



The metrical Dindsenchas

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EDWARD GWYNN

THE METRICAL DINDSHENCHAS

PART II.



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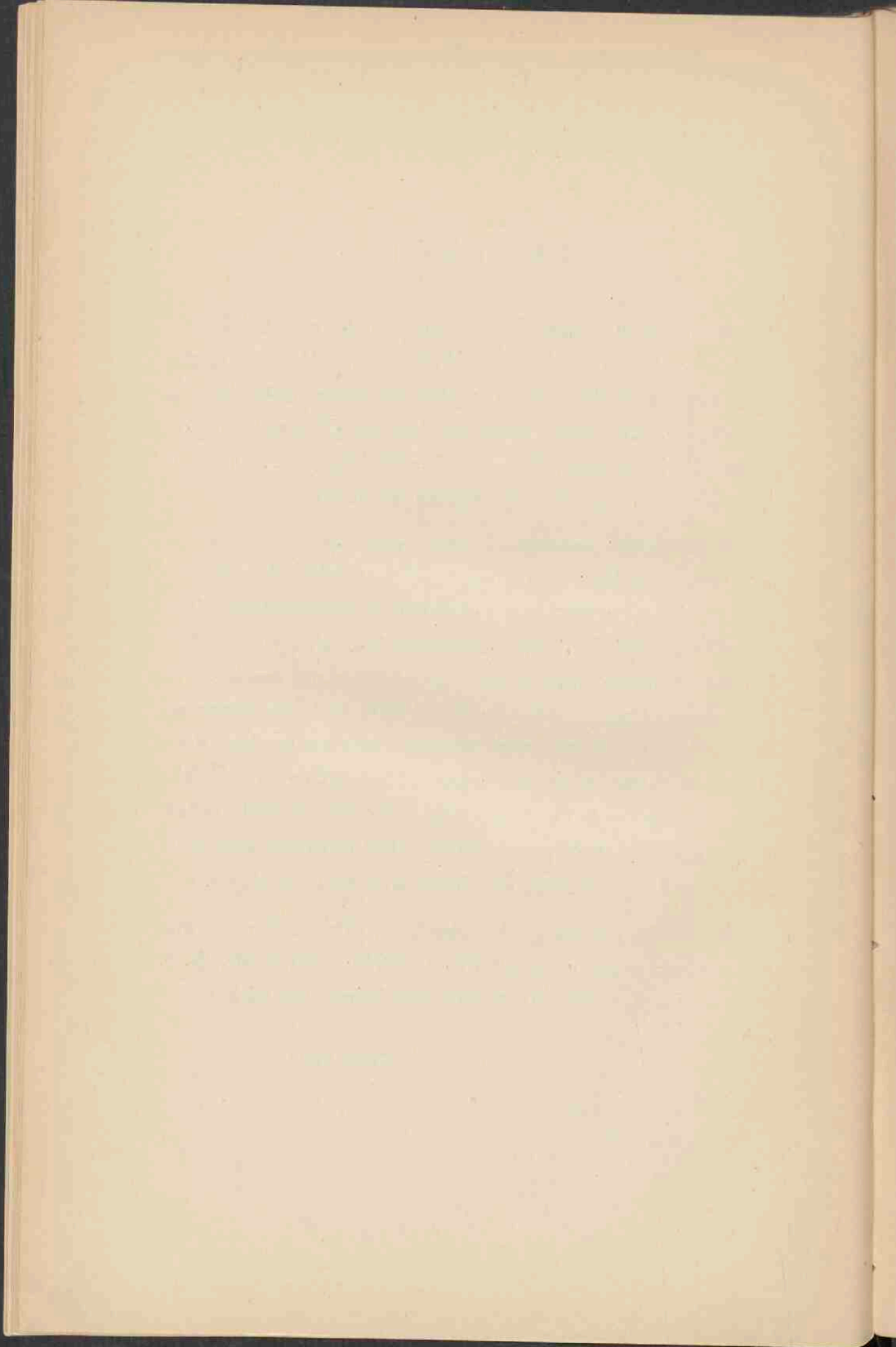
OF the eighteen poems here edited, five have been already published: those on Ráth Essa, Faffand, and Almu I., in the Todd Lecture Series, vol. vii.; that on Inber n-Ailbine, in *Atlantis*, iv. 235, from materials left by O'Curry; that on Lagin II. in Stokes' *Bodleian Dindshenchas*, p. 7, and in Atkinson 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 S₃, 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.
S₂ = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, B. II. 2.
S₃ = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, B. III. 1.
V = Royal Irish Academy, Reeves, 832.

THE HISTORY OF THE WEST INDIES

By Wm. Robertson

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RATH ESA.

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

Esá ainm na hingine ; 5
is di atá Ráth Ésa ;
cét cech míl cen tímdíbe
tucad lé, ba búaid mbésa.

Midir roalt in find-ben-sin 10
fri hól fína ocus meda ;
nói mblíadna dond ingin-sin
i mBrí Léith, láthar nena.

Tar cend Echdach Aireman
ruc Midir Étáin n-ólaig 15
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.” 20

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

LRBYMSS₂S₃HV. 2. *tíchtain*] tíchtu L. *bruthmar*] bruthmair S. 6. *is di*] is de RBM; uaithi, &c. YS₂; is uaithi, &c. HS. 8. *búaid*] bóan L. *mbésa*] LRB; fheasa M; mesa, messa, &c. *cæt*. 9. *roalt*] ronalt S₂; dalt RMHSY *ben*] mnai RBMS. 13. *Tar cend*] do chinn L. 14. *n-ólaig*] eolaigh, &c. SS₂. 15. *ciarb aireglan*] LL; gerb oreglan V; ciarb airerelan R; ciarborecagail 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, 5
 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 10
 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 ; 15
 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." 20

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. RMY₂H. 17. *asbert*] *atbert*, &c. LM. 19. *ar*] *a* YS; *iar*
 HS₃V. 20. *é leth*] *is é leth*, &c. HS₂; *alleith* M; *is and S.* *luidi*] *luide*
 LR; *doluidh* SS₂; *luid* H. 21. *la*] *ro* L. 23. *aireglan*] L; *ore . . . glan* Y;
oiredh glan S; *ainsiubal* S₂; *imairi* M; *airerglan*, &c. *cæt.* : *see Notes.*

- Nói mblíadna 'con togail-sin, 25
 nírbó romór a hoibne ;
 Midir ocon dolaim-sin,
 oc admilliud na hoipre.
- Iar togail in tsída-sin
 doluid cóica fer fuilngech, 30
 (ropo delbda in dñe-sin)
 d'acallaim na ríg ruibnech.
- Tuetha and dia cétaíne
 (ba scél n-irdaire rochúala)
 do Echdaig i richt Étaíne 35
 tri cóicait ban, bríg búada.
- Is díb-sin doróega-seom,
 a ingin fír-glain fessin ;
 ba gó aní romáide-seom,
 conid sí dál forsndessid. 40
- 'S í sin ruc Meiss mBuachalla
 máthair Conaire chélig ;
 ba dál amnas fuachalda :
 rosalt for slúag n-ard n-Ébir.
- Dia luid Eochaid atherruch 45
 do thogail Brí Léith láine
 tuc a mnái iar n-athelluch
 ó Midir, monur n-áine.
- Is andsin dorimgart-seom
 a eneclaind for Midir 50
 Eochaid firén find-balc-som,
 conosrue iar ndáil dligid.

25. 'con] don YHS₂. 26. a hoibne] a opre (vel n *superscr.*) L; a noipni MS₃.
 dolaim] doloim L; dolum, &c. RB; dolmad S dloamad *cat.* 28. na hoipre] anoiPRE,
 &c. RBS₃. 30. fuilngech] furmech, &c., LYS₂; fuigleach M. 31. delbda] delba,
 &c. RM; dédla, &c. YS₂S. 33. tuetha] dafuetha M; tucadh S. *and]* om.
 IRB. 36. cóicait] L; fíehit *cat.* 37. díb] L; and *cat.* doróega] doraga
 YS₃; doraighi II; doraidhi S₂. 39. aní] an L; inní S. *ro máide]*
 L; romaíd H; romaigi Y; imaigi S₂; romaíd M; romaídhedh S₃; romaighedh
 S; domáid R; domaidid B. 40. conid] conad, &c. YSS₃H. *si]* L; í, &c.

Nine years were they about that sacking; 25
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, 30
(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, 35
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. 40

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 45
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— 50
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. MYS₂; *ceillidh*, &c. HS₃V: *see Notes*.
43. *dál amnas*] L; *scél n-irdaire*, &c. *cæt.* *fuachaldá*] L; *nuachalla*, &c.
RBS₂Y; *nuachalda* II; *nuacolla*, &c. MS₃V. 44. *rosalt*] *roselt* L. *sluag*]
L; *síl cæt.* *Ébir*] Eogain YS₂: *see Notes*. 45. *diá*] L; *do cæt.* 46. *Bri*]
bria L; *brith* M. 52. *conosruc*] L; *comoruc*, &c. *cæt.* *iar ndáil*] L;
dodail, &c. RY; *dail* B; *adail* SS₂; *andail* MHS₃V.

- Is é-so in cetharda
dorógai Eochaid Airem,
co n-ilur drong decharda 55
co lín sciáth agus claideb.
- Tochur for móin Lámraigi,
fid for Brefni co feochra,
dichlochad más már-Midi,
agus luachair for Tebtha. 60
- “A ingen domringair-se”
ar Eochaid “ráid 'sind úair-se
ca dindgna dom dindgnaib-se
cosnotidnastar úaim-se.”
- Is andsin doróega-si 65
Ráith n-Ésa, fál fri find-blai,
suide asnasocerad-si
asnaccad na tri dindgnai.
- Síd in Broga belgaig-se,
in tress dindgna cóir cétach, 70
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, 75
co n-ilur a sét sunda.
- Midir iar eúl mithisi
doluid imon dáil ndébla
co Echdaig doridisi,
imom caingin cóir cétna. 80

53. so] sin L. 54. dorógai] L; dorimart RB; dorimgart *cat.*
55. decharda] L; n-dreacharda, &c. YS; ndrechferda, &c. *cat.* 57. for] L; tar *cat.*
58. for] L; tar *cat.* 59. mav] &c. SS₂S₃H; mór, &c. *cat.* 60. for] L tar; *cat.*
61. domringair] L; domingair, &c. *cat.* 63. ca] LM; cia *cat.* 64. cosnotid-
nastar] L; gustignastar S₂; cosatidnastar, &c. *cat.* uaimse] in uairse S₂. 65] do-
roegai-si] dosregaimsea, &c. RB; daragasi YS; doraidhesi S₂; roraegaisi M.
66. fal] LS₂; fial *cat.* 67. asnasocerad] L; asasoerfad RB; asa

This is the fourfold demand
 that Eochaid Airem made,
 with many a distinguished company, 55
 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. 60

“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 65
 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, 70
 Duma Giall in Tara,
 fair Dun Crimthaind in Howth.

Then was [the Rath] bestowed
 by Eochaid—a word without delusion—
 with everything she demanded 75
 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. 80

soerfaid M; as a sailfead, &c. YHSS₂; as a saillfi, &c. S₃V: see Notes. 68. *accad*] L; aicfed, &c. *cæt*. 69. *belgaig*] belgaid, &c. RBYMSS₃H; braenaidh S₂. 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 S₂; nanG'sa BS₂H. 73-76.] *not in* L. 74. *rad*] dail S₂. 75. *neoch*] ni, &c. YSS₂. 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, 85
 ingen-side do Midir;
 nochon olc a láthar-som
 cen descin cirt ná dligid.

Rucad Étain aire-glan 90
 siar, ciarbo toleada in tustiu,
 la cend Echdach Aireman,
 co mbói i Síd Nenta iar n-uscíu.

Atá thiar in slóg-drongach
 oc Sigmall, síd cen fulla, 95
 oc úa Midir mór-glonnach,
 ocus ní thoracht sunnda.

81. 'mo les] móles L; moleis S₁; molais S₂; imoles, &c. RS₂V; umon leas M;
 moales, &c. BH; modoles Y. ndían] dian LR; indail S₂; ni Y.
 mondernta] L; mandernta S₂; conderna B; conearnta M; condernta, &c. cæt.
 84. noithech] nathach R; næthech B; naitheach YS₂. 86. side] isein M.
 87. láthar] luthar L? 88. descin] L; decain, &c. YSS₂; detin, &c. BHS₂V;

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 ; 85
 she was daughter to Midir ;
 not evil was her disposition
 though she knew not rule nor law. *? not without knowing?*

Etain of the bright brows was borne 90
 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 ; 95
 and she has not returned hither.

didin M. 89. *aireglan*] L ; oiredhglan S ; airedglan H ; aireadha M ; aireglan *cat.*
 90. *siar*] siur RBM. *ciarbo*] cobo, &c. RB ; corbha M ; nibo S₂.
toleda] tole YS ; ole S₂. 91. *la*] ro L. 93. *thiar*] hiar M.
morglonnach] morglonnaig L. 96. *toracht*] &c. LS₂ ; tainic, &c. *cat.*

BRUG NA BÓINDE I.

CINÁED UA HARTACÁN *cecinit.*

Án-sín a maig mic ind Óc,
fairsing do rót, rethaib cét :
forolgais mór flathe fir
d' aicme ceoh ríq immotrét.

Rotbrecaí cach n-ingnad n-án 5
a chlár find-glan, fichtib slúag,
a thir férach fénach féig,
a iath n-énach n-indseoh n-úag.

Tech mic ind Óc ós do dind,
ríqda fót fri féle find : 10
taireet 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 : 15
ní gann in nath ós a cind.

Atchú lind find Féic na Fían
frit aniar, ní timm in gním,
co lá brátha, brigach bág,
meraid hi fán rátha ríq. 20

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

LURBMHSS₂S₃V. 1. a] i B. maig] bruigh SM. 2. do] i H; da M.
rethaib] LUB; srethaib *cat.* cét] LU; sét, &c. *cat.* 3. forolgais] LU; dalais
did M; rolais dit *cat.* flathe fir] LU; fian iar fir RBMSS₂; fian co fir HS₂V.
4. ceoh] LU; na S₂; mór *cat.* immotrét] V; mótret LU; imotréd, &c. RBSS₂S₃;
imatret H; rigatred M. 5. Rotbrecaí] LU; dogabais S₂; rogabais, &c. *cat.*
cach] LU; mór *cat.* fichtib] fithib R; fitib H. 7. férach fénach] ferach fénach
LU; fremach ferach *cat.* 8. n-uag] LU; n-uar, &c. *cat.* 9-12] in LU
only. 13. Foraind] araind LU. fort lár] LU; cáin ar S₂; ar lár, &c. *cat.*

BRUG NA BÓINDE I.

Bright is it here, O plain of Mac ind Oe!
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, 5
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 Oe above thy stead,
a royal sod with true hospitality; 10
there come in sooth above thy brown stream
hostages from the fairy-hills of all Erin thither. *look down?*

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, 15
not sparing was the dirge over her head.

I see the clear pool of Fiaec 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. 20

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. S₂. *mil*] LURB in mal, &c. cæt.
ba] da M. *molbthach*] molfach R; molbtha BH; molta S₂; mholaind M.
in mind] LUH; mind mind M; mind cæt. 15. *furri*] LU; impi, &c. cæt.
16. *in nath*] BS₂; iná R; anath S₂V; inath MS; annad H; ignod LU. *Read*
perhaps in gnod. *ós*] uais H. *a*] do LU. 17-20] *only* in LU.
18. *timn*] tim LU. 21. *contuiled*] contuiled, &c. RBMS₂. *sund*]
sann BS₃. 22. *iar*] ria LU. *cath*] *after this word a folio is missing*
from S. 24. *duaichnid*] duaithnid R; duiehnid H; duithnid M.

- Lecht in Máthai iarna guin 25
léir fort a Bruig, breccas graig :
a chnám rochorbai in muir,
diatá Inber Colptha cain.
- Sechi bó Boadain buain 30
ós grúaid a liac budi báin :
Termond na Fían fedil féig
im réid airthir Nemid náir.
- Hi Fertai na Fáilenn fand, 35
is and romaiced in glond :
mór in gním n-úalle do rind
écht Find forfein Lúagne lond.
- Génair inneot mellach mac 40
Cellach roslat leirg for lore ;
ba túalnge trebe, roteacht,
conappad éc n-úalle fort.
- A bare braineach na tor tromm,
tathig trethan-tonn do dind :
otha Chrimthainn Niad go Niall
ba tu relec na fian find.
- Fintan Feradach fecht fand 45
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 S₂; ardamhuigh M.
26. *léir-fort*] LU; o raith S₂; orut, &c. *cæt.* a] in S₂. *Bruig*] muicech H.
27. *a chnám*] LU; is é a cnám, &c. BH; isedachnamh M; se enama S₂. *ro*] om. M. *chorbai*] cobra (*corr. by a later hand to corb*) B; corb HS₂. 29-40] in LU only. 31. *fedil*] *fedeil* LU. 32. *réid*] *reid* LU. 33. *fúilenn*

The Grave of the Matha after his slaying 25
 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 30
 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 35
 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. 40

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, 45
 possessed thy land, the strong prince ;
 Tuathal Techtmar, lord of our clans,
 thy bare sepulchral soil sustains.

failend LU : see Notes.

36. *Luagne*] Lúagni LU.

38. *leirg*] léirg LU.

41. *brainech*] bránach RB.

42. *trethan*] traetren B.

tond] trom LU.

do dind] LU ; do lind S₂ ; fo lind BH ; fot lind, &c. RMS₃V.

43. *olha*] LU ;

o *cat*.

niad] LUB ; nia nár, &c. RS₃V ; niathnar, &c. MH ; nia ceitri S₂.

co *Niall*] nall S₂.

44. *ba*] LU ; is, &c. *cat*.

45-48. in LU only.

46. *thalmain*] thalam LU.

Fedelmed Rechtach it rím, ba gein gleccach fri cech tóir ; nídat éradach hi tír, focheil Conn cét-chathach cóir.	50
Ní thoracht Art, aidble uird : immanaigtís luirg ar leirg : rogab lige n-uachail n-ard arg na léech i Luachair Deirg.	55
Ní thoracht Cormac cen lén : déad na fírinne, rodfír, rogab fos ós Bóind báin forsin traig ic Ros na Ríg.	60
Cairpre Lifechair fort lár : Fiachu Sraptime 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.	65
Iarsin tánic cretem glan for Mag Fáil, bés nirbo rom, co fail cách i reilcib noém dia scarad fri clóen fri col.	70

49. *Fedelmed*] LU; feidlim, &c. *cæt.* *Rechtach*] LU; rechtaid, &c. RBM; rechtmar, &c. HS₃V; rech- S₂. *it rím*] LU; art lár B; ar do lár RHS₃V; ar triall S₂; ardha lar M. 50.] LU; nirbu elemar fri gach toir, &c. MHS₂S₃V; nirbu elemar ar gach coir B; nirbo helemar ar cach tóir R. 51. *nídat*] LU; nirbo S₂; ciarbo, &c. *cæt.* *éradach*] bree brathach S₂. *hitír*] LU; iar fir *cæt.* 52. *focheil*] LU; do riacht HV; do triacht, &c. RBS₃; dotriath, &c. MS₂. 53. *aidble*] LUV; aille, &c. *cæt.* 54. *immanaigtís*] *ed.*; immánaig tess LU; imon gebdis, &c. *cæt.* *ar*] for LU; tar HV. 55. *n-uachail*] nuachal LU; n-uathaid, &c. *cæt.*; naid B. *n-airá*] nard LU. 56. *arg*] LUS₃; airg *cæt.*] &c. LUBM; a, &c. *cæt.* 58. *deád*] 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. 50

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. 55

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. 60

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) 65
 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, 70
 so that each lies in burial-grounds of holy men,
 to sever them from iniquity and sin.

nodfir] LU; *notfir* HS₂; *nodfir cat.*

60. *forsin*] LU; *acon* S₂; *isin cat.*

ar do S₂; *ar* S₂; *ad* M.

rán roiptine LU.

athir H.

H] *leth rola* [rora M, *corr. rola*], &c. *cat.*

rogabh M; *do chuaid cat. co*] *do* LU.

each] LU; *fail* S₂; *failet*, &c. *cat.*

cat. fri-fri] LU; *ar-ar* RBV; *ar-*'s *ar* MHS₂S₃.

59. *ós*] LU; *ie*, &c. BMS₃; *a cat.*

61. *fort*] LU; *art* LRBH; *ard* V;

62. *Fiachu*] *fiacra* LU. *Sraptine rán*]

63. *dimbrí*] LU; *it tír*, &c. RBV; *a tír*, &c. MS₂S₃;

66.] *so* LU; *ro fess a luam* [uam S₂; ruam (*with vel l superscr.*)

67. *iarndul*] LU; *i cuaid* H;

70. *for*] LU; *co cat.*

71. *fail*

72. *scarad*] LU; *snadad*,

Focheil cúane calma cáin
 a mag mic in Dagda déin :
 ná dersat adrad Dé móir
 andso dóib hitát hi péin. 75

Iatsom dimbúan, tussu búan,
 immotréide cech slúag slán :
 iatsom dosrogáeth a ngés,
 tussu fogéba áes n-án. 80

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. *calma*] *colna* LU. 75. *ná*] na LU. *dersat*] read perhaps *dersat*; see Notes. 77. *iat*] LU; *siat cæt.* 78. *immo-*
tréide] LU; *imdasraidhi* M; *amraidhit* S₂; *imusraidhi*, *cæt.* 79. *iat*] LU;
siat cæt. *dosrogáeth*] *ed.*, *dosrogæd* LU; *dosrubaid* RB; *dosrulaid* S₃V;

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.

75

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.

80

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.

85

dosrulaid H ; dosrulluaidh M ; rosroluaidh S₂. *a ngás*] *ed.* ; a mbés LU ;
 in gés, &c. *cat.* 81-88] *in LU only.* 83. *ábraig*] *read perhaps Ebric :*
see Notes. 87. *rán*] *ran LU.* 85. *collá*] *ed. culli LU.*

BRUG NA BÓINDE II.

MACNIA MAC OENGUSA *cecinit.*

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

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

5

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

10

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

15

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

20

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

LRBYMHS (81-end only) S₂S₃V. *Oengusa*] oenna R; oen B; aonagain H.
1. *chóemu*] cām S₂. 2. *rinnib*] raindib M. 6. *treib ríg*] tre bríg R.
7. *rogníth*] rogníd RB; do gníth S₂; rongní S₃V. *lasin*] risin L; lasinin S₂.
ndúr] ndún (n expunct.) L; núr S₂. 8. *bríg*] a bregh S₂. 9. *imdai nDagdaí*] L;
imda in Dagda, &c. *caet*. *deirg*] ndeirg LSa. 10. *cen galmai*] foran galmagh R.
11. *ro fher*] rob fher, &c. MS₂; robfear Y. *iar*] ar BR. *sóir*] soer, &c.
LRMB; sair *caet*. 12. *fri*] YSs; ría L; for *caet*. *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 : 5
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 ; 10
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, 15
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 : 20

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.

coem, &c., I.B. 14. *síðblai*] *sithbla* RB; *sirbla* YS₂. 15. *ait ro genair*] L;
airm i ngenair, &c. *cat.* 16. *for rben*] L; *maróen*, &c. *cat.* *ní*] in RBS₂;
an (*with vel ni superscr.*) Y. *céim*] *om.* S₂. 17. *dia*] *do* S₂; *da* M.
19. *in*] a RBMS₂. 20. *thurus*] *theros* LRM; *theras* Y. 21. *dia*] *do*
RHS₂. 22. *tochúil*] LBM; *togail*, &c. *cat.* *fú*] LV; *fou* H; *fo* *cat.*
23. *ind Óc*] *nOe* LYH; *in oic* M; *in oc*, &c. *cat.*

Iarsain tucad, cialla cor, 25
 in mac dia nói mbliadna mbil,
 coa athair, ba cadla gair,
 dia thaig cosin Dagda ndil.

Dogníth ergnam leis dond ríg 30
 isin tsíd, tre brégrad mbúan,
 de atá, ní ceist cen rún,
 Duma Treise ar súil na slúag.

R
L. Ochain
 Iarsin dlomais Dagda dúr 35
 asa dún, níb adba mbróin,
 co mbái i n-Ochain, fecht co núaill,
 iar n-othur slúag, iar n-úair óil.

Ferta Escláim, érimm sruith,
 a teletís cesta fir maith,
 fót co mbalc-raind, gním cen chleith,
 do mac Calpraind ba rót raith. 40

In eol dúib Dere mBuailc bil
 comarba fil immon mag,
 asa n-ésib loimm lúath lib
 a dig don tslúag, fiad glund glan.

In eol dúib Lecht Cellaig crúaid 45
 co núaill ellaig, eretha gáeth :
 atbath tre beirt láechda lúath,
 dia mbói thúath for báethla báeth.

25. *cialla*] cialda M. *cor*] L; in cor, &c. *cat.* 26. *in*] *om.* B. 27. *a*] *om.* BYM. 29. *dogníth*] dogníat S₂. 30. *tre*] *fria* M. *mbúan*] *buair* L. 31. *de*] *desin* Y; is de M. *ni*] *om.* B; in S₂. 32. *Treise*] L; *intreisc*, &c. HYV; in *treist* M; in *tres* RB; in *treisi* S₂. *súil*] *sur* R; *uil* Y. 33. *Dagda*] in *Dagda* R (*corr.*) S₂. *dúr*] *ndúr* LR. 34. *asa*] a *sin* Y; *isin* S₂. *níb adba*] L; ba *badba* *cat.* *mbróin*] L; *bróin* *cat.* 35. *in Ochain*] *oc Ochain* L; *inacind* (*with* *anochain* *superser.*) Y; *innochain* S₂; in *Ochaind*, &c. *cat.* 36. *othur*] *othrus* R. *óil*] *oir* B. 37-40.] *not in* L. 37. *ferta*] *fert* H. 38. *a teletís*] in *t-eiges* B; *hi teilgdís*, &c. RYM. 40. *de*] *di* H; da M. 41-44.] *om.* S₂.

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. 25

Entertainment was made by him for the King
in the mound by means of lasting deception ; 30
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, 35
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. 40

Know ye the Well of Buale 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 45
[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.

41. *mbuailc*] &c. HS₃V; *m̄ba Buile* L; *mBuale*, &c. RB; *mbuile* Y; *muaale* M. *bil*] L; *mil* Y; *mbil c̄et*. 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. *loinm*] *luim* L; *lomm* M; *lom c̄et.* *luath*] *luath* L. 44. *a dig don tsluag*] *asanib dig* M. *fiad glund*] B; *fiad glonn* H; *fiad glun* L; *fidglun* Y; *fiaglunn* R; *fiaglond* M; *fiadhglonn* S₃V. *glan*] *nglan* YM. 45. *eraiad*] *cain* (*with vel cr̄u superscr.*) H. 46. *mbóil*] *nuill* R; *naill* B. *erotha*] *erceda* YH; *erc* S₂. *gaeth*] *gáith*, &c. LYS₂H. 47. *tre beirt*] *tre beir* L; *tria beirt*, &c. RBYS₂H. 48. *dia mbóil*] *dial* L; *combóil* S₂. *baethla*] *lethblai* L; *baethbla*, &c. MS₂HS₃V. *báeth*] *báith*, &c. LYS₂; *mbæth* H.

In eól dúib Lecht Gabra ind rí
 Cinaeda cen galma ngáid; 50
 rue búaid a siblachaib sréin
 do réir mie Irgalaig áin.

A Cír a Currel na mná,
 cia bale itá cechtar de,
 meraid ó 'ndiu co tí bráth; 55
 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. 60

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

In eól dúib tre gnímrad ngnáth, 65
 fri fáth fir-glan, fichtib tríath,
 iath n-acht-glan i mbáatar scéith,
 Carcar ind Léith i mbái in Líath.

In eól dúib tre chátha cend
 in glend i mbíd Mátha mall? 70
 robíth iar n-inriud slóg seng;
 dogníth mór do inniud and.

50. *Cinaeda*] cináeth S₂. *cen*] con Y. *galma*] calma Y. *ngáid*] L;
 ngráin H; gráin, &c. *cat*. 51. *rue*] tue S₂M. *siblachaib*]
 siublachaib RS₂S₃. 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. *cat*. *bráth*] in bráth, S₂; brach R. 56. *ba*] L;
om. cat. *ar chách*] sa cach, &c. YMHS₂S₃ (see *Notes*). 57. *ba bóg*]
 fa bad Y; fadhbaigh S₂; ba baid M. *báird*] dind L. 58. *fuaim*]
 uaim S₂. 59. *forglitís iath*] furgliadh a sídh S₂. *gairg*] L; ngaire H; ngairg
cat. 61. *and*] L; tan *cat*. *dogníth*] dogníd L. 62. *cuanbla*] cuan bladh S₂.
cliach] cliath H; sciath S; sciath (*with* vel cliach *superser.*) Y. 64. *mórrígan*]

Know ye the Grave of the Horse of the king,
Cinaed free from rigour of need ? 50
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 ; 55
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. 60

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, 65
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 ? 70
it was slain after the incursion of lithe hosts :
much havoc was wrought there.

mon rigi S₂; morghlana M. *miad*] ruadh L; mbuaidh S₂. *diat*] L;
airm *cat*. *i mbith*] i mbid LS₃V; a frith M. 65. *eól*] *om*. B. *tre*]
tria MH. *ngnath*] ngath M. 66. *nacht*] I; nac R; nach BS₂;
dat H; ndath, &c. YMS₂V. *scóith*] *om*. S₂. 68. *i mbái in*] imbái
L; uman M. 69. *eól*] *om*. B. *tre*] tria RBYH; tri S₂M. *chátha*] *ed*.
chatha, &c. LYHS₂; cáta R; chata, &c. BS₃V; cath M. 70. *mbid*] mbai, &c.
RB; mbít Y; mbith S₂; mid M. *Mátha*] matha LS₂; in mada S₃V; mata *cat*.
71. *ro bith*] do bid S₂; nobith R. *inriud*] indred B; indrad Y. *slog*]
RBM; sluaig *cat*. 72. *dognith*] dognid dognid L; rognith RB; dognid M.
do imniud] dimniud L.

Iarsin tictís, gnám cen chleith,
ind ríg dia leith ó thír thoich,
do descin in Máthai múaid,
co cland cách fair crúaid a chloich. 75

Clandais Buide a liic laind
'sind raind forsbíd Suide Find :
fácaib fiad churib na nglend
a chend for Maig Murid mind. 80

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

Doringned leo duma ndúr
do múr for cnámaib in míl :
ba hé in coseur, fecht co núaill,
rothecht fri búaid ocs bríg. 85

Caisel n-Oengussa cen chol,
Airther n-Oenlussa rodlen :
mic Crundmáil forndessid ein
dia n-essib mid corbo mer. 90

Forsin Róot rígda in gleó
in mic Óoc, eid dia mbói ?
dia robriss súil Midir múaid,
in fail úaib nech asidchói ? 95

A.

73. *cleith*] clith B. 74. *ind ríg dia leith*] om. L; in ríg ar leth S₂; na rígh dia leith, &c. S₃V; in rí dia leith RBY; and rí dia leth H. ó] dia L; ou H.
75. *descin*] feachsain S₂. mátha] matha LS₂; mada MS₃V; mata cat.
76. *cland*] clannad R. fair] om. L; fir S₂; fer R; uair M. a] fair R; o B.
77. *clandais buide*] lintais uile L. a liic] alsag (with vel alig superser.) Y; abraig M; alsat S₂. laind] lind S₂M; lind (with luind superser.) Y; luind H.
78. *raind*] rind YS₂; druim S₃; rannlind M. forsbíd] twice L; forsbái, &c. RBH; forsbith S₃; ambídh S₂; forsmæ M. 79. *cuirib*] cuibríb, &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, 75
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. 80

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 85
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] Airthir Oenlussa clave to it,—) 90
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 : 95
is there any of you who can recount it ?

glend L. *máthai*] matha S₂; máta YR; mada M; mata *cat.* 84. *baill*] mboill Y.
lic] L; lic R; leic *cat.* *Bend*] mBend S₃. 85. *núir*] *om.* L; núr S₂.
86. *do níur*] ndrena (*with vel dremur superscr.*) L. 87. *nuail*] nuall LSS₂S₃;
naill B. 88. *fri*] ri L; for S₂. 89. *cen*] *om.* L. 90. *airthir*] athesc
L; airthir Y; airthir H; ardiór S₃. *oen lussa*] enlussa B. *rodlen*] rod
rodlen L; rodlen H; ro lean Y. 91. *dessid*] essid B; cisscad Y; edsiudh, &c.
MS; deisib R. *cin*] sin HS₂; sin (*with vel cin in margin*) Y. 92. *essib*]
desib R. 93. *forsin*] ní L. *gleó*] geo B. 94. *in*] i B; *om.* S. *Ooo*] an
oog S. *cid*] ced L. *mbói*] bóí L. 96. *fail úaib nech*] fuilneach uaib Y.
asidchói] assidchoi, &c. LS₂M; asateai R; asasideai B; isadcai, &c. HS₃V; isidcai S.

INBER N-AILBINE.

A fhiru Muirid, miad ngle,
do nach tuirim tailmire,
ráidfed frib im threbbthus te
senehus n-aithglice n-Ailbine.

Bái ríam fri rót-bla rorá 5
uas Fótla cen fodála :
ba lúam cech líg-druing fria lá
Rúad mac Ríghuind rodána.

Riacht réim raith, roga cen raind, 10
dar muing maith mora moch-maill,
d'acallaim a charat Gaill :
ba réim rabale co Lochlaind.

Luid tri nóithib, noithech glé,
ba soithech co sír-gairge : 15
sochtsat, duba domna de,
for formna na fír-fairge.

Femidset lúd as nach leth, 20
robo dúr in dron-fuirech ;
isin muir múad már cen meth
doluid Rúad rán roguinech.

RBYMHSS₂S₃V. 1. *fhiru*] fíora II. 2. *tailmire*] tailmhiri M ;
toilmhíre, &c. S₂V ; tuilmíre, &c. YSS₂H ; talmíre R ; taimíre B. 3. *frib*]
daib RB. *im*] am HS₃ ; cen, &c. *cet*. *threbbthus*] trebthus, &c. *codd*.
te] de RBYMS₃V. 4. *naitghlice*] ndaithglice R. 5. *ro rá*] rogha SS₂ ;
rorádh R. 6. *fodala*] fologha S. 7. *fria*] re B ; fri YS₂. 8. *duind*]
druing BM. 9. *riacht*] recht RBS₂V ; riacht S₃ ; racht M. *raind*]
rinn, &c. SM. 10. *moch*] mor S₂. 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 5
north of undivided Ireland :
he was pilot of every brilliant band in his day,
Ruad son of valiant Rigdomn.

He fared on a lucky journey, a choice without dispute,
over the goodly mane of the sea early and late ; 10
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. 15

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. 20

fa Y. *rabale*] YM; rabaile B; robaile R; robale cat. 13. *noithib*] noitib
RB; naeithe YS₂; naithe, &c. SS₂; noite H; noiche M. *noithech*] othech
S₂; noethech S. 14. *soithech*] soigteac B; soethrach Y; soetrach SS₂.
siv] sith RB. 15. *duba*] doba H; dobo S₂. *domna*] domnu RYM.
17. *femidset*] femid B; feimdis M. *lud as*] luth ar YS; lathar S₂; lúth as, &c.
cat. *nach*] cach, &c. YSS₂M. *robo dár*] robádur R. 18. *dron*] droch RBS₂.
fuirech] suideach M. 19. *isin*] forsin YSS₂. 20. *-guinech*] fhuilech R.

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

Ráidset ris tre gle-alt nglan 25
ba hed . . . fodroirgetar

.
.
.
.

30

a nónbur ban búadach bil
bá crúadach a n-indsaigid.

Fois nóí n-oidche lasna mna
cen doirche cen dérguba,
fon fairge cen tonna tra
for nóí longa créduma.

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

40

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

21. *mosláí*] *ed.* moshuid Y (*originally* moluaid) H; musluidh S₃V; moluaid S₂; doluidh S; moluaid RBM. *tairdhe*] hairdhe, &c. Y (*with t added later*) SS₂.
22. *dar sál fairge*] *ed.* fairgí tar sal, &c. RBMHS₃; tar fairgí sal, &c. YS₂V; tar fairgí sáil S. *sruth-saeba*] sroth-saoba H; saebtshrotha S₂; saebstrotha, &c. *cat.*
23. *i sain-delgna*] *ed.* in sandelgna RB; in saindelecca H; in saindealgna, &c. S₃V; isindelgna, &c. YMSS₂. *rosná*] rosna *codd.* 24. *mbain*] H; mná SS₂; mbna M; mban RBYS₃V. *delba*] delbda BYS₃; remhra S. *dluth*] RB; dath Y; deagh S₂; ro MHSS₃V. 25-32.] *om.* S₂. 25. *tre*] tria YMS₃V; fria S. *nglan*] *om.* B. 26. *hed*] hét R; het B; he fhad M; ead (*with two letters obliterated*) Y; heat H; héat S₃V. *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 25
 this it was that delayed him :

.

nine women of them, excellent and strong ; 30
 hard it was to approach them.

He slept nine nights with the women
 without gloom, without tearful lament,
 under the sea free from waves 35
 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. 40

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 HS₃V ; inænmar Y. *ban*] om. Y ; ba R. *buadach*]
 buadh R. 32. *cruadach*] cruadbach, &c. YHSS₃V ; cradbach M.
a n-indsaigid] &c. HS ; anindsaidig Y ; inindsaigid, &c. *caet*. 38. *fois*] faoi
 H ; fais (*with idh superser.*) S. 34. *doirche*] dairchi Y ; dairci M ; dairti
 RB ; dairthe &c. SS₂. *derguba*] derduba SS₃V. 36. *longa*] longaib RBS₂.
 38. *malart*] malairt HS₂ ; maralt RBM. 39. *chisal*] chisa S ; cisiu S₂.
cle] gle Y ; ngle HS₃V ; de S. 40. *afrihise*] aridhise S ; arigisi S₂ ;
 doridise Y. 41. *rafáid*] *ed.* rofáidh, &c. RS₃V ; rofáid BYMH ; rofáidh,
 &c. SS₂. *co*] co a B. 42. *ráid*] ruadh SS₂. 43. *soalt*] om. R.
sochlaind] socluin RBS₂ ; socloinn S₃ ; so chluaing S. 44. *lonngluair*]
 longbuan S.

O rancadar dar sál sair 45
 co n-ád is co n-oll-bladaib,
 anait secht mbliadna ar blaid
 ic a charait comramaig.

Ceohaing iarom Rúad na renn 50
 tar srothaib, fial-mod fég-seng,
 anair dar muir triath-glan tend,
 co toracht iath-mag n-Érend.

Eismech robói in rí co recht,
 nírbo deis-breth ná daig-bert;
 cen dul co mná tar sruth slecht 55
 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. 60

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

Seólsat curchán, créd nad clé, 65
 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 S₂. 48. *comramaig*] comradaig, &c. RB.
 49. *renn*] rann Y; rand MSS₂. 50. *fial-mod*] S₃V; fialmo RY; fialmac BM; fialmag H; falma SS₂. *fég-seng*] fedeng, &c. YMS. 52. *toracht*] rainic S₂. *iath-mag*] iartur S₂; iathmag in M. 53. *co*] *om.* RBV; re M. 54. *breth*] bert Y. 55. *cen*] co S₂. *dul*] dal Y. *co*] do S₂.
 57. *tuirid*] tured, &c. RBM. *tess*] des RB; tass H; thés S₂. 58. *Muirid*] mured, &c. RBM. 59. *co crúad*] erichad M. 60. *ro*] co S₂; da M.
 61. *amrán*] amband (*with* vel *abran in margin*) S; amra and S₂. *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.

45

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.

50

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.

55

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.

60

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.

65

mna S₂; man M. ón] ogh S. binn] mbinn HSS₃; mbend Y; beind M;
linn R; rind S₂. 62. tria] tre MH. nglan] glan S; om. S₂.
-óg] od, &c. YS₂. 63. tetarracht] techtairicht S; techtareas S₂;
eatarracht M. 64. sruaim] sruth SS₂. setal-bale] sidhal bale S₂; sidhal
bhalb S. -glind] binn R. 65. cred nad cle] cerd nad gle S; cen ceilig
dhe S₂; criad ni cle M. 66. nír] ni YSS₂. dev] dær MSS₂.
drongáige] drongaide Y; drongaidhi S₂; drongaige S; drong daighe M.
67. a] om. RB. gríngel] glíngel R; grínglan MS₂.

Olc-gním rogene andsin
 ben dñb cen ere n-essil, 70
 marbad maic Rúaid co mblait bil
 .ocus a maic fodessin.

Erchor don mac mó each cair
 (ba treb-chol dó for talmáin)
 rolá amach tria cacad cain 75
 conidn-apid cen anmain.

And asbert slúag son-ard-se
 rothecht Rúad rogarg rige
 uili cen chond im glonn nglé
 "Ba holl, ba holl in bine!" 80

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, 85
 gairm cian cen chaire comraic,
 ráiter ón tuiredach taile
 ó Muiredach mac Cormaie.

Nó mad ferr la tuaichliu tra
 sell fri buaibthiu bladmara, 90
 ráidfit Builiath, báí nad ba,
 ó Muiriath mnái Labrada.

69. *rogene*] rodgene, &c. YS₂; rótgéne V; dogeine H; rogniadh S; doronad S₂.
 70. *ere*] era HS₂V; erim Y (*originally* eri); eirghe S₂. *n-essil*] deisil S₂;
 reisil M. 71. *marbad*] marbaid M. *blait*] blait MH; bloid Y; bladn S;
 blaidh S₂HS₃. 73. *cair*] coir Y. 74. *treb-chol*] tre' achar S₂.
dó] tó, &c. RBS₃V. 75. *rolá*] dala M. *imach*] a mac MS. *tria*]
 tre RBS₂ *cacad*] caca H; cagad BMS; cogad S₂. 76. *conidnapad*]
 conadabadh, &c. YSS₂S₃; conatnabadh M; conatnapai H. 77. *and*]
 andsin R. *sonard-se*] nasard de S₂. 78. *ro thecht*] ro gab S₂; re techt
 RM (*altered to ro*). *rigi*] ridhe H. 79. *cen*] nir SS₂. *im*] an YSS₂.
glonn nglé] an glonn gle (*in litura*) Y; gnim gle, &c. SS₂. 81. *tnu*] tru RBMS₂.

An evil deed then wrought
 a woman of them, with no unconscious burden, 70
 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 75
 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 ! " 80

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, 85
 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, 90
 they shall call it Builiath, a good that is not dumb,
 from Moriath wife of Labraid.

82. *nido*] HY; *nidu* RB; *aniu*, &c. MSS₂; *nita* S₃; *nida* V. *daib didu*
daibineu S; *dailbiu* M; *dalbhdiu* S₃V. 83. *na*] *ainm* S; *ba* M. *aba*
adba, &c. MS₂. *celam*] *celim*, &c. HS₂. 84. *adberam*] *adberim* S₂.
 85. *nait*] *nacht* S. 89. *la*] *lat* S₂. *tuaihtliu*] *tuaitheiu* R;
tuaihtle, &c. S₂S₃V; *tuaiclu* M. *tra*] *tre* B. 90. *fri*] *for* H; *fria* M.
buairbthiu] *buairbtu* H (*altered*); *buairbthiu* RB; *buairbthiu* YS; *buaitre* S₂;
buairtiu M; *buairti* S₃V. 91. *raidit*] *raidid*, &c. RS₃V; *raidfed*, &c. YH;
raid fri S₂. *bai nad ba*] *boi anadhba* S₂.

Labraid loingsech co n-úath alt
 tadchaid, túath toimsech tlacht-balc :
 fi feb fuil-iath, fer co facht, 95
 ba hí a ben Muiriath maedacht.

Muiriath mór rodlecht mo dú,
 co slóg roslecht a fidu :
 tan rothriallad nírbó thrú,
 mar adfiadar, a fíru. 100

94. *tadchaid*] B; *tadelaid* Y; *tadclaith* H; *tadeloidh* S; *tadeloich* S₂; *tachlaidh* M; *taga* R; *tadhglath* S₃V. 95. *fí*] *faoi* H; *fri* RSS₂.
fuilíath] *fuilliath* R; *fuilliat* B; *foliath* YSS₂. *fer*] *fri* M. *facht*] *fecht* RS₂.

Labraid the Mariner with terrible limbs
 came with a huge mail-clad people,
 . . . the bloody plain, a man of war : 95
 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 ! 100

96. *ba hi*] *hi* B; *is a* M. *macdacht*] *macacht* RH; *maecht* M. 98. *ro*] re RB. 99. *ro*] no M. *triallad*] *triall* S₂. *nirbo*] *nibo* YS.
 100. *adfadar*] *dofiadfraid* R; *dofiadar* BMS₂S₃.

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, 5
 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,” 10
 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 15
 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. 20
- Tan nosticed cith nó chrúas
 tócabtha súas, serig dúis :
 ba fir flatha iar ndáil báis :
 maidm secht catha rena gnúis.

LRBYMHSS₂S₃V. *Cinaed úa Hartacán* [L only. 1. *fer*] fert in YHS₂S₃;
 firt i S. 2. *lecht fir*] &c. SS₂; leachtaigh M; lettir, &c. *cet.* 3. *sund for ur*]
 sunna for Y; sund for S₂. 4. *n-úar*] uar LB. 5. *assa*] isa YHMSS₂S₃.
 6. *tricht*] triec L. 7. *roreraig*] coriaraidh S₂. 8. *con*] ro B. *muing*]
 tuind M. *mara*] mar h- H. 9. *ráid*] ráded L; raidhi RM; raidid YS;
 raidhit S₂; raidhe S₃. *in*] om. YS₂S₃. *áin*] di L; do S₂. *múr*] LS₂;
muir cet. 10. *ail*] áill L. *ríg*] in ríg L. *nondlig*] rondlig RBMYHS₃;
 rodlig, &c. SS₂. 11. *iarsein*] arsain B. 12. *ba*] is M; bat S₃.
 13. *hed*] LH; he *cet.* 15. *con*] coa RS₃. *glain*] L; gil RS₃; gil *cet.*

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, 5
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," 10
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, 15
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. 20

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; fiána S. *sluagaib*] sluaga Y. 18. *fri báig*] ri báig L; fri baid B; a mbaig, &c. RYHS₂S₃; in baigh S; combaid M. *ngalbech*] nailbech M.
19. *dond imram*] dind iram R; di ammram B; ba himrall S₂. 20. *glond*] in glonn, &c. RMH. *doiringned*] doigneadh B; rognid R; dognidh M. 21. *Tan*] in tan L. *nosticed*] dosfiged, &c. RBMS₃; doficeed H; . . . ficed Y; rosfighed, &c. SS₂. *oith*] L; cath *cet*. 22. *tocabtha*] ba tocabtha L; dogabthea S; tocbaidis S₂; tocfaithea M. *serig*] L; seric (*with vel seg ric superscr.*) B; sothnach, &c. YHSS₂; seirech, RMS₂. *diis*] tuis YHSS₂.

- Fírían-focul atbert Níall, 25
 dia ngaet forsín 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, 30
 géill Saxan, ba mór-dál mass,
 géill Fhranc, géill Rómán andes.
- Lótar asin Temraig síar
 fían a theglaig trelmaig tréin :
 ba de bóí iar mbaisse brón 35
Ochan mór muntire Néill.
- Celebrais i n-Ochain aird
 cách diaraile, aidble uird,
 Lagin, Mumain, rodasní,
 Connaicht, Ulaid, fir lí is luirg. 40
- Láech dosrimthais, ropu rí ;
 nírb fand a chlí for bith-ché ;
 ba suaíl do Níall, násad dín,
 co toracht creitem dil Dé. D.
- Rannsadar a maic iarsin 45
 inis n-Airt, ba hamra fir ;
 is dóib dobertar a ngéill,
 céin beti neóil im gréin ngil.

25. *Fírían*] fir in, &c. YMSS₂. 26. *rian*] rian muir L.; trian M.
tria] cen LS₂. 27. *áitt*] &c. LMS₂; airm *cat.* *i clanta*] a clannfai H.;
 a clanta S₃; a claita S₂. *ilad*] ilaig, &c. YS₃; iolach H. 28. *co teilctís*]
 collingtís L. *ngéill*] gell B; geill RMS₂. *for*] L; ar *cat.* 29. *aire*]
 aræ YS; arai S₂; ar M. *ro léicthea*] ra léicthea L; tarlaicthí, &c. *cat.*
 30. *gaeth*] ngaeth RY; angaeth H. *rian*] LH; *om. cat.*: see Notes. *nglas*]
 glass BMS₂S₂. *trom*] *ed.* ba trom *codd.* 31. *mass*] *om. L.* 35. *bóí*]
 bóe L. *iar mbaisse*] iar masse L; iarm-aise Y; iar mbraisi, &c. HS₂.
brón] mbroin YSS₃; broin BS₂H. 36. *mór*] moir, &c. BYMS₂.

A just word spake Niall, 25
 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) 30
 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, 35
 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. 40

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 45
 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*] celebrat BYMSS₂; celebrat, &c. RH; ceilebradh S₂. 38. *aidble*] aible, &c. BYM. 39. *rodasní*] rodadní L; rodusmairg S₂. 40. *fir*] ie L. *ú is*] lis R. 41. *dosrimthais*] doremthus, &c. RB; doromtas M; dorimthus, &c. HSS₂. 42. *nírb*] L; nírho S₂; nírb cat. *for*] ar YB. *chli*] thli M. *for*] ar RYS₂. 43. *dín*] L; ndin B; in din R; nin cat. 44. *toracht*] LH; tarat S₂; tardsat, &c. cat. *dil Dé*] ndil nde RBMS. 45. *randsadar*] ronset L. 46. *fir*] LM; in fir BYSS₂S₃; ind fhir RH. 47. *ngéill*] gell H. 48. *céin beti*] &c., LR; gein bai M; gen bed, &c. cat. *neóil*] &c. LR; aniuil, &c. BHSS₂S₃; ancill Y; teimel M. *im*] in B.

Dá Chonall, Eogan atúaid,
 Fiachu, Cairpre, Mane mín, 50
 Enna, ba hóen-baile in tslúiaig,
 gabais Lóegaire do rig.

Rí dosrat fo thalman tói,
 mairg na n-adrann for bith-ché!
 rorand Muir Romur i ndó 55
 ba ar omun tuaithe Dé.

Cland maic Cairne, cengta róe,
 diamtís umle imalle,
 ar imad óc ocus ech
 nísórfed nech acht mac Dé. 60

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 65
 rochin ó Niall, násad nglé,
 Colum Cille rogab h-Í
 búaid fir bí fil i tig Dé. D.

50. *Cairpre*] Enna, &c. YHS₂S₃. 51. *Enna*] Cairpri, &c. YHS₂S₃.
oen-baile] hænguine S. 52. *gabais*] L; gabsat, &c. *cæt.* 53. *dosrat*] L;
dorad, &c. *cæt.* *fo*] fon RBMS; for Y(?)H. *thalman*] *ed*: thalm L;
 talmain, &c. BYS₂; talim RMSS₃. 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; incoorum R. 57. *cland maic*] L; clanna, &c.
cæt. *cengta róe*] cengtar róe L; centár rí S₂; ceangta rí M. 58. *diamtís*]
 diambidis B. *umle*] LY; umla *cæt.* 60. *forfed*] forfet B; foirred Y; foirgfheth

The two Conalls, Eogan in the north,
 Fiachu, Cairpre, Mane the gentle, 50
 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, 55
 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. 60

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 65
 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; foircceadh, &c. HS₃. 61. *sair dia n-eis*] dia eis L; soir diandeis YS₃.
armohar] LR; armeor HS₃; armclar B; armo M; romchar, &c. Y (*with vel arm*
superscr.) SS₂. 62. *Dathi*] nathi, &c. RMHS₃; dahí S. 63. *nirb fhand*
a chomul] S₃; nirbo comlund L; nir gand a comol M; nirb fand a comul, &c. *cat.*
for] ar B. 64] roranda doman dil de S₂. 65-68] *om.* L. 65. *ua*] ua
 sin R. *glan-gne*] gnæi (*with glā superscr. by later hand*) B; gnoe R; glán a
 gne, &c. YHS₃; gu gnæ M. 66. *ngie*] e S₂.

MIDE.

AED ÚA CARTHAIG *cecinit.*

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

Cíd diatá Mide ar in maig, 5
 fine síl Chuind chét-chathaig ?
 cia gass glúair garg, glan in mod,
 cia harg ó fúair ainmnigod ?

Mide mac bruthmar Bratha 10
 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 15
 tar cethri hairde hÉrend.

Conid ón tenid-sin tra,
 (ní hanfót ní himmarba)
 condlig a sír-chennach ind
 cach prim-thellach in Éirind. 20

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

LRBYMHSS₂S₃V. *Aed ua Carthaig*] L only. 1. *marc*] mbarc LSS₂.
 2. *forsbíd*] forsmboi R. 3. *lainne*] claind B (*with* nó loinne *in marg.*); clainni R.
 7. *gas garg glúair*] gas gluairgarg RBY; gaisced garg S₂. *glan*] *om.* L. *mod*]
 magh H. 10. *dirmannaig*] dfirmannaig M; ehta (*with* r *under the line and* no
dirmандаid above) R. *Deatha*] de ata R; deaghatha M; dethatha S₂. 11. *co*
roatái] co ro h-atda L; co adai B; coradaid R; corfataid H; dofada M; ro fado YS;
 ro fodogh, &c. S₂S₃. *tenid*] tene, &c. RS₂M. 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? 5
 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; 10
 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 15
 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. 20

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 rooftree in Erin.

14. *bá*] ar H. 15. *teinā*] tene, &c. RBYS₂. *trel*] tenn, &c. YSS₂;
 tall M. 16. *tar cethri h-airde*] clár cech ri airdde L; fo cheitri hairdi, &c. YM.
 17. *teinā*] te B; teine, &c. RS₂. 18. *anfót*] had R; afot B; annod Y;
 hanodh S; hónadh S₂; hofat M. *immarba*] immargha, &c. YMS. 21. *co*
ndlig a] condligeand Y; conadh dlig, &c. SS₂. 23. *bleithe*] ; cleithe, &c.
 LRBM; mbleithi Y. *finā*] ind M. 24. *cacha h-*] cach LM; in
 gach YS. *óencléithe*] hoenceithi R; primteallach M.

- Co roraídset, ní r sním súail, 25
 drúide hÉrend i n-óen-úair,
 “ Is mí-dé tucad dún tair,
 dorat mí-gné d’ ar menmain.”
- Corthinól Mide cen meth 30
 drúide hÉrend i n-óen-tech :
 co tall a tengtha, túar ngarg,
 a cendaib na ndrúad ndron-ard.
- Co rosadnaicc fo thalmain 35
 Uisnig Midi mór-adbail,
 co ndessid ar a tengthaib
 in prim-súí in prim-senchaid.
- Gáine ingen Gumóir glain, 40
 muime Midi mid-charthaig,
 ba fer cach mnái, ciarbo thúi,
 ba saí ba fáith ba prim-drúí.
- Co n-erbairt Gáine co n-úail 45
 re Mide cosin mór-búaid :
 “ Is ós neoch rosníad ar tech
 conid deseó bías Uisnech.”
- Uisnech ocus Mide múad 45
 asngabar hÉriu arm-rúad,
 feib adfét in súidi snas,
 is desin a dind-senchas.
- Dín, a Dé, Aéd úa Carthaig 50
 ar iffern co méit anfaid :
 Dia d’ iráil a grésa glé
 for rí g mid-charthaich Mide.

25. ní] L; ní *cet.* 26. drúide] druid L. 27. dúim] don R; do M.
 28. dorat] dobert Y. d’ ar] da M. 33. adnaicc] adnaidh B; adlaicc Y;
 adhnacht S₂. fo] a YMS₂. 35. ar] for YSS₂; foro M. 36. in]
 in B. súi] L; drui, &c. *cet.* in] LRB; sa *cet.* 37. Gáine] L;
 Gaire B; Gair Y; Gairech H; gaire, &c. *cet.* midcharthaig] meudartuig
 Y; medarglain S; mormethraig S₂. 39. ciarbo] nirbo M. 40. súi]
 ... drúí] drai ... shái, &c. YSS₂. 41. Gáine] L; Gairec H; gaire, &c. *cet.*

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.

43. *ós neoch*] oisneach B; onech R. *vo sniad*] LH; busniad, &c. RB; atiat M; do gniad, &c. YS; dognid S₂; dusgni S₃. 44. *do-seo*] desin Y. *bias*] ata R.
46. *asngabar*] asangabtar S₂; ongabthar M. *Eriu*] Ereo L. 47. *adfet in*]
adfead Y; adfedad S; atfehat S₂; 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, *cat.* 51. *d' iráil*] d' furail YHS₂; durail S. *glé*]
glaine L, glaine M. 52. *rig*] ri RB. *mid-charthach*] mi chartach' L; mid
caraig B; midhcuarraig M; micharach SS₂.

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, 5
múr gainmech fo thuind tóeb-seing ;
láid báird bas greimm ria glé-raind
fégam din beinn aird óebind.

Druim ndrech-slemon na ndath-bord, 10
cuing leth-remor 'na leth-leirg,
port mar Raigne na rath-bard,
múr cath-garg Dairbre drech-deirg.

Dairbre drech-derg mac Lulaig, 15
ba prap sreth-chelg iar samain,
mac Liguine co leraib,
irlaime im debaid danair.

Fidgai Fochmaínd is Gaileoin
niptar moch-maill dia lán-réir :
Firbolg, Fir Domnand dírim, 20
ba sír-mín gairbe in gád-méin.

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

LRBYMHSS₂S₃V. *Fulartach*] F. L; *om. cat.* 2. *rathuill*] L; *datuill* M; *rotuill*, &c. HS₃; *dotuill cat.* 3. *rem*] rom L; rim H; reim S₂M. *atchí*] *adchim* Y (the *m* added by later hand); *atcim* H; *docim* RS₂S₃. 5. *dín*] *druim n-* SS₂. 6. *táebshéing*] *tæbeing* Y; *taibfind* M; *taibind*, &c. SS₂. 7. *ria*] re YHS₂S₃; *don M.* 8. *dín*] L; *don*, &c. YMSS₂S₃; *do* RB; *da* H. *beind*] *muing* S₂. 9. *shlemon*] *lemain* BS. 10. *remor*] *lemur* S. *leirg*] L; *bord* S; *lerg cat.* 11. *port*] *om. R.* *mar Raigne*] *maraigne* Y; *maraidhni M. na*] *nar* L. *bard*] *bord* Y; *bord* SS₂M. 12. *múr cath*] *ed. ba rath* S₂; *nar cath* H; *morchath* S₂; *mar cath cat.* *-deirg*] *ed. garg* S₃; *dé cat.* 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, 5
 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, 10
 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 Ligmúine leader of hosts, 15
 readiest in savage conflict.

The Fídgai, the Fochmaind, and the Gaileoin,
 were not their own masters, early or late ;
 the Fírbolg, the countless Fíir Dommand,
 tame for ever was the violence of their imperious need. 20

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.

14. *iar*] L; ar *cat.* *im debaid*] M; imdeabib L; andebaid, &c. *cat.*
 19. *fír*] YS; fer S₂; is *cat.* *dirim*] dirmhein M. 20. *in*] im, &c. MHSS₂S₃;
 am Y. 20. *gád-méin*] granair M; gadméin, &c. *cat.* 21. *Chreoraige*] L;
 acraighi M; eoraige, &c. *cat.* *ind*] ind h- L; om. M; in *cat.* *úr-óir*] SS₂;
 uróir L; umoir M; uroir *cat.* 22. *Gumóir*] co mór S₂; gumnaige
 (*omitting Brecraige and with "vel gumoir brecre superser."*) B; gumóir, &c. *cat.*
bán-dir] bansair RB; banfír S₃; banair *cat.* 23. *Mendraige*] mentraidhi S₂;
 menraide, &c. YHS. 24. *léir*] ler HS; leirg S₂. *gairbe*] airbre S₂;
 gairm R. *gránáig*] granáig L; in granaigh, &c. HS; angranaid Y; ingranáir
 R; imgranair B; imgranaib S₃; um granaidh M; im granáigh S₃.

- Tuc Tuathal na ferg fuilid 25
do Dairbre derg 'mon grellaig
maidm immach dar cach mongaig,
cath Commair gairb ós glennaib.
- Dairbre drech-derg 'con drumain 30
ní'rondegtherb ria dremmaib :
Tuathal cosin grúaid glonnaig
dia chongaib chrúaid rochengail.
- Tuathal techtmar in mílid,
mór a recht-blad dar rígaib : 35
docer Dairbre co ndúanaib
dia thúagaib, aible in dídail.
- In cnoce-sa catha in chomlainid,
a éicsiu datha derbaim :
maith dia fír in lá labraim
d' faglaím cid diatá in deg-druim. 40

25. *fuilid*] S₂; fuilid LH; fuilech R; fuil B; fuiligh MS₃; fuilich Y; fuiligh S. 26. 'mon] moan n- LBH; mun n- YSS₂S₃; fan n- M. 27. *maidm*] S₃; tairm H. *iar*] ar M. *mongaig*] mongaid, &c. RS₂; monaigh S.
28. *gairb*] garb LHM. *glennaib*] greallaigh M. 29. 'con] in RB.
30. *ni rondegtherb*] LBS₃; níro degtearb H; níro degsearb, &c. YSS₂; ní ro methcerb R; ní ra aithearb M. *ria*] dia YHSS₂. *dremmaib*] demmaib

DRUIM NDAIRBRECH.

	49
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.	25
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.	30
Tuathal the Wealthy, the warrior, great his rightful fame among princes : Dairbre of the songs fell by his axes—fearful was the cleaving !	35
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.	40

LB; dreamnaib Y; ndremaib RS; ndreannaib M. 31. *gruaid gl.*] ngruaid ngl.,
 &c. RYHMS₃; gruaid ngl., &c. BS; ngruaid nglongaidh S₂. 32. *ro*] re R.
 34. *dar*] da BS; do R; dia S₂; os H. 36. *dia*] de L; di R; la M.
didair] LM; digaib B; digail, &c. *cat.* 39. *fhír*] firu S₂M. 40. *d'fhaglain*]
 L; do faglain B; faglain, &c. RS₃; dagloim H; dadlain Y; dadhlaim S;
 derbaim S₂M. *deg-druim*] deth-druim S₂; deadruim M.

LAGIN I.

Rohort in rigrad 'moa ríg, (ba gním ole, ba domna hír); loise Loingsech móen, méit gaile Cobthach cóel mac Ugaine.	
Ba Túaim Tenbath cosin ole in ríg-dind rán, in rochnoce, cornoirg Labraid, lán ngaile, diarchuir ár a macraide.	5
O rohoirged, 's é a fír, Cobthach cóel, a thrichait ríg, corgénair mac mór Maire cóic cét bliadna bith-glaine.	10
Ba tossach glíad is gaile pían Chobthaig for Lóegaire; de dorochair Cobthach cairn la húa Lóegaire lond-gairb.	15
Luidset dond orgain for sét Labraid, Dubgaill trichat cét, 'na congaib úgmair assaid, cona lágnib lán-glassaib.	20
O na lágnib-sin ille rogairit Lagin Láigne: la Loingsech Móen, co méit ole, Cobthach cóel ba díb rohort.	
Meraid 'ca chlaind co ti bráth, corob cocad ríg rognáth: Oilill Lóegaire do lot la Cobthach Cóel cétna hort.	25

LRBYMHSS₂S₃V. 1. *in*] *om.* RH. *moa*] L; *mon* S; *mo cat.* ríg] ríg rúad, &c. RBH. 2.] L; in dind ríg ba tenba (teanbad S; tennbladh S₂) truag, &c. *cat.* 3. *Loingsech*] Labraid L. *maen*] *om.* L; *nen* B. *gaile*] L; ngaile, &c. *cat.* 4. *Ugaine*] Augaine L. 5. *Tenbath*] L; teanma YS; tenba, &c. *cat.* 6. *in rochnoce*] L; in ríg chnoce, &c. RBMS; in ri chnoc H; in ríg port (*vel cnc superser.*) Y; isinenoc S₂. 7. *cornoiry*] &c. BS; coronoirg L; coroire, &c. RYMHS₂. *lán*] med S; lath S₂. 8. *a macraide*] amecraide L; na læraighi M; na rigraide, &c. *cat.* 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 Ugaire.

Till that crime, Tuaim Tenbath was the name 5
 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) 10
 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 15
 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. 20

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 25
 that there be war between kindred kings :
 the destruction of Oilill and Loegaire
 at the hand of Cobthach Cael was the first slaying.

10. *Cobthach cael*] LS₂; cael na mbreg, &c. *cael*. a] na R. 11. *cor*] coro L;
 co S₂; con *cael*. 12. *cóie*] tri M. *bith glaine*] L; buad gaire, &c. RBMH;
 barrbuidi Y (*with bua gaire superscr.*) SS₂. 14. *pian*] L; riad, &c. BYMS;
 riagh H; ria RS₂. *for*] fri S₂. 15. *dorochoir*] dorocer RBM. 19. *assaid*]
 RB; fhassaid, &c. LMH; asaidh SS₂; osaid Y. 21. *na*] la B. 22. *rogairid*]
 rogairid B; nogairid YS; dogairid M; raidhter S₂. *laigne*] fri laigne S₂.
 23. *cle*] nolc RBSS₂. 24. *ba díb*] cetnæ H. 25-28] *om.* L. 25. *cá*] ga M:
 co RBH; da, &c. YSS₂. *bráth*] brach R; in brath, &c. MHS₂. 32. *cétna*]
 tren S₂. *hort*] ro ort S₂; thort S.

LAGIN II.

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

Tuaim Tenba a ainm riasin 5
 enuice in' rogniad ind orgain :
 is Dindrig ósin ille,
 ó marbad na rígraide.

Da cét ar fichit chét nGall 10
 co lágnib lethna leo anall :
 de na lágnib tuetha andsin,
 de atát Lagin for Lagnib.

L [159] L [377] S₂M. 2. *lasrort*] ro ort L 377 S₂M. 4. *díb roainmnigthea*]
 de roainmnichea M. 5. *riasin*] roimisin M. 6. *enuice*] in enuic S₂ ;
 cnoc L 377. 7. *ís*] in S₂. 8. *na*] n̄c S₂. *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 5
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 10
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 ainmnighthe L. L 377. *de atát*] raidhter S₂ ;
ataid M.

SLIAB BLADMA.

FULARTACH *cecinit.*

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

Cuirche cendmar, ba rí rot 5
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, 10
ó Áth Clíath in Herut uill
cosin n-Áth Clíath i Cualaind.

Dolluid iarum iar lín chor
eo Ross Náir maic Eidlicon,
eo roselb i sain-rainn son 15
in slíab dianid bunad Blod.

Atbath fer find, figed gail,
i Sléib Bladma, blad adbail,
Blad mac Bregoin, buidnib tor,
do thám i Sléib bleadaig Blod. 20

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

LRV (*on a slip in later hand*) EHS₃V. S₂ has the last stanza only.
Fulartach] L only. 1. *Blod*] L; Bladh R; Bloadh Y; Blad H; Bladma E.
2. *uachalla*] tuachail aird Y. *ilchrothaig*] ilchlothaig LE. 4. *Snithi*] R;
Snithe H; sær LE. *snámaig*] samaig R; snamanaig E. 5. *rot*] rod RY;
rót S₃. 6. *Herot*] L; eorot R; erfhod Y; erot H; heret E; erót S₃.
7. *fúair*] om. R; frith S₃. 8. *Blod*] Bload Y; Blad *cest.* *clothmín*] LE;
clothmir H; cloth- RY; clothghil S₃. 11. *ó Áth Clíath*] 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 5
over Medraige and over Herot;
through him Blod, son of Cass Clothmin,
found never sure protection.

He fared in his ship—clear purpose!— 10
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, 15
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. 20

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 S₃; erfhod Y. 13. iar] co H.
15. *roselb*] russelb H; rosealbuith S₃. i sain-rainn] in sáin rainn R; asan
roinn Y; a sabrainn H; sealbhrainn S₃; hí senraind E. 16. *dianid*] diana H.
Blad] Blad, &c. EH. 17-20] in LE only. 18. *blad*] blád L.
19. *Bregoin*] Breguin L. *bladaig Blad*] bladaig blad E. 21-28] in RYHS₃
only. 21. *Bregoin*] Breogain, &c. RH. *tolcaib*] tolchaib H. 23. *tarba*] tarba S₃.

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

25

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

30

25. *Nó*] nois Y. 26. *ruisenda*] R; *ruisegda* H; *ruisedha* S₂; *ruiseda* Y.
 27. *treb*] tor Y. 28. *conid*] gurab Y. *uatha*] uathad R. *Bled*] R; *blad*,
 &c. YHS₂. 29-32] in LL 159b BdHS₂; not in RYES₃. 29. *Blod*] Bd;
 Blad LH; Bladma S₂. *Caiss*] om. S₂. *clothmín*] clotgil H;

SLIAB BLADMA.

57

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.

25

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

30

cloich S₂. 30] romarb bregmáel iŋgobaind iúbáin L. *báin*] mhair H.
 31] iar marbad goband cuirchi meic sníthi L; gabann cuirchi moir meic snithe,
 &c. HBd; gabaind sein curc meic sneithi S₂. 32. *ae*] hi Bd.
Náir] inair S₂; 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.

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

5

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

10

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

15

Rogab foss ic finib Flaind :
dligid a doss a derb-chail
fer rotháid is rothall tair :
ic mnáib each amm rop inmain.

20

LRBYMEHSS₃. *Fid*] RB only. 1. *dam*] lind R; lám E. *Gabol*] gabrán,
&c. ES. 2. *tuc forom*] *tuc form* L; rotathaigh R; dathaiged M; dotathaig, &c.
cat. *in fid*] forsind L (*but for fid at 159 b 7*). *flesc-glan*] flescach LRBHS₃.
3. *nir*] ní ar R. *dáig*] daig, &c. LBM; daighi R; dag HS₃; gæ (*with d*
superscr.) Y; ghái, &c. SE. *luaige*] &c. LM; om. R; luaide, &c. *cat.*
co] cen, &c. RYS; ge E. *logud*] luided E; ludadh S. 4. *rogáid*] ragaid LB;
roguid Y; daraidh M; rogab H; dogab R; corgabh S₃. *úaid a*] uaid LS;
uaide RYHS₃; uaiti M. 5. *tarelam*] tarehland M. *Ainge*] aine RE; in
gæ M. *grinne*] &c. LM; in grinne, &c. *cat.* *nglan*] LHS₃; glan *cat.* 6. *taidbe*]
taidi L; tíme (*in litura*) S; tímme 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 ; 10
 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 15
 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. 20

7. *caoh*] LS; cen, &c. *cæt.* *timne*] tindi M. *ria*] ra L; tria B; re R;
om. E. *thír*] tnuð B. 9. *drochta*] droctga BME; drocht Y. *dogniá*]
 donid L; dogní, &c. MES; doroiogne Y. *dia*] da L. 10. *os*] is R.
ochta] ochtga E. 12. *no díled*] &c. RHS₃; díled L; dílad Y; dodílad, &c.
 MES; no díliged B. *dal*] dáil B; daul H. *nantama*] do
 oentama L; doentuma, &c. RBHS₃. 13. *dafall*] L; dofal BMHS₃;
 dofáill R; rofeall, &c. YES. 14. *Ethedeoin*] etamoin M. 15. *dafarlac*]
 M; dosfarlaic R; dofarlaic *cæt.* *luag*] luad, &c. RSHME. 16. *a Beluch*]
 os bealach M; óbel E; o bealach S₃. 19. *ro tháid*] L; rostaíd E; rossaidh Y;
 rosáit M; rossáid, &c. *cæt.* *ro thall*] rota all B; rostaill 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 5
dálem Conaire chélig
d'ingin Channain cét codal
Deltbanna dét drech-solam.

Lámnad roloit Lifi laind 10
i Purt Ágmar i n-Áraind :
ruc mudaid mac Druchta de,
di chumaid lór léch-Life.

LRBYMEHSS₃. 2. *Channain*] Candan B; Camain H. *chet-churchaig*
LE; coir cruthaig RM; coir cruchaig BY; coir eurchaig, &c. SS₃H. 3. *ngaire*
gaire L. *illóg*] L; iarnoc R; iarn M; iarnog, &c. *cat.* 5. *tig*] tich L.
6. *chélig*] chelig L; celic B; ceillig, &c. *cat.* 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 5
 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 10
 at Port Agmar in Aran ;
 thereby the son of Drucht got his death,
 from his great grief for heroic Life.

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

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 5
Iuaithred Mechi mór-millti :
rosbalb rosberb cen athbach
salehur serb na sen-nathrach.

Nathir fo thrí focheird cor 10
tathig in mbeirg dia bronnud :
cnáifed dia álaig óg n-ell
slóg sádail na sen-Érend.

Aire-sin romarb Diancecht : 15
ba fotha garb din glan-echt,
dia chose co búan din bronnud
ós each cúan, din chomlongud.

Eól dam a lecht leth rolá 20
fert cen tech is cen tuga :
a lúraith ole cen áib n-enga
fofúair socht i sár-Berba.

LRBYMEHSS₂H₃. 1. *a*] L; co m- *cat.* 2. *dar*] L; co, &c. *cat.*
3. *fáth*] L; in fath, &c. *cat.* 4. *bláth*] bláith, &c. *codd.* *cech blad focail*]
These words are displaced and partially obliterated in L. 5.] Nosfáidhset cofed
into S; nosfáidset coféig inti E 6. *Mechi*] LB; Meich *cat.* *mór-millti*]
mormilti L; na mormilti M; na mormillti, &c. RB; in mormillti, &c. *cat.*
7. *rosbalb rosberb*] rosearb robalb M; 7 rosalb E. *cen athbach*] cen adbath S;
each atbath E. 10. *in mbeirg*] LR; in mberg, &c. BHS₃; in berg Y; in
mbert E; umbeirt M; imbert S. *dia*] L; a RBM; do *cat.* 11. *entifed*]

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 5
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 ; 10
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 15
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. 20

enaídhfidh M ; cláfed E ; cláifid S. *álaig*] LS ; álaíd RBYE ; alaibh HS₃ ;
falaig M. *og n-ell*] gancill M. 13. *airesin*] iarsin M ; aráisin ES.
rosmarb] rosmarb and M. *Diancecht*] L ; mac Cecht *cæt.* 14. *fatha*] 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
teoh fert cen teith is cen tuca R. *teoh*] teš B. *tuga*] tiugba B. 19. *cen*]
con RBS₃. *nenga*] enga L. 20. *fofhuair*] forfuair YM ; foruair S ;
fotruair HS₃ ; for E. *socht*] foht L. *i*] ar RB ; na S₃.

MOIN GAI GLAIS.

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

Desin dorochair Fidirad 5
d'imairiuc na trén-bidbad :
aided Fidirad féig iar feirg
do láim maic Déin daiger-deirg.

Gae Glass úa Loga na lecht 10
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 : 15
ba greit gáid cen díl im dul :
dia láim dorochair Culdub.

RBYMEHSS₃. 2. *hi*] RB; a *cet.* *amra*] chalma MS₃; 3. *chuingid*] cuindgi, &c. HS₃. 5. *dorochair*] adrochair BMS; atochair Y. 6. *d'imairiuc*] do imaire R; dimfarrach, &c. MHS₃; 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 Fídrad.

Thereby fell Fídrad 5
 by encounter with doughty foes :
 the death of keen Fídrad 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 : 10
 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 ; 15
 by his hand fell Culdub.

-
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 11. <i>fri</i>] fria M. | <i>taith</i>] thaith Y; staith S. | 12. <i>án-goba</i>] engoba Y; |
| aengoba SE; angoba <i>cæt</i> . | 13. <i>Fiachack</i>] fiachna R; fiachra BHM; | |
| fiacrach S ₃ ; friacach E. | <i>féil</i>] fen S; féin E. | 14. <i>lonagéir</i>] langéir E. |
| 15. <i>gaid</i>] aith Y. | <i>im</i>] in BR. | <i>díol</i>] E; díol S ₃ ; díol <i>cæt</i> . |
| 16. <i>dorochair</i>] adrochair HS ₃ . | | |

FAFFAND.

FULARTACH (?) *cecinit*.

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

Ba hí máthair in maic maiss 5
Libir ind láthair lond-braiss;
ingen dóib in dían dírmach
ind Aige fíal il-gnímach.

Oll-mass in cethrur cáem cass;
ba clethchur saer co sognass; 10
athair is máthair co n-áib,
ingen is bráthair bláth-cháin.

Tucsat na siabra side—
nír gním tiamda téithmire—
delbsat i ndeilb láig allaid 15
Aigi sáir co sere-ballaib.

Rosír hÉrinn or i n-or
re each n-albín rúad rogor,
corchúardaig Banba mbrethaig
co calma fo chaém-chethair. 20

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

LRBYMESS₃H. *Fulartach*] F. L.; *om. cæt.* 1. *con*] LY; *cen, &c., cæt.*
gíall] gial L; *ngíall* RBE. 2. *chiniud*] *chungid* L. 4. *ní gó*] *ni co R*; *ni*
gon Y; *nig M*; *nia na E*; *nia S.* 5. *taithme*] *taichle* L; *taichme, &c.* BYES.
tiugmire] acht (*inserted*) *tigmire* B; acht *tigmire* HSs. 6. *lond-braiss*] L;
londmais RBYSS₃H; *læchmais* SE; *landglais* M. 8. *ind Aige fhíal*] *ind Aigi*
fhial L; *in fhial Ainge* S; *in fhial Aige, &c. cæt.* 10. *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,— 5
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, 10
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 15
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. 20

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. *cháin*] chaem, &c. MHS₃ 14. *side*] side E ; a side RB. *teithmire*] &c. LES ; teidmiri Y ; teidmini M ; acht teidmire, &c. RHS₃ ; acht tecuire B. 16. *seve-*] sith- YSE. 17. *i n-or*] indor E ; cohor M. 18. *re*] RS ; ría LHS₃ ; ro BYME. *albin*] albain B ; aillin, &c. YE ; allaim M. 21. *gnim*] ngním E. *gal*] ngal E. 22. *frith*] fuil M. *sund*] om. L. *sir*] sær, &c. RBS₃. *sernad*] sernad B ; sráenadh SE ; serbladh M. 23. *i (1)*] in LRB ; a cat. 24. *Inlige*] imilige LBR ; milidi, &c. YESS₃H ; milmile M.

De-sin atá Aige úar 25
for sruth in maige, mét snúad ;
ó roscráided cen chuissele,
rosdáiled ar dían-uisce.

Sruith-lind sin cen bás co bráth,
snás dar Lifi co lond-gnáth ; 30
mod táire, ní tairm cen taig,
Aige a hainm in each inbaid.

Moslú síar inna síde
in drúí dían in deg-file,
d' ainmed ríg Beirre co mblaid, 35
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-sethar. 40

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

Rocúrad rosedlad se, 45
rodedlad fri doennige ;
for Faffand na fían fergach
fúair grafaind dian díbergach.

25-28. This stanza is quoted in the prose Ds, LL 160. 25. *Aige*] ath Aighi S.
26. *for*] L [191]; ar *cat.* *snúad*] sluagh M. 27. *cen*] *Read perhaps* co : *see*
Notes. *chuissele*] chuis gle L [191] S₃; cuisle R. 28. *rosdáiled*] rodailead
M; rosdailid E. *ar*] in, &c. YME. 29. *cen bás*] gabhus S.
30. *snás*] snass L; sías SE. 31. *mod táire*] mothaire L; mo tairi Y;
mod taire, &c. RBSEH; mogh tairi M; madh taire S₃. *ní om.* L; in R.
cen taig] ocathich L. 32. *inbaid*] inmaid Y; innaig E. 33. *moslúí*]
musluíd, &c. YSE; dolai M. *inna*] L; marcach RBYEH; mar gach,

Hence is the name of chill Aige 25
 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: 30
 (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, 35
 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. 40

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, 45
 he was parted from his misery;
 in Faffand of the wrathful warriors
 he met the pursuit of swift spoilers.

&c. MSS₃ 35. *ainmed*] *ainfed* R. *Beirri*] *birra* E. 37. *in*] a M.
 38. *anim*] *ainm* B. 39. '*s aithis*] *athais*, &c. SEY; *sadhair* S₃. *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. *dorochar*] *adrochoir* M.
 45. *rocúrad*] *rocuired* E. 46. *dedlad*] *delgad* R. *fri*] *ra* L [191];
ri L [160]; *ger* M; *co*, &c. *cat*. 46. *doenmige*] *dommige*, &c. B; *domhine* M.
 47. *for Faffaind*] LR; *afhorafaind* M; *i faffaind*, &c. *cat*. *fian*] *fann* LYE.
dian] *na n-* L.

Rosgáid imascaid andsin,
 áitt immaslaig in mliú; 50
 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 55
 ráth in' roadnacht Broccaid.

49. *rosgáid*] roscaid RMS; roscaid H. 50. *immaslaig*] immaslaid, &c.
 YES; immaslaith H. *in*] in L. 51. *fria*] re RYMES. 52. *sen-*]
 saer- L. 53. *tibri*] tibril YS; tibir M; tibre RE. *tra*] om. L.

There he begged a boon
 at the place where the soldier cut him down (?) 50
 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] 55
 the rath where Broccaid was buried.

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

ALMU I.

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

Almu ainm ind fir rosgab 5
re lind Nemid na nert-blad ;
marb thall sin tilaig úane,
do thám opund oen-uaire,

Almu rop alaind in ben 10
ben Nuadat móir mic Aiched
rachunig, ba fir in dál,
a ainm ar in enoce comlán.

Nuada drúí ba duni garg ;
darónad leis dún dronard ;
racomled leis almu i n-aill 15
don dún ule ar n-a thoraind.

Oen-gel in dún, dremne drend,
mar nogabad éil h-Erend ;
dond alamain tue d'a thaig,
is de atá Almu ar Almáin. 20

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

Ingen gnoach oc Tadg thrén, 25
darab ainm Murni mun-chém ;
rocunged o Chumull in ben ;
roséarstar Tade tab-gel.

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 5
 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 ; 10
 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 15
 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. 20

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 25
 whose name was Murni Fair-neck ;
 the woman was demanded by Cumall ;
 Tadc the white-sided refused him.

drenni LU. 18. no] na LL. 19. á'a] dia LU. 22. es] co facs. of L.
 wrongly. 26. darab] darb MS.

- Rasue Cumull ar écin,
 ingin Taide, cer gnám étig ; 30
 bliadain can chert is can chlód
 do Murni ie Cumull chath-mór.
- Cíís Tade cu tren athach
 re Cond calma céit-chathach,
 ronimderg, adbul in t-ole, 35
 ronglám, ba mór in mudocht.
- Focairther o Chund chalma
 do Chumull faebáil Banba ;
 corchurset cath Cnucha thall,
 co torchair re Cond Cumall. 40
- Nóí tráth re cur in chatha
 darónad fer in ratha
 re hingin Taide in teib-gil,
 darronad Find fír-fennid.
- Luid Murni ar marbad a fir, 45
 cu ránic Almain n-oen-gil ;
 ba cainteoch cumthach rabæi ;
 nirbo dethbir don deg-mnáí.
- Alaind báí in rígan cu rath,
 ocus sí thæb-lán torrach ; 50
 rafocair Tade, mór in mod,
 a marbad am-mudugod.
- Roraid Cond co ngili glacc :
 “ Ba ferr lim co mbéra macc,
 inund máthair cor-rathaib 55
 do Chumall is do m’athair.”
- Diultaider ie Taide co trén ;
 do Murni ba domna dér ;
 ar nírlam a labrad,
 am-milliud, nó am-moch-marbad. 60

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 ; 30
 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 !— 35
 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. 40

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 ; 45
 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 ; 50
 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, 55
 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. 60

- Dolluid co Temair find Fail
Murni mun-chain enis . . .
coroiarfaig do Chund can chol
a himthús a hordugod.
- “Imthig-siu,” ar Cond, “is ced lind 65
co Fiacail Fí mac Conchind
der-fiur Cumail tall istaig
Bodmall B”
- Dolluid co Temraig Margi
Murni mun-chai[m]cu n-ardi; 70
Conla gilla Chuind can chol
ca d’a ordugod.
- Ba fælid ria in gilla grind
in Fiacail Bi mac Conchind,
ba fálid Bodmall cu becht, 75
ba fælid uile in t-airecht.
- Arsain rucad Find febda
rí na Fian, mór a menma;
nói mbliadna . . . mod tend,
rop é rig-fénnid h-Erend. 80
- Cungis Find ar Tade na tor
ic Cumull móir do marbod
cath can chardi dó, can dáil,
nó comrac oen-fir d’fagbáil.
- Tade uair nir thualaing catha 85
i n-agaid ind fir-flatha,
rofaicib leis, ba lór dó,
mar robái uile Almó. A.

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) 65
to Fiacaíl 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 ; 70
Conla, servant of Cond the blameless
. . . . to dispose of her.

Joyful to see her was the pleasant youth
Fiacaíl Fí, son of Conchend ;
joyful was Bodmall, right heartily, 75
joyful was the whole company.

Thereafter was born Find the honoured,
king of the Fians, high his spirit !
. . . nine years precisely 80
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 85
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-solois,
ben Iuchna na cíab, cét crod,
ó r' iarr Almu ainmniugod.

Mór dia búadaib, dia buidnib, 5
dia slúagaib, dia sen-bruidnib,
rofes co fonnmar a clú,
dia n-apar ollmar Almu. A.

In tan musdáiltís 'n-a dáil 10
fian mic Cumail enech-náir
bat forud fer ngarg im gú,
ropat all ard a Almu. A.

O thictís a hesair áin 15
Clanna Bresail in buan-áig
fri toisc sóid tar Segsa snu,
almain dóib in deg-Almu. A.

RBYMSS₃HE. 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*] dianbad M. *ollmar*] M; almor R; ollmor *cæt.* *Almu*] a
almu M. 9. *musdailtís*] muscailtis B; musluidhtis, &c. HS₃. 10. *fian*]
fian E. *mic*] om. E. 11. *bat*] bad RY; ba ME. *gú*] gu 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, 5-
 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, 10-
 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, 15-
 noble Almu was *aliment* for them.

all: S₃. a] *om.* YSS₃E.
áim] aigh H; áig, &c. ES₃.
 buanáid R; buangaid, &c. BHS₃.
tar] fri MH. *Segsa*] *seca* H.
 almu H; almóin S₃; almoín, *cat.*

13. *ó thictis*] *otchidis* R; a *tigdis* BS.
 14. *buandig*] E; buannaigh Y; buanaidh SM;
 15. *sóid*] *sloig*, &c. YEHS₃; *soidh*, &c. *cat.*
snu] *sna* S. 16. *almáin*] *ahalmáin* B;
Almu] *almsu* Y; *alma* S; *duma* E.

ALEND.

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

Fert in' rochland Conchend clí 5
mac Fergnai, fer co find-lí,
lerg-luam Lugdach, letrad caile,
for adba Setnai síthbaice.

Brug forsbíbd Messdelmond dár,
leis conuargbad a ard-múr; 10
is d' a brunnib attib dig
Mess Scott Scegra di Laignib.

Faithche Ruamaind, ruamnad rind,
co falgib flatha forfind,
tír chadla, cathir crichid, 15
grianán i mbíbd Andrithir.

Ferand Fergusa fairge,
orba uais co n-imarde,
flesc Find maic Rossa rebaig,
rig-dinn Bresail Bregamain. 20

Luchdond letrad leene liach
ótá Gabrán co Áth Cháth,
i Fáil Segi snáad lind,
ba garga a gluind im Alind. A.

LRBYMHSS₂E. 2. *cona*] co L. 3. *fertas*] L; *ferdais caet. for a blai*
foroblai M. 4. *co*] L; *dia caet.* 5. *in*] and M. 6. *-lí*] cli RB.
7. *luam*] *om.* BR (luá *superscr. in* B). *letrad*] *leactrad* Y; *leatera* M.
8. *for adba*] *forad* ba RB; *forad* na HS₃; *forad.* h. Y. *síthbaice*] *síthbaille*,
&c. MS. 9. *forsbíbd*] *formbith* B. 10. *conuargbad*] *conuargbad* L;
connuargaib R; *contuarebadh* M. *a*] *int* E. 11. *brunnib*] *bruighnib* S;
brugindib M. 12. *Mess Scott Scegra*] *meas reot sega* R; *measgeadrugod* 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, 5
 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 ; 10
 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, 15
 the sollar 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 : 20

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 :

13. *Ruamaind*] *rumaind* BYS; *rumaing* R. 14. *falgib*] *failgidh* M. *forfind*] *ferinn* S; *foirind* M. 15. *chriohid*] *trigid* R; *criidigh* E. 16. *i mbid*] L; *forsmbit*, &c. *cet. andrithir*] *manindir* RB; *mœnindir*, &c. YHS₃; *maininnir* M; *minaindir* SE. 17. *Fergusu*] *Fergais* RB. 18. *orba*] *gorba* M. *imairde*] *imairge* YS; *imguirge* E. 21. *liach*] *liath* YS. 22. *Gabrán*] *Garban* R. 23. *i fáil*] *for* *selb*, &c. BYMHS₃; *for sleib* RSE. *snáad*] *snahad* E; *snadai* H. 24. *garga*] *garg* HES₃. *im*] *in* L.

Bethir bethrach, breó co ngail, lepad luithech do læchraid, fri ré Niad Corb, calma cend, bat adma adba Alend: A.	25
Carpas Catháir, comrar sét, taille rothairmcell triathu trét, lúad cech medra, monur nglé, ard-rí Emna is Alinde: A.	30
Fidehell Fhiachach, búadach rí, dracon daigrech, dron a chrí, ruamnais tria rígu rinne, nenaise niathu Alinde: A.	35
Brí Bresail beólaig fri gail: leis ba Tuaim Tenbad Temair: rí gorm for gabru grinne rochroth armu Alinde: A.	40
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.	45

25. *bethrach*] bretec R; ðrach S; berchich E. *co ngail*] L; coneim, &c. *cet.*
 26. *læchraid*] læchrad L; læchraib BH; læchaib YSE. 27. *fri*] ri L. *niad*] mog, &c. YSE. *cend*] L; in *cend cet.* 28. *bat adma adba*] latadba adhma Y; ba tadhma a fadba M; ba tadhbha alma S; ba hadba alma E; ba hadbho albhái, &c. HS₃. 29-32] *om. E*; *added in margin* YS. 29. *comrar*] L; comra, &c. *cet.* *thairmchell*] taircell R. 31. *luad*] luath S. *medra*] medrad R. *nglé*] nglind R. 32. *ard-rí*] airdi B; airde R. 33. *Fiachach*] fiacrach, &c. YS; fiacra E. *buadach*] buadan B. 34. *dracon*] L; draeu, &c., *cet.* *daigrech*] draidneach Y. *dron a chrí*] L; dronach B; dron a eli, &c. *cet.* 35. *rígu*] rígu a L; riga, &c. RES₃; rigai H; rigi M. 36. *nenaise*] cenaig *with* vel n *superser.* Y; cenaise E. *niathu*] L; nitha, &c. RH;

A furious (?) bear, a flame of valour, 25
 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 ; 30
 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 ; 35
 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. 40

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

see gloss.

Three mighty men [made] essays of trenchings, 45
 Burech, Fiach, and Aururas :
 it is they who without flagging (clear fact!)
 dug the rampart of Alend.

níthu, &c. BYMSE ; niothe S₃.

gail L ; co mblaid, &c. *cet.*

tenbai H. 40. *armu*] arbrú, &c. YSS₃H ; torba M.

&c. YSE. *nodassaig*] nodasfail L (*with vel saig superser.*) ; nosussaig (*with d*

superser.) B ; nodusaigh R ; rodussaig E.

Liphea L ; is liphe S.

imalinde, &c. RHS₃ ; luathama lindi Y ; luathina linde E ; luath umlinde aille M.

44. *tibit tulmag*] L ; fri forgla. h. RB ; fri forgla huath, &c. YSS₃H ; fri forgla

tuath E ; frith forcla thuath M.

telta a M ; cartrialta a Y.

47. *monor*] imgnim SE.

acláiset, &c. SE ; conclaidhsid S₃.

37. *beolaig*] belaig, &c. ME. *fri gail*] ri

38. *Tenbad*] Tenba RES₃ ; tenfa, &c. YM ;

41. *seglond*] saiglend,

42. *snás*] senas L.

43. *Life*] *luathem tinne*] L ; luath imlinde, &c. BS ; luath

44. *trialla*] triallta BRHS₃ ; triallta a SE ;

45. *Buirech Fiach is*] fiach burech L.

46. *occláiset*] roclaisend M ;

48. *ngle*] om. R.

Buirech focheird uad do ráith
dar in múr, nírbó rothláith, 50
ail focheird dia rigid rind
conid hí 's ail i n-Alind. A.

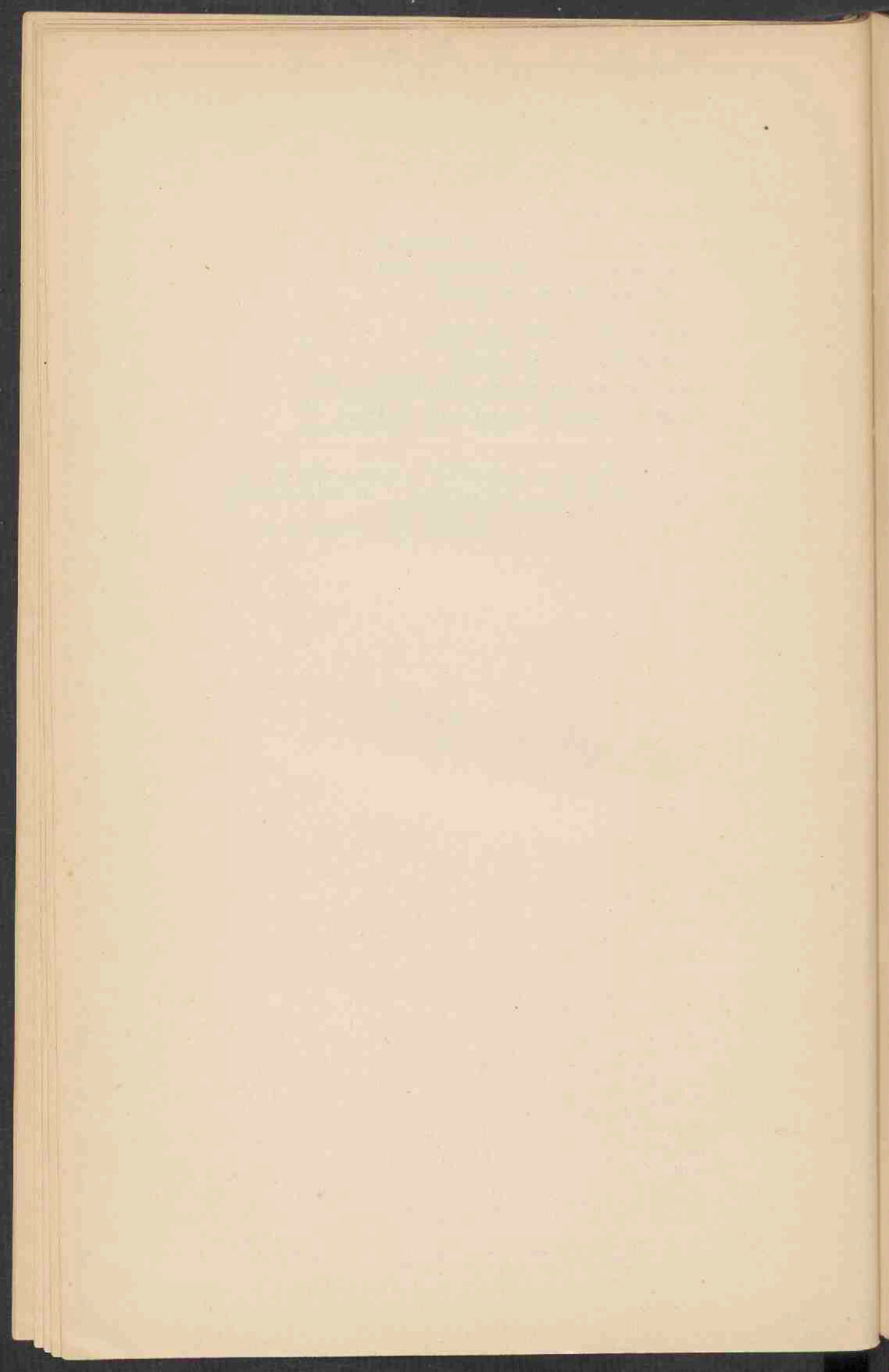
Robái sund . . ben Balla,
ingen Lugdach læch-banna,
fria gairm nírbó dírgna dremm, 55
diarbo ainm rígdá Alend. A.

49. *Buirech*] Buiredach B. *do*] a M; co E. 50. *in*] *om.*
I; a M. *nírbó rothláith*] mbraineach mborbthlaith, &c. YE;
mbruidhneach mborbthlaith S; mbraineach morblaith H; nimur rothlaith M;

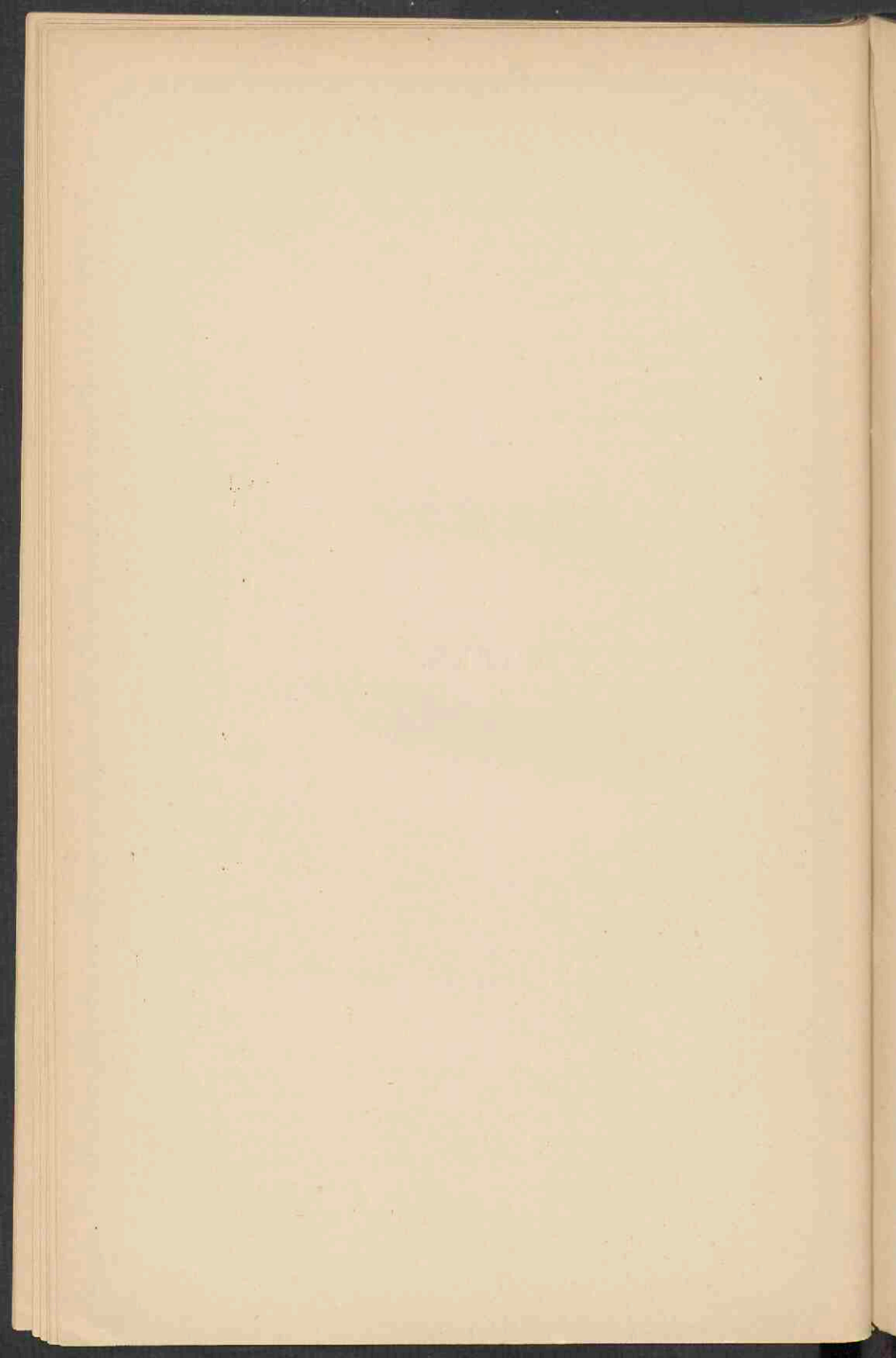
Buirech cast from him straightway
 across the rampart (no weakling he!)— 50
 a stone he cast from his spear-arm ;
 and that is the *ail* in Alend.

Here dwelt the wife of Balla,
 heroic daughter of Lugaid ;
 the clan was not disgraced by her repute ; 55
 from her came the royal name of Alend.

mbrainnech morblaith S₃. 51. *ail focheirā*] L; cloch da triall M; cloch rotelg.
 &c. cat. dia] uad dia L. 52. *hi*] ní L. 53-56] in margin of L only.



NOTES.



NOTES.

RATH ESA.

ETAİN (or Etaine) was a princess of the *ées 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 *Brúden 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 S₂ to Cinaeth úa Hartaacán: 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 *báire*.

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 *bíann* for *buid*; 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 *non* by *cruaid*; and this is supported by LBr 238^a a 24 where a *non* 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-ena*.

14. *ólaig*. It was at a banquet that Midir appeared and carried off Etain. He promises her *Cid meso lib coirm Inse Fáil, is mescu coirm tíre ndír* (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; *gríaid* 'cheek' is similarly used of places; e. g. LL 164 b 19, for *grúaid Ailig*; 215 a 38 *dar slím-grúad sár sen-Charmuín*. 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. *airerglan* .i. *ceibhinnglan*.

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' SuR. The true reading may, however, be *oca ndlonuisin* 'repulsing them': cf. O'Cl. *dlonuisin*.

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

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

42, 44. *chéliġ*—*Ébir*. L has *chéliġ*, without the mark of length: the other readings give no rhyme. But what does *chéliġ* mean? At Mag Life 6 (*infra*) L again reads *Conaire chéliġ* against the other mss: at Ráth Chnamrossa 10 (LL 195 a 34) we have *mac Conaire chéliġ*: for *éleech* see Meyer, *Contribb*. The objection to reading *chéliġ* 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 *nuachalla* .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. *Bri Léith*. L has *bria*. The true genitive is *breg*: dat. *brig*: in 12 and 24 all mss. have *bri*.

55. *decharda* may be referred to *dechar* '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 forsín monáí. For etnu dam dano bátár fémdand la firu h-Erend cosín n-aidehí-sín, cónaicces la lucht in t-shíde for a fermnaid. Do gníth somláid la Eochdaig, conid de atá do-som Echaid Airem, ar is aice toisech tuad cuing for muineálaib dam do feráib 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 Ehdach indiu
is-Síd Nenta iar n-uscú.

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 Mullaghshée 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-uscú* need not be regarded as a note of real place: such dwellings of the *des síde* were often imagined as opening on 'seas in fairy lands forlorn': cf. Nutt, *Voyage of Bran*, i. 229. In the *Bruden Da Chocac*, this place is again called *Síth Nenta iar 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. *Ogníad* is mentioned in the catalogue of women, LL 137 a 30.

94. *síd*: perhaps 'peace.'

BRUG I.

THE Brug mic ind Óe 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. *foralgais*; from *folaigim.*

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

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 *Toigil 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 Mátá) 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 Elcmar, 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 *faoilcann* means 'sea-gull.' The word may here have a metaphorical application, like the "Wild Geese" of later days.

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

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; *mollach* will therefore have the sense of 'cajoling,' which appears in the modern use of *meallaim*.

41. *bare*. The prose Dindshenchas (RC xv. 292) mentions the Bare Crimthainn Nia Nair among the 'remarkable things of the Brug.' *Bare* like *long* is applied metaphorically to houses: cf. Temair iii. 57, 58 *long na lech, frisanabar bare 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 *tromn* 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 Releo*, 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. *óradach*. Strachan (*Middle-Iv. Decl.* 18) has collected instances in which the predicative adjective is uninflected: cf. 77 *iatson dimbuan*.

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

54. *imman-aigtis luirg*: cf. LL 50, 14 *imundaigtis 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. *bés ní 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 *deifeilm* '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 *dersat*: we may then regard the collective *cūane* 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 Sēle*, Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 263; and Dinds. of Táltin, 78 (LL 200 b 50). *Senbec ua Ebric* is mentioned (BB 308 b 27) as a *sai eesidh*: 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 righ*.

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

BRUG II.

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

17. *ben núc Námát*. 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 *ciatta cor* (25) seem to refer.

22. For *fríth* 'discovery, trouvaille,' cf. Sil. Gad. i. 33, 10 *fé fríth fuaramar*: LL 147 b 40 *ní linuinn fríth fogaib cáib*: LU 114 b 23 *ba hamrae in fríth*.

32. *Duma Treise*, 'the Barrow of Ofal,' 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 cnoce mór de: ba hé a ainm, Trese in Máirimdúll*. O'Reilly has *tresc* '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 teletís 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 *má Buile* (not as in the facsimile *má*): most of the other texts, and the prose, read *Buale* or *Buaille*. I can find nothing about this person; and lines 43, 44 are consequently obscure to me. *lib* (43) is apparently an adjective. Dinneen has *lib* '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 Maeleoba': 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 Sláine: 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 *bathla*—if that be the true reading. Most of the mss. have *baethbla*, which O'Cl. glosses by *baithbails*.

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

galma: cf. SnR 5547 *galma 7 glóiv*. 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 *cir chuirvéil 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, *Diet.*).

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': *éian-bla* seems to be compounded of *éian* 'troop' and *bla* 'place': *éiach* I understand as gen. pl. of *éiu*.

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 *Óoc*. The prose has *róut síla 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. *asidchóí*: pres. sbj. of *asciáid*: 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 threibthus tó*: Mag n-Aidni 7 (LL 156 b 40) *as mo threibthus co turad*. These passages support the reading of YH.

5. *vót-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. nóithech* 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. *túd as* 'to stir thence in any direction': *as* = inde.

21. *'móslái*: see Wi. *imnlai*, and cf. Faffand, 33. *tairdhe*, '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 *sroith 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.' *sroith-sóeba*, which O'Cl. glosses .i. *saobchoire* 'whirlpool,' is probably gen. fem. of a compound adjective (for *sroith-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 *atām-natar dobatar se fotergetar 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 longa óir ar noi n-oidcib dia fess leu*.

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

39. *eisal*. 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, *rocheimnighsiat . . ina tuinntibh tuigha toirtemhla 7 ina ndoiredhaibh dlúithe dosecaoilte* '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: *taoianta* (and *tuinnté*) 'thread,' Dinneen.

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

50. I have adopted the reading *fiat-mod*, although it is supported only by two late mss., because otherwise there is no internal response between 49 and 50: besides, the *fiat 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 *each 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 noi umáidi*.

64. *setal-bale* for *selat-bale* '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. *vige*: cf. LL 157 b 33, *a ri vige*. O'R. has *vighe* '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. *toinsech*: a derivative of *tomus*. Cf. Ailech ii. 46 (Todd Lect. vii. 46): Loch Dacháech 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 Cináeth 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 *sél.* Cf. V. Bran, index.

24. Cf. BB 135 a 42 *romeabadar .vii. cutha riana gmis iarna egaib.*

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

30. *gaeth-rian.* O'Clery has *gaeth .i. fáirge.* Cf. *gaethamail* 'marshy,' *gáith-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 Frange*: *ibid.* 26 *do dt'acallaim-si dodeacha[á]sa o Romancuib. Alla-sa [á] cind coicidís dochtífad 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 *flan*, cf. *Alm* ii. 9.

35. *brón báiisse* = *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. *doirimthais*: cf. *doimthastar* 'is combined,' Thes. Palæo.-Hib. ii. 50; *timmthastaib*, gl. *fixis labris*, *bíd.* ii. 56.

44. *díl* should perhaps be *díl* 'fated end,' echoing *dín* in 43. P. O'C. has *dín* i. *erloch*: 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 *cós* 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. *roatái*: see Kuhn's Zts. xxx. 98; Meyer, *Contribb. adstím*.

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 *adfét* 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 sírdi 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 greimn*: 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 *már*, which may easily have been corrupted under the influence of *mar* in 11. This reading also makes the position of *eath-garg* more natural. It follows that we must read *drech-deirg* in 12, against the mss., and consequently *leth-teirg* in 10, following L against all other mss.

14. *sreth-chely*. The rendering offered is a mere guess: for *ceig* '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 Liguine. *Tiath Liguine* is mentioned as one of the *Aithech-tuatha*, BB 255 a 27.

18. *moch mail*: 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 *gabud*, 'danger.' The meaning seems to be that the pangs of hunger drove the *Aithech-tuatha* into rebellion.

22. *bán-áir*. 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 **dí-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 Loingséach, also called Moen, son of Ailill Aine, avenged his father by burning Cobthach at Dind Ríg, and thirty kings with him: cf. 10.

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

22. *Láigne* is properly n. pl. of *láigen* 'lance.' S₂ reads *váidter Lagin fri Láigne*, 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 Anama*, 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 trasá tuire,
robith Cobthach in caolcuirp:
odhin (?) ceol consmber(?) hī bhuis,
iseā (?) 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 Rathá 40, rhyming with *eloc*, *boe*: 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 ceoh nderg*. So *riad* means both 'red' and 'fiery.'

6. *Herot*. Bury, *Engl. Hist. Review*, 1902, pp. 263-4, connects this place with the *rig Hirotæ* 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-toleab* may be referred to *toile* 'pride' Wind.: but is more probably the word rendered 'breach' in IT iii. 533: cf. SnR 6767 *co toleab na tor tale 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 *croá*, which may mean either 'cattle' or 'destruction': Meyer, *Contribb.*

27. *táic*: 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 *luag*: cf. *luagim* 'I buy,' Lism. Lives, index.

6. The prose says *ní anad de thinsaitín céin nobid in muir for linad* (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. *timne* 'abridgment'? Cf. *gan brón báis agus time saoghail d'áimirt air*, Oss. iii. 92 (quoted by Wind.): and compare with this the phrase *rothindibéit a saoghul*, IT i. 130, 19. Compare also with our passage Rath Essa 7, *cét cech míl cen tindibe*. 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*, *díle*.

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. *rotháid* 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. *gair* seems to mean the piety with which her memory is kept alive.
6. *chéilig*. 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 MacCeht) killed Mechi, son of the Morrígain, 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. *Cíán* 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. *daigir* is rendered "javelin" by O'Donovan, *Magh Rath* 152. It is probably the English 'dagger,' and distinct from *daigir* 'fire' (IT iv. index).

10. *folá* for *fala*: cf. IT iv. index; M'Sweeney, *Cathr. 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. *eo n-gnim giall* 'with deed of hostages,' i.e. prowess by which hostages are won: cf. *neri-giallach* 'winning hostages by force,' LL 199 b 39.

2. *gorm-glan*. O'Dav. 1033 has *gorm i. urdair*: 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 *taithmin*, 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 Breann 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 chuisle*. 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 boly uisci*. Read then *eo cuisle*.

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

38. The prose says, 'three blotches were raised' on Meilge by Faifne's satire: cf. LL. 81 a 40 *go tócbairís teora bolga bar a agid, oil 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 *a*, *ie sethad in buair*. O'R. has *seith*, *seitheath* '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 Sengamna 123 (LL 197 *b* 52) *sedlais co sab iarsaine Crimthand Cael*.

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

51, 52. The natural syntactic order seems to be *combeth a ainm sir 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 Albhain. 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 *Maegnimortha 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 Cumhaill 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-chdem* 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 crúid in fis,
co fuair Aed Rind ina liss,
co rochunnig fair cert claidib
no ingin co indemin.

59. FCCN § 6 has "rodúit a athair d'í ocus nír léic cuicí hí, ar robo torrach hí, ocus asbert fria muntir a breoad ocus arai nír lam amnudugud 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-druí*: 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 *fián*. 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. *gá* for *gáo* or *gái*. The forms *gó*, *gáo*, *gou* also occur.

16. This is an attempt to explain the name *Almu* (acc. *Almain*) by connecting it with *ailmain*, 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. *letraid caile* 'the shield was hacked.'

8. The grammar is doubtful. Perhaps we should adopt the reading *fovad 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 Elair* (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 *riġu*: we should rather expect *riġe* 'by his kingship.'

36. *nenaise* '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.

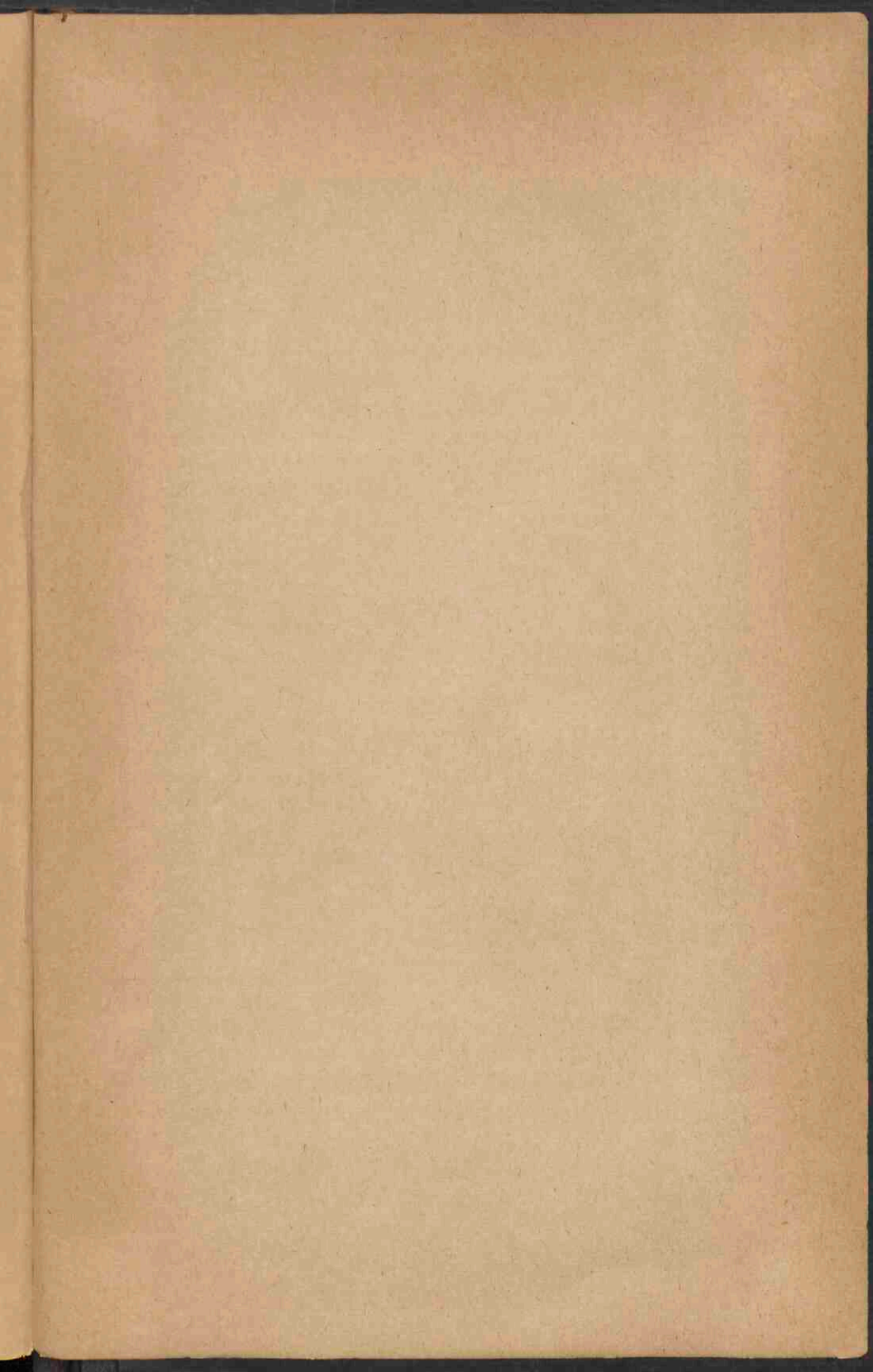
37. Bresal Beolach was son of Fiachu Baicid: see FM 435.

41. *nodassaig*: from *adsagim*.

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

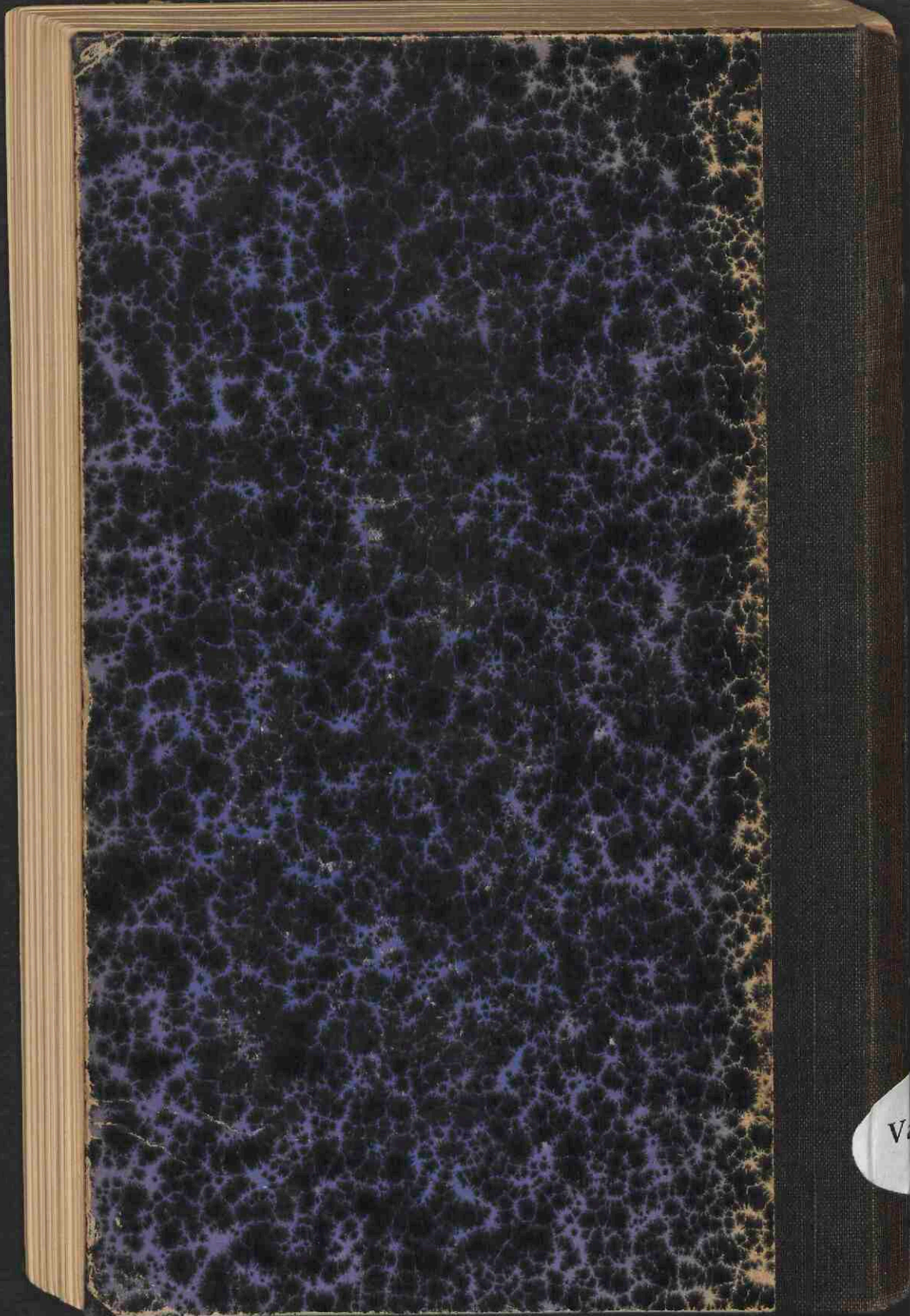
48. *adclaiġim* usually means 'hunt': but the prose here has *conacclaid mur*: cf. Meyer, *Contribb.*, *concladim*.

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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V