_3V$; cradhach M. *a n-indsaigid*] &c. HS; anindsaidig Y; inindsaigid, &c. *cæt.* 38. *fois*] fæoi H; fais (*with* idh *superscr.*) S. 34. *doirche*] dairchi Y; dairci M; dairti RB; dairthe &c. SS_2. *derguba*] derduba SS_3V. 36. *longa*] longaib RBS_2. 38. *malart*] malairt HS_2; maralt RBM. 39. *chísal*] chisa S; cisiu S_2. *cle*] gle Y; ngle HS_3V; de S. 40. *afrithise*] aridhise S; arigisi S_2; doridise Y. 41. *rafáid*] *cd.* rofáidh, &c. RS_3V; rofaid BYMH; rofaidh, &c. SS_2. *co*] co a B. 42. *ráid*] ruadh SS_2. 43. *soalt*] *om.* R. *sochlaind*] soclaind RBS_2; socloinn S_3; so chluaing S. 44. *lonngluair*] longbuain S.

O rancadar dar sál sair
co n-ád is co n-oll-bladaib,
anait secht mbliadna ar blaid
ic a charait comramaig.

Cechaing iarom Rúad na renn
tar srothaib, fial-mod fég-seng,
anair dar muir tríath-glan tend,
co toracht íath-mag n-Érend.

Eismech robói in rí co recht,
nírbo deis-breth ná daig-bert;
cen dul co mná tar sruth slecht
in cruth cétna rothairngert.

Tan rogab triath-tuirid tess
i n-iath Muirid na mag-les,
co crúad-chalad, clú cen ches,
rochúaladar in arm-gres.

Amrán sin na mban-ón binn,
tria glan-rád nglan-óg nguth-binn,
ic tetarracht Rúaid co rinn
tar srúaim setal-balc sruth-glinn.

Seólsat curchán, créd nad clé,
nír dub-chlár dér drongdige,
a nónbur garg grinn-gel glé
i n-Inber n-ard n-Ollbine.

---

46. *co n-ád*] conad, &c. BY; conar M; conágh, &c. *cæt.* 47. *ar blaid*] comblaid S; for blaid M; iarsin S_2. 48. *comramaig*] comradaig, &c. RB. 49. *renn*] rann Y; rand MSS_2. 50. *fial-mod*] S_3V; fialmo RY; fialmac BM; fialmag H; falma SS_2. *fég-seng*] fedeng, &c. YMS. 52. *toracht*] rainic S_2. *iath-mag*] iartur S_2; iathmag in M. 53. *co*] *om.* RBV; re M. 54. *breth*] bert Y. 55. *cen*] co S_2. *dul*] dal Y. *co*] do S_2. 57. *tuirid*] tured, &c. RBM. *tess*] des RB; tass H; thés S_2. 58. *Muirid*] mured, &c. RBM. 59. *co cruad*] crichad M. 60. *ro*] co S_2; da M. 61. *amrán*] amband (*with* vel abran *in margin*) S; amra and S_2. *mban*]

When they arrived in the east across the sea
with luck and with high renown,
they remain seven years seeking fame
with his friend triumphant.

Thereafter Ruad of the spears went his way
across the waters, the noble youth keen and slender,
from the east over the strong pure billows of the sea,
till he reached the level plain of Erin.

False was the lawful prince:
it was no right judgment nor honourable act,
not to go to the women across the smooth water,
in the same way as he promised.

When the lordly chieftain touched land southward
at the plain of Muired of the lowland steads
with unclouded fame for stern strength,
men heard the martial strain.

That was the song of those tuneful women
in their pure mellow sweet-sounding speech,
as they pursued Ruad with the spear point
over the impetuous clear-streaming tide.

They sailed a boat of flawless metal,
(it was no . . . black hull of mourning)
nine of them, fierce, radiant, and bright,
to high Inber Ailbine.

---

mna S_2; man M. *ón*] ogh S. *binn*] mbinn HSS$_3$; mbend Y; beind M; linn R; rind S_2. 62. *tria*] tre MH. *nglan*] glan S; *om.* S_2. *-óg*] od, &c. YS$_2$. 63. *tetarracht*] techtairecht S; techttareas S_2; eatarracht M. 64. *sruaim*] sruth SS$_2$. *setal-balc*] sidhal balc S_2; sidhal bhalb S. *-glind*] binn R. 65. *cred nad cle*] cerd nad gle S; cen ceilg dhe S_2; criad ni cle M. 66. *nír*] ni YSS$_2$. *der*] dær MSS$_2$. *drongdigé*] drongaide Y; drongaidhi S_2; drongaige S; drong daighe M. 67. *a*] *om.* RB. *grinngel*] gliungel R; grindglan MS$_2$.

Olc-gním rogene andsin
ben díb cen ere n-essil,
marbad maic Rúaid co mblait bil
ocus a maic fodessin.

Erchor don mac mó cach cair
(ba treb-chol dó for talmain)
rolá amach tria cacad cain
conidn-apad cen anmain.

And asbert slúag son-ard-se
rothecht Rúad rogarg rige
uili cen chond im glonn nglé
" Ba holl, ba holl in bine!"

Desin atá, tairm cen tnú,
a hainm, ní do dailb didu,
na haba, nad celam clú,
feib adberam a firu. A F.

Mad ainm for maige, míad n-ait,
gairm cían cen chaire comraic,
ráiter ón tuiredach tailc
ó Muiredach mac Cormaic.

Nó mad ferr la tuaichliu tra
sell fri buaibthiu bladmara,
ráidfit Builiath, bái nad ba,
ó Muiriath mnái Labrada.

---

69. *royene*] rodgene, &c. YS_3; rótgéne V; dogeine H; rogniadh S; doronad S_2. 70. *ere*] era HS_3V; erim Y (*originally* eri); eirghe S_2. *n-essil*] deisil S_2; reisil M. 71. *marbad*] marbaid M. *blait*] blaith MH; bloid Y; bladh S; blaidh S_2HS_3. 73 *cair*] coir Y. 74. *treb-chol*] tre achar S_2. *dó*] tó, &c. RBS_3V. 75. *rola*] dala M. *imach*] a mac MS. *tria*] tre RBS_2 *cacad*] caca H; cagad BMS; cogad S_2. 76. *conidnapad*] conadabadh, &c. YSS_2S_3; conatnabadh M; conatnapai H. 77. *and*] andsin R. *sonard-se*] nasard de S_2. 78. *ro thecht*] ro gab S_2; re techt RM (*altered to* ro). *rigi*] ridhe H. 79. *cen*] nir SS_2. *im*] an YSS_2. *glonn ngle*] an glonn gle (*in litura*) Y; gnim gle, &c. SS_2. 81. *tnu*] tru $RBMSS_2$.

An evil deed then wrought
a woman of them, with no unconscious burden,
even the slaying of the son of Ruad strong and good,
and her very own son.

[She made] a cast with her son, worse than any crime,
(it was a stain on his house for him on earth)
she hurled [him] out in fair combat
so that he died the death.

Then said that loud-voiced host,
whom fierce Ruad . . . . possessed,
all of them astounded at the open crime
"Dreadful, dreadful was the deed!"

Hence comes (a title free from envy)
the name (not in deceit however)
of the river, whose fame we conceal not,
even as we tell you, O men!

If the name of your plain (pleasant pride!)
be the title long free from blame of combat,
let it be called from the stout pillar
Muiredach son of Cormac.

Or if the instructed prefer
[to have] an eye to glorious deeds of pride,
they shall call it Builiath, a good that is not dumb,
from Moriath wife of Labraid.

---

82. *nido*] HY; nidu RB; aniu, &c. MSS$_2$; nita S$_3$; nida V. *dailb didu*] dailbineu S; dailbiu M; dalbhdiu S$_3$V. 83. *na*] ainm S; ba M. *aba*] adba, &c. MS$_2$. *celam*] celim, &c. HS$_2$. 84. *adberam*] adberim S$_2$. 85. *nait*] nacht S. 89. *la*] lat S$_2$. *tuaichliu*] tuaithcliu R; tuaichle, &c. S$_2$S$_3$V; tuaiclu M. *tra*] tre B. 90. *fri*] for H; fria M. *buaibthiu*] buaibtiu H (*altered*); buaithbiu RB; buaidhthiu YS; buaitre S$_2$; buaitriu M; buaidfi S$_3$V. 91. *raidfit*] raidfid, &c. RS$_3$V; raidfed, &c. YH; raid fri S$_2$. *bái nad ba*] boi anadhba S$_2$.

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Labraid loingsech co n-úath alt
tadchaid, túath toimsech tlacht-balc :
fi feb fuil-iath, fer co facht,
ba hí a ben Muiriath macdacht.

Muiriath mór rodlecht mo dú;
co slóg roslecht a fidu :
tan rothriallad nírbo thrú,
mar adfiadar, a firu.

---

94. *tadchaid*] B; tadclaid Y; tadcclaith H; tadcloidh S; tadcloich S_2; tachlaidh M; taga R; tadhglaith S_3V. 95. *fi*] faoi H; fri RSS_2. *fuiliath*] fuilliath R; fuilliat B; foliath YSS_2. *fer*] fri M. *facht*] fecht RS_2.

Labraid the Mariner with terrible limbs
came with a huge mail-clad people,
. . . the bloody plain, a man of war :
she was his wife, the youthful Moriath.

Moriath, great honour she deserved about the spot
with the host that cleared her woods :
when she visited it, she brought no ill luck,
as is related, O men !

96. *ba hi*] hi B ; is a M. *macdacht*] macacht RH ; mactacht M. 98. *ro*] re RB. 99. *ro*] no M. *triallad*] triall S_2. *nirbo*] nibo YS. 100. *adfiadar*] dofiadfraid R ; dofiadar BMS_2S_3.

OCHAN.

Cinaed úa Hartacán *cecinit.*

Déccid ferta níthaig Néill
ós lecht fir déin díchmaig dúir :
sund for ur slige na slúag
rogab lige n-úar i n-úir.

Níall mac Echach, assa lecht,
luid fo secht tar trethan tricht :
roreraig comarbas Cuind
co ngaet ós muing mara hIcht.

Dia ráid in drong dúr din múr
" Ail dún descin ríg nondlig,"
atracht in mál súas iarsein,
in gein ba huallchu fo nim.

Eochu, ba hed ainm ind fir
de Lagnib lir, lám co neim ;
i tóeb Néill co ngúalaind glain
sadis fiad na slúagaib sleig.

Cid ruc in Lagnech inund
fri báig Saxan ngalbech ngand
guin ind ríg dond imram oll,
ingnad glond dorigned and.

Tan nosticed cith nó chrúas
tócabtha súas, serig dúis :
ba fír flatha iar ndáil báis :
maidm secht catha rena gnúis.

LRBYMHSS$_2$S$_3$V. *Cinaed úa Hartacán*] L *only*. 1. *ferta*] fert in YHS$_2$S$_3$; firt i S. 2. *lecht fir*] &c. SS$_2$; leachtaigh M ; lettir, &c. *cæt*. 3. *sund for ur*] sunna for Y ; sund for S$_2$. 4. *n-úar*] uar LB. 5. *assa*] isa YHMSS$_2$S$_3$. 6. *tricht*] tricc L. 7. *roreraig*] coriaraidh S$_2$. 8. *con*] ro B. *muing*] tuind M. *mara*] mar h- H. 9. *ráid*] ráded L ; raidhi RM ; raidid YS ; raidhit S$_2$; raidhe S$_3$. *in*] *om*. YS$_2$S$_3$. *din*] di L ; do S$_2$. *mur*] LS$_2$: muir *cæt*. 10. *ail*] áill L. *ríg*] in rig L. *nondlig*] rondlig RBMYHS$_3$; rodlig, &c. SS$_2$. 11. *iarsein*] arsain B. 12. *ba*] is M ; bat S$_3$. 13. *hed*] LH ; he *cæt*. 15. *con*] coa RS$_3$. *glain*] L ; gil RS$_3$; ngil *cæt*.

OCHAN.

Behold the martial trench of Niall
over the grave of a man keen, . . . ; strong
here, by the side of the track of the hosts
he found a cold couch in the soil.

Niall, son of Eochu, whose is the grave,
went seven times swiftly across the main ;
he ruled the heritage of Conn
till he was slain above the surf of the Ictian sea.

When the grim folk said from the rampart,
" We desire to look on the king that owns us,"
uprose thereupon the prince erect,
the being that was proudest under heaven.

Eochu, that was the name of the man
of the numerous Leinstermen, a hand of venom ;
in the side of Niall, the white-shouldered,
he lodged his spear, in presence of the hosts.

Though the Leinsterman achieved yonder,
in concert with the violent grasping Saxons,
the slaying of the king after his great voyage,
strange the wonder that was wrought there.

Whenas trouble or danger came upon them
he would be raised aloft (potent the treasure) :
it was a true king's act after doom of death,
the breaking of seven battles before his face.

---

16. *fiad na*] fiadh ua M ; fiana S. *sluagaib*] sluaga Y. 18. *fri báig*] ri báig L ; fri baid B; a mbaig, &c. RYHS$_2$S$_3$; in baigh S ; combaid M. *ngalbech*] nailbech M. 19. *dond imram*] dind iram R ; di ammram B ; ba himrall S$_2$. 20. *glond*] in glonn, &c. RMH. *doringned*] doigneadh B ; rognid R ; dognidh M. 21. *Tan*] in tan L. *nosticed*] dosfiged, &c. RBMS$_3$; dofiċced H ; . . ficed Y ; rosfighed, &c. SS$_2$. *cith*] L ; cath *cæt*. 22. *tocabtha*] ba tocabtha L ; dogaibthea S ; tocbaidis S$_2$. ; tocfaithea M. *serig*] L ; seric (*with* vel seg ric *superscr.*) B ; sethnach, &c. YHSS$_3$; seirech, RMS$_2$. *dáis*] tuis YHSS$_2$.

Fírían-focul atbert Níall,
dia ngaet forsin rian tria rún,
áitt i clanta ilad Néill,
co teilctís a ngéill for cúl.

Aire-sin roléicthea ass
dar gáeth-rian nglass, trom a thress,
géill Saxan, ba mór-dál mass,
géill Fhranc, géill Rómán andes.

Lótar asin Temraig síar
fían a theglaig trelmaig tréin :
ba de bói iar mbaisse brón
Ochan mór muntire Néill.

Celebrais i n-Ochain aird
cách diaraile, aidble uird,
Lagin, Mumain, rodasní,
Connaicht, Ulaid, fir lí is luirg.

Láech dosrimthais, ropu rí ;
nírb fand a chlí for bith-ché ;
ba suail do Níall, násad dín,
co toracht creitem dil Dé. D.

Rannsadar a maic iarsin
inis n-Airt, ba hamra fir ;
is dóib dobertar a ngéill,
céin beti neóil im gréin ngil.

---

25. *Fírian*] fír in, &c. YMSS$_2$. 26. *rian*] rian muir L. ; trian M. *tria*] cen LS$_2$. 27. *áitt*] &c. LMS$_2$; airm *cæt*. *i clanta*] a clannfai H ; a clanfa S$_3$; a claita S$_2$. *ilad*] ilaig, &c. YS$_3$; iolach H. 28. *co teilctis*] collingtís L. *ngéill*] gell B ; geill RMS$_2$. *for*] L ; ar *cæt*. 29. *air*] aræ YS ; arai S$_2$; ar M. *ro léicthea*] ra leicthea L ; tarlaicthi, &c. *cæt*. 30. *gaeth*] ngaeth RY ; angaeth H. *rian*] LH ; *om. cæt.* : *see Notes*. *nglas*] glass BMS$_2$S$_3$. *trom*] *ed.* ba trom *codd*. 31. *mass*] *om.* L. 35. *bói*] bőe L. *iar mbaisse*] iar masse L ; iarm·aise Y ; iar mbraisi, &c. HS$_3$. *brón*] mbroin YSS$_3$; broin BS$_2$H. 36. *mór*] moir, &c. BYMS$_3$.

A just word spake Niall,
when he was slain on the sea by stealth,
in the spot where Niall's tomb was built,
that their hostages should be dismissed homeward.

Thereafter they were sent free
over the green stormy sea (wild its warfare)
hostages of the Saxons (they were a great and comely company)
hostages of the Franks, hostages of the Romans from the south.

Westward from Tara came
the warrior band of his warlike powerful retinue:
thence was called, after grief and beating of breasts,
great Ochan of the following of Niall.

There parted in high Ochan
one from another the noblest in rank,
Leinstermen, Munstermen, (he caused them grief)
men of Connaught, men of Ulster, famous men and troops.

A hero united them, who was king;
not weak was his frame in this world:
it was a short space from Niall (his fame was a shelter)
till came the blessed Faith of God.

His sons thereafter divided
the island of Art, who was a wonder of a man,
it is to them their hostages shall be given
so long as clouds shall be round the white sun.

---

37. *celebrais*] celebraid BYMSS$_3$; celebrait, &c. RH; ceilebiadh S$_2$. 38. *aidble*] aible, &c. BYM. 39. *rodasní*] rodadní L; rodusmairg S$_2$. 40. *fir*] ic L. *lí is*] lis R. 41. *dosrimthais*] doremthus, &c. RB; doromtas M; dorimthus, &c. HSS$_2$. 42. *nirb*] L; nirbo S$_2$; nir *cæt*. *for*] ar YB. *chlí*] thli M. *for*] ar RYS$_2$. 43. *dín*] L; ndin B; in din R; nin *cæt*. 44. *toracht*] LH; tarat S$_2$; tardsat, &c. *cæt*. *dil Dé*] ndil nde RBMS. 45. *randsadar*] ronset L. 46. *fir*] LM; in fir BYSS$_2$S$_3$; ind fhir RH. 47. *ngéill*] gell H. 48. *céin beti*] &c., LR; gein bai M; gen bed, &c. *cæt*. *neóil*] &c. LR; aniuil, &c. BHSS$_2$S$_3$; aneill Y; teimel M. *im*] in B.

Dá Chonall, Eogan atúaid,
Fiachu, Cairpre, Mane mín,
Enna, ba hóen-baile in tslúaig,
gabais Lóegaire do ríg.

Rí dosrat fo thalman tói,
mairg na n-adrann for bith-ché!
rorand Muir Romur i ndó
ba ar omun tuaithe Dé.

Cland maic Cairne, cengta róe,
diamtís umle imalle,
ar imad óc ocus ech
nísfórfed nech acht mac Dé.

Luid sair dia n-éis, arm-char clí,
Dathí, ba talchar fria ré;
nírb fand a chomul for cóe
rorand in domun indé.

Ua as dech ós grían glan-gné
rochin ó Níall, násad nglé,
Colum Cille rogab h-Í
búaid fir bí fil i tig Dé. D.

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50. *Cairpre*] Enna, &c. YHS$_2$S$_3$. 51. *Enna*] Cairpri, &c. YHS$_2$S$_3$. *oen-baile*] hœnguine S. 52. *gabais*] L; gabsat, &c. *cæt.* 53. *dosrat*] L; dorad, &c. *cæt.* *fo*] fon RBMS; for Y(?)H. *thalman*] *ed*: thalm̄ L; talmain, &c. BYS$_2$; talm̄ RMSS$_3$. 54. *na n-*] L; na h- RBM; nach *cæt.* *for*] ar RBYMS. 55. *indó*] ineo RB; inteó S; aned M. 56. *ba ar omun*] ba heromun, &c. BS; indoaorum R. 57. *cland maic*] L; clanna, &c. *cæt.* *cengta róe*] cengtar róe L; centár rí S$_2$; ceangta rí M. 58. *diamtís*] diambidis B. *umle*] LY; umla *cæt.* 60. *forfed*] forfet B; foirred Y; foirgfeth

The two Conalls, Eogan in the north,
Fiachu, Cairpre, Mane the gentle,
Enna, there was one resort of the host,
it got Loegaire for king.

The King that brought them under the silence of earth,
woe to him that worships him not in his lifetime!
he divided the Red Sea in two parts,
it was through fear of the Lord's folk.

The children of the son of Cairenn, who stride through the battlefield,
to whom men were obedient altogether,
against the multitude of young men and horses
none could succour them save the Son of God.

After them came to the East a weapon-loving champion,
Dathi who was headstrong in his day;
not weak was his muster at the meeting-place;
he divided the world in two.

The descendant that is best above the bright-hued soil
of all that sprang from Niall (splendid glory),
is Colum Cille, who possessed Iona,
the noblest living man that is in the house of God.

M; foirccedh, &c. HS_3. 61. *sair dia n-eis*] dia eis L; soir diandeis YS_3. *armchar*] LR; armcor HS_3; armclar B; armo M; romchar, &c. Y (*with* vel arm *superscr.*) SS_2. 62. *Dathí*] nathi, &c. $RMHS_3$; dahí S. 63. *nírb fhand a chomul*] S_3; nírbo comlond L; nir gand a comol M; nirb fand a comul, &c. *cæt. for*] ar B. 64] roranda doman dil de S_2. 65–68] *om.* L. 65. *úa*] ua sin R. *glan-gné*] gnæi (*with* glā *superscr. by later hand*) B; gnoe R; glan a gne, &c. YHS_3; gu gnæ M. 66. *ngle*] e S_2.

MIDE.

Aed úa Carthaig *cecinit.*

Mide magen na marc mer,
slige forsmbíd Art Oen-fer,
lerg lán lainne Lugdech luid,
clár clainne Chuind is Chobthaig.

Cid diatá Mide ar in maig,
fine síl Chuind chét-chathaig?
cia gass glúair garg, glan in mod,
cia harg ó fúair ainmnigod?

Mide mac bruthmar Bratha
meic dirmannaig Deatha,
co roatái tenid ndiamair
ós chlaind Nemid nert-giallaig.

Secht mbliadna lána ar lassad
don tenid, ba trén-fassad,
corscáil gairge in tened trell
tar cethri hairde hÉrend.

Conid ón tenid-sin tra,
(ní hanfót ní himmarba)
condlig a sír-chennach ind
cach prím-thellach in Érind.

Condlig a chomarba cain
maige Midi medar-glain
miach móeth-bleithe la muic find
cacha hóen-cleithe in Érind.

LRBYMHSS$_2$S$_3$V. *Aed úa Carthaig*] L *only.* 1. *marc*] mbarc LSS$_3$. 2. *forsmbíd*] forsmboi R. 3. *lainne*] claind B (*with* nó loinne *in marg.*); clainni R. 7. *gas garg glúair*] gas gluairgarg RBY; gaisced garg S$_2$. *glan*] *om.* L. *mod*] magh H. 10. *dirmannaig*] dfirmannaig M; echta (*with* r *under the line and* no dirmandaid *above*) R. *Deatha*] de ata R; deaghatha M; dethatha S$_2$. 11. *co roatái*] co ro h-atda L; co adai B; coradaid R; corfataid H; dofada M; ro fado YS; ro fodogh, &c. S$_2$S$_3$. *tenid*] tene, &c. RS$_2$M. 12. *ós*] for B; fri R; ri Y; re H.

MIDE.

Mide, place of the eager steeds,
the road whereon Art the Solitary used to be
the lowland full of the splendour of Lugaid . . .
the level ground of the clan of Conn and Cobthach.

Whence is the name of Meath given to the plain?
to the heritage of the seed of Conn the Hundred Fighter?
what pure bold scion (bright the hero),
what warrior was it whence it got its naming?

Mide it was, the ardent son of Brath
the host-leading son of Deaith;
for he kindled a mystic fire
above the race of Nemed, seizer of hostages.

Seven years good ablaze
was the fire, it was a sure truce:
so that he shed the fierceness of the fire for a time
over the four quarters of Erin.

So that it is from this fire in truth
(it is not a rash saying, it is not a falsehood)
that their head-man has a right for ever
over every chief hearth of Erin.

So the right belongs to the gentle heir
of the plain of Mide mirthful and bright;
even a measure of fine meal with a white pig
for every rooftreee in Erin.

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14. *ba*] ar H. 15. *teined*] tene, &c. RBYS$_2$. *trell*] tenn, &c. YSS$_2$; tall M. 16. *tar cethri h-airde*] clár cech ri airdde L; fo cheitri hairdi, &c. YM. 17. *tenid*] te B; teine, &c. RS$_2$. 18. *anfót*] ꝥad R; afot B; annod Y; hanodh S; hónadh S$_2$; hofat M. *immarba*] immargha, &c. YMS. 21. *co ndlig a*] condligeand Y; conadh dligh, &c. SS$_2$. 23. *bleithe*]; cleithe, &c. LRBM; mbleithi Y. *find*] ind M. 24. *cacha h-*] cach LM; in gach YS. *óencleithe*] hoenceithi R; primteallach M.

Co roráidset, nír sním súail,
drúide hÉrend i n-óen-úair,
" Is mí-dé tucad dún tair,
dorat mí-gné d' ar menmain."

Corthinól Mide cen meth
drúide hErend i n-óen-tech :
co tall a tengtha, túar ngarg,
a cendaib na ndrúad ndron-ard.

Co rosadnaicc fo thalmain
Uisnig Midi mór-adbail,
co ndessid ar a tengthaib
in prím-súi in prím-senchaid.

Gáine ingen Gumóir glain,
muime Midi mid-charthaig,
ba ferr cach mnái, ciarbo thúi,
ba sái ba fáith ba prím-drúi.

Co n-erbairt Gáine co n-úaill
re Mide cosin mór-búaid :
" Is *ós neoch* rosníad ar tech
conid deseo bías Uisnech."

Uisnech ocus Mide múad
asngabar hÉriu arm-rúad,
feib adfét in súidi snas,
is desin a dind-senchas.

Dín, a Dé, Aéd úa Carthaig
ar iffern co méit anfaid :
Dia d' iráil a grésa glé
for ríg mid-charthach Mide.

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25. *nír*] L ; ní *cæt*. 26. *drúide*] druid L. 27. *dúinn*] don R ; do M. 28. *dorat*] dobert Y. *d'ar*] da M. 33. *adnaicc*] adnaidh B ; adlaicc Y ; adlnacht S_2. *fo*] a YMSS_2. 35. *ar*] for YSS_2 ; foro M. 36. *in*] im B. *sui*] L ; drui, &c. *cæt*. *in*] LRB ; sa *cæt*. 37. *Gáine*] L ; Gairē B ; Gair Y ; Gairech H ; gaire, &c. *cæt*. *midcharthaig*] meadartuig Y ; medarglain S ; mormethraig S_2. 39. *ciarbo*] nirbo M. 40. *súi*] . . . *drúi*] drai . . . shái, &c. YSS_2. 41. *Gáine*] L ; Gairec H ; gaire, &c. *cæt*.

And they said (no small grief it was),
the druids of Erin all together,
"It is an ill smoke was brought to us eastward:
it has brought an ill mood to our mind."

Then Mide the untiring assembled
the druids of Erin into one house,
and cut their tongues (a harsh presage)
out of the heads of the strong and noble druids.

And he buried them under the earth
of Uisnech in mighty Mide,
and sat him down over their tongues,
he, the chief seer and chief poet.

Gaine daughter of pure Gumor,
nurse of mead-loving Mide,
surpassed all women though she was silent;
she was learned and a seer and a chief druid.

And Gaine said with lamentation,
before Mide of the great victory,
"It is *over somewhat* our house was built,
and hence shall Uisnech be named."

Uisnech and mighty Mide
from which Erin of the red weapons is held,
according as the learned relate the cutting,
hence is derived its story.

Guard, O God, Aed ua Carthaig
from hell with all its storms,
God enjoining his clear protection
on the mead-loving king of Meath.

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43. *ós neoch*] oisneach B; onech R. *ro sniad*] LH; busniad, &c. RB; atiat M; do gniad, &c. YS; dognid S_2; dusgni S_3. 44. *de-seo*] desin Y. *bias*] ata R. 46. *asngabar*] asangabtar S_2; ongabthar M. *Eriu*] Erco L. 47. *adfét in*] adfegad Y; adfedad S; atfeghat S_2; rosfet in R. *Read perhaps* adfiadat: *but see Notes.* *snass*] a snas YS. 48. *é*] sé L. *a*] in RH. 50. *anfaid*] L; uanfaid Y; n-anfaid, *cæt.* 51. *d' irdil*] d' furail YHS$_2$; durail S. *glé*] glaine L, glaine M. 52. *ríg*] ri RB. *mid-charthach*] mi chartach L; mid caraig B; midhcuartaig M; micharach SS$_2$.

DRUIM NDAIRBRECH.

Fulartach *cecinit.*

Cid diatá in druim Druim nDairbrech?
ba mór lá rathuill teglach;
rem dán atchí co cuimnech
clár buidnech mar thír Temrach.

Druim nDairbrech is dún álaind,
múr gainmech fo thuind tóeb-seing;
láid báird bas greimm ria glé-raind
fégaim din beinn aird óebind.

Druim ndrech-slemon na ndath-bord,
cuing leth-remor 'na leth-leirg,
port mar Raigne na rath-bard,
múr cath-garg Dairbre drech-deirg.

Dairbre drech-derg mac Lulaig,
ba prap sreth-chelg iar samain,
mac Ligmuine co leraib,
irlaime im debaid danair.

Fidgai Fochmaind is Gaileoin
niptar moch-maill dia lán-réir:
Firbolg, Fir Domnand dírim,
ba sír-mín gairbe in gád-méin.

Fine Chrecraige ind úr-óir
Gúmóir Brecraige bán-áir,
Mendraige Dairbre dúan-féil,
ba búan-léir gairbe grán-áig.

LRBYMHSS_2S_3V. *Fulartach*] F. L; *om. cæt.* 2. *rathuill*] L; datuill M; rotuill, &c. HS_3; dotuill *cæt.* 3. *rem*] rom L; rim H; reim S_2M. *atchí*] adchim Y (the *m* added by later hand); atcim H; docim RS_2S_3. 5. *dún*] druim n- SS_2. 6. *táebsheing*] tæbeing Y; taibfind M; taibind, &c. SS_2. 7. *ria*] re YHS_2S_3; don M. 8. *din*] L; don, &c. $YMSS_2S_3$; do RB; da H. *beind*] muing S_2. 9. *shlemon*] lemain BS. 10. *remor*] lemur S. *leirg*] L; bord S; lerg *cæt.* 11. *port*] *om.* R. *mar Raigne*] maraigne Y; maraidhni M. *na*] nar L. *bard*] bord- Y; bord SS_2M. 12. *múr cath*] *ed.* ba rath S_2; nar cath H; morchath S_3; mar cath *cæt.* *-deirg*] *ed.* garg S_3; dg *cæt.* *See Notes.*

DRUIM NDAIRBRECH.

Whence is the hill of Druim Dairbrech named ?
great was the day when the house earned the name ;
by mine art thou mayst see in memory
a plain populous as the domain of Tara.

Druim Dairbrech, it is a fair fort,
a sandy rampart by the lank-sided billow ;
the lay of a bard that will be mighty in tuneful verse
I see, from the lovely lofty height.

The smooth-browed hill of the gay banks,
the broad-flanked ridge with sloping sides,
a spot like Raigne of the lucky bards,
fiercely assailed rampart of Dairbre Ruddy-face.

Dairbre Ruddy-face, son of Lulach,
who was sudden as a chain-trap (?) in winter-time,
son of Ligmuine leader of hosts,
readiest in savage conflict.

The Fidgai, the Fochmaind, and the Gaileoin,
were not their own masters, early or late ;
the Firbolg, the countless Fir Domnand,
tame for ever was the violence of their imperious need.

The tribe of the Crecraige of the raw gold,
the Gumóir, the Brecraige of bloodless battle,
the Mendraige of Dairbre generous to song,
famed for ever was the fierceness of the horrid fight.

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14. *iar*] L ; ar *cæt.* *im debaid*] M ; imdebaib L ; andebaid, &c. *cæt.* 19. *fir*] YS ; *fer* S_2 ; is *cæt.* *dírim*] dirmhein M. 20. *in*] im, &c. MHSS$_2$S$_3$; am Y. 20. *gād-méin*] granair M ; gadméin, &c. *cæt.* 21. *Chrecraige*] L ; acraighi M ; ecraige, &c. *cæt.* *ind*] ind h- L ; *om.* M ; in *cæt.* *úr-óir*] SS$_2$; uróir L : umoir M ; uroir *cæt.* 22. *Gúmóir*] co múr S_2 ; gumnaige (*omitting* Brecraige *and with* " vel gumoir brecrē *superscr.*) B ; gumóir, &c. *cæt.* *bán-áir*] bansair RB ; banáir S_3 ; banair *cæt.* 23. *Mendraige*] mentraidhi S_2 ; menraide, &c. YHS. 24. *léir*] ler HS ; leirg S_2. *gairbe*] airbre S_2 ; gairm R. *gránáig*] granáig L ; in granaigh, &c. HS ; angranaid Y ; ingranáir R ; imgranair B ; imgranaib S_2 ; um granaidh M ; im granáigh S_3.

Tuc Tuathal na ferg fuilid
do Dairbre derg 'mon grellaig
maidm immach dar cach mongaig,
cath Commair gairb ós glennaib.

Dairbre drech-derg 'con drumain
ní rondegtherb ria dremmaib :
Tuathal cosin grúaid glonnaig
dia chongaib chrúaid rochengail.

Tuathal techtmar in mílid,
mór a recht-blad dar rígaib :
docer Dairbre co ndúanaib
dia thúagaib, aidble in dídail.

In cnocc-sa catha in chomlaind,
a éicsiu datha derbaim :
maith dia fír in lá labraim
d' faglaim cid diatá in deg-druim.

25. *fuilid*] S_2 ; fuillid LH ; fuilech R ; fuil B ; fuilligh MS_3 ; fuilich Y ; fuiligh S. 26. *'mon*] moan n- LBH ; mun n- YSS_2S_3 ; fan n- M. 27. *maidm*] S_3 ; tairm H. *tar*] ar M. *mongaig*] mongaid, &c. RS_2 ; monaigh S. 28. *gairb*] garb LHM. *glennaib*] greallaigh M. 29. *'con*] in RB. 30. *ni rondegtherb*] LBS_3 ; niro degtearb H ; nirbo degsearb, &c. YSS_2 ; ni ro methcerb R ; ni ra aithcearb M. *ria*] dia $YHSS_2$. *dremmaib*] demmaib

Tuathal of the bloody warriors inflicted
on red Dairbre, about the swamp
headlong defeat across every moorland
[in] the battle of Commar, rough beyond other glens.

Dairbre Ruddy-face, on that hill
in evil hour did he separate from his soldiery;
Tuathal of the martial cheek
bound him with his iron grip.

Tuathal the Wealthy, the warrior,
great his rightful fame among princes:
Dairbre of the songs fell
by his axes—fearful was the cleaving!

This hill of the array of battle
O swift poets, I declare,
good for [hearing] the truth about it is the day I speak of,
for learning whence is named the noble hill.

LB; dreamnaib Y; ndremaib RS; ndreannaib M. 31. *gruaid gl.*] ngruaid ngl., &c. RYHMS$_3$; gruaid ngl., &c. BS; ngruaid nglongaidh S$_2$. 32. *ro*] re R. 34. *dar*] da BS; do R; dia S$_2$; os H. 36. *dia*] de L; di R; la M. *didail*] LM; digaib B; digail, &c. *cæt*. 39. *fhir*] firu S$_2$M. 40. *d' fhaglaim*] L; do faglaim B; faglaim, &c. RS$_3$; dagloim H; dadlaim Y; daḋlaim S; derbaim S$_2$M. *deg-druim*] deth-druim S$_2$; deadruim M.

LAGIN I.

Rohort in rigrad 'moa ríg,
(ba gním olc, ba domna hír);
loisc Loingsech móen, méit gaile
Cobthach cóel mac Ugaine.

Ba Túaim Tenbath cosin olc
in ríg-dind rán, in rochnocc,
cornoirg Labraid, lán ngaile,
diarchuir ár a maccraide.

O rohoirged, 's é a fír,
Cobthach cóel, a thrichait ríg,
corgénair mac mór Maire
cóic cét bliadna bith-glaine.

Ba tossach glíad is gaile
pían Chobthaig for Lóegaire;
de dorochair Cobthach cairn
la húa Lóegaire lond-gairb.

Luidset dond orgain for sét
Labraid, Dubgaill trichat cét,
'na congaib ágmair assaid,
cona lágnib lán-glassaib.

O na lágnib-sin ille
rogairit Lagin Láigne:
la Loingsech Móen, co méit olc,
Cobthach cóel ba díb rohort.

Meraid 'ca chlaind co tí bráth,
corob cocad ríg rognáth:
Oilill Lóegaire do lot
la Cobthach Cóel cétna hort.

LRBYMHSS$_2$S$_3$V. 1. *in*] *om.* RH. *moa*] L; mon S; mo *cæt.* *ríg*] ríg rúad, &c. RBH. 2.] L; in dind rig ba tenba (teannbad S; tennbladh S$_2$) truag, &c. *cæt.* 3. *Loingsech*] Labraid L. *maen*] *om.* L; nœn B. *gaile*] L; ngaile, &c. *cæt.* 4. *Ugaine*] Augaine L. 5. *Tenbath*] L; teanma YS; tenba, &c. *cæt.* 6. *in rochnocc*] L; in rig chnocc, &c. RBMS; in ri chnoc H; in rig port (*vel* cn̄c *superscr.*) Y; isincnoc S$_2$. 7. *cornoirg*] &c. BS; coronoirg L; coroirc, &c. RYMHS$_2$. *lán*] med S; lath S$_2$. 8. *a maccraide*] amc*c*r*a*ide L; na læcraighi M; na rigraide, &c. *cæt.* 9. *ro*] ra LM.

LAGIN I.

The princes were slain round their king
(it was an ill deed, it was matter for wrath):
the Dumb Exile of martial might burnt
Cobthach Cael, son of Ugaine.

Till that crime, Tuaim Tenbath was the name
of the noble kingly hold, the noted hill,
till Labraid full of valour sacked it,
when he made a slaughter of its young men.

From the day he was slain (this is sooth)
even Cobthach Cael, with his thirty kings,
till the birth of the Son of Mary
is five hundred years ever pure.

The beginning of struggle and strife was
the vengeance of Cobthach on Loegaire:
thereby fell Cobthach of the cairn
by the grandson of Loegaire fierce and fell.

There came on the march to that slaying
Labraid and thirty hundred of the Dub-Gaill
in their battle-harness, warlike and staunch,
with their deep-blue lances.

From those lances thenceforth
were the men of Leinster called the Spearmen;
at the hand of the Dumb Exile, with heavy disaster,
by these lances Cobthach Cael was slain.

This doom shall abide with his family till the Last Day
that there be war between kindred kings:
the destruction of Oilill and Loegaire
at the hand of Cobthach Cael was the first slaying.

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10. *Cobthach cael*] LS_2; cæl na mbreg, &c. *cæt.* *a*] na R. 11. *cor'*] coro L; co S_2; con *cæt.* 12. *cóic*] tri M. *bith glaine*] L; buad gaire, &c. RBMH; barrbuidi Y (*with* bua gairc *superscr.*) SS_2. 14. *pian*] L; riad, &c. BYMS; riagh H; ria RS_2. *for*] fri S_2. 15. *dorochair*] dorocer RBM. 19. *assaid*] RB; fhassaid, &c. LMH; asaidh SS_2; osaid Y. 21. *na*] la B. 22. *rogairit*] rogairid B; nogairid YS; dogairid M; raidhter S_2. *laigne*] fri laigne S_2. 23. *clc*] nolc $RBSS_2$. 24. *ba díb*] cetnæ H. 25–28] *om.* L. 25. *ca*] ga M: co RBH; da, &c. YSS_2. *bráth*] brach R; in brath, &c. MHS_2. 32. *cétna*] tren S_2. *hort*] ro ort S_2; thort S.

LAGIN II.

Labraid Loingsech, lór a lín,
lasrort Cobthach i nDindríg,
co slúag lágnech dar lind lir,
díb roainmnigthea Lagin.

Tuaim Tenba a ainm riasin
cnuicc in' rogniad ind orgain :
is Dindríg ósin ille,
ó marbad na rígraide.

Da cét ar fichit chét nGall
co lágnib lethna leo anall :
de na lágnib tuctha andsin,
de atát Lagin for Lagnib.

L [159] L [377] S_2M. 2. *lasrort*] ro ort L 377 S_2M. 4. *díb roainmnigthea*] de rolainmnichea M. 5. *riasin*] roimisin M. 6. *cnuicc*] in cnuic S_2; cnoc L 377. 7. *is*] in S_2. 8. *na*] m̄c S_2. *rígraide*] macraide

LAGIN II.

Labraid the Exile, (full his number,)
by whom Cobthach was slain at Dindrig,
came with a lance-armed host over the sea-water;
from them Lagin was named.

Tuaim Tenba was the name aforetime
of the hill where the slaughter was done;
Dindrig is its name from that time forth,
since the slaying of the chieftains.

Two and twenty hundreds of the Gall
came oversea having with them broad lances;
from the lances that were carried there—
thence the men of Lagin get their name.

L 377. 9. *nGall*] call M. 10. *lethna*] lethnaibh L 377. 11. *dena*] con M. 12] dibh ro ainmnignighthe L. L 377. *de atát*] raidhter S_2; ataid M.

SLIAB BLADMA.

Fulartach *cecinit.*

Blod mac Con maic Caiss clothaig
maic Uachalla ilchrothaig
romarb Bregmáel, gobaind glain
Cuirchi maic Snithe snámaig.

Cuirche cendmar, ba rí rot
for Medraige is for Herot;
is lais ná fúair fóesam fír
Blod mac Con meic Caiss clothmín.

Cechaing 'n a luing, láthar nglé,
ó Bun Gaillme glan-úaire,
ó Áth Clíath in Herut uill
cosin n-Áth Clíath i Cualaind.

Dolluid iarum iar lín chor
co Ross Náir maic Eidlicon,
co roselb i sain-rainn son
in slíab dianid bunad Blod.

Atbath [illegible] find, figed gail,
i Sléib Bladma, blad adbail,
Blad mac Bregoin, buidnib tor,
do thám i Sléib bledaig Blod.

Aliter Nó 's ó mac Bregoin borrfaid
Sliab Bladma co mban-tolcaib;
a tarba ní cian ó crad
in slíab mar tarla ó trén-Blad.

LRY (*on a slip in later hand*) EHS$_3$V. S$_2$ *has the last stanza only.* *Fulartach*] L *only.* 1. *Blod*] L; Bladh R; Blaodh Y; Blad H; Bladma E. 2. *uachalla*] tuachail aird Y. *ilchrothaig*] ilchlothaig LE. 4. *Snithi*] R; Snithche H; sær LE. *snámaig*] samaig R; snamanaig E. 5. *rot*] rod RY; rót S$_3$. 6. *Herot*] L; eorot R; erfhod Y; erot H; heret E; erót S$_3$. 7. *fúair*] *om.* R; frith S$_3$. 8. *Blod*] Blaod Y; Blad *cæt.* *clothmín*] LE; clothmir H; cloth- RY; clothghil S$_3$. 11. *ó Áth Cliath*] cath cliach R.

SLIAB BLADMA

Blod, son of Cu, son of Cass the renowned,
son of Uachall the many-shaped,
killed Bregmael the famous smith
of Cuirche, son of Snithe the swimmer.

Curche Cendmar was a daring king
over Medraige and over Herot;
through him Blod, son of Cass Clothmin,
found never sure protection.

He fared in his ship—clear purpose!—
from the Bottom of pure-cold Galway,
from Ath Cliath in wide Herot
to Ath Cliath in Cualu.

Thence he came after many a turn
to the Point of Nar, son of Edliuc,
and possessed, as his special portion,
the mountain whose name derives from Blod.

A valiant man who used to wage battle died
at Sliab Bladma—vast renown!
even Blad, son of Bregon, with troops of warriors,
died of disease in the monster-haunted Sliab Blod.

Or, it is from the son of Bregon the wrathful
that it is named Sliab Bladma, with onsets of women;
their profit (?) not far removed from destruction (?)
was the mountain where it happened through strong Blad.

Herut] L; erait R; éroit H; heret E; eruot S_3; erfhod Y. 13. *iar*] co H. 15. *roselb*] russelb H; rosealbuith S_3. *i sain-rainn*] in sáin rainn R; asan roinn Y; a sabrainn H; sealbhrainn S_3; hí senraind E. 16. *dianid*] diana H. *Blod*] Blad, &c. EH. 17–20] *in* LE *only*. 18. *blad*] blád L. 19. *Bregoin*] Breguin L. *bledaig Blod*] bladaig blad E. 21–28] *in* RYHS_3 *only*. 21. *Bregoin*] Breogain, &c. RH. *tolcaib*] tolchaib H. 23. *tarba*] tharba S_3.

Nó bleda mara nar mall,
bíasta, ruisenda a n-anmand,
tánic fo thalmain na treb,
conid uatha atá Sliab Bled.

Blod mac Con meic Caiss clothmín
romarb buachaill Bregmáil báin,
gobann Cuirchi meic Sníthe,
rogab ac Ross Tíre Náir.

---

25. *Nó*] nois Y. 26. *ruisenda*] R ; ruisegda H ; ruisedha S_3 ; ruisdeda Y. 27. *treb*] tor Y. 28. *conid*] gurab Y. *uatha*] uathad R. *Bled*] R ; blad, &c. YHS_3. 29–32] *in* LL 159*b* BdHS_2 ; *not in* RYES_3. 29. *Blod*] Bd ; Blad LH ; Bladma S_2. *Caiss*] *om.* S_2. *clothmín*] clotgil H ;

Or the monsters of the sea that was not calm,
beasts—*ruisenda* was their name—
came throughout the land of the tribes,
so that from them is named Sliab Bled.

—

Blod, son of Cu, son of Cass Clothmin,
slew the herd of Bregmael Ban,
the smith of Curche, son of Snithe;
he settled at Ross Tire Nair.

---

cloich- S_2. 30] romarb bregmáel ingobaind mbáin L. *báin*] mhair H. 31] iar marbad goband cuirchi meic snithi L; gabann cuirchi moir meic snithe, &c. HBd; gabaind sein curc meic sneithi S_2. 32. *ae*] hi Bd. *Náir*] inair S_2; innair Bd.

FID NGABLI.

Find *cecinit.*

Inmain dam in Gabol glan
tuc forom for fid flesc-glan:
ní'r dáig luaige co logud,
rogáid uaid a ainmnigud.

Tarclam Ainge grinne nglan
cen taidbe fri tinsanad:
cach crand cen timme ria thúr
isin grinne buc barr-úr.

Drochta dogníd dia ingin
ós gním ochta aird-inbir:
ní śiled cen lán mara:
nodiled dál n-óentama.

Is é dafall, forum sceóil,
Gaible glass mac Ethedeóin;
dafarlaic cen lúag n-astair
a Beluch fúar Fhualascaig.

Rogab foss ic finib Flaind:
dligid a doss a derb-chaill
fer rothóid is rothall tair:
ic mnáib cach amm rop inmain.

LRBYMEHSS$_3$. *Find*] RB *only*. 1. *dam*] lind R; lám E. *Gabul*] gabrán, &c. ES. 2. *tuc forom*] tuc form L; rotathaigh R; dathaiged M; dotathaig, &c. *cæt.* *in fid*] forsind L (*but* for fid *at* 159 *b* 7). *flesc-glan*] flescach LRBHS$_3$. 3. *nir*] ni ar R. *dáig*] daig, &c. LBM; daighi R; dag HS$_3$; gæ (*with* d *superscr.*) Y; ghái, &c. SE. *luaige*] &c. LM; *om.* R; luaide, &c. *cæt.* *co*] cen, &c. RYS; ge E. *logud*] luided E; ludadh S. 4. *rogáid*] ragaid LB; roguid Y; daraidh M; rogab H; dogab R; corgabh S$_3$. *úaid a*] uaid LS; uaide RYHS$_3$; uaiti M. 5. *tarclam*] tarchland M. *Ainge*] aine RE; in gæ M. *grinne*] &c. LM; in grinne, &c. *cæt.* *nglan*] LHS$_3$; glan *cæt.* 6. *taidbe*] taidi L; time (*in litura*) S; timme E; taibi M. *fri*] fria H; tré SE; tria M.

FID NGABLI.

Dear to me is bright Gabul
who set moving the bright-stemmed wood,
not for the sake of a reward that should decay,
he prayed that from him it should be named.

Ainge gathered a bright faggot
which dripped unless it was ebb-tide:
every kind of tree without exception is to be sought
in the soft fresh-leaved faggot.

A tub was made for his daughter
above the breast-work of the high river mouth;
it would not leak unless the tide were full:
she loved (?) the lot of virginity.

He it was who stole it (burden of a tale)
even Gaible the pale, son of Ethedeon;
he cast it without payment for labour
from the cold Pass of the Thicket.

It found rest in the confines of Fland;
he claims of right his copse and his own wood,
the man who thieved and stole in the east;
to women he was at all times dear.

---

7. *cach*] LS; cen, &c. *cæt.* *timme*] tindi M. *ria*] ra L; tria B; re R; *om.* E. *thúr*] tnud B. 9. *drochta*] droctga BME; drocht Y. *dognid*] donid L; dogni, &c. MES; doroigne Y. *dia*] da L. 10. *os*] is R. *ochta*] ochtga F. 12. *no diled*] &c. RHS$_3$; diled L; dilad Y; dodilad, &c. MES; no dliged B. *dal*] dail B; daul H. *næntama*] do oentama L; doentuma, &c. RBHS$_3$. 13. *dafall*] L; dofall BMHS$_3$; dofaill R; rofeall, &c. YES. 14. *Ethedeoin*] etamoin M. 15. *dafarlaic*] M; dosfarlaic R; dofarlaic *cæt.* *luag*] luad, &c. RSHME. 16. *a Beluch*] os bealach M; óbel E; o bealach S$_3$. 19. *ro thâid*] L; rostaid E; rossaidh Y; rośait M; rosaid, &c. *cæt.* *ro thall*] rota all B; rostall E. 20. *rop*] bus Y.

MAG LIFE.

Life luchair, leór do blaid,
ingen Channain chét-churchaig
fuair gairm ngaire il-lóg astair
ainm in ma ge, is mór-ascaid.

Tuc ascaid togaide tig
dálem Conaire chélig
d' ingin Channain cét codal
Deltbanna dét drech-ṡolam.

Lámnad roloit Lifi laind
i Purt Ágmar i n-Áraind ;
ruc mudaid mác Druchta de,
di chumaid lór léch-Life.

LRBYMEHSS$_3$. 2. *Channain*] Candan B; Camain H. *chet-churchaig*] LE ; coir cruthaig RM ; coir cruchaig BY ; coir curchaig, &c. SS$_3$H. 3. *ngaire*] gaire L. *illóg*] L ; iarnocc R ; iarn M ; iarnog, &c. *cæt*. 5. *tig*] tich L. 6. *chélig*] chelig L ; celic B ; ceillig, &c. *cæt*. 7. *cét*] chet L. *codal*] comul L ;

MAG LIFE.

Life the bright (fame in plenty!),
daughter of Cannan of the hundred coracles,
got as reward for her labour a title of pious observance,
even the name of the plain ; it is a mighty boon.

A choice, pleasant boon gave
the spencer of friendly Conaire
to the daughter of Cannan,—an hundred hides,
Deltbanna of the gleaming teeth.

Child-birth was the death of eager Life
at Port Agmar in Aran;
thereby the son of Drucht got his death,
from his great grief for heroic Life.

---

codhail, &c. ES_3. 8. *solam*] solus *fcs. of* L, *wrongly*. 9. *ro*] ra L. 10. *agmar*] aloind R ; admor Y. *Araind*] feraind, &c. ES_3. 11. *ruc*] ro HS_3 ; rod (?) Y ; ru S ; guc M. *mudaid*] mugaid, &c. RYEH ; mudaig M ; mugaig, &c. BS. *di chumaid*] damaigh M. 12. *lór*] loir $RBSS_3M$.

BERBA.

In Berba búan a bailbe,
saiges dar slúag sen-Ailbe ;
is fis fedma fáth dia fail
Berba, bláth cech blad-focail.

Ni fuailfed focheird inti
luaithred Mechi mór-millti :
rosbalb rosberb cen athbach
salchur serb na sen-nathrach.

Nathir fo thrí focheird cor
tathig in mbeirg dia bronnud :
cnáifed dia álaig óg n-ell
slóg sádail na sen-Érend.

Aire-sin romarb Diancecht :
ba fotha garb din glan-echt,
dia chosc co búan din bronnud
ós cach cúan, din chomlongud.

Eól dam a lecht leth rolá
fert cen tech is cen tuga :
a lúaith olc cen áib n-enga
fofúair socht i sær-Berba.

LRBYMEHSS$_3$H$_3$. 1. *a*] L ; co m- *cæt.* 2. *dar*] L ; co, &c. *cæt.* 3. *fáth*] L ; in fath, &c. *cæt.* 4. *bláth*] bláith, &c. *codd.* *cech blad focail*] *These words are displaced and partially obliterated in* L. 5.] Nosfáidhset cofed inte S ; nosfáidset coféig inti E 6. *Mechi*] LB ; Meich *cæt.* *mór-millti*] mormilti L ; na mormilti M ; na mormillti, &c. RB ; in mormillti, &c. *cæt.* 7. *rosbalb rosberb*] rosearb robalb M ; 7 rosbalb E. *cen athbach*] cen adbath S ; cach atbath E. 10. *in mbeirg*] LR ; in mberg, &c. BHS$_3$; in berg Y ; in mbert E ; umbeirt M ; imbert S. *dia*] L ; a RBM ; do *cæt.* 11. *cnáifed*]

BERBA.

The Barrow, enduring its silence,
that flows through the folk of old Ailbe ;
a labour it is to learn the cause whence is called
smooth Barrow, flower of all famous names.

No motion in it made
the ashes of Mechi the strongly smitten :
the stream made sodden and silent past recovery
the fell filth of the old serpent.

Three turns the serpent made ;
it sought out the soldier to consume him ;
it would have wasted by its doings all the kine
of the indolent hosts of ancient Erin.

Therefore Diancecht slew it :
there was rude reason for clean destroying it,
for preventing it for ever from wasting
worse than any wolf-pack, from consuming utterly.

Known to me is its grave where he cast it,
a tomb without walls or roof-tree ;
its ashes, evil without loveliness of innocence
found silent burial in noble Barrow.

---

cnaidhfidh M ; clæfed E ; claifid S. *álaig*] LS ; álaid RBYE ; alaibh HS_3 ; falaig M. *og n-ell*] ganeill M. 13. *airesin*] iarsin M ; aráisin ES. *romarb*] rosmarb and M. *Diancecht*] L ; mac Cecht *cæt*. 14. *fotha*] fatha LYHE ; fota RB. *don*] din L. 15. *dia*] do RBME. *din*] dia LH ; don *cæt*. 16. *din*] L ; dia *cæt*. 17. *ro*] ri RB ; re M. 18.] fert cen tech fert cen teith is cen tuca R. *tech*] tes̄ B. *tuga*] tiugba B. 19. *cen*] con RBS_3. *nenga*] enga L. 20. *fofúair*] forfuair YM ; foruair S ; fotruair HS_3 ; *for* E. *socht*] focht L. *i*] ar RB ; na S_3.

MOIN GAI GLAIS.

Culdub mac Déin dia Samna
luid hi céin, in cath-amra,
do chuingid chomraic óen-fir
co Fidrad fíal forfáilid.

Desin dorochair Fidrad
d'imairiuc na trén-bidbad:
aided Fidraid féig iar feirg
do láim maic Déin daiger-deirg.

Gae Glass úa Loga na lecht
ba mass, fri fola frithbert:
bái leis sleg taith fri tola
dorigne Aith án-goba.

Is é ba nia Fiachach féil
úa Loga liamna lonn-géir:
ba greit gáid cen dfl im dul:
dia láim dorochair Culdub.

RBYMEHSS$_3$. 2. *hi*] RB; a *cæt.* *amra*] chalma MS$_3$. 3. *chuindgid*] cuindgi, &c. HS$_3$. 5. *dorochair*] adrochair BMS; atorchair Y. 6. *d'imairiuc*] do imairc R; dimfarrach, &c. MHS$_3$; diamaireg S. 10. *fri*] fria MH.

MOIN GAI GLAIS.

Culdub, son of Dian, at Samain tide,
went afar, the famous fighter,
to demand duel man to man
with joyous generous Fidrad.

Thereby fell Fidrad
by encounter with doughty foes:
the death of keen Fidrad in his fury,
[came] by the hand of the red-knived son of Dian.

Gai Glas, grandson of Lug of the graves,
was comely, a bulwark against enmity:
he bore a spear . . . against shields,
which Aith, the noble smith, forged.

'Tis he was champion of generous Fiachu,
the grandson of Lug Liamna, bold and keen:
he was the warrior who prayed to go without hire;
by his hand fell Culdub.

---

11. *fri*] fria M. *taith*] thaith Y; staith S. 12. *in-goba*] engoba Y; aengoba SE: angoba *cæt.* 13. *Fiachach*] fiachna R; fiachra BHM; fiacrach S_3; fricach E. *féil*] fen S; féin E. 14. *longéir*] langéir E. 15. *gaid*] aidh Y. *im*] in BR. *dil*] E; diol S_3: dil *cæt.* 16. *dorochair*] adrochair HS_3.

FAFFAND.

FULARTACH (?) *cecinit.*

Broccaid brogmar co ngním gíall
do chiniud gorm-glan Galían,
dó ba mac Faifne in file,
ní gó taithme tiug-mire.

Ba hí máthair in maic maiss
Libir ind láthair lond-braiss;
ingen dóib in dían dírmach
ind Aige fïal il-gnímach.

Oll-mass in cethrur cáem cass;
ba clethchur sáer co sognass;
athair is máthair co n-áib,
ingen is bráthair bláth-cháin.

Tucsat na siabra side—
nír gním tiamda téithmire—
delbsat i ndeilb láig allaid
Aigi sáir co serc-ballaib.

Roṡír hÉrinn or i n-or
re cach n-albín rúad rogor,
corchúardaig Banba mbrethaig
co calma fo chaém-chethair.

Tarnic a gním is a gal,
fríth sund co sír a sernad;
tucsat i mbrianna i mbine
fianna Meilgi Imlige.

LRBYMESS$_3$H. *Fulartach*] F. L; *om. cæt.* 1. *con*] LY; cen, &c. *cæt.* *giall*] gial L; ngiall RBE. 2. *chiniud*] chungid L. 4. *ní gó*] ni co R; ni gon Y; nig M; nia na E; nia S. *taithme*] taichle L; taichme, &c. BYES. *tiugmire*] acht (*inserted*) tigmire B; acht tigmire HS$_3$. 6. *lond-brais*] L; londmais RBYSS$_2$H; læchmais SE; landglais M. 8. *ind Aige fhial*] ind Aigi fhial L; in fhial Ainge S; in fhial Aige, &c. *cæt.* *il-*] oll- YSE. 11. *athair*] ingen L. 12.] athair is mac co mor . . . L; *the last syllable erased, and* aeb (?,

FAFFAND.

Broccaid the powerful with winning of hostages,
of the bright and famous race of the Galian,
he had a son, Faifne the poet;
the record of his final journey is no falsehood.

It was she was the mother of the comely son,—
even Libir quick and eager of mood:
their daughter was the swift lady of the hosts
Aige, the noble and skilful.

Exceeding fair were the four, curled and gentle;
they were a noble kin, of virtuous behaviour,
the father and the lovely mother,
the daughter and the brother soft and fair.

The evil spirits made an onset
(it was no feeble deed of wanton folly):—
they changed into the form of a wild doe
the noble Aige of the love-spots.

She traversed Erin from shore to shore
fleeing before all the fierce and fiery packs;
so that she coursed round Banba, land of judges,
bravely, four fair times.

Her doings and her valiance had an end,
here came to pass her final dissolution;
they tore her in pieces in their wickedness,
did the warriors of Meilge of Imlech.

---

added in margin. *ingen is*] siur 7 M. *chain*] chaem, &c. MHS$_3$ 14. *side*] síde E: a side RB. *teithmire*] &c. LES; teidmiri Y; teidmini M; acht teidmire, &c. RHS$_3$; acht tecmire B. 16. *serc-*] sith- YSE. 17. *i n-or*] indor E; cohor M. 18. *re*] RS; ria LHS$_3$; ro BYME. *albin*] albain B; aillin, &c. YE; allaim M. 21. *gnim*] ngnim E. *gal*] ngal E. 22. *frith*] fuil M. *sund*] *om.* L. *sir*] sær, &c. RBS$_3$. *sernad*] særnad B; sráenadh SE; særbladh M. 23. *i* (1)] in LRB; a *cæt*. 24. *Imlige*] imilige LBR; milidi, &c. YESS$_3$H; milmile M.

De-sin atá Aige úar
for sruth in maige, mét snúad;
ó roscráided cen chuiscle,
rosdáiled ar dían-uisce.

Sruith-lind sin cen bás co bráth,
snás dar Lifi co lond-gnáth;
mod táire, ní tairm cen taig,
Aige a hainm in cach inbaid.

Moslúi síar inna ṡide
in drúi dían in deg-file,
d' ainmed ríg Beirre co mblaíd,
Meilge maic Cobthaig cundail.

Fúacrais ar in ríg co recht
anim is on i n-óen-fecht,
's aithis fri sír-gail sethad
i ndígail a deg-ṡethar.

Dorochair in file féig
dind fochaind amnais acbéil;
romairned co sír segma
ar ainmed ríg ro-Themra.

Rocúrad rosedlad se,
rodedlad fri doenmige;
for Faffaind na fían fergach
fúair grafaind dían díbergach.

25–28. This stanza is quoted in the prose Ds. LL 160. 25. *Aige*] ath Aighi S. 26. *for*] L [191]; ar *cæt*. *snuad*] sluagh M. 27. *cen*] *Read perhaps* co: *see Notes*. *chuiscle*] chuis gle L [191] S_3; cuisle R. 28. *rosdáiled*] rodailead M; rosdailid E. *ar*] in, &c. YME. 29. *cen bás*] gabhus S. 30. *snás*] snass L; súas SE. 31. *mod táire*] mothaire L; mo tairi Y; mod taire, &c. RBSEH; mogh tairi M; madh taire S_3. *ní*] *om.* L; in R. *cen taig*] ocathich L. 32. *inbaid*] inmaid Y; inmaig E. 33. *moslúi*] musluid, &c. YSE; dolai M. *inna*] L; marcach RBYEH; mar gach.

Hence is the name of chill Aige
given to the river of the many-coloured plain
since she was tortured without secrecy
and flung upon the flowing water.

That ancient stream is deathless till Doomsday,
which pours across Life in furious wise:
(a deed of shame, not wrongly noised abroad (?))—
Aige is its name for all time.

Westward came rushing,
the swift druid, the skilled poet,
to blemish the famous king of Berre,
Meilge, son of kindly Cobthach.

He denounced rightfully upon the king
reproach and shame together,
and disgrace with lasting stain . . .
in revenge for his sweet sister.

The keen poet fell
by the harsh and horrid cause;
he was betrayed for ever . . .
for blemishing the king of high Tara.

He was chastised, he was maimed,
he was parted from his misery;
in Faffand of the wrathful warriors
he met the pursuit of swift spoilers.

&c. MSS_3 35. *ainmed*] ainfed R. *Beirri*] birra E. 37. *in*] a M. 38. *anim*] ainm B. 39. *'s aithis*] athais, &c. SEY; sadhair S_3. *sethad*] sead M; srethad E. 40. *deg*] derb R. *shethar*] athair B. 41–48] These stanzas are quoted in the prose Ds. LL 160. 41. *dorochair*] adrochoir M. 45. *rocúrad*] rocuired E. 46. *dedlad*] delgad R. *fri*] ra L [191]; ri L [160]; ger M; co, &c. *cæt*. 46. *doenmige*] dommige, &c. B; domhine M. 47. *for Faffaind*] LR; afhorafaind M; i faffaind, &c. *cæt*. *fian*] fiann LYE. *dian*] na n- L.

Rosgáid imascaid andsin,
áitt immasclaig in mílid;
combeth fria gairm—gním nguba—
a ainm sír in sen-duma.

Is eol dam fri tibri tra
aided Libri is Broccada;
ní hamdarc in fáth dia fail
ráth in' roadnacht Broccaid.

---

49. *rosgáid*] roscaid RMS$_3$; rosccaid H. 50. *immasclaig*] immasclaid, &c. YES$_3$; immasclaith H. *in*] im L. 51. *fria*] re RYMES. 52. *sen-*] saer- L. 53. *tibri*] tibrib YS; tibir M; tibre RE. *tra*] *om.* L.

There he begged a boon
at the place where the soldier cut him down (?)
that his name should serve—O deed of woe!—
to designate the ancient hill for ever.

Known to me with laughter (?) in sooth
is the death of Libir and Broccaid;
not obscure is the cause whence is [named]
the rath where Broccaid was buried.

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55. *ní h-amdarc*] L; nir amhdacht M; ni harmdocht E; nirarmdocht, &c. *cæt. dia*] ma M. 56. *ráth in rohadnacht*] in rath aradnacht M.

ALMU I.

Almu Lagen, les na Fían,
port ragnathaig Find fir-fial,
dorala sund a slicht sain
inní d'atá Almu ar Almain.

Almu ainm ind fir rosgab
re lind Nemid na nert-blad ;
marb thall sin tilaig úane,
do thám opund oen-uaire.

Almu rop alaind in ben
ben Nuadat móir mic Aiched
rachunig, ba fír in dál,
a ainm ar in cnocc comlán.

Nuada drúi ba duni garg ;
darónad leis dún dronard ;
racomled leis almu i n-aill
don dún ule ar n-a thoraind.

Oen-gel in dún, dremne drend,
mar nogabad él h-Erend ;
dond alamain tuc d'a thaig,
is de atá Almu ar Almain.

Tadc mac Nuadat, nertaid gail,
drúi Cathair Moir cu mór-blaid,
dó rafacaib a athair
Almuin cona hard-rathaib.

Ingen gnoach oc Tadg thrén,
darab ainm Murni mun-chém ;
rocunged o Chumull in ben ;
rosérastar Tadc tæb-gel.

L *only*, except stanzas 3, 5, 21, which are quoted in LU ; see notes. 17. *dremne*].

ALMU I.

Almu of the Leinstermen, a fort of the Fians,
an abode that Find the truly noble used to frequent:
hither came by chance one of no common line,
the woman from whom Almu is so called.

Almu is the name of the man who got the place
in the time of Nemed of mighty renown;
he died there on the green hill
of a sudden sickness in a moment.

Almu, beautiful was the woman!
the wife of Nuadu Mor, son of Achi;
she entreated—just was the award—
that her name should be on the entire hill.

Nuadu the druid was a fierce man;
by him was built a fort strong and high:
by him alum was rubbed on the rock
over the whole fort, after it was marked out.

All white is the fort (bitter strife),
as if it had received the lime of all Erin,
from the alum he put on his house,
thence is Almu so named.

Tadc, son of Nuadu, who strengthens valour,
the druid of Cathair Mor great in fame,
to him his father left
Almu with her noble possessions.

Tadc the strong had a lovely daughter
whose name was Murni Fair-neck;
the woman was demanded by Cumall;
Tadc the white-sided refused him.

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dremni LU. 18. *no*] na LL. 19. *d'a*] dia LU. 22. *cu*] co *facs. of* L *wrongly*. 26. *darab*] darb MS.

Rasuc Cumull ar écin,
*in*gin Taidc, cer gním étig;
bliadai*n* can chert is can chlód
do Murni ic C*um*ull chath-mór.

Cíis Tadc cu tren athach
re Cond calma cét-chathach,
roni*m*derg, adbul in t-olc,
ronglám, ba mór i*n* mudocht.

Focairther o Chund chalma
do Chumull facbáil Banba;
corchurset cath Cnucha thall,
co torchair re Cond C*um*all.

Nói tráth re cur in chatha
darónad fer i*n* ratha
re hi*ngin* Taidc i*n* tæib-gil,
darronad Fi*n*d fír-fe*n*nid.

Luid Murni ar marbad a fir,
cu ránic Almai*n* n-oen-gil;
ba caintech c*um*thach rabæi;
nirbo dethbir do*n* deg-mnái.

Alaind bái i*n* rígan cu rath,
o*cus* si thæb-lán torrach;
rafocair Tadc, mór i*n* mod,
a marbad a*m*-mudugod.

Roraid Cond co ngili glacc:
"Ba ferr lim co mbéra macc,
i*n*und máthair cor-rathaib
do Chu*m*all is do *m*'athair."

Diultaider ic Taidc co trén;
do Murni ba do*m*na dér;
ar nírla*m* a labrad,
a*m*-milliud, *nó* a*m*-moch-marbad.

59. *ar*] *Read* arái, *which is translated*: *see Notes*.

Cumall carried her off by force
the daughter of Tadc, though it was an ugly deed;
for a year, without right and without victory,
did Cumall the warrior possess Murni.

Tadc wept sore awhile
before Cond the brave of the hundred fights:
he taunted him—enormous the evil!—
he reviled him,—great was the hurt!

Sentence is given by Cond the brave
against Cumall that he should leave Banba;
so they fought the battle of Cnucha there,
and Cumall fell before Cond.

Nine hours before the battle was fought
was begotten the Man of Luck;
on the daughter of Tadc the white-sided
Find the true warrior was begotten.

Murni came after the slaying of her husband,
and fared to Almu the all-white;
plaintive, sorrowful she was,
it was not fitting for the high-born lady.

Lovely and gracious was the princess,
and she was great with child;
Tadc threatened (great the deed!)
to kill and make an end of her.

Said Cond of the white palm:
"I hold it better she should bear a son;
the same mother, with her substance,
had Cumall and my father."

Vehemently is she rejected by Tadc,
(to Murni it was cause of tears)
yet he did not dare to do what he spoke of—
to destroy them or slay them suddenly.

Dolluid co Temair *ind* Fail
Murni mum-chai*m* cnis . . . .
coroiarfaig do Chund ca*n* chol
a himth*ús* a hordugod.

"Imthig-siu," ar Cond, "is ced li*nd*
co Fiacail Fí m*ac* *Con*chi*nd*
der-fiur Cumaill tall istaig
Bodmall B . . . ."

Dolluid co Temraig Margi
Murni mun-chai[m]cu n-ardi;
*Con*la gilla Chuind ca*n* chol
ca . . . . d'a ordugod.

Ba fælid ria *in* gilla g*r*ind
in Fiacail Bi mac *Con*chind,
ba fálid Bodmall cu becht,
ba fælid uile in t-airecht.

Arsai*n* rucad Fi*nd* febda
rí na Fian, mór a menma;
nói mbli*adna* . . . mod tend,
rop é rig-ḟénnid h-Ere*nd*.

Cungis Find ar Tadc na tor
íc Cumull móir do marbod
cath can chardi dó, can dáil,
nó comrac oen-ḟir d'ḟagbáil.

Tadc uair nir thualai*ng* catha
i *n*-agaid i*nd* ḟir-ḟlatha,
roḟacaib leis, ba lór dó,
mar robái uile Almó. A.

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81. ar] for LU.

She came to fair Temair of Fail,
Murni Fair-Neck . . . -Skin;
she asked the blameless Cond
of her destiny and her disposal.

"Go thou," said Cond, "(it is good in my eyes)
to Fiacail Fí, son of Conchend:
the own-sister of Cumall dwells with him
Bodmall . . . ."

She went to Temair Margi,
did Murni White-neck the high-born;
Conla, servant of Cond the blameless
. . . . to dispose of her.

Joyful to see her was the pleasant youth
Fiacail Fí, son of Conchend;
joyful was Bodmall, right heartily,
joyful was the whole company.

Thereafter was born Find the honoured,
king of the Fians, high his spirit!
. . . nine years precisely
was he the royal champion of Erin.

Find demanded from Tadc of the towers,
a price for killing Cumall Mor,
battle without respite without delay,
or to get a duel with him man to man.

Tadc, since he could not face battle
against the true-born prince,
abandoned to him (it was enough for him)
all Almu as it stood.

ALMU II.

Almu robo chæm dia cois,
ingen Beccáin brat-ṡolois,
ben Iuchna na cíab, cét crod,
ó r' iarr Almu ainmniugod.

Mór dia búadaib, dia buidnib,
dia slúagaib, dia sen-bruidnib,
rofes co fonnmar a clú,
dia n-apar ollmar Almu. A.

In tan musdáiltís 'n-a dáil
fian mic Cumaill enech-náir
bat forud fer ngarg im gú,
ropat all ard a Almu. A.

O thictís a hesair áin
Clanna Bresail in buan-áig
fri toisc sóid tar Segsa snu,
almain dóib in deg-Almu. A.

RBYMSS$_3$HE. 2. *brat*] brath R. 3. *crod*] cor E. 4. *ó r' iarr*] o riar BRY; orgabh M. 7. *fonnmar*] RM; fonnmor, &c. *cæt.* *a*] in R. 8. *dianapar*] diambad M. *ollmar*] M; almor R; ollmor *cæt.* *Almu*] a almu M. 9. *musdailtís*] muscailtis B; musluidhtis, &c. HS$_3$. 10. *fian*] fiann E. *mic*] *om.* E. 11. *bat*] bad RY; ba ME. *gú*] ga M; dú SE. 12. *ropat all*] R; robotall BM; robotalla YS; roba thalla E; rob- oll H; robad

ALMU II.

Almu, she was fair on foot,
the daughter of Beccan the bright-robed,
the wife of Iuchna of the tresses, with a hundred head of cattle,
from whom Almu sought to be named.

Many were its excellences, many its troops,
many its hosts, many its ancient hostels,
its fame was known in melody,
whence it is called mighty Almu.

When there mustered in their meeting-place
the Fianna of Cumall's son, frank of face,
thou wast a seat of men fierce with the spear,
noble and lofty wast thou, O Almu!

When Clann Bresail of the ceaseless strife
came to her splendid feast,
with desire of good cheer, across . . . . of Segais,
noble Almu was *aliment* for them.

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all- S_3. *a*] *om.* YSS_3E. *din*] aigh H; áig, &c. ES$_3$. buanáid R; buangaid, &c. BHS_3. *tar*] fri MH. *Segsa*] seca H. almu H; almóin S_3; almoin, *cæt.* 13. *ó thictis*] otchidis R; a tigdis BS. 14. *buanáig*] E; buanaigh Y; buanaidh SM; 15. *sóid*] sloig, &c. YEHS_3; soidh, &c. *cæt.* *snu*] sna S. 16. *almain*] ahalmain B; *Almu*] almsa Y; alma S; duma E.

ALEND.

Alend óenach diar n-ócaib,
ráth Airt cona ríg-rótaib,
fertas búada for a blai,
conosfuair Fál mac Fidgai.

Fert in' rochland Conchend clí
mac Fergnai, fer co find-lí,
lerg-luam Lugdach, letrad cailc,
for adba Setnai síthbaicc.

Brug forsmbíd Messdelmond dúr,
leis conuargbad a ard-múr;
is d' a brunnib attib dig
Mess Scott Scegra di Laignib.

Faithche Ruamaind, ruamnad rind,
co falgib flatha forfind,
tír chadla, cathir crichid,
grianán i mbíd Andrithir.

Ferand Fergusa fairge,
orba uais co n-imarde,
flesc Find maic Rossa rebaig,
rig-dinn Bresail Bregamain.

Luchdond letrad lecne líach
ótá Gabrán co Áth Clíath,
i Fáil Segi snáad lind,
ba garga a gluind im Alind. A.

LRBYMHSS$_3$E. 2. *cona*] co L. 3. *fertas*] L; ferdais *cæt.* *for a blai*] foroblai M. 4. *co*] L; dia *cæt.* 5. *in*] and M. 6. *-lí*] cli RB. 7. *luam*] *om.* BR (luã *superscr. in* B). *letrad*] leactrad Y; leatera M. 8. *for adba*] forad ba RB; forad ua HS$_3$; forad. h. Y. *sithbaicc*] sithbailc, &c. MS. 9. *forsmbíd*] formbith B. 10. *conuargbad*] conaurgbad L; connuargaib R; contuarcbadh M. *a*] int E. 11. *brunnib*] bruighnib S; brugiadib M. 12. *Mess Scott Scegra*] meas reot sega R; measgeadragod Y.

ALEND.

Alend, meeting place for our youths,
rath of Art with his royal roads:
the chariot pole of victory was he on its plain
till Fal, son of Fidga, met him:

The grave where Conchend planted his roofpole,
the son of Fergna, a hero of fair fame,
field-captain of Lugaid, hewer of targes;
over the seat of Setna Long-staff:

The stead where dwelt stern Messdelmond,
by him was reared its lofty wall;
from its springs a draught was drained
by Mess Scegra the Scot of Leinster:

The lawn of Ruamand, where the spear-point grew red,
with the sties of the honourable prince;
a lovely land, a perfect citadel,
the soller where dwelt Andrithir:

The demesne of Fergus Fairge
a proud and eminent heritage:
the portion of nimble Find mac Rosa
the royal keep of Bressal Bregaman:

Luchdond, grievous scarring of cheeks,
from Gabran even unto Ath Cliath!
in Fal Segi would he swim the water,
dire were his deeds around Alend:

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13. *Ruamaind*] rumaind BYS; rumaing R. 14. *falgib*] failgidh M. *forfind*] ferinn S; foirind M. 15. *chrichid*] tricid R; cridigh E. 16. *i mbid*] L; forsmbit, &c. *cæt. andrithir*] manindir RB; mænindir, &c. YHS$_3$; maininnir M; minaindir SE. 17. *Fergusa*] Fergais RB. 18. *orba*] gorba M. *imairde*] imairge YS; imgairge E. 21. *liach*] liath YS. 22. *Gabrán*] Garban R. 23. *i fáil*] for selb, &c. BYMHS$_3$; for sleib RSE. *snáad*] snadhad E; snadai H. 24. *garga*] garg HES$_3$. *im*] in L.

Bethir bethrach, breó co ngail,
lepad luithech do læchraid,
fri ré Niad Corb, calma cend,
bat adma adba Alend: A.

Carpat Catháir, comrar sét,
tailc rothairmcell triathu trét,
lúad cech medra, monur nglé,
ard-rí Emna is Alinde: A.

Fidchell Fhiachach, búadach rí,
dracon daigrech, dron a chrí,
ruamnais tria rígu rinne,
nenaisc niathu Alinde: A.

Brí Bresail beólaig fri gail:
leis ba Tuaim Tenbad Temair:
rí gorm for gabru grinne
rochroth armu Alinde: A.

Sruthar sæglond nodassaig,
Segsa snás a Síd Nechtain;
Life, luathem a linne:
tibit tulmag Alinde. A.

Triar trén-fer, trialla clas,
Buirech, Fiach is Aururas,
ite cen meth, monor nglé,
acclaidset múr nAlinde. A.

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25. *bethrach*] bretec R; brach S; berchich E. *co ngail*] L; coneim, &c. *cæt.* 26. *læchraid*] læchrad L; læchraib BH; læchaib YSE. 27. *fri*] ri L. *niad*] mog, &c. YSE. *cend*] L; in cend *cæt.* 28. *bat adma alba*] latadba adhmo Y; ba tadhma a fadba M; ba tadhbha alma S; ba hadba alma E; ba hadbho albhai, &c. HS_3. 29–32] *om.* E; *added in margin* YS. 29. *comrar*] L. comra, &c. *cæt.* *thairmchell*] taircell R. 31. *luad*] luath S. *medra*] medrad R. *ngle*] nglind R. 32. *ard-rí*] airdi B; airde R. 33. *Fiachach*] fiacrach, &c. YS; fiacra E. *buadach*] buadan B. 34. *dracon*] L; dracu, &c., *cæt.* *daigrech*] draidneach Y. *dron a chrí*] L; dronach B; dron a cli. &c. *cæt.* 35. *rígu*] rígu a L; riga, &c. RES_3; rigai H; rigi M. 36. *nenaisc*] cenaisg *with* vel n *superscr.* Y; cenaisc E. *niathu*] L; nitha, &c. RH;

A furious (?) bear, a flame of valour,
a resting-place giving vigour to heroes
in the time of Nia Corb (brave chief!)
thou wast a home of the wise, O Alend!

The chariot of Cathair, coffer of treasures;
valiantly did he encompass the leaders of herds;
burden of all discourse (clear fact!)
is the high king of Emain and Alend.

The chess-board of Fiachu, victorious king,
fiery dragon (stout his body!);
through his kings he made spear-points red;
he bound the champions of Alend.

The hill of Bressal Beolach the valorous,
to him belonged Tuaim Tenbath Temair,
against spruce steeds the famous king
brandished the weapons of Alend.

A lordly river visits it,
the Segais which flows from Sid Nechtain,
[and] Life, swiftest his waters:
they drain the bare plain of Alend.

Three mighty men [made] essays of trenchings,
Burech, Fiach, and Aururas:
it is they who without flagging (clear fact!)
dug the rampart of Alend.

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nithu, &c. BYMSE; niothe S_3. 37. *beolaig*] belaig, &c. ME. *fri gail*] ri gail L; co mblaid, &c. *cæt.* 38. *Tenbad*] Tenba RES_3; tenfa, &c. YM; tenbai H. 40. *armu*] arbrú, &c. YSS_3H; forba M. 41. *sæglond*] saiglend, &c. YSE. *nodassaig*] nodasfail L (*with* vel saig *superscr.*); nosussaig (*with* d *superscr.*) B; nodsusaigh R; rodussaig E. 42. *snás*] senas L. 43. *Life*] Liphea L; is liphe S. *luathem linne*] L: luath imlinde, &c. BS; luath imalinde, &c. RHS_3; luathama lindi Y; luathina linde E; luath umlinde aille M. 44. *tibit tulmag*] L; fri forgla. h. RB; fri forgla huath, &c. YSS_3H; fri forgla tuath E; frith forcla thuath M. 45. *trialla*] triallta $BRHS_3$; triallta a SE; telta a M; cartriallta a Y. 46. *Buirech Fiach is*] fiach burech L. 47. *monor*] imgnim SE. *ngle*] *om.* R. 48. *acclaidset*] roclaisead M; acláiset, &c. SE; conclaidhsid S_3.

Buirech focheird uad do ráith
dar in múr, nírbo rothláith,
ail focheird dia rigid rind
conid hí 's ail i n-Alind. A.

Robái sund . . ben Balla,
ingen Lugdach lœch-banna,
fria gairm nirbo dirgna dremm,
diarbo ainm rígda Alend. A.

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49. *Buirech*] Buiredach B. *do*] a M; co E. 50. *in*] *om.* L; a M. *nirbo rothláith*] mbruineach mborbthlaith, &c. YE; mbruidhneach mborbthláith S; mbrainech morblaith H; nimur rothlaith M;

Buirech cast from him straightway
across the rampart (no weakling he !)—
a stone he cast from his spear-arm ;
and that is the *ail* in Alend.

Here dwelt the wife of Balla,
heroic daughter of Lugaid ;
the clan was not disgraced by her repute ;
from her came the royal name of Alend.

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mbrainnech morbluith S_3. 51. *ail focheird*] L ; cloch da triall M ; cloch rotelg, &c. *cæt*. *dia*] uad dia L. 52. *hi*] ni L. 53-56] *in margin of* L *only*.

NOTES.

NOTES.

RATH ESA.

ETAIN (or Etaine) was a princess of the *áes síde*, among whom she lived a thousand years as wife of Midir, till through the jealousy and magic arts of her rival Fuamnach she was carried off from her fairy husband, and underwent a second birth as the daughter of a mortal. She became the wife of Eochaid Airem, King of Ireland; but Midir won her back from him at chess, and carried her, along with her daughter Esa, to his fairy palace of Bri Leith. This poem tells how Eochaid won back wife and daughter. The sequel to the fortunes of Etain, Midir and Eochaid is contained in the *Bruden Da Derga*. For the literature on the subject, see the introduction to Stokes' edition of that tale; and to Windisch's edition of the *Tochmarc Etáine* (*Irische Texte* 1, 113). A translation of the LU text of the *Tochmarc* will be found in Thurneysen's *Sagen aus dem alten Irland*, 77. The whole series of legends, and the different versions of each, have been fully discussed by Nettlau in vols. xii. and xiii. of the *Revue Celtique*.

Midir's abduction of Etain is referred to again in the Dindshenchas article on Rath Cruachan.

This poem is ascribed in S_2 to Cinaeth úa Hartacáin: in H to "Maicniadh mac Aonaccan."

2. As *tichtain* is feminine, we must either read *bruthmair* against the MSS., or regard *bruthmar* as a nominative agreeing with *bdire*.

5. Esa is also called Etain: see IT i. 130, 15.

7. The prose Dindshenchas says that 'a hundred of every kind of cattle were brought [by Esa] to Midir, after Etain had been carried off from Eochaid.'

8. *bés* seems here to mean 'tax, tribute' (cf. Meyer, *Contribb.*), and to refer to the cattle gathered by Esa.

LL reads *búan* for *buaid*; and this may be right, but I have no other instance of this word used as a substantive.

12. The gloss on this poem printed by Meyer in ACL iii. 143 from H. 3. 18, p. 467, explains *nen* by *cumal*; and this is supported by LBr 238^{d} *a* 24 where *a nen* is glossed *a hinilt*. It is also possible that we should read *n-ena*: this adjective, which means perhaps 'proud,' occurs in SnR 4431 *immon n-eclais n-ena n-aird*; LL 192 *b* 35 *comul n-ena*; BB 374 *a* 32 *conid and sid n-ena* (a proper name?); BB 17 *b* 7 *reim n-eana*.

14. *ólaig*. It was at a banquet that Midir appeared and carried off Etain. He promises her *Cid mesc lib coirm Inse Fáil, is mescu coirm tíre máir* (LU 131 *b* 35).

15. *aire-glan*. This epithet is repeated in 23, and in 89 is applied to Etain. It seems to be derived from *aire* 'the temples.' As applied to a place it can only be understood metaphorically; *grúaid* 'cheek' is similarly used of places; e. g. LL 164 *b* 19, *for gruaid Ailig*; 215 *a* 38 *dar slim-gruad sær sen-Charmuin*. But in 15 it may refer to Etain, and perhaps it may have found its way thence to 23, by the error of an early scribe. The variant *airerglan* is glossed by O'Cl. *oirearglan .i. aoibhinnglan*.

27. *dolaim* is defended by the rhyme. I do not know the word as a substantive, but suppose it to be connected with *dolam* 'slow,' *dolma* 'delay' SnR. The true reading may, however, be *oca ndlomaisin* 'repulsing them': cf. O'Cl. *dlomaisin*.

32. *ruibnech*. H. 3. 18 (as above) explains this word as *robuidnech*: cf. Wi. s. v. *ruibne* (2). But this meaning does not suit Bend Etair ii. 66 (Todd. Lect. vii. 60) *cend ruad ruibnech*; cf. Cath Finntr. index *s. v.*

41. *Mess Buachalla*: see *Bruden Da Derga* (ed. Stokes), pp. 11, 12.

42, 44. *chélig—Ébir*. L has *chelig*, without the mark of length: the other readings give no rhyme. But what does *chelig* mean? At Mag Life 6 (*infra*) L again reads *Conaire chelig* against the other MSS: at Ráth Chnamrossa 10 (LL 195 *a* 34) we have *mac Conaire chélig*: for *célech* see Meyer, *Contribb.* The objection to reading *chélig* in our passage is that *Eber* has generally no mark of length. But this is by no means always the case: see LL 14 *a* z, 14 *b* 18, 15 *a* 3, 21, 16 *b* 2, 37, 42. It seems, then, that the quantity is undetermined, and I feel justified in writing *Ébir*.

43. *fuachalda*: reading and meaning are uncertain. O'Cl. has *nuacholla .i. uathbásach*.

Midir induced Eochaid to commit unwitting incest with his daughter: Mess Buachalla was the fruit of this unnatural union: see Rev. Celt. xii. 235–9. To this 43 seems to refer.

46. *Brí Léith*. L has *bria*. The true genitive is *breg*: dat. *brig*: in 12 and 24 all MSS. have *brí*.

55. *decharda* may be referred to *dechur* 'division' (so Meyer, ZCP iii. 429), or to *dechrad* 'fury.'

57. The fragmentary tale in LU 131 gives an account of the making of the *tochur*. Eochaid learnt from the *Síde*, on this occasion, the art of making oxen work in the yoke; hence his cognomen *Airem*, 'Ploughman.' *Iarsin doberar uir ocus grian ocus clocha forsin monai. For etnu dam dano bátár fedmand la fíru h-Erend cosin n-aidchi-sin, conaicces la lucht in t-shide for a formnaib. Do gníth samlaid la Eochdaig, conid de atá do-som Echaid Airem, ar is aice toisech tucad cuing for muinélaib dam do feraib h-Erend.*

It seems from this that the four things demanded are corvees imposed on Midir's people rather than rights claimed by Eochaid, as Stokes suggests, RC xvi. 308. Cf. LU 132 *a* 5.

67. *-asoerad* seems to be impf. subj. of *asorgim*, for *-esorrad* (?).

69. These three fortresses are named together in a verse written on the top margin of LL 164 (quoted Sil. Gad. ii. 520). *belgach* seems to be a derivative of *belach*: at all events it must be distinct from *bélgach* 'talkative.'

70. *cétach* is a bad rhyme to *Étar*; and the disagreement of the mss. indicates corruption.

77. The reading of L, *coll* for *cúl*, is perhaps right: 'after a breach of the truce.'

81. *bile*, like *gas*, &c., is used metaphorically of persons. See Meyer, *Contributions*: and compare Temair iv. 14 *ba borg-bile co mbadb-slait*. (Todd Lect. viii. 28.

89–96. The events here referred to are known only by casual allusions. In LL 121 *b* 52 occur these lines:—

Atá cend Echdach indiu
is-Síd Nenta iar n-usciu.

It seems that Sigmall carried on the quarrel of his grandfather Midir, and finally destroyed Eochaid Airem at Fremand: see LL 23 *a* 37, 131 *b* 39: FM 5084. His own fate is recorded in LL 11 *b* 20 (cf. LU 129 *b* 18). O'Donovan identifies his palace of Sid Nenta (in his note on FM 5084) with Mullaghshee in Roscommon. In his *Hy Many*, p. 6, he had placed it at Fairymount near the north end of Lough Ree. The words *iar n-usciu* need not be regarded as a note of real place: such dwellings of the *áes síde* were often imagined as opening on 'seas in fairy lands forlorn': cf. Nutt, *Voyage of Bran*, i. 229. In the Bruden Da Chocae, this place is again called *Sith Nenta ier n-usce* (RC 21, 152); while in the *Cophur in da Muccida*, it is referred to as *Síd Nento fo huisce* (IT iii. 238 (line 90), 240 (line 280)). *Argain Síde Nenta* is the title of one of the lost tales: see O'Curry, *Lectures*, 591.

85. Ogniad is mentioned in the catalogue of women, LL 137 *a* 30.

94. *síd*: perhaps 'peace.'

BRUG I.

THE Brug mic ind Óc is the famous Brug na Bóinde. The story of the trick by which the Mac ind Oc obtained it from his father the Dagda is told in LL 209 *a* 50, *seq*.

1. *a maig*. All MSS. except S agree here on this form of the vocative, whereas in 74 LU (the only MS.) has *a mag*.

2. The reading of all the later MSS. *srethaib sét* would mean 'with a series of roads'; cf. Ailech ii. 31 (Todd Lect. vii. 44) *dar sreith slige*.

3. *forolgais*; from *folaigim*.

4. *immotrét* seems a t-pret., from **imm-emaim*.

7. *féig*. Cf. IT iii. 535 *escra féig*, where Windisch renders 'klares.'

8. *indsech* possibly means 'peaceful': cf. IT ii. 1, 41, line 1280, *bith-indes* (sic leg.). But *indsech* 'islanded' occurs in *Togail Trói*.

13. *Ingen Foraind*: presumably the wife of Miled is meant: see O'Mahony's Keating, 164.

14. *mál*: as a rule not applied to a woman; but see O'Cl. s. v.

16. The reading is doubtful. LU's *ignod* is difficult to explain. Perhaps it should be *in gnod*. This would supply alliteration, and a response to *tor* in 15; but the meaning would be obscure: *gnod* is glossed *rinn*: see Stokes, *Metrical Glossaries*, 22, 85.

17. 'Fiacc's Pool' is mentioned as 'on the Boyne,' IT iv., lines 56, 2346: cf. LL 209 *b* 42 *Féic lind*.

25. For the Mátha (or Máta) see the Dindshenchas of Ath Cliath, Todd Lect. vii. 21.

29. *Boadan* is mentioned by the Four Masters 861 (cf. Annals of Ulster, 862) as the herd of Elomar, one of the princes of the Tuatha Dé. The 'Cowhide' is evidently the name of some landmark or notable object.

30. *a liac*. The *a* is added below the line: it may be an interpolation, *liac* being scanned as a disyllable.

33. I suppose *Ferta na Fáilenn* to be another local name: *foilenn* glosses *alcedo*, Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 136, 231. The modern *faoileann* means 'sea-gull.' The word may here have a metaphorical application, ike the "Wild Geese" of later days.

For *fertae* 'trench' (fem. sing.), cf. Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 259 *ad Ferti virorum Fecc quam foderunt* etc.: ibid. 263 *hi Ferti virorum Feicc.*

36. *forfein*: from *forbenim*. Finn was killed by Aichlech, one of the Luaigne, a tribe who lived near Tara: see Sil. Gadel. i. 91.

38. This Cellach is probably the son of Cormac whom Aengus Gaibuaidech killed for seducing his niece: Laws iii. 82; LU 53 *a* 41; *mellach* will therefore have the sense of 'cajoling,' which appears in the modern use of *meallaim*.

41. *barc*. The prose Dindshenchas (RC xv. 292) mentions the Barc Crimthainn Nia Nair among the 'remarkable things of the Brug.' *Barc* like *long* is applied metaphorically to houses: cf. Temair iii. 57, 58 *long na lœch, frisanabar barc ban mbæth* (Todd Lect. viii. 18). *Brainech* may mean 'eminent' or may denote the shape of the structure. *Tor* 'tower,' by a common metaphor, means 'champion.'

42. *tonn* is preferable to *trom* (the reading of LU) as giving a response to *tromm* in 41. In Irish (as in French) poetry, words of identical form are admissible rhymes only if they differ in meaning.

43. According to the *Senchas na Relec*, all the kings of Tara down to Cremthann were buried at Cruachan. But "the nobles of the Tuatha De Denann were used to bury at the Brug . . . and Cremthann followed them because his wife Nar was of the Tuatha Dea" (Petrie, *Eccles. Archit.* 100–101).

45. I know nothing of Fintan Feradach.

51. *écradach*. Strachan (*Middle-Ir. Decl.* 18) has collected instances in which the predicative adjective is uninflected: cf. 77 *iatsom dimbúan*.

53, 57. The *Senchas na Relec* explains why Cormac and Art were not buried in the Brug: (*Eccles. Archit.* 100–101).

54. *imman-aigtís luirg*: cf. LL 50, 14 *immundaigtís buidne bend*. It might be better to render 'round whom were driven chariot-tracks.' If *lorg* 'club' ever followed the masculine declension, we might translate 'on whom clubs were plied.'

70. *bés nirbo rom*. Cf. *bes ni rom* LU 40 *a* 39. In both instances *bés* might be rendered 'perhaps.'

75. If *dersat* is right, it must be 3 pl. pres. subj. of *dofichim* 'I punish': cf. Strachan, Sigm. Fut. 4. The meaning then is general: if men persecute the faithful, they will suffer worse things themselves hereafter.

But it is tempting to read *dernsat*: we may then regard the collective *cúane* as the antecedent, and line 74 as a parenthesis, and translate: 'a brood . . . that did not pay worship to the true God: so much the worse for them now!'

78. *slán* seems to mean 'saved by their faith.'

81–84. I can make nothing of these lines. *Séil* may be the river Sele: cf. *flumen Séle*, Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 263; and Dinds. of Tailtiu, 78 (LL 200 *b* 50). *Senbec ua Ebric* is mentioned (BB 308 *b* 27) as a *sai cesidh*: according to O'Curry, MC ii. 50, he was a historian of the Tuatha De Danann. Perhaps in 83 *uaibrig* should be *Ebric*. And *Cennindais* may be the place-name (now Kells).

85. *cond* 'head' seems here to mean 'headquarters.'

86. The meaning of *dond* is doubtful: it is glossed by O'Dav. *uasal nó brithem nó rígh*.

87. *rán-tor* seems to be intended as a response to *ard-chon*.

BRUG II.

15, 16. I have kept L's text, as it is defensible; but the reading of all other MSS. *airm i ngénair . . . mar óen* is preferable.

17. *ben mic Námat.* Boand, wife of Nechtain. She bore Oengus to the Dagda. Her dog's name was Dabilla (see prose Dindshenchas). The poem (ascribed to Cinad Ua Hartacain), which begins LL 209 *b* 25, and is continued at 208 *b* 1, tells the story of the birth of Oengus: how he was abandoned by his parents, and how Midir carried him off to Brí Léith (209 *a* 6): how he returned to seek out his rightful father, the Dagda, and made a feast for him: how the Dagda offered him a boon in return: and how Oengus won the possession of the Brug from him by a verbal quibble (209 *a* 50). To this trick the words *cialla cor* (25) seem to refer.

22. For *fríth* 'discovery, trouvaille,' cf. Sil. Gad. i. 33, 10 *fó fríth fuaramar*; LL 147 *b* 40 *ní hinunn frith fogeib cách*: LU 114 *b* 23 *ba hamrae in fríth.*

32. *Duma Treise*, 'the Barrow of Offal,' named from the broken meats of the feast: cf. Tochm. Emire (quoted by Meyer, index to Aisl. M. C.): *ait in rocuired a tresc dorigne cnocc mór de: ba hé a ainm, Tresc in Mairimdill.* O'Reilly has *treasg* 'refuse,' 'chaff'; and *tresc* 'lees,' 'hogwash.'

34. *adba mbróin.* I have not elsewhere found *adba* neuter: but the change from neuter to feminine is very common. All MSS. except L have *ba badba bróin*, which seems meaningless.

38. *a telctis cesta.* This seems to imply some kind of *sortilegium*, but I can find no other reference to the place or the custom. Esclam, according to the prose Dindshenchas, was the Dagda's brehon. Perhaps, then, we should translate 'used to solve questions,' but I have no instance of *dolécim* in this sense.

41. It is difficult to determine the reading for want of information as to the incident referred to. L has *mba Buile* (not as in the facsimile *mba*): most of the other texts, and the prose, read *Bualc* or *Buailc*. I can find nothing about this person; and lines 43, 44 are consequently obscure to me. *lib* (43) is apparently an adjective. Dinneen has *líb* 'dripping.' I read *glund* in 44, supposing it to be dative of *glond*: the meaning assigned is doubtful: see Rev. Celt. xxiv. 69. Perhaps *fiad-glond* 'honourable deed.'

45. This Cellach is called in the prose 'son of Maelcoba': he is, then, the Cellach who was the joint-king of Ireland with Conall, and died at Brug na Boinne, according to the Four Masters, 656 (653 AU). His partner Conall is there said to have been killed by Diarmaid, son of Aed Slaine: it seems, then, that Cellach was killed at the same time, and that the 'pair' referred to in 47 are Diarmaid and his brother Blathmac, who took the kingship on the deaths of Conall and Cellach. There were different accounts of the death of Cellach: see AU 657, 663. The Cellach mentioned in Brug i. 38 is probably quite a different person.

48. I can only guess at the meaning of *bæthla*—if that be the true reading. Most of the MSS. have *baethbla*, which O'Cl. glosses by *baothbaile*.

50. Cinaed, son of Irgalach, was king of Ireland A.D. 720 to 722.

galma: cf. SnR 5547 *galma 7 glóir*. O'Clery glosses the word .i. *crúas*.

53. *Currel*. Stokes RC xv. 292 translates 'casket.' But in his edition of the *Bruden Da Derga* he translates the phrase *cír chuirréil argit* 'a bright comb of silver,' and suggests a derivation from **con-réil*. This may be right, but does not explain our passage. It seems to me that we have to do here with a different word; *curel* 'coral' occurs in the Irish version of Marco Polo ZCP i. 384: O'Begley has *coiréal*. On the use of coral among the Celtic peoples, see S. Reinach in Rev. Celt. xx.

56. For *ar chách* see Meyer, *Contribb.*, s. vv. *cách*, *achách*.

59. *gáela*. O'Reilly has *gaol* 'wound': cf. *gáelim* 'I break,' SnR. But perhaps we should refer the word to *gael* 'kinship,' though the genitive is regularly *gaeil* (Atk. PH: Dinneen, Dict.).

60. The word *síd* seems to imply that Aed Lurgnech belonged to the Tuatha De, but I have found no other reference to him.

61, 62. *ruamna* means properly 'redness': *cúan-bla* seems to be compounded of *cúan* 'troop' and *bla* 'place': *cliach* I understand as gen. pl. of *clíu*.

64. This presumably refers to the wounding of the Morrigan by Cuchulainn: see Miss Faraday's 'Cattle Raid of Cualnge,' pp. 79–81. The ford where the fight took place has not been identified, but it cannot have been very far from Brug na Bóinne.

69. I conjecture *cátha*, regarding it as plural of *cáith* 'husks, rubbish,' Meyer, *Contribb.*: here the debris of a skeleton. This supplies a response to *Mátha* in 70.

As to this monster, see Ds. of Ath Cliath (RC xv. 329, Todd Lect. vii. 20), where it is said to have been slain at "Lecc Bend on Brug mic ind Oc." LL gives the form *mátha* here and in 75, 83: so in Brug i. 25, LU has *mátha*.

74. *toich* seems to be the word found in Wb. 9 *a is toich dom* gl. est accepta mihi: see Wi. *s.v.*, and cf. LL 147 *a* 6 *in bé thondgel toich*.

88. The meaning seems to be that the barrow (called in the prose Duma na Cnám) belongs to the Matha whose memory it preserves.

89. The obit of Oengus, son of Crundmael, abbot of Duleek, is recorded by the Four Masters *a.* 778: in the Annals of Ulster *a.* 782.

93. *Róot* is here a disyllable, answering to *Ōoc*. The prose has *róut súla Midir*: I know of no other allusion to the incident, except O'Clery's gloss, s. v. *ród*, and perhaps the verse at LU 149 *a* 21.

95. *robriss* may be either transitive or intransitive.

96. *asidchói*: pres. sbj. of *ascíad*: see Meyer, *Contribb.*

IMBER N-AILBINE.

This poem has been published from BB by O'Curry with a translation in *Atlantis*, vol. iv. 235.

The legend is told in the Tochmarc Emire: see ZCP iii. 243. The poet has drawn from this source several phrases which are noted below.

The metre is extremely elaborate. All four lines of each stanza rhyme, the first and third lines ending in monosyllables, the second and fourth either in disyllables or in trisyllables. There are internal responses (sometimes double) between the first and second lines and between the third and fourth. Alliteration is strictly observed.

1. *Muired*. The prose says that Ruad was grandson of the king of the Fir Muirid.

2. *do nach* seems here to be used as in the construction illustrated by Atkinson, PH 817 *a*: *tailmire* (or *tuilmire*) is compounded from *toil* and *mire*: cf. note on *talchar*, Ochan 62.

3. *trebthus* seems to mean 'dwelling': cf. Mag Luirg 1 (LL 211 *a* 48) *Is eol dam im threibthas tó*: Mag n-Aidni 7 (LL 156 *b* 40) *as mo threbthus co turud*. These passages support the reading of YH.

5. *rót-bla*. The second element of the compound seems to mean 'noise, fame.' The word occurs at LL 10 *b* 25 in an obscure poem.

9, 10. It seems natural to take *maith-mora* as a compound: this would involve writing, in 9, *raith-roga* 'chief of courses' (*raith* for *rith*).

10. *moch-maill*: cf. Druim Dairbrech 18, and Dinneen's Dict.

13. *tri nóitib*: so ZCP iii. 243 *teuora noaib*. *noithech* responds to *soithech*, but in Rath Essa 84 LL has *nóithech*: so too O'Clery. The word occurs eight times in SnR without the mark of length: in SnR 13 it rhymes with *immchloithech*, a word of doubtful derivation: none of the other passages demands a long vowel.

17. *lúd as* 'to stir thence in any direction': *as* = inde.

21. '*moslái*: see Wi. *immlai*, and cf. Faffand, 33. *tairdbe*, 'cutting,' see Glossary to Laws.

22–24. These lines are variously corrupted in the different MSS. They must be emended by the aid of the metre. The only pair of end-rhymes offered are *sroth saoba* (H) with *dluth-choema* (RB). *bain-delba* (cf. ZCP iii. 243) must be answered by *sain-delgna*. The second element of this word probably means 'retirement,' 'separation,' or the like: cf. *delgnaide* 'outlaw,' O'R; *dealgnach* 'outlaw,' Dinneen; *delgnaim* in SnR seems to mean 'I distinguish.' *sruth-sóeba*, which O'Cl. glosses .i. *saobchoire* 'whirlpool,' is probably gen. fem. of a compound adjective (for *sruth-sóibe*) in agreement with *fairge*. I have therefore changed the order of the first three words, but perhaps the inversion is deliberately adopted for the sake of alliteration; if so, we may keep *fairge tar sál*.

25, 26. *Fodroirgetar* is certainly sound: cf. Tochm. Em. ZCP iii. 243 *atdamnatar dobatar se fotrergatar na longa.* But this gives no rhyme to *indsaigid*, so that four lines must have fallen out. Further, line 26 is in all texts except M short of a syllable, and M's *ba he fhad* is unintelligible. A response to *glé-alt* (see O'Cl.) is required: perhaps we should read *ba hé fast*, which would also supply alliteration in 26. O'Reilly has *fast* 'a prison': cf. *fastaim* 'I arrest.'

33. Cf. ZCP iii. 243 *dobertatar noi longæ oir ar noi n-oiccib dia fess leu.*

38. *malart*: this form (not *malairt*) is required to answer *alacht*. For the miswriting *maralt* cf. SGI 84, line 33: *iaram ba hálacht in ben*: *ropo máralt airmiten*, where the word has again the sense of 'altering for the worse': cf. Stokes' O'Davoren, 1236.

39. *císal*. This word elsewhere is explained to mean 'the devil': here it perhaps has the sense of 'sin' or 'harm.'

42. *tuintib*: cf. Four Masters, p. 2060 *x*, *rocheimnighsiot . . ina ttuinntibh tiugha toirtemhla 7 ina ndoiredhaibh dluithe dosccaoilte* 'they proceeded in close and solid bodies and in compact, impenetrable squadrons' (lit. 'oakwoods'). The expression is evidently metaphorical, and *tuinntibh* is perhaps literally 'balls of thread'; hence 'compact companies': cf. *toinnt* 'thread,' Coneys: *taoinnte* (and *tuinnte*) 'thread,' Dinneen.

43. *so-alt*: this compound occurs again in an unintelligible passage LL 119 *a* 18. O'Clery has *soalt* .i. *léim maith*; so also O'R.

50. I have adopted the reading *fial-mod*, although it is supported only by two late MSS., because otherwise there is no internal response between 49 and 50: besides, the *fial mo* of RY points in this direction. The word is found also at LL 18 *b* 5. O'Clery has *mod* .i. *fear*: cf. Mide 7. At BB 327 *b* 21 *mod* is explained as *cach ferda*. If this curious passage contains anything more than the vagaries of a grammarian, the word may be a legacy from a pre-Goidelic population.

53. O'Clery has *eismeach* 'lying,' 'unready.'

60. Cf. ZCP iii. 244 *Rocolatar ind fir ind amar ina nói umaidi.*

64. *setal-balc* for *selat-balc* 'moment-strong': for the metathesis cf. Carn ui Cathbad 41 (LL 199 *a* 56): BB 37 *b* 45: O'Cl. *seadal.*

66. *drongdige* is well supported, and gives a good rhyme, but what does it mean?

75. *cacad* for *cocad*, answered by *-apad.*

78. *rige*: cf. LL 157 *b* 33, *a rí rige*. O'R. has *righe* 'depredation.'

81. *tnú*. Most MSS. read *trú*: if this is right, it must be regarded as an abstract noun, 'ill-luck.'

87. *tuiredach* is no doubt a derivative of *turid*, which is applied metaphorically to chieftains, cf. 57.

94. *toimsech*: a derivative of *tomus*. Cf. Ailech ii. 46 (Todd Lect. vii. 46); Loch Dachaech 18 (BB 372 *b* 21).

OCHAN.

The story of the slaying of Niall of the Nine Hostages by his enemy Eochu, son of Enna Cendselach, is fully told in the tract edited by Meyer in *Otia Merseiana* ii. 84.

There is a copy of a different recension of this tract at BB 134 *b* 27. It is there prefaced by an introductory notice of Eochu, in which lines 17–20 of our poem are quoted (BB 134 *b* 7). In this passage, as in LL, the poem is attributed to Cinæth ua Hartacain, who died in 973 (FM) or 974 (AU, Tigern.). K. Meyer (Festschr. Wh. Stokes) has edited an elegy on Niall. See also O'Mahony's Keating, 390 *seq.*

2. These adjectives can only refer to Niall, so that the reading adopted gives a much better order than the *lettir* of L, which is supported by most MSS.

dichmaig. This word occurs also in SnR: cf. LL 35 *b* 53, *debaid dichmaig.*

3. *slige* for *sliged.*

7. *roreraig*: for this use of *rigim* see Atk., *Lib. Hymn.* i. 262.

18. For *bág* 'pledge, alliance' see Meyer, *Contribb.* The line is quoted at BB 134 *b* 7 with *fri baig.*

22. *serig*: see SnR, index. *dúis* is explained by O'Dav. 682, first by *uasal* and then by *sét.* Cf. V. Bran, index.

24. Cf. BB 135 *a* 42 *romeabadar .vii. catha riana gnuis iarna egaib.*

26. *cen* gives no satisfactory sense, unless indeed it is to be construed with *atbert. tria rún* 'through his (Eochu's) secret plot.'

30. *gáeth-rian.* O'Clery has *gaeth .i. fairge.* Cf. *gaethamail* 'marshy,' *góith-luch* 'marsh,' Windisch. So that *rian*, which is found only in LH, may be merely an intruding gloss. In 26 *muir* has similarly found its way into the text of L. We may, then, omit *rian*, and keep *ba trom.*

31. So BB 135 *a* 15 *cóic geill Erend 7 geill Alban 7 Saxan 7 Breatan 7 Frangc*: ibid. 26 *do dt'acallaim-si dodeacha[d]sa o Romancaib. Alla-sa [hi] cind coicidis dodticfad a ngeill*: 'I have come from the Romans to speak with thee, and this day fortnight their hostages will come to thee.'

33. *Lótar*: for the plural verb with the collective *fían*, cf. Almu ii. 9.

35. *brón baisse* = planctus: cf. *bass* 'a smack with the hand' Meyer, *Contribb.*

39. *rodasní. Sníim* has two principal meanings (1) 'I join, rivet, weave,' (2) 'I vex.' The meaning might be either 'he had joined them together under his sovereignty': or 'he had caused them grief,' *i.e.* by his death, or, perhaps, by his domination. The second meaning is required in the similar passage, Slige Dala 80 (LL 155 b 46) *is rempu sain, rodasní*; 'flying before them (he had angered them).' O'Clery has *rodasní .i. dosín.*

41. *dosrimthais*: cf. *doimmthastar* 'is combined,' Thes. Palæo.-Hib. ii. 50; *timmthastaib*, gl. fixis labris, *ibid.* ii. 56.

44. *díl* should perhaps be *díl* 'fated end,' echoing *dín* in 43. P. O'C. has *dín* .i. *crioch*: cf. IT iii. 547: IT iv. index. But I doubt whether this is really a different word from *díl* 'payment, remuneration.'

53. I read *thalman* against the MSS., for the sake of the response to *adrann*.

57. *Cairenn*: mother of Niall, LL 33 *b* 23.

63. For *cóe* in the sense of *compitum* see Meyer, *Contribb.*

62. *tal-char* from *toil*: cf. O'R. *tolchurthanach* (i.e. *tolcharthanach*) 'self-willed.'

MIDE.

This poem is attributed in L to Aed ua Carthaig: cf. 49.

7. Cf. O'Cl. *glan an mod* .i. *glan an fear*.

11. *roatdi*: see Kuhn's Zts. xxx. 98; Meyer, Contribb. *adsúim*.

14. *fassad*, i.e. *fossad* 'truce'; apparently the fire was a symbol of peace, or the word may simply mean 'a continuing, lasting,' referring to the length of time: see O'R. *fosadh*. O'Cl. has *asadh* .i. *adannad nó lasad*, quoting this line.

18. *anfót*: cf. LL 125 *b* 55 *anfót do rád*.

23. *muic finn*: explained by O'Cl. s. v. *fionn*, as *muic lachdmair mar atá cráin*.

47. The best MSS. give *adfét*; and possibly Windisch is right in suggesting that *adféit* or *adfét* may be a contracted 3 pl. pres. of *adfiadaim*: though the editors of Thes. Palæo.-Hib. treat the word as singular in the passages cited by Windisch. The alternative is to read *adfiadat súidi snas* (or *a snas*); in either case *snas* probably refers to the cutting out of the druids' tongues.

51, 52. The meaning seems to be that God enjoins the king of Meath to take the poet under his protection.

DRUIM DAIRBRECH.

The metre of this poem must be carefully observed in determining the text. Every line ends with a disyllable: the second and fourth lines of each stanza rhyme fully; while they also contain responses and echoes to the first and third respectively.

According to the prose version, Dairbre belonged to the Aithech-Tuatha, who were defeated in the Battle of Commar by Tuathal Techtmar. It does not appear where Commar and Druim Dairbrech were situated.

The poem is ascribed in LL to "F.": either Fulartach or Find may be intended.

7. *bas greimm*: literally, 'that will be a strength.'

10. *cuing* seems here to mean, like the latin *jugum*, 'a hill, ridge.'

11, 12. I take Raigne to be a place-name: there is a Mag Raigne in Kilkenny (FM 859).

I can extract no sense from *mar*, the reading of the MSS. in 12. I conjecture *múr*, which may easily have been corrupted under the influence of *mar* in 11. This reading also makes the position of *cath-garg* more natural. It follows that we must read *drech-deirg* in 12, against the MSS., and consequently *leth-leirg* in 10, following L against all other MSS.

14. *sreth-chelg*. The rendering offered is a mere guess: for *celg* 'snare' see Meyer, *Contribb.*: I take the word to denote one of those traps where a weight falls suddenly by the pulling of a string or chain; the image would be apt enough for the ambush laid by a guerilla chief.

15. According to the prose, Dairbre was son of Lulach and grandson of Ligmuine. *Tíath Ligmuine* is mentioned as one of the *Aithech-tíatha*, BB 255 *a* 27.

18. *moch maill*: cf. Inber Ailbine, 10.

17–24. Most of the tribes mentioned here occur in the enumeration of the Aithech-tuatha at BB 255 *a* 11, 19, 20, 25, 26.

20. *gád-méin* is required to rhyme with *lán-réir*: it is a compound of *gád*, 'need,' a word which is sometimes confused with *gábud*, 'danger.' The meaning seems to be that the pangs of hunger drove the *Aithech-tíatha* into rebellion.

22. *bán-dír*. The long vowels are required by the rhyme. For this use of *bán* cf. *bán-gleó*, SnR 3038, *bán-béim*, Cath Ruis na Ríg. 115.

25. *fuilid*. I have not met this form elsewhere: *fuilide* is found in SnR, and Ériu, ii. 56.

27. *mongach* appears to be a derivative of *mong*, 'moorland, fen,' etc., Dinneen.

30. *ní ro-n-deg-therb*, if sound, seems to mean 'he did not fortunately separate himself.'

36. *dídail* may be infinite of a compound **di-in-dlung*. The word occurs in Thes. Palæo.-Hib. ii. 295, where it is rendered 'reproach.'

LAGIN I.

THE incidents here alluded to are fully told in *Orgain Dind Ríg*: see ZCP iii. 1. Cobthach murdered his brother Loegaire, King of Ireland, and afterwards Loegaire's son, Ailill Aine: cf. 27. Labraid Loingsech, also called Moen, son of Ailill Aine, avenged his father by burning Cobthach at Dind Rig, and thirty kings with him: cf. 10.

12. *cóic cét.* The verses quoted in the *Orgain Dind Ríg*, ZCP iii. 8, give the date as *trí chét mbliadan re ngein Crist*: but cf. ZCP iii. 14, where another version has *cóic* [*cét*]. The Four Masters make the date 542 B.C.

22. *Láigne* is properly n. pl. of *láigen* 'lance.' S_2 reads *ráidter Lagin fri Laigne*, which is simpler grammar, but is unsupported.

LAGIN II.

THE first and third stanzas of this poem are quoted by the glossator of the Amra Columcille in the Trinity College copy of the *Liber Hymnorum*: translated by Atkinson, *L. Hymn.* ii. 58. All three verses are translated by Stokes, Bodleian Dindshenchas, p. 7. The first stanza occurs again in another poem, LL 19 *a* 23: the second is quoted in the *Cóir Anmanna*, IT iii. 364.

There is a second copy of the poem at LL 277 *a* 13, where an additional stanza is inserted after line 4 :—

A tuaim Tenba traṡta tuirc,
robith Cobthach in caolcuirp:
odhin (?) ceol consm*bert* (?) hi bhus,
is*ed* (?) consert ar coibnus.

'At Tuaim Tenba chieftains were overcome; Cobthach of the lean body was slain; since by means of the music I conceived (?) here, 'tis that joined our union.' With the second couplet cp. ZCP iii. 5, 6.

14. The same number is given in the *Orgain Dind Ríg*, ZCP iii. 14: in Lagin I. 18 it is three thousand.

SLIAB BLADMA.

5. *rot.* This word occurs in Cath Muige Ratha 40, rhyming with *cloc*, *boc*: O'Donovan renders 'daring'; cf. LL 150 *b* 31 *rot a ngal.* The literal meaning is perhaps 'red': Cormac, s. v. *rotta*, has *ar is rot cech nderg.* So *ríad* means both 'red' and 'fiery.'

6. *Herot.* Bury, *Engl. Hist. Review*, 1902, pp. 263–4, connects this place with the *rig Hirotae* of L. Ardm. 14 *r* b. In 11 the name is treated as a feminine: perhaps we should there read *Heruit*, and suppose it to be a *u*-stem of uncertain gender.

22. *ban-tolcaib* may be referred to *toilc* 'pride' Wind.: but is more probably the word rendered 'breach' in IT iii. 533: cf. SnR 6767 *co tolcaib na tor talc trén* LL 258 *a* 48: 101 *a* 13, etc. Dinneen has *tolg* 'force, effort': *tolgaim* 'I tear, smash.'

23, 24. For want of independent information as to the incident referred to, the true meaning of this passage remains obscure. *Crad* is perhaps written for *crod*, which may mean either 'cattle' or 'destruction': Meyer, *Contribb.*

27. *tánic*: singular for plural.

FID NGAIBLI.

THE name survives in the Feeguile, a stream which joins the Barrow near Monasterevin. We have to do here with a myth imperfectly reported and consequently unintelligible. The prose says that Ainge was daughter of the Dagda; from 9 it would rather appear that he was father of the girl for whom the *drochta* was made. For parallels to the mysterious sympathy between this object and the tide, see Miss Hull's article on *Geasa* in Folklore, 1901, p. 51.

2. The best MSS. read *flescach*, but this gives a bad rhyme.

3. *luaige* seems to be an abstract noun from *lúag*: cf. *luaigim* 'I buy,' Lism. Lives, index.

6. The prose says *ní anad de thinsaitin céin nobíd in muir for línad* (cf. 11), *7 ní ticed banne ass céin ba haithbe* (LL 159 *b* 2). Presumably, then, *taidbe* = *aithbe*, though I have not met the word elsewhere in this sense.

7. *timme* 'abridgment'? Cf. *gan brón báis agus time saoghail d'imirt air*, Oss. iii. 92 (quoted by Wind.): and compare with this the phrase *rothimdibsit a sæghul*, IT i. 130, 19. Compare also with our passage Rath Essa 7, *cét cech míl cen timdibe*. Cf. further LL 119 *b* 16; SGI 68, line 41.

9. *dognid* for *dogníth*, answered by *gním*. *drochta*: see ZCP iii. 468. It may here mean a kind of boat.

12. *nodiled*. I have no other instance of this verb; but it seems to be connected with *díl*, *dile*.

13. *dafall*: pret. of *tallaim*.

14. *Gaible* is called *Gabol* in 1: so in the Bodleian prose he bears both names: in the Rennes version he is called Gaible.

19. *rothóid* seems to be pret. of a verb *táidim*: cf. *táid* 'thief,' *táide* 'stealth.'

MAG LIFE.

It is to be noted that Life is properly the name of the plain through which the Liffey flows: the river is usually called *aba Life*.

3. *gaire* seems to mean the piety with which her memory is kept alive.

6. *chélig*. Cf. note on Rath Esa 42.

8. According to the prose, Deltbanna, son of Drucht (*i.e.* Dewdrop, son of Dew) was spencer to Conaire, and married Life.

BERBA.

Now the River Barrow.

2. *Mag n-Ailbe* was a plain in the south of Kildare on the east bank of the Barrow: FM 906.

4 Substituting *bláth* for *bláith* of the MSS., we get a response to *fáth*, and better sense.

5. The prose explains that Diancecht (or MacCecht) killed Mechi, son of the Morrigain, burnt his three hearts, in which were three serpents, and cast the ashes into the Berba.

7. *athbach*, from *athbongim*, would naturally mean 'a second stroke': the meanings given by Meyer, *Contribb.*, under 1, 2, 3, seem to be approximations of various glossators. Here the meaning may be either that a 'second stroke' was not required: or, more probably, that 'recovery' was impossible. This would accord with P. O'C.'s .i. *aithearrach* and O'R.'s 'renewal.'

9. The prose says there were 'the shapes of three serpents' in Mechi's heart: here they are the coils of a single snake.

11. *óg n-ell*. For this substantival use of *óg*, cf. *óg mo charat* Lia Nothain 31 (BB 393 *b* 48); *óg cána*, Cáin Adamnáin 29.

16. *Cúan* seems to be written for *cúain* dat. of *cúan* 'pack,' in order to answer *búan*. This gives a much better sense than can be extracted from *cúan* 'haven.'

MOIN GÁI GLAIS.

The incidents here referred to are told more fully in the prose.

8. *daiger* is rendered "javelin" by O'Donovan, Magh Rath 152. It is probably the English 'dagger,' and distinct from *daigir* 'fire' (IT iv. index).

10. *fola* for *fala*: cf. IT iv. index; M'Sweeney, Caithr. C. C., p. 3, note.

11. *tola*: a. pl. of *tul*, properly the 'boss of a shield.'

12. *Aith* appears to be a proper name: none of the MSS. has a mark of length over this word, nor over *taith* in 11.

13. The prose says Culdub was champion of Fiachu Sraiptine.

15. O'Cl. has *ba greit gáid* .i. *ba gaisgeadach i ngábad*. Possibly we should write *dilim*, a word which occurs in *Cáin Adamnáin*, § 52, and may mean 'compensation' or the like.

FAFFAND.

Of the personages mentioned in this poem, Meilge is the only one of whom anything seems to be known from other sources. He expelled his cousin Labraid Loingsech from the overkingship of Ireland: see Four Masters, *anno mundi* 4658–4694. Meilge is called "King of Beirre" (35), and "Meilge of Imlech" (24). As Broccaid is called in the prose version "Broccaid of the Galians of Labraid Loingsech," we must consider him to belong to Meilge's enemies, which explains the persecution of his family.

1. *co n-gnim giall* 'with deed of hostages,' i.e. prowess by which hostages are won: cf. *nert-giallach* 'winning hostages by force,' LL 199 *b* 39.

2. *gorm-glan*. O'Dav. 1033 has *gorm .i. urdairc*: cf. *gorm-sluag*, LL 158 *a* 5 *gorm-rig*, Mart. Oeng.

4. For *taithme* or *taichme*, cf. Carmun 7 (LL 215 *a* 34) *tictis dia thaichme*, where O'Curry (MC iii. 529) renders 'came to celebrate it': Bend Boguine 2 (BB 397 *a* 22) *hi taichme treb tuaige*. In all these passages the MSS. vary between *taichme* and *taithme*. The latter form is preferable, if the word is connected with *taithmim*, which occurs in Laws v. 322, 24 (the same passage repeated at 338, 13), where Atkinson renders 'contemplate.' *taithme* seems to be a shorter form of *taithmet* 'remembrance,' Wind.

17. *or i n-or*: cf. FM. p. 116, 16, '*ba han tra baoi crioch 7 torann Ereann or ind or*.'

22. *sernad* I suppose to be the verbal noun from O'R.'s *sernaim* 'I loose, untie': cf. Wd. *sernim* (1).

27. *cen chuiscle*. O'R. has 'private affair, sorcery'; and something of this latter sense appears to be present in the passages LL 197 *a* 41, LL 157 *b* 32: in the former, it is applied to the hidden lower limbs of sirens; in the latter, to secret and magical knowledge. In the present instance, the reference seems to be to the magical arts by which Aige was transformed into a bubble of water: see prose, *ní frith di acht bolg uisci*. Read then *co cuiscle*.

31. *ní tairm cen taig*, literally 'not a fame without right.' I suppose *taig* to be a writing of *toich*.

38. The prose says, 'three blotches were raised' on Meilge by Faifne's satire: cf. LL. 81 *a* 40 *go tócbaitis teora bolga bar a agid, ail 7 anim 7 athis*.

39. *sethad* seems to be a genitive; but if so, I have no instance of the word: it can hardly be the same that occurs RC xv. 311 *x*, *ic sethad in buair*. O'R. has *seith*, *seitheadh* 'a skin,' 'hide'; but this is no doubt merely a misspelling of *seche*.

43. *segma*. This word is found also in BB 297 *a* 31 *ri segma*.

45. *rosedlad*. Cf. Rev. Celt. xvi. 44 *rosedlad buinde a sliasta* 'his shin-bone was fractured' (?) Stokes; also Tipra Sengarmna 123 (LL 197 *b* 52) *sedlais co sæb iarsaine Crimthand Cæl*.

50. *immasclaig* seems to be a preterite, formed presumably from **imm-ad-con-sligim*.

51, 52. The natural syntactic order seems to be *combeth a ainm sír fri gairm in tsendumai*; but *fria* being written, anticipating the dependent genitive, the nominative *in sen-duma* is added by way of explanation, just as appositional locutions are commonly put in the nominative without regard to the case of the substantive to which they relate.

53. *tibri* 'laughter' seems curiously inappropriate; but I can find no more suitable meaning for the word.

ALMU I.

ALMU, now the Hill of Allen in Kildare, was the chief stronghold of the Fianna. In the later Ossianic ballads it is usually called Almhain. For the story, see the *Fotha Catha Cnucha*, edited by Hennessy, RC II. 86, from LU, and printed by Windisch in his *Kurzgefasste Grammatik*, p. 121. See also the *Macgnimartha Find* in Oss. Soc. iv. 288; reprinted by K. Meyer, RC v. 195. FCCn agrees with this poem closely for the most part, but adds the origin and issue of the feud between Finn mac Cumaill and Goll mac Morna.

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 5 of our poem are also found incorporated in *Acallam na Senórach*: IT iv. 36. A different couplet is, however, substituted for lines 15, 16.

13. At LL 50, 13, Tadc is called the son of Nuadu Necht; but this must be wrong, as Nuadu Necht was son of Setna Sithbacc, king of Leinster, Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) *a*, whereas our Nuadu was son of Achi, and druid to Cathair Mor (FCCn). This confusion is repeated in the document quoted in Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) *b*.

15. *almu*. At 19 we have *alamain*: cf. FCCn *rocomled alamu*.

25–28. These lines are metrically defective: *thrén*, *mun-chàem* is a bad rhyme. 26 has in the MS. a syllable too few, and 27 one too many.

31. *can chert is can chlód.* As D'Arbois points out (Rev. Celt. xxi. 247), the meaning is that Cumall neither obtained Tadc's consent, nor established his right by defeating Tadc in duel. Compare the *dindshenchas* of Snám dá Én, where Conan fights Aed Rind for his daughter Ceilg: LL 203 *b* 39 seq.

Luid Conán, ba crúaid in fis,
co fuair Aed Rind ina liss,
co rochunnig fair cert claidib
no ingin co imdemin.

59. FCCn § 6 has "*rodiúlt a athair di ocus nir léic cuci hí, ar robo torrach hí, ocus asbert fria muntir a breoad ocus arai nir lam ammudugud fri Cond.*"

60. 'them': sc. Murni and her child.

62–72. The MS. is partly illegible here; in 62 a disyllable has dropped: the meaning required is 'white, fair,' &c. In 68 *b* may be the first letter of *Bendron*: cf. FCCN, § 6. But in the Macgn. F., Bodmall is called a *ban-drui*: perhaps *Bendron* is a corruption of this.

ALMU II.

This composition appears to be made up of scraps of different pieces tagged together.

10. *Fiann.* All texts except E read *fian.* Whether the two forms are originally distinct or no (as to which see Zimmer, Zeitschr. f. deutsch. Alt. 35, 52), they are certainly constantly confounded in our MSS.: see, for example, Faffand 47. The word must here be a collective with the plural verb.

12. *gú* for *gée* or *gái.* The forms *gó*, *góo*, *gou* also occur.

16. This is an attempt to explain the name Almu (acc. Almain) by connecting it with *ailemain*, the verbal noun of *ailim.* Other equally worthless etymologies will be found in the prose *Dindshenchas.*

ALEND.

Alend, now Knockaulin, in Kildare, was one of the principal strongholds of the kings of Leinster.

This poem consists principally of a string of titles by which the place might be described, in memory of various chieftains who had possessed it.

2. Art Messdelmond was son of Setna Sithbacc: see the prose version.

7, 8. Setna Sithbacc was son of Lugaid, son of Bresal Brec (Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) *a*).

7. For this use of *luam* 'pilot,' cf. *luam gaiscid géir*, LL 195 *b* 55. *Letrad caile* 'the shield was hacked.'

8. The grammar is doubtful. Perhaps we should adopt the reading *forad úa Setnai* 'the seat of the grandsons of Setna.'

9. Messdelmond, *i.e.* Art: see note on 2.

12. No doubt the person meant is Messgegra, king of Leinster, who appears in the *Talland Etair* (RC viii. 47).

16. The reading is uncertain. I know nothing of Andrithir (or Maenindir), if indeed it be a proper name.

17. Fergus Fairge was son of Nuadu Necht, and father of Ross Ruad, whose son Find is mentioned in 19: see LL 346, col. 6.

20. Bresal Bregaman is perhaps identical with Bresal Brec, grandfather of Setna Sithbacc, Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) *a*.

21. I have not found the name Luchdond among the Leinster genealogies. It is perhaps rather an epithet than a proper name. In *Fled Bricrend* 22, 46, it is applied to Loegaire Buadach: Thurneysen, Sagen aus dem alten Irland, 35, translates 'Mäusehaut' (*luch-thond*).

25. *bethir bethrach*, so LL 146 *b* 19: cf. LL 247 *a* 16 *ruathar bethrach*, and see Meyer, *Contribb.*

30. *trét* 'herds' is here put for *slúag*.

33. Cathair Mor left Alend to Fiachu Baicid: see L. na gCeart, p. 203.

35. The MSS. point to *rígu*: we should rather expect *rige* 'by his kingship.'

36. *nenaisc* 'made captive.' But why should Fiachu be fighting against the 'champions of Alend'? Perhaps the reference is to the custom of chaining the fighting ranks together, as in Cath Muige Rátha, p. 178: cf. Joyce, *Social History of Ancient Ireland*, i. 144.

37. Bresal Beolach was son of Fiachu Baicid: see FM 435.

41. *nodassaig*: from *adsagim*.

42. Sruthar Segsa, *i.e.* the Boyne, which rises in Sid Nechtain, RC xv. 315, 334.

48. *adelaidim* usually means 'hunt': but the prose here has *conacclaid mur*: cf. Meyer, Contribb., *concladim*.

51. *rind* is here regarded as gen. pl.: but it is perhaps an adjective: cf. *Aed Rind* LL 203 *a* 30: *a rigi rabartaig rind* BB 58 *a* 36.

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