An Gaidheal.

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AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH,
114 WEST CAMPBELL STREET, GLASGOW.

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Leabhar XX.]

An Dàmhar, 1924.

[Earrann 1

AR DILEAR.

Ciod an cor anns a bheil móran againne an diugh a thaobh na cainnt a dh'fheumas sinn a bhruidheann gach latha? A' chuid dhinn a tha a' fuireach anns a' bhaile mhór. maille ri feadhainn a tha a chòmhnaidh air an dùthaich, feumaidh iad gach latha a dh'éireas an taobh, Beurla a chleachdadh an gnothuch is an comhradh. Cho fad 's a tha iad an crochadh air na Goill feumaidh iad cainnt nan Gall a labhairt. A nis cha ghabh so seachnadh. Tha e làn iomchuidh is riatanach; agus cha bhiodh ann ach aimeadas a chaochladh a chumail a mach. Cha ruigear a leas a bhi an dùil gun ionnsaich na Goill Gàidhlig, no gun deanar gnothuch riu ach 'n an cànain féin. Ged tha sinn uile làn dealais is deagh dhùrachd fad seachdain a' Mhòid, cha luaithe a theid sinn air ar n-ais gu ar dachaidhean na dh'fheumas sinn tionndadh ris a' Bheurla, agus a labhairt moch is anamoch gus an tig am an ath Mhòid. Chan eil sinn a faotainn coire do neach sam bith mu dheidhinn an ni so. Chan eil comas air; tha sinn ag innse na firinn; agus aontaichidh iadsan do'n eòl cor na dùthcha gur ann mar sud dìreach a tha móran a thaobh labhairt na Gàidhlig.

Ach a nis ri aghaidh an anacothrom so chan eil àicheadh nach eil dleasdanas cudthromach 'n a laidhe oirnn an diugh. Is e an dleasdanas sin an aon fhacal ar dleab dhùthchasail a chumail beò, mar a fhuair sinn i o ar sinnsir. A nis tha cunnart gu bheil sinn uile buailteach a bhi riaraichte le bruidhinn mu ar dlleab dhùthchasail. Tha e air fàs fasanta a bhi fileanta gu leoir air a' chuspair so. Chan fhiach braid mur dean i oinmradh air dlleab nan Gàidheal. Cha bhi cuirm no cuideachd aig nach cluinnear fear labhairt ag ùrachadh cuimhne an luchd éisdeachd mu'n chùis; gus mu dheireadh am fàs cuid seach sgith de bhriathran anns nach eil ach tomhas beag de dhùrachd—tomhas dheich mionaidean, fhad 's a tha an t-òraidiche air a chasan.

A nis tha an dìleab a' comhsheasamh an ni no dhà. Tha air tùs a' chànain, àrdshuaicheantas a' Ghàidhil. Is e crìoch shonruichte a' mhìosachain so a bhi a' cumail na fìrinn sin o am gu am fa chomhair an luchd-leughaidh. Tha e iomchuidh a bhi a' deanamh sud fo iomadh cruth is aig na h-uile cothrom. Agus air an turus so tha sinn a' seirm as ùr gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig 'n a dìleab dhuitse a tha a' leughadh nam facal so: agus gu bheil thu cunntasach gu pearsanta airson gun gabh thu gach cothrom is urrainn duit air cainnt do dhùthchadh a labhairt aig gach am is anns gach ionad anns am bi sin comasach. Chum do shinnsir beò a' chànain feadh nan ginealach. Ghiùlain iad a nuas i o ghlùn gu glùn. Rinn iad an dleasdanas d'a taobh, agus dh'fhàg iad agad-sa i mar dhìleab. Is bochd an ni mas tusa am fear a bhios air t-fhaotainn a' tréigsinn is a' dearmad na dìleab, coma de chainnt cho eireachdail, is 'g a leigeil bàs a chion aire. Am bheil na briathran sin tuilleadh is làidir? Nach e so a tha Gàidheal sam bith a' deanamh a tha meadhbhlàth mu bheatha na cainnte ann ar latha?

Agus a rithist cha bheag an dlleab an ceòl—có dhiubh is iad na h-òrain Ghàidhlig de gach gnè—no an ceòl-mór a bhuineas do'n phiob chluiche. Tha an ceòl-mór air dhlleab cho prìseil is a th' againn. Tha e

a' nochdadh air mhodh sonruichte aigne is inbhe-inntinn ar sinnsir. Agus c'àite an d'fhàgadh am breacan? Bheir am breacan le a dhathan rìomhach teas ghràdh an uchd an fhìor Ghàidhil. Faodaidh nach eil éideadh idir a tha cho duineal eireachdail 11 deise dhùthchasail a' Ghàidhil. An uair a dh'ainmichear gaisge chan fhagar air dheireadh am breacan, an t-osan, an sporan 's an lann. Agus chan fhaodar luach na dìleab a mheas a réir òir no airgid. Chan ann air sgàth buannachd shaoghalta is còir dhuinn air dìleab a chumail beò. Tha luchd foghluim ag innse dhuinn gur i crìoch àraidh an fhoghluim eadhon solus do'n inntinn, agus nach e buannachd aimsireil. Agus tha so flor a thaobh dìleab a' Ghàidhil. Mas e airgiod a tha'n ar sealladh théid ar dìleab gu cinnteach am mugha. Ach mas e ar miann a bhi a' deanamh greim air an loinn inntinn is an uaisle nàduir a tha dualach dhuinn, an sin cumaidh sinn cuimhne air dìleab ar n-athraichean, agus cumaidh sinn beò i, a chionn gur i is daimheile dhuinn; agus gur i is dluithe do ar cridheachan na cainnt is ceòl is cleachdaidhean choigreach.

THE MOD OF 1924.

The annual Mod of An Comunn for 1924 took place at Perth on the 30th September, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd October. The numbers of competitors in the numerous competitions were satisfactory. The attendances, especially at the afternoon diets and the social functions, compared quite favourably with the Mods of previous years. A warm welcome was extended by the municipal authorities of the town, a feature which enabled the Comunn to feel that their efforts on behalf of Gaelic received the most significant encouragement which it was in the power of the Magistrates to give.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

An Comunn Gaidhealach may rightly expect to be received with favour in the capital city of the shire that has the proud distinction of giving birth to that loveable Highlander, General Stewart of Garth. For I can readily create in fancy-and so should we all-an impression of his emotions were he present to-day to realise that the Mod is a great institution, its purposes culturally national, and that its promoters are but attempting to transmit to other generations what he would justly reckon as beautiful and elevating in the character of his race and ours. Had the Mòd been held in Perth two years ago, it would have coincided with the centenary of the publication of "Stewart's Sketches of the Highlanders"—one of the most enlightening and dispassionate treatments that ever dealt with such an elusive subject. It would seem, however, that the question of the disappearance of Celtic characteristics -surviving and differing little from the time of Cæsar-was agitating the minds of loval Gaels then as to-day. Reasons for the changes that were at his period coming into prominence are found, even on superficial examination, to be not far removed from those disintegrating influences with which we are, more or less, familiar in our own time. Taking a phase of that self-same period, General Stewart made this curious observation: "The natural enthusiasm has in many instances," he writes, "been converted into a gloomy and morose fanaticism. Traditional history and native poetry, which reminded them of other times, are neglected.

. . The ardour of the Highlander's character remains-it has only taken another and more dangerous direction; and when driven from poetical recitals, superstitious traditions, and chivalrous adventures, has found vent in religious ravings, and in contests with rival sects." Equally caustic are the observations of the celebrated divine, Dr. Smith of Campbeltown, in a report for the County of Argyle drawn up for the Board of Agriculture during that fateful period. "Among the causes," he observes, "which make our ancient poems vanish so rapidly, poverty and the iron rod should, in most places, have a large share. From the baneful shades of these murderers of the Muse, the light of the song must fast disappear. No other reason need be asked why many of the present Highlanders neglect so much the songs of their fathers. Once, though humble, the old Gael was happy sitting at his ease at the foot of the gray rock or green tree. Few were his wants, and fewer still his cares; for he beheld his herds sporting round him on his then unmeasured mountains. He hummed the careless song, and tuned the harp of joy, while his soul in silence blessed his chieftain."

These strictures were penned well over a hundred years ago; but the causes from which they sprung are, I am afraid, still with us, otherwise there would be no call for the activities of An Comunn Gaidhealach

and its associates.

An Comun's mission, however, is not with the sombre ecstacies of theological disputations, but with the preservation of those noble traits upon which was built one of the most spiritual edifices of the human character. It is ours to ask why Ossian sang—ours, perhaps, to welcome the distant mariner when he beholds the waving trees.

Some of you, in Inverness at last year's Mòd, may have heard me pleading—as many an anxious advocate has done for well nigh two centuries-for the development of the Gael in his native setting and atmosphere. I said on that occasion that we were privileged to begin or end an epoch. It is, in all seriousness, a fateful hour for the Gaelic-speaking race. Our rolling stock is a doubtful property, and, alas! our vision is mainly focussed on the downward signals. Sentence of life or death is about to be passed on the spoken language of one of the most soulful races of mankind. "In the grand concert of the human species," proclaimed the great Renan, "no family equals this for pentrating voices which go to the heart." But was he really right in affirming that the descendants of this wonderful race are still faithful to its language, its memories, its ideals, and its genius? Or must we accept the dicta of another sympathetic publicist, who, having heard the call of years, says that we are "a doomed and passing race"; our horizon reached at last whence there is no shore beyond? Shall history give to this, our generation, the unenviable immortality of seeing the departure of the Gaelic Muses for ever? Are the garlands withered, or is the hour about to strike when an alien minstrel will translate their memory into song? Perthshire, by right of sanctuary, should, in part, supply the answer. Are we not within shadow of where once stood the symbol of Scottish majesty, national significance, and the generating atmosphere of the children of tradition? Has Dunkeld the refuge of the "friends of God," when the Tuetonic ancestors of the much-vaunted Anglo-Saxons made the massacring of the ambassadors of civilization a sport of arms, no meaning for the sons of the blood? Let us believe it has. The sons of song have not gone to rest. Alluring as are the charms of Malvina, we shall yet awhile resist her call to join in Ossian's mournful monody by the sounding sea. Rather should we respond to Fionn by giving the praise of the daughter of Sorno to the winds of Heaven. But we can only be able to accomplish this if we build a bridge that will

unite ideals in a practical way with men. May we not then touch our lips with the magic honey of Tirnan-Og? More especially should we see to it that we do not cage up the Gaelic soul for ceremonial occasions only, but, like the legendary arrows, help its poetic motifs to take fire by their own volition. For, as was said of Dryden, we cannot be accused of over-heating our chariot-wheels by driving too fast.

Our plight in the Scottish Highlands is not invidious. Gaelic Ireland is likewise in a transition stage. For I find Joseph O'Neill, in a series of articles which recently appeared in The Irish Statesman, advancing a similar caveat to ourselves. Adopting "Should we let Gaelic die?" as his subject, he prefaces his argument for the advantages of bi-lingualism in the following pregnant statement: "After." he says, "an existence of over a thousand years in our island-an existence chequered by great and victorious phases of activity and deep depressionsthe Irish language is to-day at death's door. It will die in our generation if we do not decide to save it. If it dies it can never be recalled."

Can never be recalled! An ominous pronouncement, in very truth. And yet the sound is not altogether unfamiliar in our midst. But, on the other hand, one might ask, Why should an old language like Gaelic be saved from decay or extinction? Well! could we not give, in the absence of any other reason, that its preservation would help to keep mankind from the colourless uniformity of a standardised outlook? There is yet another, if we are to keep in touch with scientific progress. In a book which has attracted some notice, by a Professor Flournay, under the formidable title, "From India to the Planet Mars," he gives the translation of the words of a message assumed to have been mysteriously communicated to a Geneva lady, but which seem to be no other than a simple phonetic rendering of Gaelic phraseology. The words are: "Astane ne ze ten ti vi" (Astane is there near to thee). That by the way. We are determined that Gaelic shall not die; which means no more and no less than the needless grafting of new skin, or the displacement of one's own for the reception of spurious blood. At the same time, we say emphatically that we are not a coterie of pedantic Prussians, attempting to drill the Highland people into a goose-step of Gaelic culture, or to drag them over a road leading away from their traditions. I would, therefore, here repeat what we have always urged,

that An Comunn is not our movement. except in so far as we ourselves are Gaels. It belongs to the whole body of the Highland people, and we ask of them to take possession of it and make of it what they will. We ourselves would prefer to see them with meteors gleaming around them as in the time when the bards were welcomed to the halls of joy and song, kings listened to the tales of far-off days, and when lusty chiefs praised the "Voice of Cona, the first among a thousand bards.'

An Comunn is struggling-and not without a certain measure of success-to remove some of the impediments that check the flow of the stream of Highland life. Glad shall we be when, from time to time, we may be privileged to watch, with pride, the younger race carrying on the work so disinterestedly begun by An Comunn, and feel that the stream of Highland life, thus liberated, will increase to the strength of rivers on Ardven, "when their crowded

waters glitter to the moon."

JUNIOR SECTION.

Adjudicators—Miss Nancy MacLean, Miss Mary A. MacLaine, Mr. Alex. Thomson, Glasgow, and Mr. John Macdonald, M.A., Callander.

Letter, not exceeding 2 pages on a simple subject chosen from a list sent under sealed cover, to be opened by the Local Examiner after places have been taken for the competition. Prizes—1, 10s; 2, 7s 6d; 3, 5s; 4, 3s 6d; 5, 2s 6d; 6, 2s 6d. 1, Annie Mackinnon, Broadford; 2, Annie Macpherson, do.; 3, Annie Black, Oban High School; 4, Norman Macaskill, do.; 5, Mary A. Finlayson, Broadford; 6, Mary MacRae, do. Writing from Dictation of an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose. Prizes-1, 10s; 2, 7s 6d; 3, 5s; 4, 2s 6d; 5, 2s 6d. 1, Annie Macpherson, Broadford; 2, James

5, 28 ed. 1, Anmie nacpaerson, Brosudoru; 2, James Graham, do.; 3, Anmie Mackinnon, do.; 4, Margt. Macinnes, do.; 5, Heetor MacKinnon, do. Reproduction in Writing of an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose. Prizes—1, 10s; 2, 7s 6d; 3, 5s; 4, 2s 6d; 5, 2s 6d. 1, Heetor Mackinnon, Broaddord; 2, Morag Cameron, Oban High School; 3, Jas. Graham, Broadford; 4, Margaret Macinnes, do.; 5, Mary A. Finlay-

Special Prizes for Teachers-(a)-A first, second, and third prize of £3, £2, and £1 respectively, will be given to the teachers whose pupils win the highest average of marks in the foregoing competitions; (b) a first, second, and third prize of £3, £2, and £1 respectively, will be given to the teachers whose pupils win the highest aggregate marks in the foregoing competitions. In estimating the aggregate, the papers of pupils earning less than 50 per cent. of marks will be excluded. (a) 1, Miss M. D. MacQueen, Oban; 2, John MacPherson, M.A., Broadford. (b) 1, John

MacPherson; 2, Miss M. D. MacQueen.

Translation of an Unseen Piece of Gaelic Prose into English. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 15s; 3, 10s; 4, 7s 6d; 5, 5s. 1, Donald Macdonald, Oban High School; 2, Annie Macgregor, do.; 3, William Macdonald, do.; 4, Margaret Maclean, do.; Susan MacKinnon, do.

Translation of an Unseen Piece of English Prose into Gaelic. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 15s; 3, 10s; 4, 7s 6d. 1, James Graham, Broadford; 2, Sarah Kennedy, Oban High School; 3, Donald Jackson, do.; 4, Mary Macintyre, do.

Gaelic Essay. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 15s; 3, 10s; 4, 7s 6d. 1, Margaret Maclean, Oban High School; 2. Donald Jackson, do.: 3. Susan Mackinnon, do.:

4, James Graham, Broadford.

Translation of Gaelic idioms into their English equivalents. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 15s; 3, 10s; 4, 7s. 6d. 1, Margaret Maclean; 2, Mary Macintyre; 3, Donald Macdonald; 4, Cathie Campbell, all of Oban High School.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators-Mr. D. J. Macleod, H.M.I.S., Inverness ; Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness.

Reading with Expression a Piece of Prose or Poetry, by Native Speakers. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 10s; 3, 5s; 4, 2s 6d; 5, 2s 6d. 1, Margaret Vance, Ballachulish; 2, Donald Dunn, do.; 3, James Crawford, Minard; 4, Ian MacInnes, Ballachulish; 5, Marion Beaton, Minard.

Reading with Expression a Piece of Prose or Poetry, by Learners. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 10s. 1, Jessie Morrison,

Minard; 2, Iain Mathieson.

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Piece, chosen by the Judges. Prizes-1, £1; 2, 10s. Open to all. 1. James Crawford; 2, Marion Beaton, Minard.

Narrative based on some local incident, tradition, or legend, to be followed by conversation on the subject of the narrative, between the competitors and the adjudicators. Prizes—1, 10s; 2, 5s; 3, 2s 6d. Open to all. 1, Margaret Vance; 2, Marion Beaton; 3, equal, Donald Dunn and James Crawford.
For Excellence in Gaelic Conversation, for boys

and girls. Prizes—1, 12s 6d; 2, 7s 6d. 1, Calum Iain N. Macleod, Kirkhill; 2, Peggy Macpherson,

Killin.

Conversation between judges and competitors on the History of the Rising of 1745. Prize-1, £1.

Calum Iain N. Macleod.

Boys. Repeating by heart the first 28 verses of Chapter I. of Genesis, and the 2nd and 3rd verses of Chapter II.; and the 2nd Chapter of Revelations. Prizes—1, £3. More prizes if entries warrant. John Maclcod, Greenock,

For children under 12 years of age, Boys, Repeating the 23rd Psalm, 2nd Paraphrase, and 54th Paraphrase. Prizes—I, Galie Bible and 5s. Donald Dunn. Girls. Same as above competition. Margaret Vance. Reciting from Memory. "An Sruthan." Prizes—I, J6s and a copy of "M'Dougall's Folk Tales;"

2, 10s and a copy of same book; 3, a copy of "M'Dougall's Folk Tales." Open to all. 1, Jessie Morrison, Minard, and Donald Dunn, Ballachulish, equal; 2, Margaret Vance.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators-Gaelic-Rev. Alex. Maclcan, B.D., Daviot. Music-Mr. Hugh S. Roberton, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song, confined to Learners of Gaelic as distinct from Native or Fluent speakers. Girls. as usefunce from Astivo or Intelle speakers. Girls, The Songs prescribed were—"Gradh mo Chridh," and "Fhir a Bhata." Prizes—1, 15s; 2, 10s; 3, 5s, 11, Mary Johnstone, Inverness; 2, Flora Campbell Robertson, Ibrox; 3, Margaret Macdonald, Glasgow. Solo Singing of a Song. Boys and Girls. Open only to former first prize winners (learners and native speakers). The Songs prescribed were—"O till a leannain," and "Muile nam Morbheann." Prizes1, £1; 2, 10s; 3, 5s. 1, Flora Campbell Robertson; 2, Iain Macinnes, Ballachulish; 3, Ewen Campbell, Fort William.

Traditional Singing of an Unpublished Gaelic Song. No instrumental accompaniment. Prizes—1, 10s; 2, 6s; 3, 4s. 1, Calum Iain N. Macleod; 2, Annie Foster, Fort William; 3, Mary A. Macdonald, Glasgow.

Duet Singing of the Song, "Taladh," Prizes—1, £1; 2, 10s. 1, Iain and Morag Macinnes, Ballachulish; 2, Marie Macleod and John Macleod, Greenock.

Solo Singing of a Song. Boys. The songs prescribed were—"Gur gile mo leannan" and ""S fheudar dhomh bhi togail orm." Prizes—1, £1 and Silver Medal of An Comunn; 2, 10s; 3, 5s. First Prize presented by Inverness Branch of An Comunn. 1, William J. Macdonald, Glasgow; 2, Hugh Macinnes, Ballachulish; 3, John MacLeod, Greenock

LESSER HALL.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Rev. Alex. Mackinnon, Ph.D., Glasgow; Mr. D. J. Macleod, H.M.I.S., and Mr. Donald Graham, M.A. Music—Mr. Robert Macleod, Mus. Bac., London.

Solo Singing of a Song. Boys. The songs prescribed were "Seinn an duan so," and "Leis an Lurgain." Prizes—1, 15s; 2, 10s; 3, 5s. 1, Ewen Campbell, Fort William; 2, Robert Macgregor, Inverness; 3, Allister Macleod Cameron, Port Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song. Girls. Open to Girls over 16 and under 18 years of age at date of Mod. Prizes—1, £1 5s. 1, Phemie M. Colquhoun, Glasgow.

Duet Singing of the Song, "Taladh." Prizes— 1, £1; 2, 10s. 1, Susie MacAllister and Nan Greenshields, Lochegilphead; 2, F. and I. Campbell Robertson, Ibrox. Special—Miss Hilda Keir and Miss Jean Inglis, Pitlochry.

Solo Singing of a Song. Girls. The songs prescribed were—"O's toigh leam an Globair," and "Thainig an Gille Dubh," Prizes—1, £1 and Silver Médal of An Comunn; 2, 10s; 3, 5s. First prize presented by Inverness Branch of An Comunn. 1, Mary A. Macdonald, Glasgow; 2, Sarah Macinnes, Ballachulish; 3. Emma Brown, Glaszow.

Acted Dialogue by Two Performers. Prizes—1, £1 10s. 1, Margaret Vance and Iain Macinnes, Ballachulish.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Rev. Alex. Maclean, B.D., and Rev. Dr. Mackinnon. Music—Mr. Robert Macleod, Mus. Bac., and Mr. Hugh S. Roberton.

Unison Singing Competition for Junior Choirs. The songs prescribed were "Oran Chloinn Lachlainn," "Gur trom trom a ta mi," and "Am Muileann Dubh." Prizes—1, £3; 2, £2. 1, Abriachan Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Inverness Junior Gaelic Choir.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in two-part harmony. Prizes—1, £5, and a baton to the Conductor; 2, £3. The songs prescribed were the same as those prescribed for the "Oban Times" Challenge Trophy. 1, Inverness Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Scone School Junior Choir.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in two and three part harmony. The prescribed songs were "Mae og an Iarla Ruaidh" (test song), and Cadill gu lo." Choirs had also to prepare a song of their own choice. Prizes—1, 25, and retention for a year of the "Ohan Times" Challenge Trophy, and a Baton to the Conductor; 2, 23. 1, Lochaber Junior Choir; 2, Abrichan Junior Gaelic Choir.

SENIOR SECTION.

Adjudicators—Mr. Angus L. MacDonald, H.M.LS.; Rev. Donald Lamont, M.A., Blair Atholl; Rev. Alex. Mackinnon, Ph.D., Glasgow; Mr. Arbd. Maclean, Logicrait; Rev. Gillespie Campbell, Muckairn; Mr. Roderick Barron, H.M.LS.; Rev. D. C. MacRae, Duror; and Mr. John R.

Bannerman, Glasgow.

A Gold Pendant to the most distinguished prize winner in the Literary Competitions. Former winners debarred.

debarred.

Poem, on any subject. Prizes—1, Chaplet; 2, £5.

1, John Macfadyen, Corkerhill, Glasgow; 2, Duncan Macniven, Islav.

Essay on "Ĭain Lom, his Life and Poetry." Prize

£5. John MacCormick, Glasgow.

-£5. John MacCormick, Glasgow.
 One Short Story, not exceeding 500 words. Prize
 -£2 2s. John MacCormick.

Gaelic Story, extending to 2000 words or more. The Tale may be based on actual historical incidents or local legends. Prize—£5. John Macfadyen.

Gaelic Dialogue. Prize—£5. John MacCormick, Translation into Gaelic of selected English Prose Piece. Prize—£5, by Mr. Robert Macmillan, Glasgow. Calum MacPharlain.

Essay on any Subject. Prize—£5. Prize divided between Rev. A. D. Maclean, B.D., Ardgour, and Mr. John MacCormick.

WEDNESDAY'S PRIZE LIST, LARGE HALL.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Mr. D. J. Macleod, H.M.I.S.

Music—Mr. Robert Macleod, Mus. Bac., Edinburgh.

For the Best Rendering of one of Rob Donn's Songs. The Songs to be rendered in Sutherland Dialect, from Dr. Gunn's collection. Prizes—1, 23; 2, 22. Presented by the Thurso Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, Mary Campbell, Eastale; 2, Morag Macdonald,

Edinburgh.

Oban and Lorn Association War Commemoration Medal (Open), for the best rendering of one of the following songs by Lorn Bards—"Atha 'ss Bruachan," by Calum Campbell MacPhall, "Chunna mi'n damh donn 's na h-eiddean" (Donnehadh Ban), and "An Rìbhin Donn," by "Fionn." Prizes—1, Gold Badge and £1; 2, £2. Presented by the Glagow Oban and Lorn Association. 1, Miss Cathie E. B. Maclean, Glaszow: 2, Adar. F. Maclenan, Lochgilphann, Lochgilph

For the best Rendering of an Unpublished Skyc Song, the air of which need not be unpublished. Prizes -1, £3; 2, £2; 3, £1. Presented by Mrs. Macdonald of Dunach. 1, Miss Nancy Macdonald, Oban; 2, equal, Miss Catriona M. Clark, Glasgow, and Miss Molly E. Campbell, Oban.

LESSER CITY HALL.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Rev. Alex. Maclean, B.D., Daviot. Music—Mr. Hugh S. Roberton, Glasgow. Solo Singing of a Song—To encourage the Revival of the older or less known district songs. Prizes—1, 22 Se; two 2nd Prizes of 15s each; and three Srd prizes of 10s each. Prizes presented by Mrs. Ryan, Roy Bridge. 1, Miss Molly E. Campbell, Oban; 2, equal, John D. Macpherson, Ballachulish, and R. S., equal, John D. Macpherson, Ballachulish, and R. Miss Cathie B. B. MacLean, Glagow, and Miss Cathie G. B. MacLean, Glagow, and Miss Cathie G. MacLean, Glagow, and Miss Cathie G. B. MacLean, Glagow, and Miss Cathie G. B. MacLean, Glagow, and Miss Cathie G. B.

Gaelic Folk Songs-For the Best Rendering of Two Unpublished Gaelic Folk-Song Airs. Prizes-1, £1 10s; 2, 10s. 1, Miss Catriona M. Clark, Glasgow; 2, Miss May L. Smyllie, do.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Rev. Alex. Mackinnon, Ph.D., Glasgow. Music—Mr. H. S. Roberton.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song connected with the County of Inverness, to be known as the "James Grant Memorial" Prize. Open. Prizes—1, £2 10s; 2, £1 10s; 3, £1. 1, Neil Mackinnon, Perth; 2, Miss Mary Colguboun, Glasgow: 3, Miss Bessie Campbell, Ardrishaig.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Recitation of the Poem, "Blar na h-Eiphit" (Mackinnon), memorised by competitor. Prizes—1, £1; 2, 10s. Open to all. 1, Miss Cathie E. Mac-Innes, Ballachulish; 2, Miss Nellie Cameron, Oban.

Recitation of the Prose Piece, "Bathadh a' chuilein " (Donald Mackenzie). Prizes—1, £1; 2, 10s. Open to all. 1, John M. Bannerman, Glasgow; 2, George

Anderson, Islay.

Reading of an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose chosen by the Judges. Prizcs-1, £1; 2, 10s. Open to all. Miss Nellie Cameron, Oban; 2, Miss Cathie E.

MacInnes, Ballachulish.

Recitation of a Piece of Original Poetry specially composed by the Competitor, Prizes-1, £2: 2, £1, . John MacFadyen, Corkerhill; 2, Miss Cathie E. MacInnes, Ballachulish.

Ancient Folk Tale, preferably unpublished-narrated in the traditional style. Prizes-1, £2; 2, £1. 1, Peter Fletcher, Oban: 2, Miss Cathie E. MacInnes,

Ballachulish.

For the Best Prepared Original Gaelic Speech on any Subject, not to exceed 10 minutes in delivery.

Prizes—1, £2. 1, George Anderson, Islay.
Best Acted Dialogue by Two Performers. The Best Acted Dialogue by Two Performers. The words may be selected from any published Gaelie work, or may be specially composed. Not to exceed 15 minutes in delivery. Prizes—1, 53; 2, 22; 3, 51. 1, Mrs. MacMillan, Greenock; and Alex. N. Nicolson, Greenock; 2, equal, Miss Nellle Cameron, Oban, and Peter Fletcher, Oban; 3, William MacDonald, Barrs, and Donald Fletcher, Oban.

Solo Singing of a Song. Female Voices. Confined to Members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, its Branches and Affiliated Societies. Prizes-1, £2; 2, £1. Former gold medallists and first prize winners for singing excluded. 1, Miss Morag MacDonald, Edinburgh; 2, Miss Mary Campbell, Easdale.

Solo Singing of a Song. Male Voices. Confined to Members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, its Branches and Affiliated Societies. Prizes-1, £2; 2, £1. Former gold medallists and first prize winners for singing excluded. 1, Neil MacKinnon, Perth; 2, George Anderson, Islay.

Solo Singing of the Oran Mor "Mort Ghlinne Comhann " (Female voices). Prize-£2.

Donalda Robertson, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of the Oran Mor "Oran Chaiptein Uisdein." Male Voices. Prize—1, £2. 1, John M.

Bannerman, Glasgow.

A Competition for Seniors in Solo Singing of "Puirt a Beul." The words and music to be sung must be submitted to the Secretary on entry, for approval. Prizes (conditionally on sufficient number of competitors entering)—1, £1 10s; 2, 15s. 1, John Mac-Donald, Lismore; 2, Miss Catriona M. Clark, Glasgow.

For the Best Rendering of a Song from Mrs. Kennedy Fraser's "Songs of the Hebrides,

voices. Competitors must prepare the two following songs-"Lure o' Liltin," and "The Embarrased songs—"Lure o' Liltin," and "The Embarrased Maiden," published by Paterson & Sons, Glasgow. Prizes—1, "Song of the Hebrides," vol. III.; 2, "Songs of the Hebrides," vol. III. (paper cover). Presented by Mrs. Kennedy Fraser. 1, Miss Morag MacDonald, Edinburgh; 2, Miss Peggy Robertson, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song with Clarsach accompaniment. Prizes—1, £3; 2, £2; 3, £1. Prizes presented by Mrs. Iain Campbell, Airds. 1, Miss Eleanora Cameron, London: 2, Miss Flora Campbell, Edinburgh: 3, Miss

Morag Macdonald, do.

Solo Singing. Female Voices. Competitors are confined in the choice of a song to the following. Either of these may be chosen by the competitor. The songs are "An Gille Dubh ciar Dubh" and "Air a' Ghille tha mo run," 1, Gold Medal, Miss Mary Campbell, Easdale; 2, Miss Catriona M. Clark, Glasgow; 3, Miss Donalda Robertson, do.

Solo Singing, Male Voices, Competitors are confined in the choice of a song to the following. Either of these may be chosen by the competitor. The songs are "Cuir a' Chinn Dilis" and "Mo Nighean Chruinn Donn." 1, Gold Medal, Neil MacKinnon, Perth; 2, J. B. Munro, Inverness; 3, A. F. MacLennan, Lochgilphead.

Solo Singing of a Song. Female Voices. Open only to former Mod gold medallists and first prize winners for singing. Prize-£3. 1, Miss Molly E. Campbell, Oban.

Solo Singing of a Song, Male Voices, Open only to former Mod gold medallists and first prize winners for singing. Prize-£3. 1, J. B. Munro, Inverness. Quartette Singing of a Song. Mixed Voices.

(S.A.T.B.) Competitors to prepare two songs of their own choice, either or both of which they may be asked to sing. Prizes—1, £2; 2, £1. 1, M'Intosh Quartette, Edinburgh; 2, "Duart" Quartette, Glasgow.

Duet Singing of a Song. Prizes—1, £2; 2, £1.

1, Miss Flora N. MacLean, Glasgow, and Miss Cathie E. B. MacLean, do.; 2, Miss Anabel Johnston, Edinburgh, and Iain MacGregor, do.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in three or four part harmony. Male Voices only. The two Songs prescribed are "Si luaidh mo chagair Morag" (arr. William Moodie), and "Posadh Piuthar Iain Bhàin" (arr. by J. H. W. Nesbitt), Prize-£5. A second prize of £3 will be given if three or more choirs compete. 1, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association; 2, Ballachulish Gaelic Choir.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in three or four part harmony. Female Voices only. The two Songs prescribed are "Luinneag Mhic Leoid," arranged by Robert MacLeod, Mus. Bac., and "Buain na Rainich" (Coisir a' Mhoid). Prize—£5. A second prize of £3 will be given if three or more choirs compete. 1, Oban Gaelic Choir; 2, Glasgow Gaelic

Musical Association.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in four part harmony. The Songs prescribed are "MacCrimmon's Lament," arranged by Moonie (test song), "Mo Chubhrachan "(arr. by J. N. MacConcohie), and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an flédich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an flédich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an flédich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an flédich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an flédich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an flédich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an fledich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an fledich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an fledich" (Coisir a' and "Thogainn fonn air lorg an fledich") Mhoid). Prizes—1, £15, retention for one year of the Lovat and Tullibardine Trophy, and a Baton to the Choir Conductor; 2, £10; 3, £5. Choirs must consist of 50 per cent. Gaelic speakers, 1, Glasgow Gaelie Musical Association; 2, Oban Gaelic Choir.

Choral Singing of a Song in four part harmony, ixed Voices. The Songs prescribed are "Till, till, Mixed Voices. The Songs prescribed are "Till, till, oigh mo ruin" (Oban, 1920, Mod Music), and "An teid thu leam a righinn og " (Coisir a' Mhoid). Choirs entering this competition must not be composed of any of the members who have peased the Gaelic test for 50 per cent. Gaelic speakers in competition 56. Prizes—1, 55; 2, 23. 1, Perth Gaelic Choir; 2, equal, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, and Edinburgh Gaelic Choir:

Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey and Reel, on the Pianoforte. Competitors to submit names of three Marches, three Strathspeys and three Reels, from which the Judges will make a choice. Prizel, \$2; 2, 21; 3, 10s. This competition is confined strictly to amateurs. 1, Miss Cecily Ross, Edinburgh: 2, Miss Minnie K. Sinclair, Daviot; 3, Miss Annie

B. Kerr, Creagan.

Playing of a Gaclic Song Air, Strathspey and Reel on the Violin. Competiors to submit the names of three Song Airs, three Strathspeys and three Reels, from which the Judges will make a choice. Confined to amateurs. Prizes—1, 25; 2, 2, 1; 3, 10s. 1, Allan Macleod, Glasgow; 2, David MacAskill, Inverness; 3. Walter W. M. Ross, do.

FIRST PRIZE AT MOD, 1924.

For the following poem Mr. John M'Fadyen, Glasgow, was crowned as Bard for the present year.

AITEALAN O'N IAR.

"Co bhitheadh 'na an-diadhair 'Se dearcadh 'san iarmailt 'san oidhch?"

Moch 'sa mhaduinn anns an t-sultuinn Mhaoim an trusadh troimh na cluain:

Mhaoim an trusadh troimh na cluain So la bliadhnail thig gu daoine:

A thearbadh chaorach o na h-uain;

Glaodh, fead-ghlaic is fathunn chon;
Thilg mac-tall' air ais am fuaim;
'S o chiadan mèal an aon seirm daonnan:

"Na tugaibh mo ghaoilean bhuam."

O mhoch gu anmoch am measg meanbh-chruidh
D'an sabh sinn saorbh mu'n d'thàinig arleab t

D'an robh sinn searbh mu'n d'thàinig crìoch; Oir cha bu ghann an cunntas cheann

A chaidh troimh làimh 's a chur a sìos; Ach nuair a rinn am feasgar ciaradh

Bha mise air an lianaig mhìn, Gun neach am chòir gu gaol no fuath

Ach na h-uain, mo chù 's mi fhìn.

Bha neul na h-oidhch' air gabhail seilbh,

S' gach cruth 'na dheilbh a' caochladh snuadh;

Bha làr a' ghlinne 'n duibhre trom,

Is rìoghaich tosd air fonn 's air cuan ; Ach corra mhèal o chùl nan cruach— Bu tiamhaidh 'm fuaim 's e fuaight' ri

pràmh— Tha 'n cridhe màthreachail mar is dùth,

Tha 'n cridhe mathreachail mar is duth,
Ged 's ann an com na brùid tha 'thàmh.
'Nan tromachadal gach gnè is nì.

Is sàmhchair fillte mu na bh' ann ; Ach shaoil mi, chreid mi, uair no dhà

Gu'n robh dàin an gà nan allt:
Toirmean air nach greimich cluas,
Ruagalaich gun bhuaidh gun rath:

Ach bheus an luinneag luaidh a' ghaoil, Is anns an aoir bha gaoir a' chath.

'Se sìothchaint banaltrum na smuain Théid air ghluas' a ruag a chéil,

Mar sheilleanan o bhlàth gu blàth Tha fosgladh ann am blàths na gréin.

Theid iad na's àirde na na neòil Ged a bhios an còmhradh balbh;

Ach, mar an calman mach o 'n àire,
A' tighinn air ais do 'n àit o'n d' fhalbh.

An t-aigeann sleuchdt' ri speuran àrd

'Na sgàthan aig na th' os a chionn;

Is dealbh nan reul a réir an gnàth A' deàrrsadh anns an t-sàile chùin.

Ged 's farsuing cuan, gu 'n ruigear tràigh; Ged's domhain e, gu'm faightear grunnd;

Ach liath-ghorm bhrat a' chruinne ché, Có chuir an céill a chrìoch no thùs,

Tha 'n iarmailt lasta saor o shion, 'S na h-àirdean strìochdt' do shìth nan

Cha chluinnear oiteag air a' bheinn,

No mu'n choill na ghluaiseadh freumh. Dh' iarr an t-Eabhrach Dia 'san doinionn;

Cha b'ann 'san doinionn a bha Dia; Ach thàinig chuige guth caol, ciùin;

'S ann anns a' ghuth chaol chiùin bha Dia.

Bha mi aonaranach air aonach Fhad 's bha 'n saoghal ann an suain ;

Guth o bheò cha robh ri chluinntinn Dlùth do làimh no fada bhuam.

Ma dh' ainmich mi mo chù cha 'n fhios domh, Oir bha mi tiotamh ann an sgàth :

Ach thàinig e gu m' ghlùn a' midlaran

'S le theangaidh dh' imlich e mo làmh. Mi biorachadh mo chluais, oir shaoil mi

Conaltradh dhaoin' bhi air an loch; Bha na reultan féin a' fanadh:

Sanas teachd na maidne moich; Ach thubhairt smuain—b' ann car tàireil—

"Ciod è an sgàth a thàinig ort? Cha robh na h-iasgairean 'nan tàmh;

Tha fuaim ran ràmh a' tighinn gu port." Cha ghlacar naoisg 'nan cadal maidne;

Chuir sgaoth dhiubh farum measg nan ian; Crodh seasg ag éiridh air an t-sliabh,

'S a crathadh liath dhealt far am bian; A' dùblachadh tha guth nam beò;

Ag ùrachadh tha 'n deò gu beachd; Is bàrr gach bioda 'g inns' le aoibhneas

Is bàrr gach bioda 'g inns' le aoibhneas Gu'm bheil rìgh na soills' air teachd,

Chunnaic mi griogalach a' chàthair, Is a' ghrian an àrd na speur;

Chunnaic mi 'n ùr-long air an t-sàl,
'S an t-uisge 'na sgàthan d' a bréid,

Chunnaic mi ghealach bhàn 'na neart, Is còmhdach geal air gach beinn,

Ach b'e crùnadh mo sheallaidh-sa riamh Na dhearc mi 'san iarmailt 'san oidhch'.

THE CELTIC CONGRESS IN BRITTANY.

6тн то 14тн Ѕертемвек, 1924.

By Miss Augusta Lamont, B.Sc., of Knockdow.

The Pan-Celtic Congress, which was inagurated a few years ago, has held its more recent meetings at Neath, in Wales, at Edinburgh, and in the Isle of Man; and if its future meetings are as successful as the one that is just past, it bids fair to become an important instrument in stimulating interest in Celtic studies, in strenthening devotion to Celtic atudies, in promoting friendly intercourse between members of the various peoples of Celtic language and ancestry.

The place of meeting of the recent Congress was well chosen in Quimper, the picturesque capital of the department of Finistere, and an important centre of Breton life. The old town with its historic associations, its art-galleries, and its well-equipped modern halls, was in itself an attraction to the overseas Celts who attended the Congress, and long will they remember the warm welcome accorded to them there, and the crowded hours of interest and pleasure provided by the kindly hospitality and excellent organisation of their Breton kindred.

Bretons of differing shades of political opinion, and from many parts of France outside the boundaries of Brittany-for there are large Breton colonies in Paris, Bordeaux and Toulouse-were drawn together by their common aims and ideals. Stirred by the same spirit which finds its expression in the cultivation of the national language, in the maintenance of time-honoured traditions and customs, and in the furtherance of national ideals and aspirations, these patriotic Bretons merged their differences in order to support the cause which they all hold dear, and to extend the hand of fellowship to their brother Celts from abroad. Would that more Celts from overseas had been present to derive fresh inspiration from Breton sympathy, as well as fresh encouragement from a brief glimpse at the brave spirit in which the Bretons meet their special difficulties and strive after our common Celtic ideals!

Of the overseas Celtic countries, Wales sent the largest contingent of representatives, including Mr. E. T. John (President), and Mr. Rhys Phillips (Secretary of the Congress). Among other delegates were:—Miss O'Farrelly, Ireland; Miss Louisa Farquharson, Scotland; Miss Mona Douglas, 181e of Man; and Mr. Vance, Cornwall. Among the many prominent Breton supporters of the Congress, grateful mention must at least be made of:—Mons. Pierre Mocaër, to whose able organisation the success of the Congress was largely due; Mons. Le Hars, Senator of Finistere, and Maire (Provost) of Quimper; the old and much respected Marquis d'Estourbeillon, a life-long supporter of the Breton cause; Mons. Henriot, of the Quimper Pottery Works, a large employer of labour; and last, but not least, Mons. Jaffrennou, hard and orator, known as "Taldir," the "Steel-fronted," a popular hero of the first rank. Brittany is indeed fortunate in her leaders, for while her banner is held aloft by such as these, the Celtic cause will not fail.

It is difficult in a short space to epitomise the many events and impressions that quickly succeed one another during the eight days of the Congress. The programme of lectures on history, language and art was varied and interesting. Breton art and industry were exhibited, and the Breton language was heard. not only in the streets and in the country-side. but on the platform, in the concert hall, and on the stage as well as under the arches of Quimper's beautiful Cathedral. The costumes. which are so distinctive of Breton nationality, could be seen in Quimper and its neighbourhood, not only as worn every day, but in their gala form worn on Sundays and at the processions which took place during the Congress. Nor did the programme omit excursions into the country to enable members of the Congress to see something of the picturesque land of Brittany itself-an undulating land where fruitful orchards alterante with barren moorlands, where purple heather (the Breton national emblem) and golden whins grow intermixed, a land of wild rocky coasts and remote fishing villages, of prehistoric standing stones and beautiful mediæval churches rich in hallowed memories and associations.

The overseas Celts whose privilege it was to be present at this Congress, have gained something more by their attendance at it than the interesting and pleasurable experience of a trip abroad. To them Brittany is no longer a mere name, but a living reality. They have obtained some insight, however slight, into her past history, her present trials, and her aims and aspirations for the future. Their sympathies have been widened and their hearts strenghtened, and the renemberance of their brief period of intercourse with their Breton kinsmen will be ever treasured as a precious possession.

Gaels of Scotland who would strengthen the language movement should join the Pan-Celtic Congress and attend its next meeting, which is to take place in Dublin next summer. Intending members should apply to Mr. D. Rhys Phillips, Secretary of the Celtic Congress, 15 Chaddesley Terrace, Swansea, Wales.

DELEGATE'S ADDRESS AT CELTIC CONGRESS.

CONGRESS.

By Miss Louisa L. Farquharson of Invercauld.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
At the wish of our respected President,
Mr. John, I come before you this afternoon to
tell you something of the history of our ancient

Kingdom of Scotland. During my attendance at your Congress, I have heard often that Brittany in olden times had an existence quite distinct from that of France. It is the same with Scotland and England. Moreover, it is Scotland that in the 17th Century gave a king to England, and when in the next century a German dynasty was imposed on the four kingdoms, it was Scotland that resisted for 50 years the rule of the Hanoverian kings. Therefore, the sympathy of us all. Scottish Gaels, goes out to you in these records of your ancient Breton history. But, as in all matters Celtic, our history reaches into the dim past, and in the early years of our annals, the name Scotland did not exist. When the Romans came to our Britain, they soon tried to penetrate to the north of the Islands. Whom and what did they find ?

A country of high mountains, of thick forests and swift streams, a valiant peoplestrong to resist-whom they in their records name Caledonians. At last, tired of fighting them in vain, the Romans built a great wall and then another, to keep this formidable enemy from invading the rich southren lands. The remains of these walls are still to be seen stretching from east to west across all the north of England and the south of Scotland. Thus you will realise that the Caledonians, a Celtic people, were never vanquished, and that the proud Imperialists, who had conquered the passage of the Alps, never could force their way across the Grampians. In the following centuries the historians speak of Picts and Scots. I leave it to the philologists to decide who were the former. One may at any rate venture to say they were Celts. In the 6th Century, there came from Ireland, then called Scotia, other Celtic immigrants, who settled in the south-west of our land and gave to it the name of Ear-ghaidheal, or Gaels of the East-it being to the east of that greater Scotia, whose outline was dimly visible from its shores.

After many struggles between the older and newer peoples in the 9th Century, one Kenneth, became, it is said, king of both Picts and Scots, and from that moment dates the Celtic Kingdom of Scotland. But it must not be forgotten that in our Gaelic language we speak of Alba, not Scotland, and that we Gaels are Albannaich, not Scottish.

Up to the middle of the 11th Century
Alba was a kingdom more or less Celtic—with
kings, maormors, and chiefs all speaking
Gaelic—and warring against the south.
Little by little after that date, the Normans
crept north, mixing by marriage, as was their
wont everywhere, with the governing classes,
and slowly put out the language from the
Council Chambers and from the fertile and
seaward parts of the country, until in the
14th Century the Parliament held at Ardchattan
under Robert Bruce was the last where was
heard the noble language of the faithful
clansmen

The south of what was now called Scotland was peopled then by mixed races—yet largely Celtic, and it was behind the line of mountains in the deep valleys, in lonely islands, that was now to be found the true Gaels and the Gaelic tongue.

This line of high mountains stretches across country from the south-west to about 20 miles from the great city of Glasgow, from whose busy quays one can always define the misty heads of the outposts of the Highlands, and it stretches to the north-east corner of Scotland, near to Inverness, capital of the Gaidhealtachd. The line passes to the north-west of Edinburgh, Stirling and Perth, and this will show you why all richer and more fertile lands are outside the wild heritage of the Celts.

This will explain to you Bretons why in these days the old language is spoken by but few of my countrymen.

Always life is hard among the mountains of the north, the short summer hardly allows the grain to ripen, the great storms prevent the fisher-folk gleaning the harvest of the sea (fish and kelp). The youth of the land hasten to the cities and the Colonies. All over the world you will find the exile Gaels—respected, doing well, but suffering from that home sickness, so well known to you Bretons.

I have sketched for you, rapidly, the past, and have done so in French that you might understand, but what can I tell you of the future? Who knows? That remains for the young people to decide—and that is why always our great organisation, An Comunn

Gaidhealaich thinks of them and of the schools.

After a long struggle the teaching of Gaelic has been introduced into the schools, and in this we are more fortunate than you Bretons, Where Gaelic is the mother-tongue of the scholars, instruction is allowed to be given in part in that language. The scholars of older years are allowed to take Gaelic as a subject in their examinations at College—and Chairs of Celtic and lecturers have been introduced at the Universities.

The National Committee for the training of teachers is at last occupying itself with the instruction in Gaelic of teachers of both grades. At Edinburgh, free entry to the Celtic class will in the near future be given to Gaelic students, and Aberdeen University is also

favourable to the language.

To attain these ends the Comunn and other Gaelic, Highland and Celtic organisations have striven, and Members of Parliament, Peers and Ministers have lent their aid. Now its for the fathers and mothers and the young men and women to help in the cause. If in the future the language is to die, and I will not believe it possible, yet the remembrance of it will ever live in our lovely songs, in the ancient poems—much read and studied—and in the music of the pipes, to which more and more interest themselves.

An Comunn has enormously developed the musical side of Gaelic life. First by means of the great Annual Môd, in competition, and now by secondary local Môds for the juveniles. The great Môd will be held at Perth at the end of this month, and if any of your number can come to it, you will be warmly welcomed.

At Inverness last year, in the singing competitions, there were 374 entries, and in the choir section, 47 (adult and junior). Every year the number of choirs increases. Everywhere in the country choirs for the children are formed, and it is this that makes us hope we are struggling with some success against the invading English-though bi-lingual we must all be-in the midst of our Sassanach friends. Outside An Comunn there are many societies that concern themselves with history and poetry, with the music of the piob mhòr, with the Highland dress and dance. That is a heritage which will never be lost. Am Fèile, the dress is as dear to us as your Brago Bràs to you. A' phiob mhòr enlivens our festivals as here your binion and bombas do: and even to the far Colonies and towns the interest in these is carried. And above all, we are proud of our country-

"Tir nam Beann, nam Gleann
'S nan Gaisgeach,"

We are proud of our language, "An t-seann teanga," and, above all, we are proud of those from whom we came. "Chuimhnich air na daoine bho'n tàinig thu," says one ancient proverb.

The Gael takes with him wherever he is that love of country which has made him unconquerable, and in the immortal words of the last hero of Brittany, "Le Petit Poilu du Faoiiet," he has learned that the country represents not only the land that gave him birth, but it represents also the traditions and the honour of a race to be respected.

"Il a appri que La Patrie répresent non seulement la terre ou il est né—mais qu'elle répresent encore les traditions et l'honneur

d'une race—a faire respectu."

LOUISA L. FARQUHARSON.

AFTER CULLODEN.

By Agnes W. Walker.

The last weeks of Prince Charlie's wanderings in the Highlands, and his escape to France.

Eventually the members of the little party began to think that a change of quarters might be expedient. Accordingly, on the 26th of August, they removed to a wood called Torvuilt, near Auchnacarry, the seat of Lochiel. Here a couple of days were passed, with nothing to disturb them in their retreat. But on the third day, one of the Prince's companions having gone out to reconnoitre, espied a number of redcoats marching in the direction of the wood. On catching sight of the soldiers, the Highlander's first thought, of course, was the safety of the Prince, for that the redcoats would enter the wood and make a search there was certain. Fortunately, they were still at some distance from it; but the Prince's follower, realising that the situation was one which demanded prompt action on his part, lost no time in returning to warn the Prince and the rest of the party of their danger. To get out of the wood unobserved by the soldiers was, they decided, the first thing to be done. Would they be able to accomplish this? Fortunately, they were. Moving as cautiously as they could, they managed to get out of the wood and to reach a spot where they could lie hidden till nightfall, when it would be safe for them to leave their hiding-place, and to set out in quest of other quarters. For it now behoved them to seek pastures new. No sooner, therefore,

had darkness fallen, than, one by one, they crept out of their place of concealment, and, with the Prince in their midst, set off on their journey. And a long and a weary one it was, for they never rested till they came, in the grey of the morning, to a high steep hill, called Mullantagart. Here, on the top of this hill. they remained all day without a morsel of food to satisfy their hunger. In the evening, however, a message came to them from Cameron of Clunes, who had left the Prince's party two days before, in order to transact some private business. The message was to the effect that he was in a certain place with provisions, and that he desired them to join him there. The place indicated lay at some distance from Mullantagart, and was only to be reached by difficult paths. Nevertheless, the Prince and his attendants, tired men though they were, and faint for want of food, delayed their departure not a moment. They were indeed, eager to be off. Night fell, and by the faint light of the stars they had to make their way amongst rocks and stumps of trees, which tore their clothes and scratched their limbs; but at length, utterly exhausted, they arrived at their destination. And here, to their great joy, they found Cameron of Clunes and one of his sons both actively engaged in preparing for them a substantial meal.

In this retreat two or three days were quietly passed. Then came the news that fewer troops were now stationed in the Great Glen, and that in consequence of this the passes were no longer so strictly guarded. This news raised the spirits and gladdened the hearts of all, and it was decided that an attempt to get into Badenoch should be forthwith made.

Of the journey thither little can be said, however, except that it was a long and a difficult one. On entering the district, the Prince was met by Mr. Macdonald of Tulloch-croam, a place on the side of Loch Laggan. From this gentleman the Prince received, we are told, some articles of clothing which he stood in great need. And it is also recorded that it was to the same gentleman that the Prince said he had come to know what a quarter of a peck of meal was, as he had once lived on that cuantity for nearly a week.

The first night in Badenoch was spent by the little company at Corineuir. This was a place which lay on the lower slopes of Ben Alder, that great mountain which has at its eastern base the waters of Loch Bricht. One day only was spent at Corineuir. Then the Prince and his devoted little band were conducted to Mellaneuir, a place which also lay on the slopes of Ben Alder. And glad the fugitives were to reach this spot. For it was here, at Mellaneuir, in a small hut that Lochiel was living. That the meeting between the Prince and the chief whose enthusiasm for the Stuart cause had led him to sacrifice so much was a most affectionate one it is scarcely necessary to say. They had not seen each other since the day of Culloden, and much had

happened in the interval.

But the little hut which had served to accommodate Lochiel and the two or three faithful retainers who were with him, was found to be insufficient for the needs of a larger party; and on the day following the Prince's arrival, a change of quarters was proposed. The place which was chosen lay two miles further into the recesses of Ben Alder. It was a sheiling called Uiskchilra; and it cannot have been a very pleasant place of abode, for we are told that it was "superlatively bad and smoky." In this smoky sheiling, however, a few days were spent, then the whole party removed to new and more comfortable quarters. This was the place known as the Cage. It was situated, we are informed, in the face of a very high and rugged mountain called Lettermilichk. But this mountain, though bearing that name, was, as is well known, but a part of Ben Alder. The Cage, which was so named from its shape, was a somewhat substantial structure, formed of the trunks of trees, and was built in a small thick wood in the face of the mountain. It was here, then, in this romantic habitation, that the Prince and his gallant little company now took up their abode.

It was now September. The days were growing shorter and colder: and the prospect of having to spend the winter in the Highlands cannot have been to the Prince a pleasant one. Happily, however, he was not to be called upon to do this. Desperate as his situation was, he still cherished the hope of being able to make his escape from Scotland and to reach France in safety. And this hope, as events proved, was not to be disappointed. On the morning of the 13th of September, the news was brought to him that two French vessels, L'Hereux and La Princesse de Couti, under the command of Colonel Warren, had arrived at Loch-nan-Uamh, and were waiting there to convey him to France. The news' as may well be imagined, caused the greatest excitement and joy in the Cage. Everyone there was indeed jubilant, and preparations for departure were at once begun.

These took but little time, however; then, with hearts beating high with hope, the travellers set out on the long and toilsome and dangerous

journey to Loch-nau-Uamh, for it lay many miles from Badenoch.

Their first halting-place was the smoky sheiling at Uiskchilra. Here, in their old quarters, they rested till late in the afternoon. then resumed their journey. They travelled all night, and, as the first streaks of dawn were stealing across the sky, came to Corvov. Here they remained all day. Then, in the evening, as dusk was falling, they set out again, travelling as far as Uisknifichit, a place which is on the borders of Glenray. Before daylight, on the morning of the following day, the 15th, Glenroy itself had been crossed. In the vicinity of the glen the travellers rested for an hour or two, then pushed on again. But every step which they took was attended with danger, for at any moment a body of Hanoverian troops might have been encountered. Nothing untoward happened, however. The Prince and his companions, never pausing for a moment to rest their weary limbs, pressed onward, and, about an hour after sunset, reached the river Lochy. It was a lovely night. The moon was shining, and scarcely a breath of air was stirring. At the waterside there was some delay, however, for a boat had to be procured. At length one was found, but, unfortunately, it was somewhat old and leaky. Nevertheless, it was launched; and despite its frail condition, it proved of the utmost service to the members of the little party. For all were conveyed without mishap across the rippling, moonlit waters. Worn out with their exertions, the fugitives rested for a time by the side of the river, then set out for their next halting-place, which was reached at sunrise. This was Auchnacarry, the seat of Lochiel. The place was now, however, but a mere ruin, it having been burned by order of the Duke of Cumberland. But what shelter the place afforded the travellers were glad to avail themselves of; and here at Auchnacarry, the day was spent. This was the 16th of the month. Then in the evening, as dusk was beginning to fall, preparations for resuming the journey were made; and shortly thereafter the Prince and those with him again set forth, This destination was Glencamger, a place at the head of Loch Arkaig, and this the fugitives reached at sunrise the next morning. At Glencamger they remained till the 18th, when they left it to begin the last stage of their long and perilous journey. For on the 19th they arrived at Loch-nan-Uamh, where the ships lay. The Prince went on board L'Hereux. But it was not till the following day, the 20th, that the ships set sail, bearing with them not only the Prince himself, but many of those who were

devotedly attached to his cause, among whom were the chivalrous Lochiel and Macdonald of Lochgary.

Thus ended the '45. Fourteen months before its young hero had first set foot in Scotland, the Kingdom of his fathers, full of high hopes. These hopes were gone; and he was now leaving the land over which he had thought he might one day reign, never to see it again. But that he was able to leave it, able to sail away to France and safety, was owing, it cannot be forgotten, to the lovalty of those who, after Culloden had been fought and lost, had him in their keeping, and whom no bribe could tempt to be unfaithful. There was Donald Macleod of Gaultergill, in Skye, who has been called, and well called, the "Scots Palinums;" there was that noble and courageous lady, Flora Macdonald; there were the eight men of Glenmoriston, already mentioned; there was Edward Burke, "Honest Ned Burke," as he has been called, who, a native of North Uist, earned his living in Edinburgh as a carrier of sedan-chairs; there was Lochiel, there was Macdonald of Lochgarry, Macdonald of Glenaladale, and there was Macpherson of Cluny. There were these, and there was many another besides, all of whom did their part in the execution of a difficult task. For the search for the Prince cannot be said to have been a simple affair. It was something which demanded constant vigilance on the part of the pursued, for it was conducted with a vigour as relentless as it was unremitting. For a period of five months it went on. But it was to no purpose, for, in the words of the old song-

"There was nane that wad betray."

THE GRAND CONCERT.

The Great Annual Concert held in the City Hall on Friday marked the close of the Mod. The Duke of Atholl, who presided, presented the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield and Gold Medals.

In the course of an eloquent address His Grace remarked that Highlanders should revel in their music and in their old-world stories, for there were no better folk-songs or folk-lore in the world—cheerful and sad, but always innocent and never vulgar. Their dances were the dances of the men of the hills—active and balanced, sometimes restrained, often wild, but always good, clean dancing. But through all their traditions there were tales of war and

bloodshed, and of secrifice and endurance, tales that must be remembered so that future generations might know what the fire was that Scotland went through before it was welded into a nation. Scotland could only remain what she was if those who lived to-day and those who came after were ready, if necessity arose, to endure just as their forefathers had endured. As a nation they had always been a religious nation, and a good providence had seen them through their bad times, and it would be an ill require if as a nation they were to think they were safe, and discard the teachings and forget what they ought to remember.

The old language of their country was one of the most beautiful that the world had ever heard. He sometimes felt that in the great struggle of modern existence, of commerce, and of trade it was like a small but good vessel buffeted and tossed about by the waves. But that was no reason why they should deliberately scuttle the ship and give up the struggle, and not do their best to keep her afloat.

Their language was full of poetry, and told them tales of a past in a way that no other language could tell. Long might it be spoken in the Highlands, and long might it be used for good purposes. It was too good to be prostituted to wrong purposes; too beautiful to be lost to the world that was shorn of some that God intended it to be. If it were not preserved now it would be very little use for anybody to try to preserve it or resuscitate later on.

The ceremony of crowning the Bard with a wreath created great enthusiasm. Mr. John MacFadyen, Corkerhill, Cardonald, as the Mod bard, was the recipient of this honour, and the ceremony was performed by Mr. Angus Robertson, president of An Comunn. Speaking in Gaelic, Mr. Robertson referred to the Bardic Order and all that it connected.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of An Comun Gaidhealach was held in the Lesser City Hall, Perth, on Saturday, 4th October. There was a large attendance of members. Mr. Angus Robertson, President, and was supported on the platform by Rev. William MacPhail, Kilbrandon, Vice-President, and Past Presidents Rev. G. W. Mackay, M.A., Killin, and Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow.

The minute of last annual meeting was held as read, and thereafter the result of the election was announced as follows:— President, Mr. Angus Robertson, and Vice-President, Mrs. W. J. Watson, unanimously re-elected.

Executive Council—The Rev. Lauchlan Mac-Lean Watt, D.D.; Rev. Neil Ross, B.D.; Miss Campbell of Inverneill; Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S.; Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod, F.S.A. (Scot.); Sir Norman Lamont of Knockdow, Rev. Alex. MacKinnon, Ph.D.; Mr. John R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Mrs. MacDonald of Dunach; ex-Provost Hugh MacCowan, Oban; Mr. J. J. Currie, Cuilial.

NEXT YEAR'S MOD.

The Secretary read communications from the Greenock Highland Society and the Oban

Branch of An Comunn.

Mr. John MacLellan spoke in support of the invitation from Greenock, and was seconded by Mr. Angus MacAulay, Greenock. Mr. T. D. MacDonald, President of the Oban Branch, spoke in favour of Oban, and Rev. Hector Cameron, Oban, seconded. On a vote being taken 34 voted for Greenock and 24 for Oban.

The Rev. William Macphail spoke to the following motion, of which notice had been

given :-That Rules 23, 24 and 25 in the print of Constitution and Rules of 30th September, 1911, be amended to read as follows: (a) "There shall be two stated meetings of the Executive Council in each year. The first of these to be called 'The Preliminary Meeting,' shall be held at the place of and immediately following the Annual Meeting. The other to be called 'The Extraordinary Meeting,' shall be held at such time as the Executive Council may determine, being not less than two months nor more than three months prior to the date of the Annual Meeting. All meetings of the Executive Council other than the Preliminary and Special Meetings shall be held in rotation at Inverness, Stirling, Edinburgh, Perth, Glasgow and Oban." (b) "That the last sentence of Rule 26, as in the print of 1911 be restored, viz.—' These Special Meetings shall be held at such times and places as shall be stated in the resolutions or when called on requisition, fixed by the Advisory Committee.' "

The Rev. Hector Cameron seconded.
After some discussion, the Rev. W. MacPhail's
motion was unanimously adopted, excepting the
last sentence of Clause (a), which was held over
pending the decision on the Rev. G. W. MacKay's motion which was as follows:—"That
all meetings of the Executive Council, other
than the Preliminary Meeting and the Extra-

ordinary Meeting shall be held alternately in Perth and Glasgow."

The Rev. Neil Ross seconded the Rev. Mr. Mackay's motion.

The Rev. W. MacPhail moved the previous question (last sentence of Clause (a) as above). The voting gave 27 for Rev. G. W. Mackay's motion, and 26 for Rev. William Macphail's, but as a two-third majority is necessary to carry any alteration of the Constitution, the Rev. Mr. Macphail's motion became the finding of the meeting.

The Rev. Hector Cameron moved the following motion:—"That the Annual Meeting be held on some convenient day during the Mod week." Mr. Malcolm MacLeod seconded.

The unsuitability of Saturday for the holding of the Annual Meeting was generally conceded but the finding of time during any of the other days was a question upon which a general agreement could not be reached.

Mr. John A. Nicolson, Glasgow, moved the previous question, and the voting resulted— 26 for the motion and 18 for the previous question. Failing a two-thirds majority, the motion dropped.

The President, on behalf of An Comunn, thanked the Perth local Mod Committee for the excellent arrangements they had made for the Mod, which had proved so highly successful. Mr. Donald Sutherland, Convener, and Mr. James Craigie, Treasurer, replied. Mr. Neil MacLean, B.Sc., was also thanked for arranging to have the Grand Concert programme broadcast from the Aberdeen Station of the B.B. Coy., of which he is Director. The President thanked the permanent officials for their work during the year.

A communication was read from the Rev.

N. Munro, M.A., regretting his inability
to continue the convenership of the Mod and
Music Committee owing to ill-health, and twas resolved that an expression of appreciation and sincere regret be recorded in
the minutes. The Chairman also drew
attention to the cause of the absence of Mrs.
Burnley Campbell of Ormidale owing to an
accident. The meeting gave expression to its
sympathy and the hope that both would soon
be restored to health.

Suitable acknowledgment was made of Mrs. Stewart's (Simla) handsome donation of £500 towards prizes in perpetuity for essays on Bible characters by juniors. Reference was also made to the Dr. Quentin MacLennan bequest. A remit from the Publication and Propaganda Committee that a new form of membership be instituted to be called "Associated Members," and that the annual subscription be 2/6 was unanimously agreed to, it being understood that such members would have no power to vote. It is hoped that this provision will appeal to friends abroad who could not possibly partake of the privileges of Ordinary Members.

Mr. Alex. MacRae, Dundee, raised the question of the 50% standard of Gaelic speakers in choirs competing for the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield. Questions being satisfactorily answered, Mr. MacRae thanked the President for his courtesy and elucidation of the conditions,

The President was heartily thanked for presiding.

The preliminary meeting of the Executive Council followed immediately, and appointed Standing Committees for the ensuing year.

The Executive Council will meet at Inverness, on Friday, 12th December, at 8 o'clock p.m.

STANDING COMMITTEES, 1924-25.

Finance Committee—Mr. Alex. Fraser (convency) Mrs. Christison, Messes. T. G. Bannerman, George A. Ferguson, Charles Campbell, Duncan MacLeod, Jain MacLeod, Malcolm MacLeod, John MacTaggart, Andrew Stewart, George I. Campbell, David MacLennan, and the President (ex officio).

Education Committee—Mrs. W. J. Watson (convener), Mr. Malcolm MacLeod (vice-convener) Dr. George Calder, Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, Dr. MacLean Watt, Rev. G. W. MacKay, Dr. Alex. MacKinnon, Mr. Donald MacLean, Rev. Wm. MacPhail, Rev. Neil Ross, Mr. Colin Sinclair, Captain George I. Campbell, and the President (ex officio).

Publication Committee—Mr. Malcolm MacLeod (convener), Dr. George Calder, Mr. John R. Bannerman, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, Rev. G. W. MacKay, Mr. Donald MacLean, Sir Norman Lamont, Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod, Rev. T. S. MacPherson, Mr. Peter MacDougall, Mr. Colin Sinclair, Mrs. W. J. Watson, the President (ex. officio) and the Editor (ex. officio).

Propaganda Committee—Rev. G. W. Mackay (convener), Rev. Neil Ross, Rev. Hector Cameron, Captain George I. Campbell, Miss J. M. B. Currie, Lady Helen Tod, Mr. Hugh MacCowan, Mr. Duncan MacLeod, Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod, Rev. T. S. MacPherson, Mrs. Christison, Mr. T. G. Bannerman, the President (ex officio). Art and Industry Committee—Miss Campbell viewers (1988). The versell (convener), Mrs. Stewart (Fasnacloich), Mr. Colin Sinclair, Mr. John Bartholomew, Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, Mrs. MacDonald of Dunach, Mrs. Christison, Mrs. Colquhoun, Miss Nancy MacLean, Mr. Duncan MacLeod, Lady Margaret MacRae, Mrs. W. J. Watson, the President (ex. officio).

Mod and Music Committee—Mr. John R. Bannerman (convener), Rev. T. S. MacPherson, Dr. George Calder, Rev. Hector Cameron, Mrs. Christison, Mrs. Colquhoun, Mr. Alexander Fraser, Mr. Peter MacIntyre, Rev. G. W. MacKay, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Rev. Wm. MacPhail, Rev. Neil Ross, the President

(ex officio).

LEWIS AND HARRIS PROVINCIAL MOD.

On Wednesday, 24th September, 1924, the first Provincial Mod was held at Stornoway. The day dawned grey and showery, but as it advanced blinks of sunshine made the movements of competitors and others more pleasant.

The Oral competitions commenced in the Drill Hall at 10.30 a.m. There were thirty-seven entries for six events. Reading with expression claimed the larger number of entries, the Recitation, "An Sruthan," being a good second. All the children spoke Gaelic fluently and many showed an amount of knowledge of the written language which can only be attributed to careful teaching in the schools represented. The children invariably spoke and read in a low monotone, which marred what would have been otherwise fine performances.

Both performers in the Acted Dialogue were splendid. Hector MacIvor, who had the heavier part, spoke perfect Gaelic, and he has dramatic powers of a high order. This class of Oral competition should be more widely developed. No other class can give the performer a better understanding of apt phrase-ology, correct diction and the art of clear articulation and modulation.

Mr. Donald MacIver, Bayble, was the adjudicator in the Oral section, and his examination of the competitors was thorough, yet kindly and sympathetic.

The afternoon session commenced at 2 o'clock with Solo competitions, and before many competitors had sung the hall was well filled with an audience which showed their appreciation of the children's efforts by warm applause. There were nineteen entries for six solo competitions, and all gave praiseworthy performances for their first appearance on a public platform. With a few notable exceptions, all the children sang from the book. This practice should be discouraged. No one under such circumstances can sing with that abandonment which at once gives the listener the feeling that the performer has entered into the spirit of the song, and is delivering the message as the poet intended. There was one outstanding singer, Iain M. Montgomery, and his effort deserves special mention. He sang a traditional version of "A Mhairead Og with splendid effect, and no one who heard him can readily forget his wonderful rendering of the lines-

"O Righ nan dùl cum rium mo chiall, Cha robh mi riamh 's a chunnart so."

This song is given complete in Sinclair's "Oranaiche," p. 522, and Iain Montgomery's version should be noted and preserved.

Choral singing reached a very high standard, and the lead given by the first prize choir from the Nicolson Institute should be an inspiration and encouragement to other school choirs. Unison singing brought out four choirs, and all did well, but perhaps the most natural of all was the singing of the children in the "Luadh" competition. This was something novel at Mods, and is likely to find an honourable place on Provincial Mod syllabuses in the future. The singing of the children was delightful; their Gaelic was so pure and refreshing, falling on one's hearing like the breeze from the native heather. In all there were eleven choral entries.

A grand concert was held in the evening in the same Hall. Mr. James Thomson, M. Bayble, the crowned Bard, presided, and, bis short Gaelic address made a deep impression on his hearers. The importance of the occasion was expressed in dignified and idiomatic Gaelic. It was a privilege to listen to the Bard. The Rev. G. W. MacKay, M.A., Convener of the Propaganda Committee, was present, and addressed the large gathering in Gaelic and English. The concert was most enjoyable, and one came away with a feeling of satisfaction, a conviction that Stornoway and Lewis generally are now awakened and into the heart of the movement.

Mrs. MacLeod, the energetic local Secretary, and her committee deserve the highest praise for their work in connection with their first Mod.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH

HIGHT AND DISTRICT BUND

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Greenock Highland Society	358	14	- 1
George Robertson, Esq., New Zealand	5	0	0
Mrs. Janet Blaikie, Invercargill	2	0	0

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PERTH MOD FUNI).			_
Previously acknowledged		£373	11	6
Gaelic Society of London		10	0	0
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Gaelic Society of Glasgow		5	0	0
Mrs. MacNaughton, Glendarnel		5	0	0
Glasgow Skye Association		3	3	0
Glasgow Inverness-shire Association		3	3	0
Glasgow Tiree Association		3	0	0
Mrs. M. E. M. Stockwell, Strathtay		3	5	0
John R. Bannerman, Esq., Glasgow		1	1	0
Donald Graham, Esq., Inverness			0	0
Andrew H. MacDonald, Esq., Granton				
on-Spey		1		0
A. Stewart Robertson, Esq., Aberfeldy		0	10	0
R. MacErlich, Esq., Edinburgh				0
Malcolm MacCallum, Esq., Aberfoyle				0
Miss MacDougall of Lunga				0
Neil S. Campbell, Esq., Rutherglen	٠.			0
Rev. A. M. MacFarlane, Lochend		0	2	6
Sums received at Perth-				
SIXTH LIST.				
Killin Branch of An Comunn		£10	0	0
John M'Lean, Esq., Perth		2	0	0
Sheriff Boswell, Perth		1	1	0
Miss Stewart, Perth		1	1	0
Alexander Thomson, Esq., Perth		1	1	0
George Christison, Esq., Glasgow		1	1	0
Mrs. M'Diarmid, Finart, Kinloch Ranno	ch,			
—Proceeds of Entertainment		1	0	0
Gilbert Walker, Esq., Perth			10	0
D. Scott Murray, Esq., Perth			10	0
Mrs. D. Scott Murray, Perth			10	0
Miss Voswell, Perth	٠.		10	0
Miss M'Innes, Perth	٠.		10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Vass, Perth A. G. Macdonald, Esq., Perth Miss B. A. Robertson, Stanley		0	10	0
A. G. Macdonald, Esq., Perth		0	10	0
Miss B. A. Robertson, Stanley		0	10	0
Alexander G. Morran, Esq., Inverness	٠.	0	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. Peters, Perth	٠.	0	5	0
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Leabhar XX.]

An t-Samhuin, 1924.

[Earrann 2

AN RATHAD UR.

Tha sinn am beachd gum bu mhaith an gnìomh a rinn an Ard Uachdaranachd mu dheireadh, an uair a dheònaich iad sia ceud mìle punnd Sasunnach a chum rathad ùr a dheanamh eadar Peairt is Inbhirnis. Tha iomadh bliadhna o bu chòir do 'n luchd riaghlaidh rathad freagarrach a chur troimh chridhe na Gàidhealtachd. Tha aobhar taingealachd gu bheil iad a' mosgladh a thaobh an dleasdanais anns a' chùis. Tha suas ri dà ghinealach o bha taobh tuath na h-Alba an eisimeil an rathaid-iarainn gu bhi a' giùlan gach nì, saor o'n bheagan a thig air muir. Faodar a ràdh gu bheil malairt na Gàidhealtachd an crochadh air toil na muinntir a tha a' riaghladh an rathaid-iarainn. Ach tha seirbheis an rathaid-iarainn air fàs car daor; agus tha coltas gu feumar an ùine ghoirid a bhi a' sireadh modh giùlain a bhios nas saoire gu mór na sud. Nam biodh slighe réidh a' ruith troimh theas-meadhon na Gàidhealtachd cha bhiodh cùram nach faighte feum do na h-innleachdan ùra : agus bhiodh faraidhean air an lughadachadh le comh-fharpuis nan comunngiùlain.

Is e an Ard Uachdaranachd mar an ceudna a shuidhich an rathad so air tùs. Far an ruigeadh rathad-mór an rìgh bha dùil gu ruigeadh lagh is còir is ceartas. Tha a nis dùth air da cheud bliadhna o chaidh an t-astar a thomhas agus an rathad a chrìochnachadh le General Wade. Faodaidh anns a' cheud dol a mach gur ann airson cos-cheum còmhnard do 'n arm Shasunnach a chosg Pàrlamaid an latha a leithid de shuim airgid ri rathad troimh an Ghàidhealtachd. Bu mhiann le luchd-riaghlaidh an latha sin gum bìodh na

fineachan air an cur fo chìs. Cha ghabhadh sin deanamh aig an am mur gearradh iad rathad ùr an taobh tuath na h-Alba, air an siùbhladh na saighdearan gu h-ealamh, agus air am faoidte goireasan an airm a ghiùlan gun dàil. Is ann air a' chuspair so a sgrìobh an t-Ollamh Niall Mac An Rothaich an leabhar iomraiteach ris an canar "An Rathad Ur." Bha e soilleir gum builicheadh an rathad ùr sochairean sònruichte air a' Ghàidhealtachd, a thaobh malairt is comh chomunn ris an taobh deas. Gidheadh tha an t-ùghdar a' nochdadh gu robh cuid ann aig an am ud a bha a' saoilsinn gur e bha anns an rathad ùr ach ni a bhiodh 'n a mhallachd do 'n dùthaich; oir bha e a' dol a chur crìoch air seann dòigh-beatha an t-sluaigh: agus leis a cheart mheadhon bha toil is cleachdaidhean choigreach gus a bhi air an sparradh air an Ghàidheal a dheòin no a dh'aindeoin.

Tha e follaiseach nach do chleachd General Wade saothair gus an rathad a dheanamh còmhnard, eadhon far am biodh sin comasach dha. Tha coltas gur e an t-astar goirid a b'fhearr leis ged a bhiodh slochd ri thearnadh . is bruthach ri dhìreadh. Is e an t-astar geàrr a bhiodh riatanach ri gairm chabhagaich an uair a dh' éireadh tuasaid no àr-a-mach am measg nam fineachan. Rùnaich Wade an t-slighe dhìreach eadhon thar chnocan is bhealaichean. Is lìonmhor drochaid air a deagh chàradh a thog e os cionn uillt is aibhnichean. Gun teagamh chan eil a bheag de leud anns na drochaidean ged a tha iad snasail daingean mar is trice. Agus tha cuid de na seann drochaidean nach fuiling gum biodh an snaidhm-stuadha 'g a chur mu sgaoil airson an rathad a leudachadh. Tha sin a' ciallachadh gu feumar a' chuid as motha de

na seann drochaidean a bhriseadh sìos ar neo stèidh an rathaid a tharruing air ceum eile. Dìùth air Druin Uschdair, far an deachaidh earann de 'n rathad a leagail as ùr, tha aon de na drochaidean aig Wade 'n a seasamh gu grinn bunaiteach, ged a tha i nis air a treigsinn. Tha allt bras a' ruith foipe gun stad; ach chan fhaicear cruetair 'n a gaoth, mur tig eun no caora a ghabhail fasgaidh o theas no a dhoininn.

Tha fios gu maith nach eil an seann rathad freagarrach airson feumalachd an làtha an diugh. Far am bheil an t-slighe cas bi e iomchuidh cladhan an rathaid a threòrachadh air grunnd ùr, a chum gum bi na bruthaichean air am fiaradh agus nas farusda a dhìreadh, co dhiùbh is ann le coisiche no le carbad. Anns na h-earannan as sine de 'n rathad chan eil ach mu dhà thraidh dheug de leud. Bidh naoi traidhean deug air leud anns an rathad ùr air fad. An uair a shuidhich Wade an stéidh chlach, is ann còmhnard a bha ùrlar na slighe. Ach feumar a nis an t-alt ùr aig Macadam a chleachdadh, le uchdan a thogail air meadhon an rathaid, mar chnaimh-droma, a chum gu ruith na h-uisgeachan an dara taobh. Agus cha deachaidh bhunchar chlach a leagail air tùs gu uidheaman an latha an diugh a ghiùlan. Tha sluic is tuill far an do dhingeadh an t-ùrlar sìos le cudthrom nan carbad ola de gach gnè is meud, a tha a' ruith an còmhnuidh air ais is air aghaidh. Mus téid gach meang dhiubh so an leigheas bi saothair mhór iomchuidh; agus bi cothrom cosnaidh ri fhaotainn aig miltean de luchd-oibreach a tha diamhain mar thoradh air cor na rìoghachd aig an am.

KNAPDALE KATE.

By CAMPBELL OF SADDELL, F.S.A. (Scot.), J.P.
The Captain of Saddell Castle.

"And what is new with you these days, Big Archie?" asked Knapdale Kate through the peat reek in her wee black house at Leppenmore, as the cheery packman from the world out-by entered.

"Well, well, Knapdale Kate, trade first and news after is aye the rule of the road," answered he with a knowing wink, as he opened his pack to the curious gaze of the woman, for these were the simple days of homely folks, but ever ready were their hands at the knife, when the blood was up, maybe over some change house splore, or words over a lassie.

"What are you asking for this fancy brattle?" asked the woman as she tested the quality of the silk between her thumb and finger.

Well, well," answered the packman, "Five golden guineas would no' buy it, I am telling you, for the real lace of France and silk is in it, but it is yours for the asking," said he, handing it to her, with a soft look in his eyes, that told his heart was racing below his doublet.

"It is myself must be thanking you," answered she woman, the blood rushing to her

"Not a bit, not a bit," answered the other, as he went on, the good ale the woman had given him warming his heart, and setting his tongue loose. "Some time it is now since I have been in these parts, and I am just wondering, just wondering, if the folks have been missing me."

"That they have," answered the woman, sharp and quick like, and the next moment she could have bitten her tongue out for shame, for the packman had read her thoughts.

"So," said he, "they have been missing me. I am real glad to be hearing that, for many a time when I was jaunting, the fool I was, through Knapdale, my thoughts were among the folks here."

"Knapdale?" said the woman, like one in a dream. "Dhé, it is the lucky man you have been to be there, for myself has the heart hunger for yon, with its lochs and long ebbs, be it when the spring is in it, or, oh righ! when the ducks are packing in on the mud flats, when the short winter evenings are in it, but, oh righ! an I no' the foolish one, letting my thoughts wander among the lochs and the ducks on the edge of the ebb, when I should be asking about the folks."

"Oh right the folks?" laughed the packman, as his hand closed on the womaa's, "just the same, just the same. Hot blooded, hot headed, dancing and wenching, and an odd chiel knifed among the heather over some lover's quarrel, or some like foolishness."

"Aye, aye, so the Knapdale folks are as they were, men and women of them ever quick with the knife," answered the woman, her eyes on the red peats, as the packman played with her hair, as she went on. "Oh righ, that has brought back to me from out the depths of time, a story I once heard when I was up Loch Sween way, of a Point of Knap woman, that knifed the lad who should have taken her to his own fireside, but she had words with him over a splore that he had with a lassie from Loch Killisport, and they told me his body was never found, and that the woman had the pains and burnings of hell about her heart wherever she went, for that ploy of hers was the making of a broken woman of her, and the world must still be her pillow if she is still to the fore."

"Aye, aye," answered the packman, as with a but with an oath he started up, a hard look coming quick into his eyes, for white the woman was about the lips. With a curse he flung his pack on his back, and without giving the woman another look, passed out of the doorway into the night and the world out-by, a man with his own thoughts on the great might-have-beens of Life.

AN GAOL NACH CRION.

Le Donnchadh MacNaomhain, Cillechomain, Ile.

An dara duais, Mòd, 1924,

Air feasgair ciùin sàmhach 'san Earrach
'S mi 'tearnadh bho bharraibh nam beann,
'N déidh oibre is sachair an latha
,Bha 'n treabhaich' a' tarruing bho'n chrann:
Gach faoileag air tréigsinn na claise
Air sgéith chum a' chladaich 'n an deann,
A' ghrian dol a sios cùl nam beannaibh
Gu h-òrbhuidh a' cromadh a ceann.

Air dhomh a bhi tearnadh a' bhealaich Bha m' inntinn a' faireachdainn trom. Bha laithean a dh' aom 'tighinn fainear dhomh Chaidh m' inntinn car tamuill air chall. Gu grad' s ann a dhuisgeadh a suas mi Nuair bhuail air mo chlualsean gu binn Ceòl milis cho tiamhaidh 's a chuala Tigh'nn ormsa bho uaigneas a' ghlinn.

'S ann bha mi mar 'n dùisginn a bruadair Ged dh'imich mi 'gluasad gu mall. Bha 'n ceòl 'tigh'nn na b' fhaisg' 's na bu chruaidhe.

Bha 'n osag 'g a sguabadh a nall. An sin thug mi sùil air mo tharsuinn, Agus, feuch! taobh na carraig' ud thall Bha seann duine aosda ro thlachdmhor 'S a chlàrsach aig glacta 'n a làimh.

'S ann shuidh mi 's gu'n cluinninn an t-òran. Air leam, seadh, gu'm b' eòl dhomh am fonn. Bha m' inntinn a' snàmh ann an sòlas. Bha m' anam ag òl leis gach pong. 'S ann sheinn e air gaol laithean 'òige, An gaol bha gun ghò is gun fhoill. 'S ged bha e nis lag agus aosda, Bha 'n gaol cheart cho ùr anns a' chom.

'Se sheinn e, A Mhàiri ! a Mhàiri ! Ged tha thu ag cnàmh anns an ùir Bha cuimhn' agam riamh air mo ghràdh dhuit, Mo ghaol dhuit 's na làithean a dh' aom. 'N am chrìdhe 's ann ghiulain mi t' oimhaigh. 'S ged tha mi nis liath agus aosd', Air cromadh le cudthrom nam bliadhna Cha tàinig meur chrìonaidh 's a' ghaol.

A nis ann an deireadh mo latha Uair eile air ais bheiream sùil Nuair bha thu gu ciùin ann mo ghlacaibh Gu tric anns an fheasgair ud chiùin, Nuair bha mi le cridhe na h-òige Is mi ga do phògadh gu dlùth. Ach Ol is nach tilleadh a rithist Na làithean sin 's nighean mo ghaoil.

Thug mise dhuit gealladh is bòidean Nach pòsainn té eile ach thu. Ach spionadh bho m' thaobhsa ro òg thu Is sgarradh gach dòchas air chùl. Ach chum mi rim 'bhòidean 's rim 'ghealladh 'S ged tha mi air géilleadh le h-aois Tha doimhneachd a' ghaoil sin 'na m' anam, Cha 'n fhàg mi e falaicht' san ùir.

Oir bheir mi an gaol so leam thairis Air bruachan is glasan na h-uaigh', Nuair dh' fhàgas mi 'n corp so 'n a laighe, Suas éiridh an t-anam le buaidh; 'S an glacaibh mo Shlanaigheir bheannaicht,' Mo neart is mo charraig bhith-bhuan, E' sgoltadh dhomh uisge na h-abhna Bho 'n chreid mi 'n a ghealladh 's 'n a dhuais,

Is chi mi an sin thu, a Mhàiri,

'Na 's àilne na chunnaic mi riamh,
S tu maille ri ainglean 'cur fàilt' orm
A' seinn air a' ghràdh tha gun chrìoch,
An gaol chaidh a thaomadh air thalamh
Tha saor do gach anam gun fhiach;
Ged is daor, ged is daor chaidh a cheannach
Le fuil agus aiseirigh Chrìosd.

Mar sin chuir e crìoch air an òran Bu ghlòrmhoir' a chuala mi riamh, Is phaisg e a chlàrsach gu h-òrdail Is shin e i dhomhas gu fial Is thuir e 'Sin agad is gabh i 'S na salaich i 'm facal no 'n gnìomh.'' Le sin dh' fhalbh e as as an t-sealladh Mar thannasg 's cha mhò ghabh mi fiamh.

PROPAGANDA TOUR IN LOCHABER.

A series of meetings had been arranged for me in Lochaber, and on Wednesday, 8th October, I set out for Nether Lochaber, travelling by train via Connel Ferry and Ballachulish.

I was met at Onich by Ex-Provest Macfarlane, Fort William, and Mr. Hugh M. Campbell, secretary of the Lochaber Branch. There was a large turnout, the Ex-Provost presiding. There were about 150 people present, and nearly all of them Gaelic speakers. The Chairman and myself made use of English only when it came to nominating office-bearers. It is a general failing throughout the Highlands that people will not get up and nominate or propose another for office. I am glad to notice that where branches have been in existence for some time and where meetings are mainly conducted in Gaelic this diffidence is got over.

The meeting at Onich was a warm and enthusiastic one, and there was no doubt about forming a good going branch. Miss MacCorquodale, who teaches Gaelic at St. Bride's School, was present, and accepted the secretaryship of the Branch. In a very short time she prepared candidates for the Juvenile Mod last May, and she had the satisfaction of seeing a number of prizes coming to Onich. Gaelic songs were sung, the children present raising the choruses lustily, and Mr. Cameron played several selections on the bagpipes. An Comunn is indebted to Mr. Hugh M. Campbell for arranging the Ceilidh and to Ex-Provost Macfarlane for conducting the meeting so splendidly.

We motored to Fort William after the meeting, calling on Mr. Victor Hodgson on the way. Mr. Hodgson is keenly interested in and mainly responsible for the West Highland Museum at Fort William, which our readers will be pleased to know is proving very successful. Parties of school children are periodically conducted through the Museum, and the various collections explained to them.

The Masonic Hall at Fort William was crowded at the Cellidh there on Thursday evening (9th). The Very Rev. Canon Mac-Master presided, and I took for my address, "Comunn nam Fior Ghaidheal" ("The Society of True Highlanders") originally formed at Inverlochy by Mac Minic Alasdair, Colonel MacDonald of Glengarry, on 15th June, 1815. Gaelic recitations and songs were nicely rendered by some of the children who gained prizes at the Juvenile Mod. To mark the success of the Lochaber Junior Choir at the Perth Mod, the conductor, Mr. Donald MacMillan, was presented with a gold and pearl searf pin. Canon MacMaster made the presentation, and Mr. MacMillan in a few words thanked the members of the Branch for their gift. The proceedings were entirely in Gaelic.

At the close of the Ceilidh I attended a meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Branch. Next year's local Mod was discussed, and I impressed upon the members the desirability of extending the influence of the Mod, and, if possible, to include a Senior Section. This would raise it to the status of a Provincial Mod, and, following the great success of the National Mod at Fort William, one can confidently say that Lochaber is equal to it.

On Friday afternoon I proceeded to Invergary, travelling by train via Spean Bridge, and arrived at Invergarry Hotel about 5 o'clock. I immediately called on Mr. Aitken, the headmaster, who was particularly helpful in making the meeting known. Though not a Gaelic speaker, Mr. Aitken is very sympathetic, and will be of immense help on the musical side.

The meeting was a very large one—about 200 being present—and it was very encouraging to have Colonel Ellice of Invergarry present and presiding over such a splendid gathering.

He was accompanied by Miss Ellice and Miss Cameron of Lochiel. Several of the gentleme present spoke in Gaelic, and a Branch was formed with acclamation. Several Gaelic songs were sung, the Chairman contributing "The tighinn fodham éirigh." Before the close of the meeting, Mr. John MacGillivray took the chair on Col. Ellice's departure, and conducted the proceedings in Gaelic. Colonel Ellice of Invergarry was appointed Hon. President; Mr. John MacGillivary, President, and Mrs. Peter Grant, Tomdoun, Secretary.

At the close of the meeting I conferred with the newly-appointed office-bearers and members of Committee, and arrangements were made to meet on 7th November and 5th December. I am greatly indebted to Miss Juliet Macdonald, Lochaber, for arranging this meeting at Invergarry for me. Owing to pressure of Mod work I could not undertake the work myself.

On Saturday I returned to Spean Bridge, and thence on to Roy Bridge, where I was the guest of Mrs. Ryan at "Ach-a-chà" over the week-end. A splendid Ceilidh was arranged at Roy Bridge by Mrs. Ryan. I estimated that over 100 adults were present—and all the school children. The programme was an excellent one, introducing one or two novel features, such as dancing to Puirt & Beul music. This was splendidly performed by eight children from Fort William led by Miss Macfarlane, teacher. Sgeulachdan, recitations and songs were contributed by local children and adults. The Rev. Father Donald Campbell, D.D., was present on the platform and gave an encouraging address. It was unanimously agreed to form a Branch, but the appointment of office-bearers was postponed until a later meeting.

I received a cordial invitation from the Rev. Canon MacDougall to visit him, and I had much pleasure in accepting. The venerable Canon is now in his eighty-first year, and his conversation is as bright and cheery as ever. He has ministered to the people of Roy Bridge for over forty years, and has witnessed many changes. Largely through his influence Gaelic has always been given an honoured place in the education of the young. It is taught in Roy Bridge School daily.

This is my first organised tour of the session, and it was a most successful one. I addressed four meetings in all, and in the aggregate about 700 people.

Lochaber, with its history, tradition and romance has an atmosphere all its own. Gaelic is still the predominant speech; the people are kind and generous, and nowhere can be found truer friends of the cause of Gaelic for which An Comunn stands.

NIALL.

CNOC NA H-ANALACH.

Le IAIN MACCORMAIG, Glaschu (A' Cheud duais aig Mod 1924.)

The cnocen been gorm an I-Chaluim-Chille ris an abrar Cnoc na h-Analach agus thainig an t-ainm air mar so.

O chionn ùine fhada, fhada an t-saoghail bha nighean òg a' siubhal nan cnoc 's nan glac an Staoineig, an ceann siar Eilein I, a' rùrach caora dhubh a dh'ionndrainn i as an treud.

Is e àite garbh dosgach a tha an Staoineig, gu sonraichte an taice a' chladaich far am bheil uiridhean oillteil is geodhachan domhain, sgorach.

Cha d' fhàg an nighean ceum gun rannsachadh agus dìreach an uair a bha i air bheul an rurach a thoirt suas chunnaic i ceòbhragach de thoit a' teachd á luidhear am measg nan creag. Chuir so ionghnadh oirre agus an t-àite cho iomallach.

Thearuinn i ris a' bhearradh os cionn na mara gus an do rainig i dorus seorsa uamha. Sheall i steach agus ciod e a chunnaic i ach bodachan beag glas, a mhuilichinn trusta, corc 'na laimh agus e gu saothrach a' feannadh na ceart chaora dhuibh a bha i féin a' ritrach.

Leis an uamhas a ghabh i thug i anns a' mhionaid a mach ris a' bhearradh. Ach an uair a rug sùil a' bhodaich oirre thug e daoithleum 'na déidh leis a' chuirc. A mach gu baile thug an nighean 'sa cridhe 'na beul le eagal. Bha i luath, lùthach, sgairteil, ach ged a bha, bha am bodach 'ga toirt a stigh uidh air n-uidh. A suas na cnocan 'sa sios na glacan lean an réis. Mu'n do rainig iad an t-ardan mu dheireadh eadar iad is am machair bha beir air bheir aig a' bhodach oirre. Thug i a mach mullach a' chnoic 's a h-anail 'na h-uchd. Ach ged a bha, fhuair i misneach agus athnuadhachadh neirt anns an t-suidheachadh chunnartach anns an robh i an àite cho uaigneach, oir gu h-iosal foidhpe bha am machair far an robh spréidh ag ionaltradh agus, rud a b'fhearr a chur misnich innte, far an robh na fir is na mnathan ri obair an Earraich.

An uair a fhuair i an astar glaodhaich ghlaoidh is smèid. 1 Thog na fir is na mnathan an cinn agus an uair a chunnaic iad am bodachan as dèidh na h-ighinne agus a' ghrian a' gliostradh air a' chuirc, a mach thug iad chuige. An uair a chunnaic am bodachan an cunnart thill e gu grad. Shin an nigheanag i féin air tulaich ghuirm agus an sin thilg i an anail.

An uair a rainig na fir 's na mnathan an cnocan fhuair iad i 'na sineadh fuar marbh; agus bho'n latha sin gus an la'n diugh theirte "Cnoc na h-Analach" ris a' chnocan ud cùl na macharach an I-Chaluim-Chille.

Ach co-dhiu chan e sud deireadh na sgeòil bhrònaich. Thug fir laidir a mach ri Staoineig an déidh a' bhodaich ghlais. Fhuair iad a mach a gharadh 'sa mhionaid air an toit. Thearuinn iada sios gu grad ach air cho eallamh je gu'n robh iad fhuair am bodach uine air a chasan a thoirt leis.

An uair a rainig na fir an uamha chunnaic iad am bodach a' togail a mach ri cuan an currachan beag dubh.

Gus an la'n diugh theirte "Uamha Bhodaich" ris a' cheart uamha so an I, agus chan 'eil coigreach a thig do'n Eilean iomraiteach nach teid turus g'a faicinn.

ORAN MOR MHIC LEOID-MOD 1925.

[Gold Medal Series, Competition No. 49. (Ladies' Voices.) Melody noted down from John Cameron, Paisley, 20 years ago].

GLEUS F.

{d ., l_i | l_i : s_i : l_i | d : d : -. r | m : m : m | m.r : -. : d | r : -. }

Miad a' mbulaid tha 'm thaghall Dh' fhag treoghaid mo chléibh gu goirt,

{: m ., r | d : l_i : s_i | l_i : l_i : -. s_i | l : m : s | r : -. : r | d : -. }

Aig na rinn mi ad dheaghaidh Air m' aghairt 's mo thriall gu port;

{: m . m | s : -. : s . s | d : -. : ta. l | s : -. f : m | m.r : -. : d.d | l : -. }

'Sann bha mis' air do thòir, 'Smi a' meas gu'n robh còir agam ort;

{: s.s | d : -. : ta. l | s : -. s_i, s_i | l.m : -. : s | r : -. : r | d : -. |

mo ghràidh. Bu tu m'aighear

An ám éirigh gu moch
Anns an teaghlach gun sprochd, gun ghruaim;
Chluinnte gleadhraich nan dos,
'S an céile 'na cois o'n t-suain:
'Nuair a ghabhadh i làn,
'S i gun cuireadh so sn-àird na fhuair;
Le meòir fhileanta bhinn.

Dheagh mhic athar

'S iad gu ruith-leumach, dìonach, luath.

Bhiodh a rianadair féin,
Cur an ìre gur h-e bhiodh ann;
'S e 'g éirigh 'nam measg,
'S an éibhe gu trio 'na cheann:
Ged a b'àrd leinn a fuaim,
Cha tuairgneadh e sinn gu teann;
Chiurieadh tagradh am chluais,
Le h-aidmheil gu luath 's gu mall.

'Nuair a chuirt' i 'na tàmh, Le furtachd 'na fàrdaich fein ; Dhomhas b'fhurasda ràdh Gu'm bu chuireideach gàir nan teud. Le iomairt dha làmh, A' cur a binneas do chàch an céill ; '8 gu'm bu shiubhlach am chluais Modhan lughmhor le luasgan mheur.

is m' àdh

Thoir teachdaireachd bhuam, Le deatam gu Ruairidh Og; Agus innis dha féin Cuid de chunnart ged 's e MacLeòid. E bhi 'g amharc 'na dhéidh, Air an Iain a dh-eug 's nach beò; Ge bu shaibhir a chliù, Chan fhàgadh e'n Dùn gun cheòl.

BRITTANY AND THE BRETON CELTS.

One usually thinks of Brittany in connection with some pleasant holiday spent on one of the fashionable "places" which adorn its coasts, such as Dinard or La Baule. These delightful summer resorts certainly have many attractions, not the least of which is the beauty of their surroundings to offer the tourist or holiday maker. The real Celtic Brittany, however, lies farther afield, and is no more to be found in such a Paris-by-the-sea as Dinard, than is the real Gaelic Scotland to be found in Oban in the season. Just as in Scotland, the old customs-the Celtic language and type-are to be found in the more outlying districts where the majority of tourists do not penetrate, so in Armoricain France-la Bretagne bretonnante (Breton-speaking Brittany) is situated in the extreme west, i.e., in those parts of the country furthest removed from the metropolis-Paris. The Breton language is spoken, roughly speaking, west of a line drawn from Glouha on the north, through Louddéac, to Vannes on the south. East of this line French prevails, and the peasants speak an ugly patois, which stands in much the same relationship to French as does the lowland Scottish dialect to English. The Bretons, or those of them who have remained at home, are a poor people. Like their brother Celts of Scotland and western Ireland, they look to the sea or to the land for their livelihood. The crofters and fisher folk form two distinct groups who rarely mix socially, and who are apt to look the one upon the other with a pitying scorn! The fisher folk are, perhaps, the more progressive of the two groups; they are excellent and brave seamen, and it is from their ranks that France has always recruited her best sailors for the navy and mercantile marine. The sardine fishing-always of first importance-has increased enormously of late years, and the canning of these fish now forms a large industry in the picturesque ports of Concarneau and Douarneney (Finistére). The sardine nets are bright blue, and their display lends a gay note to the otherwise sombre appearance of the quaint old Breton fishing ports.

The history of Brittany—in Breton, Breiz or Armorik, i.e. (the country), by the sea goes back to the earliest times, its origins being shrouded in mystery and legend. The Celts have always been very impressionable to the influences of religion and ceremony, and it is here in Brittany and the Celtic lands of Great Britain that the Druids found a last stand.

All over the plains of Armorique are to be seen these long white stones, those upright are called "men-hir" (long stone) the others, which lie horizontally, daol-men (table of stone). These stones are among the world's earliest examples of religious architecture, and are sometimes found in curious circular formations as at Carnac, where the megalithic remains rival in importance and interest those of Stonehenge and Carnish (Lewis). These menhirs and dailmens went to form the temples and the altars upon which the Druids made their sacrifices. The victim (sometimes human) was actually killed by a young girl chosen among the Druids' virgins-a sect of young girls used in performance of the Druidical rites and ceremonies. The decrees of heaven were then made known by the way the blood ran upon the sacrificial stone. A society of these druidical virgins used to inhabit a lonely island off the promontary of the "Paz de Sein." I am told that the Breton sailors are still superstitious of this island, and fear the powers for good and evil of these long departed maidens. The Druids were driven out by the Romans, and the Bretons finally became Christians about 200 A.D. Since then they have remained loyal to their faith. They have been valiant fighters, waging war for their religion or their rights. In the sixteenth century they fought and finally ejected the Protestants who had begun to invade Brittany. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries they bravely defended their coasts against the English, and as a protection against these invaders, they built many forts, whose remains are yet to be seen along the rugged coasts of Finnistére.

It is these wild and drear cliffs, these fearsome rocks and caves that best typify the Breton scenery. It has been said the best time to visit Brittany is the autumn, and that the best way to approach it is by sea. There is a great deal of truth in this. Brittany does not show to the best advantage under the skies. And her natural element is the sea, not a Mediterranean blue sea, but a pale slate blue ever changing sea, with bright green patches and mauve stripes. The general hue of the Breton landscape is grey. Sea and sky, moors and rocks, houses and even the people seem enveloped in a mist of grey, melancholy and mystery. Of course, Brittany has bright summer days, but these seem out of place, for each country has a personal atmosphere which suits it best, and that of Brittany is grey, like the autumn. These poor crofters' homes remind one of a "tigh dubh" in the

Highlands, and here, as in Scotland, the chickens and cows often live under the same roof as the family. The young girls in their picturesque costume, with violet-coloured apron and lace "Cheeff (the national head-dress, the design of which varies with the district), the old women in their rags—in Brittany one never sees middle aged people—the old men who sit and mend nets by the port, seem in the soft light of autumn to blend with the blue spiral smoke from the cottages and stone furnaces where seaweed is burnt, to form a melancholy and yet beautiful picture—that of

the true Brittany. The Bretons are a truly Celtic people, and absolutely different from their French neighbours. They are not like the French, a naturally gay and joyous people, but seem to have taken on the grey hue of their surroundings. They are like all other Celts, very susceptible to outside influences, and very imaginative. This has given rise to many weird and beautiful legends, which are woven around places-as the legend of the lost town of Ys-or around personages, as the story of Perronek, the Fool. A very considerate people, the Bretons have retained many ancient and curious customs, which, unfortunately, space does not permit me to describe. The Breton "Pardons" are, however, world-famous, and may be briefly mentioned. The "Pardons" are Brittany's great religious fetes, and are to this country what the "Kermesse" is to Flanders or the "Felibrée" to Provence. Every village worthy of the name holds its annual "pardon." Pilgrims attend the big "pardons" in large numbers, often coming from a distance. The fete consists in High Mass, Vespers, a grand procession with banners, the people being in gala costume. The procession pays a visit to the cemetery. An altar is erected in the streets. The people attend these "pardons" with the first object, as the name implies, of having their sins pardoned, they also believe prayers made at these festivals to be sure of fulfilment, and so attend a pardon if they have any special prayer to make (for example a pregnant woman will always attend a pardon in the hope of this being granted that her child be a boy-or girl, as desired-though this latter would be exceptional as the Bretons usually consider the birth of a girl child as a calamity). After the religious ceremonies are over the rest of the day is given up to brandy. But even their drunkenness has a certain solemnity. The "pardon" nights are accompanied by a kind of religious exaltation, by the telling of myths and even, I have at least

been so informed, by supernatural encounters. Some of the more important "pardons" last several days or even weeks. The two most important "pardons" which I myself have attended are those of Rumengol and of St. Anne-la-Palud. These religious fetes are a blessing to the beggars, who line the road down which the pilgrims pass, and give their blessing in return for alms.

Brittany has not lacked nature bards, the most famous of those who in late years have composed in the Breton tongue being Yann

ar Minous and Yann ar Quirenn.

The Breton language as spoken to-day in Finistére, Côtes-du-Nord and Morbihan is divided into four dialects-that of the district of Léon being the purest. The spoken language of to-day is, however, very corrupted by the introduction of French words, due to a large degree by the practice of conscription in France, which also accounts for the fact that every man, at any rate, knows French. I have met old women in some of the out of the way hamlets in Finistére who were unable to speak a word of French, but this, I imagine, must be rare. The last census showed the number of people in Brittany speaking the language as 1,290,000. and it may be taken that practically all of these are bi-lingual to a greater or less degree. To this number must, of course, be added those Bretons speaking Bretton scattered in the rest of France as well as abroad. Unlike the case of Scotland, time has not diminished appreciably the number of those in Brittany who speak their native tongue. But it has done what, from a philological point of view, is perhaps to be even more regretted, and that is greatly to impair the purity of the idiom, substituting debased French words and idioms for the Celtic equivalents which have fallen into disuse or been forgotten.

It is especially interesting at this time to recall that the people of Brittany are our brothers. Their ancient language was the same as that spoken in Cornwall up to the beginning of the nineteenth century; and the history of the Breton "Cornouailles" was closely connected with our land of Cornwall. Old legends, such as that of Tristan and Isobell, tell us how close was the relationship between the people of these two lands.

In a week's time we are to see at Quimper (Finistére) the reunion of the different branches of Celts, coming from the United Kingdom and from Ireland to learn to know each other better, that they may fight in what they now recognise to be a common cause.

DOUGLAS MACRAE TAYLOR.

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Chaidh an cruinneachadh mór a bha againn am Peairtseachad, agus bha e fior shoirbheachail. Nach tric a thug mi iomra air an dara Mòd a bhi toirt bàrr air a' Mhòd eile, ach ma mhaireas an t-adhartachadh c'air an stad sinn no ciamar a gheibh sinn roimhe? Feumaidh sinn seòl a dheanamh air am barrachd òigridh fhaotuinn chun a' Mhòid agus feumaidh na Mòdan Dùthchail cuideachadh leinn anns an nì so. Tha an cothrom aca agus builicheadh iad e. Thar nan co-fharpaisean eile feumaidh a' Bheul Aithris aire shonraichte fhaotuinn agus ge b'e co bhios beò chi iad sin aig Grianaig.

I have already attended twice at Greenock connection with next year's Mod. The Directors of the Greenock Highland Society have arrangements thought out, and a Mod Local Committee is in course of formation. Hall accommodation in Greenock compares favourably with that in any other town in Social and, and unless entries are greatly in excess of previous years, all the competitions can very well be carried through within the Town Hall as at Perth.

The Syllabus for next year is now in type, and will be issued shortly. It contains 69 competitions. The outstanding Literary competition is the Gaelic Play for children already advertised, and the Committee hope to have a good response to their offer. In writing for children, competitors should aim at clear and simple language. The child mind cannot be expected to understand or appreciate subtle turns of speech or obscure phrases. If the writers could picture their youthful characters performing on the stage, repeating in their own childish way the passages intended for them, there should be no doubt about the success of the Play.

"Mairead" and "Rath-Innis," the first and been on sale now for some time. They can be had separately for one shilling, or the two in one volume for two shillings, or the two in one volume for two shillings, There is a big demand for Gaelic Plays and Dialogues now, and sketch Parties should procure copies of these Plays and arrange for their reproduction. No finer Gaelic entertainment could be offered. Messrs. Alex. MacLaren & Sons, Glasgow, have

issued in Booklet form four Gaelic Dialogues three from "Caraid nan Gaidheal," and one by Mr. Hector MacDougall. All are suitable for the platform, and the mere mention of the authors names is a guarantee of choice wholesome diction.

Another volume of interest to Gaels is "Story and Song from Lochness-side," by Mr. Alister MacDonald, Inverness. A second impression has just been issued, and all who value an authentic account of the social customs and home life of the Gael in the past should possess a copy. Although written in English, it contains much Gaelic prose and poetry. The book presents a faithful picture of life in Gaeldom, written by a Gael who knows the homeland.

In the Scottish Educational Journal for last week, an interesting and appreciative article on the Mod appears. In the course of it the writer makes a strong appeal to Gaelic-speaking teachers to interest themselves in the work of the Mod. Such interest he points out can be fully justified on sound educational grounds.

One is pleased to read of the success which is attending Ruairidh MacLeod's visit Canada. As an interpreter and exponent of Gaelic song, Ruairidh has a world-wide reputation, and, through the medium of the gramophone, his fine rendering of some of our best songs is heard throughout the world wherever a Gaelic speaker dwells. Tradition and sentiment is dearer to the heart of the emigrant than the home-dweller, and, no doubt, Ruairidh's visit will have quickened interest in the old language in Canada. Do thilleadh slân, a charaid.

Ceilidhean, Highland and Clan gatherings are now in full swing. Attendances at Ceilidh ann Gaidheal and High School Ceilidh are well maintained. Paisley Highlanders' Saturday evening concerts are being well patronised, and reports from the provinces are also encouraging. Annual Gatherings in the city this month are:—Lewis and Harris on the 7th; Jura on the 14th, and Tiree on the 21st. Tir nam Beann are holding their Gathering in Edinburgh on the 7th.

NIALL.

AN GILLE MOR.

[Collected by John Macpherson, Arts Student, from the Recitation of Andrew Macdonald, in Kinloch Laggan].

Bha uair ann fuamhair agus beagan mun do dh' eug e chuir e craobh dlùth do'n tigh anns an robh e a' comhnuidh. Bha aon mhac beag aige agus thug e teann òrdugh dà' mhnaoi gun an gille beag a chur far na ciche gus an rachadh aige air a chraobh a spionadh as a freumhan agus nuair dheanadh e sin gu biodh e comasach air deanamh air a shon fein. Bha na bliadhnaichean a' dol seachad agus bha an gille a fàs cho bras 's gun d'thug iad an gille mór mar fhar-ainm air. Thug e iomadh ionnsuidh air a chraoibh a spionadh ach cha deach aig oirre gus an robh e bliadhna air fhichead de aois. An sin rinn e a h-uile ullachadh air son an dachaidh fhàgail agus ghabh e an sin an t-slighe dìreach roimhe. Air dha iomadh mìle a chur as a dhéidh bha e gu airtnealach sgìth agus rinn e suas inntinn gu gabhadh e obair air bith a thachradh dha fhaotainn. Beagan an déidh sin thainig e an sealladh tigh tuathanaich agus ghabh e suas a dh' ionnsuidh an doruis agus thug e buille bheag na dha air le cuaille daraich a bha aige na laimh. Thàinig an tuathanach a dh' ionnsuidh an doruis agus dh' fheòraich e de'n choigreach ciod e a bha dhìth air. Thuirt an gille mór gu biodh e glé fhada 'na chomain nan toireadh e obair dha agus nach biodh e ag iarraidh mar dhuais air ach biadh gu leòir a chumail ris. Shaoil an tuathanach gur e so seirbhiseach cho saor agus a fhuair e riamh agus gun dàil ni b' fhaide a dheanamh thug e cuireadh dha gu tighinn a steach. Chaidh an gille mór a steach agus ghabh e mu thàmh air son na h-oidhche sin. Nuair dh' eirich e 'sa mhaduinn ghabh e a bhiadh: agus cuid mhath dheth cuideachd. An déidh sin chuir an tuathanach a bhualadh do'n àth e agus mu fheasgar thug e sgrìob sios do'n àth feuch cia mar a bha an gille mór a faotainn air aghart. Cha robh cruach a muigh nach robh a stigh aige agus bha e a' bualadh a chuid mu dhéireadh de'n te mu dheireadh dhuibh. Nuair a chuir e crìoch air an obair thàinig e a steach gu shuipeir agus bha ceathramh de mhairt fheòil bruich air a choinneamh agus cha do dh'fhag e ni nuair a sguir e ach na cnamhan lòma.

Dh' aithnich an tuathanach còir nach robh an gille mór gu bhi cho saor aige 'sa bha e an dùil, ach cha leigeadh an t-eagal leis iarraidh air falbh. Bha seann duine faisg air laimh a bha ainmeil feadh na sgìreachd air son deagh

chomhairlean an àm teanntachd. Chaidh e far an robh an seann duine so agus dh' innis e dha facal air an fhacal mar a thachair dha. Thug an seann duine comhairle air, an gille mór a chur a chladhach tobar deich troidhe fichead air doimhneachd agus nuair shaoileadh e a bhiodh an tobar domhain gu leòir e a chruinneachadh a dhaoine gu an gille mór a thiodhlacadh beò. So mar a bha, chaidh an gille mór a chur a chladhach an tobair agus nuair shaoil an tuathanach gu robh e domhain gu leòir chruinnich e a dhaoine agus thòisich iad air dùnadh an tobair air muin a' ghille mhóir. Leig an gille mór aon éigh as agus theich a h-uile mac aca agus cha do sheall iad 'nan déidh gus an do ràinig iad an tighean. Thàinig an gille mór dhachaidh agus cha do leig e ni air. Chaidh an tuathanach an dara turus far an robh an seann duine agus dh' innis e dha mar a thachair dha. Thuirt an seann duine ris gu robh loch astar math air falbh agus gu robh beathach mór a' tàmh ann agus gu robh e mar chleachdadh aige tighinn a mach a h-uile beul oidhche agus nach robh creutair beò air a faigheadh e greim nach robh e slugadh suas. Dlùth do'n loch thuirt e gu robh achadh agus nach treabhadh an gille mór e roimh anmoch agus gu faigheadh am beathach mór greim air agus nach cuireadh e an corr dragh air. Air an ath latha chaidh an gille mór a chur a threabhadh an achaidh so agus fhuair e òrdugh nach faodadh e tighinn dhachaidh gus an cuireadh e crìoch air. Dh' fhalbh an gille mór agus bha e a' treabhadh 's gun smuain aig air ni eile. An ciaradh an fheasgair chual e fuaim neònach 'san locha agus chunnaic e beathach mór a tighinn a mach as agus a deanamh dìreach air. Chum an gille mór air a' treabhadh agus bha am beathach mór glé fhaisg air agus coltas anabarrach fiadhaich air. Ghearr e aon leum agus rug e air fear de na h-eich agus shluig e beò slàn fallain e. Chunnaic an gille mór craobh a' fàs dlùth ris agus thug e aon spionadh oirre agus thug e as a freumhan i. Shuain e am bàrr aice mun cuairt air a dhòrn agus dh' éirich e air slachdadh a' bheathaich leatha. Mu dheireadh cha robh aige dhith ach na bha mu cuairt da dhòrn. Bha am beathach a nis air a chlaoidh; rinn an gille mór leum air agus chàirich e ri taobh an eich eile sa' chrann e; chuir e crìoch air an treabhadh agus chaidh e dhachaidh. Dh' innis e do'n tuathanach mar a thachair dha agus thuirt an tuathanach ris gu feumadh e an t-each fhaotainn. "Cha bhi sin doirbh dhomh ars an gille mór," agus e a breith air corc. Ghabh e a mach do'n stàbull agus shràc e corp a bheathaich mhóir, thuit an

t-each a mach agus gun aon ni cearr air. Ghiulain an gille mór closach a bheathaich mhóir a dh' ionnsuidh an tobair a rinn e a cheud latha, agus thilg e an sin i agus dhùin e an tobar

air a muin. Chaidh an tuathanach an treas uair far an robh an seann duine agus dh' innis e dha mar a thachair dha. Thuirt an seann duine nach robh aige-san ach aon chomhairle eile dha agus mur deanadh i feum nach biodh comas air. Thuirt e gu robh muileann ann iomadh mìle o'n bhaile agus nach deach duine riamh ann air oidhche a thàinig a mach beò agus nan cuireadh e an gille mór ann nach faiceadh iad a dhubh no a dhath gu bràth tuilleadh. Air an ath latha chaidh an gille mór a chur a bhleith do'n mhuileann agus nuair a rainig e an ceann uighe bha am feasgar ann agus cha rachadh am muillear maille rìs do'n mhuileann Thuirt an gille mór ris nam faigheadh esan an iuchair gu deanadh e féin a chuis. Fhuair e an iuchair agus chaidh e leis fèin do'n mhuileann agus thòisich e air bleith. Nuair a chuir e crìoch air bleith bha an t-anmoch ann agus bha e acrach. Rinn e bonnach no dha agus nuair bha iad bruich rinn e ceathramhan orra agus chuir e air fuarachadh 'san uinneig iad. Chual e gluasad an oisinn dorcha, agus air sealltuinn gu geur dha chunnaic e sealladh uamhasach, ach cha do chuir e tilleadh air a ghille mhór. Bha an sin beathach dubh grannda agus làmhan air coltach ri duine. Shìn e te dhiubh agus thog e ceathramh de'u aran leis. "Dean sud a ris ars 'an gille mór agus bidh e daor dhuit." Shìn am beathach a làmh a ris gu ceathramh eile a thogail ach am prioba na sùla bha an gille mór na bhad. Mu dheireadh rinn e an gnothuich air a bheathach agus mharbh se e. Bheartaich e a chairt agus chuir e an luchd oirre agus rinn e air an tigh. Bha an tuathanach air a chois an oidhche sin agus e air faire a mach feuch an cluinneadh e an gille mór a tighinn. Mu dheireadh chual e a chairt air an rathad agus dh' aithnich e nach robh feum dha fuireach. Thog e féin sa chuideachd orra agus theich iad cho luath 'sa bh' aca. Nuair thàinig an gille mór cha robh duine roimhe agus ann an uine gheàrr thuig e gur ann leis fein a bha gach ni, an tigh 'san tuathanas. Beagan laithean an déidh sin chaidh e a shireadh a mhàthar a bha cho math dha an làithean òige. Thàinig ise maille ris agus rinn iad comhnuidh gu toileach comhla an sin. Feumaidh sinn a nis bràt na diomhaireachd a tharruing thairis orra agus slàn a ghabhail leo an tigh an tuathanaich.

THE CELTIC CONGRESS IN BRITTANY.

Edinburgh, 24th Oct., 1924.

To the Editor of "An Gaidheal."

Dear Sir,—In an article on the above subject appearing under my signature in your issue of this month, the first part of the introductory paragraph is incorrectly given.

In my manuscript the article begins:—
"The Panceltic Congress, which has just heid its fifth meeting in Brittany, was inaugurated at the Birkenhead Eisteddfod in 1917. Since then it has met at Neath, in Wales, at Edinburgh, and in the Isle of Mann; ..."

It was to the manuscript version of the article, and to this version alone, that my signature was attached.

Kindly publish this letter in your next issue.

I am,
Yours truly,
AUGUSTA LAMONT.

AN GHAIDHLIG.

O éisdibh is cluinnibh a chàirdean mo ghaoil An sgeul so mu'n Ghàidhlig a chual mi an raoir; Tha muinntir mo dhùthcha a dh'oidhche 'sa làth

A' labhairt na Gàidhlig gu dìleas is blàth.

Tha òigridh na dùthcha a' falbh do an sgoil A' labhairt na Gaidhlig gu tuigseach le toil; 'G a leughadh gu glan as an leabhraichean

grinn,
'S ga seinn anns na h-òrain gu ceòlmhor is
binn.

Na seann-daoine còire air chéilidh gun fheall, Cha tuig is cha labhair iad cànain uan gall. Na gillean 's na balaich 's an dùthaich gu léir A' labhairt na Gàidhlig air muir is air tìr.

Gach caileag is cruinneag is cailleach 's a ghleann

A' labhairt ri chéil ann an cànain nam beann ; Gach bean a tha pòsd is gach nìghneag nach 'eil Toirt seachad an sgéil, ann an cainnt an Ghàidheil.

Mo mhuinntir 's mo chàirdean an dùthaich

nan sonn, Gur toigh leo a' Ghàidhlig, a ceòl is a fonn; 'S gun cleachd iad gu dearbh i, 's gun lean iad gu dian

Ris a' chainnt a bu chànain do'n Sìnnsir bho cheian.

JAMES CRAIGIE,

SEALLTUINN AIR AGHAIDH AGUS SEALLTUINN AIR AIS.

Leis an Urr. A. D. MacGilleathain, B.D., Aird Ghobhair.

Choisinn an oidhirp litreachais so a' cheud duais ionann ri oidhirp le IAIN MAC-CORMAIG, Glascho, aig Mòd, 1924.

Is e cleachdadh agus dùrachd na-h-oigridh a bhi sealltuin ris an am a ta ri tachd agus a bhi deanadh gairdeachais anns na làithean a ta air thoiseach orra. Tha an spìorad so nadurra, agus bha e ann o thoiseach an t-saoghail. Mar a thubhairt am bàrd Sasunnach, agus mar a dh' fhaodas sinn eadar-theangachadh.

"Chan 'eil mac an duine iomlan a nis, ach tha 'mhuinghin 's a dhòchas anns na làithean a ta ri teachd;" Labhair am bàrd ni a tha làn brìgh agus firinn. Chan 'eil duine 'sam bith toilichte 'na staid, co-dhiubh a tha e bochd no beartach, àrd no iosal, fòghluimte no aineolach. Nis tha dà thaobh air an nòs so, a tha ann am mac an duine, taobh fàbharach agus freagarrach; agus cuideachd, taobh cunnartach agus bagarrach such deachd, taobh cunnartach agus bagarrach

Rannsaichimeid an toiseach an taobh fàbharach. Tha e cosmhuil gu leòir gu'm bheil neo-thoileachas-inntinn maille ri dòchas agus fiughair a' gluasad agus a' brosnuchadh an duine gu feabhas, leasachadh inbhe agus euchdan. Ann an toiseach eachdraidh an duine, cha robh e mòran na b' fhearr na ainmhidh na macharach (gidheadh cha robh e cho laidir, no cho treun, no cho armaichte ris na beathaichean fiadhaich); ach thachair latha bha sud, gu'n do smuainich fear air choir-eiginn air meanglan a bhriseadh thar na craoibhe, no air clach a thilgeadh, agus bho'n tùralachd so, dh' éirich maighstireachd an duine thairis air an domhan, agus ball-airm is feachdan nan cinneach air an latha diugh.

Bhuail fear eile dà chlach spor ri cheile, agus dh' fhadaidh e teine; rinn so mar an ceudna atharrachadh mòr ann am beatha agus ann an crannchur an duine. Fhuair e dìos o bheathaichean fadhaich agus bho dhòirbhead na sìde. Dh'ionnsaich e mar an ceudna a bhiadh a bhruich an aite theadh amh.

Tha an sgrìobhadair àbhachdach sin. Tearlach Lamb, a' cur a sios cosamhlachd aighearach mu'n doigh anns an d' fhuair an duine a mach cho mìlis is a bha muc roiste. Loisgear tigh fear-eiginn le tuiteamas, agus fhuaras muc air a ròsadh am measg na làraich. Chord i cho math riu uile agus gu'n do thòisich gach aon air a thigh féin a chur ri theine chum agus gu'n bitheadh muc ròiste aige. Ach thainig e fanear do dh'aon duine latha bha sud, gun gabhadh muc ròsadh a cheart cho math le beagan costais gun an tigh uile a losgadh.

'S ann mar sin a tha feabhas is ath-nuadhachadh a' tighinn air suidheachadh an duintha aon neach a' fàs mi-thoilichte le dòighean gnàthuichte a choimhearsnaich; tha e sealltuinn air aghaidh ri nithean na's fhearr, agus iomadh uair tha e 'g an sealbhachadh chum buannachd do'n t-saoghal uile. Faodaidh e bhi gun teagamh nach 'eil neach ag iarraidh tairbhe ach dha fhéin, ach ge b'oil leis, tha e a' deanamh feum da cho-chreutairean le stìth' 's le vidhirp.

Ach tha dòchas agus mi-thoileachadh ann an inntinn an duine a' ruith gu glòir-mhiann, ni a tha cunnartach do 'n t-saoghal. Thubhairt Milton gu'm b'ann tre ghloir-mhiann a thuit ma h-aingeil o'n ionadaibh àrda." Seallamaid an truaighe, am bròn, an call a thug na buadhaichean móra agus na rìghrean glòir-mhiannach air na cinnich. Am bheil eachdraidh a' beannachadh Chiesasir no Alasdair Mhóir, no Attila no Napoleon? Nach iomadh cron a rinn an seorsa sin, air an gluasad le spìoran a féin-bhuannachd; agus ma rinn iad feum, b' ann gun taing dhaibh féin, cha b' ann diri le'n toil no le'n iarrtas? Ach gun teagamh tha am Freasdal ag uisneachadh gòir-mhiann féin air son feum an duine.

Rinn Impireachd na Roimhe feum do na Cinnich bhorba; stéidhich i riaghailt, eòlas agus ceartas ann an ionadaibh dùmhail dorcha. Seadh, gach cogadh agus comhstri a bha ann an Albainn agus am measg nam finneachan Gaidhealach fhein, ged a bha iad mi-chneasda, docharach, an robh iad uile gu léir gun fheum, nach do dhealbh iad ar cinneach chum a bhi fearail calma agus direach, mar a tha an t-òrd a' dealbh an iaruinn air an innein? Chan 'eil sinn idir a' moladh cogaidh no ainneach tha sinn a' nochdadh mar a tha am Freasdal a' toirt buannachd agus maith as na nithean a ta olc.

Air an latha diugh tha daoine òga, gu sonruichte a' sealltuinn air thoiseach orra le dòchas. Ma' s fhìor an naigheachd tha an cumhachd a nis air a thoirt bho na maithibh agus air thoirt do na mithibh; tha ceartas agus sùgradh ri bhi air gach bruach 'as bealach. Ach cuimhnicheadh iad gu'm "bheil iteagan bòidheach air na-h-èoin a tha fad as."

Thubhairt am bàrd mu Cheannairc nam Frangach anns an ochda linn deug

"B'e 'n sonas a bhi beò' 'san linn ud B'e aoibhneas neamhaidh dhuinn bhi òg.'

Ach b'e deireadh na-h-ùpraid tràilleachd, cogadh agus call do'n Fhraing agus do'n t-saoghal uile. Bitheadh gach duine og 'na earalasgu'm bheil cunnart-cho mathri buannachd ann an nithean nuadh. Nach dubhairt am feallsanach Greugach, "Faigh eòlas ort féin," agus an duine glic Eabhrach cuideachd. "Is fearr an ti a raghalas a spiorad féin na eann a ghlacas àrd-bhaile."

Faodadh mac an dunne buaidh fhaotainn thairis air an domhan uile, ach is beag a bhuannachd mur a tuig e a nàdur féin, agus mur a riaghail e thairis air. Is còir do'n duine og gu sòruichte, a bhi meòrachadh air nàdur an duine, a chionn is anns an taobh a stigh a tha saorsa no daorsa shiorruidh.

Is i dlighe na-h-aoise a bhi sealltuinn air ais air an ám a chaidh seachad is nach till.

Gun teagamh tha an duine aosda, diadhaidh a' sealltuinn ri ionad siorruidh, ach buinidh so do chreidimh agus do nithean spioradail ris nach 'eil sinn a' gabhail gnothaich anns an sgrìobhadh so.

Tha an seann duine a' tighinn bèo agus a' faotainn sòlais anns na làithean a dh'aom, ann an làithean òige. Tha na nithean a dhìchuimhnuich e an uair a bha e ann an tréine a neirt, a' tilleadh air an ais a rithis; agus tha e 'ga fhaicinn féin as ùr mar ann an sgàthan. Faodaidh na smuaintean so a bhi brònach no subhach, ach tha iad daonnan maille ris an t-seann aois. Tha an sgrìobhadair Romanach ag radh gu'm bheil inntinn an t-seann duine na 's taitniche na inntinu an duine oìg, a chionn tha an dara fear a' breithneachadh air nithean a thachair gu fìor cheana, agus am fear eile a' sealltuinn ri nithean a dh' fhaodas tachairt. Air taobh na h-aoise tha dearbh-chinnt, air an taobh eile tha neo-fhiosrachd.

Tha gnàth-eòlas na h-aoise luachmhor do'n òigridh; chan 'eil nithean idir suarach a chionn gu'm bheil iad aosda mar a bhitheas an gill' og a' smaoineacheadh; chan 'eil gach seann chaisteal ri leagail sios; tha gliocas is tuirges is tùr, seudan priseil, anns an aimisir a chaidh seachad.

Air an aobhar sin tha e iomchuidh gu'm bi an duine òg a' sealltuin air ais cuideachd, is a' breithneachadh agus a' cnuasachadh air eachdraidh a shinnsre, a' gabhail tlachd innte, a' faotainn seudan luachmhor 'na mèinnibh, a ni saoibhir e féin agus an ginealach a ta ri teachd.

Agus am bac sin an t-aosda o bhi faotainn tlachd ann a bhi sealltuinn air ais? Nach e sin aon sòlas a bheatha?

Bha gille òg uair anns a' Ghaidhealtachd aig an robh deadh sgoil agus bha e dèonach dol air aghaidh gu dreuchd fhòghlimire, far am faigheadh e farsuingeachd beatha. Ach b'fheudar dha fuireach aig an tigh a chuideachadh a mhàthair a bha 'na bantraich. Latha an dèidh latha bhitheadh e ag obair anns an achadh o mhoch gu dubh, a' deanamh a dhleasnais gun teagamh, ach cha b' ann le dheòin. An uair a chitheadh e na Goill anns an t-samhradh a' sraid-imeachd gu dlomhanach, bha e làn farmaid, is e fèin ag obair gu saoith-reach fad am latha, gun aodach riomhach air ach air an t-Sabaid.

B' e a mhiann dùthaich a shinnsre fhàgail, agus a sgiathan a sgaoileadh a mach agus an fharsuingeachd a ghabhail mu cheann, mar iolaire.

Thaing an latha nuair a fhuair e saorsa mar bu mhiann leis. Chaochail a mhàthair, agus fhuair e cead a choise; dh' fhàg e achaidhean is monaidhean oige, 's thug e Galldachd air.

Le thàpachd féin, fhuair e dreuchd onorach, ged nach robh mòr-shaoibhreas aige.

An uair a rainig e suas eadar da-fhichead agus leth-cheud bliadhna mhothaich e gun robh slabhruidhean ùra air an ceangal mu'n cuairt air. Bha cleachdainnean eile, daoine eile, ann a nis, saoghal ùr uile gu l'éir, agus cha robh a chridhe no a spiorad sàsuichte.

Is iomadh uair a dh' fharraid e 'na chridhe fein, "Am b' fhiach e an t-saothair?"

Is iomadh uair a bha a chridhe ag eigheach air son tigh a' mhathar agus dùthaich oige. Bu mhiann leis a bha ag iasgach air a' chreig mar a b' abhaist, a' tarruing a stigh an eisg, no ag eisdeachd ri sgriachail na faoilinn. "Na'n robh dòigh no seòl agam" theireadh e ris fhéin, "bhithinn air m' ais am maireach anns an aite ghaolach."

Ach bha e faotainn tlachd anns na bruadaran sin. Tha na làithean a dh' aom air an sgiamhachadh leis an òr ann an stìlean chinneach is dhaoine aosmhor; tha fiughair na h-òigridh ris an àm a tar i teachd. Bithidh sinn taingeil ma nì beachd na h-aoise smuain na h-oige measarra agus cuinseach ann ar beatha féin.

DUN-TROIN.

Le IAIN MACPHAIDIN, Glascho.

A'cheud duais aig Mod, 1924.

Caib. T.

"Bidh iad chugad, bidh iad agad;
Bidh iad agad, a Nèill Oig;
Pìobaireachd 'san t-seòmar mhullaich
'S fuaim na druma ri Dun-tròin."

Bhiodh na briathran "Pìobaireachd 'san t-seòmar mhullaich 's fuaim na druma ri Dun-tròin" air an gnàthachadh gu tric air taobh an iar na h-Albann nuair a bhiodh sgeul 'ga h-innseadh a bhiodh a' leigeil fhaicinn gu'n d'rinn cuideiginn dearmad air a ghnothach agus a dhleasnas, agus an dearmad sin a bhi 'na aobhar air feadhainn eile a chur an dragh agus an dochainn. Cleachdaidh muinntir taobh an iar na h-Albann-agus taobh a tuath dhi, cuhideachd-na briathran ud nuair a bhios iad a' ciallachadh an aon ni 's a bhios muinntir an t-saoghail uile a' ciallachadh nuair a their iad: "Bha Néro ri fìdhleireachd am feadh a bha 'n Roimhe air theine." Ach an àireamh a bhiodh ag aithris nam briathran so mu Niall òg, cha bhiodh iad aoinsgeulach mu'n Niall Og a bh'ann, no cuin a bha e ann.

Ach tha iomadh dùn agus caisteal anns a' choimhearsnachd aig Dun-tròin air am bheil sgeòil cho math ri Dun-tròin. Tha Dun-ad 's an Dun-mòr, caistealan is turaidean eadar Cruach-nam-breac agus Lusa agus Mullach Ghocam-gò. Oir nach eil, gus an la 'n diugh, r'a faicinn a' chùbaid-chloiche as am biodh Soisgeulaichean a' searmonachadh do'n t-sluagh, agus as an do shearmonaich an t-Easbuig mór e féin-Carsallach mòr Charn-àsaraidh, a bha na cóig chàird 'na osain-agus bithidh seann daoine gus an la 'n diugh a' dol fairis air briathran sonruichte a bhiodh e gu tric a cleachdadh 'na ùrnuigh nuair a bhiodh e a' guidhe air an Trìonaid: "Socrachadh air na sìontan agus sìth eadar choimhearsnaich." Agus, gun a bhi fuathasach fada bho 'n àite sin, tha an làrach far an robh, fad iomadh linn, Féill Chille Mhìcheil air a cumail. B'ann far na féille sin a fhuair Mac Lachainn Strath-Lachainn a' chuid bu mhò de na daoine a chruinnich e a dh'ionnsaigh a' chath ann an cùis nan Stiùbhartach. Feumaidh gu'm bu duine misneachail Mac Lachainn mu'n deach earbsa ris a leithid sin a dheanamh, agus e

féin an teis-mheadhon dùthaich nan Caimbeulach. Ach, co-dhiùbh, cha deach le Mac Lachainn cho math 's a bu mhiann leis, no cho math 's a shaoil leis. An uair a ràinig e an ceannuidhe a bh' aige agus aig na daoine a chruinnich e, 'se thubhairt an t-oifigeach a thainig a bhruidhinn ris: "An e so na fhuair thu?"

"Cha 'n fhaigheadh tusa a leth na 'm biodh tu ann." fhreagair Mac Lachainn.

Cha robh sud ach gu math fuar le Mac Lachainn as déidh a dhìcheall a dheanamh a chum cùise nan Stiùbhartach a chuideachadh.

Ach co-dhiùbh, cha b' e sud bu mhiosa dheth uile. Ged nach do tharruing e claidheamh anns a' chath bha e air a chunntas am measg nan ceannairceach; a chionn, mar is minig a dh' eirich, nach do bhuanaich leis a' chuideachd a bha e a' cuideachadh. Mar sin, bha e air a àireamh am measg nan ciontach. Ach, ged a bha sud mar sud, feumaidh gu'n robh, air dhòigh éiginn, caraid 'sa chùirt aig Mac Lachainn; a chionn, ann an cùirt shònraichte air là àraidh, bha cunntas ainmeannan air an cur a steach leis an fheadhainn a bha ruagadh na dùthcha a chum na ciontaich fhaotainn am mach; agus am feadh 'sa bha na h-ainmeannan 'gan leughadh le cléireach anns a' chuirt, agus a' chùirt làn dhaoine, thàinig e dh' ionnsaigh an ainm: Lachann Mac Lachainn á Caisteal Lachainn, an Strathlachainn, an Earra-Ghaidheal, Sheall móran de na bha 'sa chùirt air a chéile, agus bha cuid diubh a' crathadh an cinn. Thubhairt neach a bh' anns a' chùirt, 's e tionndadh ri fear a bh' air a chùlaibh, agus a' sìneadh a mhuineil chuige mar gu'm biodh e dol a thoirt cagair dha: "Bha cuideiginn a' magadh air." Tha seanfhacal ann a tha 'g ràdh: "Cagar an cluais, ach chuala triùir e." Ach chuala barrachd is triùir an cagar a bha'n sud. Ach bha a e air a ràdh leis a' mhuinntir 'gam b' aithne aig an àm, gur e an cagar ud a b' aobhar air Mac Lachainn fhaotainn as. Cha d' thàinig tòir idir air. Ged a bha e tacan fo neul cha d' thàinig fios no teachdaire g'a iarraidh, ged a bha na ficheadan eile 'san dùthaich a bh' air an cur thar chuantan, agus, math dh'fhaoidteadh, air an crochadh.

Ach, co-dhiùbh, bha Fáill Chille Mhicheil agus, mar ad th' áirich do iomadh àite 'nar dùthaich, bha ni sònraichte 'sa choimhearsnachd; agus b' e sin ulaidh, air a h-ainmeachadh: "Ulaidh Barr-nan-slaod." Ged nach robh sgeul sònruichte air innseadh mu'n ulaidh so, theireadh iad "Ulaidh Bharrnan-slaod, 's am badan fraoich 'ga còmhdach "rithe.

(R'a Leantainn).

BOOK REVIEWS.

"Mo Nighean Donn Bhòidheach, agus Sgeulachdan Eile," le Iain MacAlasdair Moffat-Pender; 119 pp., clo-bhuailte le U.M. Urchchardainn agus A. Mhac Duneideann, 1924.

This recent publication is a collection of Gaelic prose pieces by Mr. J. M. Moffatt-Pender, a keen and successful student of the language. The author has gained a rich command of the vocabulary and idiom of Gaelic; and he undoubtedly possesses the literary touch and the imagination that can give life and vividness to the written page. The first article is a short and pathetic one, from which the book gets its name, the story of a beautiful girl. The piece is a literary vignette, which reveals the writer's art in pathos, conciseness and power. Then, the second chapter is "The Light of Morven," not an Ossianic reminiscence, but an interview with some of the local characters depicted by Dr. Norman Macleod in his prose writings. Mr. Moffatt-Pender's conversations with these characters are very realistic. There is a good article on Mary Macleod, the poetess; and another, "The Road to the Isles," a full description of a trip to the Highlands by sea. The greater part of the volume is taken up by this graphic article. The book is beautifully printed and most attractive in appearance. We recommend it with all earnestness, and are sure that it will receive from the Gaelic public a very extensive welcome.

The Sword of the North: Highland Memories of the Great War, by Dugald MacEchern, M.A., B.D., Minister of Bower, Lieut., 5th Batt., Seaforths, Bard to the Gaelic Society of Inverness, 1923; 672 pp., Courier Office. Price 20s.

This remarkable volume by the minister of Bower has unique features which distinguish it from so many memorial volumes of the Great War. Most books of that kind are mainly compilations, sacred indeed from their contents; but this volume, in addition to being a memorial of the brave dead, has the literary atmosphere by reason of the many original pieces of poetry it contains, and the choice language in which the descriptive parts of the work are couched. The volume is a great undertaking, and apart from the literary endeavour, must have meant a large amount of toil, correspondence and general research.

For example, there are no less than 630 photo-process engravings, so the pictorial side of the work is elaborate. We are of opinion

that an important element of the work of An Comunn itself is here represented, namely, the adequate commemoration of so many Highland soldiers of the Seaforths, the Camerons and other Highland Regiments. It is an obligation we owe to the honoured dead. It is beyond the scope of a brief review to enter into many details. The printer has done his part excellently. The price is very reasonable in view of the size, quality and finish of the volume. In order to give some idea of the literary feature to which reference has been made, we think it is fitting to give a quotation from one of the numerous original poems. We quote from "The Angels of Mons," a poem of 160 lines:—

Loose-flowing were their garments,
Their hair was burning gold—
Oh, they were fairer than the sun
So god-like was their mould!
We gazed! Were these the shining shapes
Of which the prophets tell?
We knew not; yet we felt we looked
On Michael and Gabriel.
And the central shining seemed the Christ

Whose wounds Heaven's gates unbar, And 'neath his feet once pierced for us There burned one golden star; And in their hands were shining brands That smote the tyrant's pride! Christ and his holy angels Were fighting on our side!

PROPOSED FEILL.

A meeting of the Feill Executive was held in the Office, on Friday, 24th October, Mrs. Burnley Campbell, Convener, in the Chair.

The Convener referred to the circumstance in which operations had been suspended about a year ago, and indicated that in her opinion the time had now come when these should be resumed. With this view the Executive was in cordial agreement.

It was resolved that the Feill and Cochruinneachadh should be held in the first week of October, 1926, and the circular explaining the purpose and appealing for support was revised and approved.

A Convener's Committee was appointed, and the question of a Guarantee Fund and other matters were remitted to that Committee. A number of additional names were added to the Executive Committee.

THE CROWNING OF THE BARD.

All Highlanders throughout the world who are at all in touch with Gaelic matters, would have been delighted to learn that the crowned bard for the present year is Mr. John Mac-

fadyen, Glasgow.

Mr. Macfadyen is a veteran Gaelic poet and writer whose name has been familiar to Gaels for a whole generation. His book of Gaelic poems which was published many years ago got a kindly reception from the public. The crowned poet was one of the devoted band who upheld the flag of Gaelic in Glasgow in the early days of the movement, and by his singing, humour and social accomplishments was a great contributor to the social life of young Highland folk of both sexes in the eighties and nineties.

It is manifest to all who read his prize poem in the last issue of this magazine, that his mental vigour and fire are still unabated. The crowning ceremony in Perth was impressive, the audience rising to their feet while Mr. Robertson placed the bardic crown on the bard's head. If the ceremony had taken place in Glasgow we feel confident that even the St. Andrew's Hall could not accommodate the crowd of Gaels who, in their admiration of the esteemed bard, would have assembled to honour him on the auspicious occasion.

GAELIC SERVICE.

On Sunday, 5th October, a Gaelic service in connection with the Mod was held in St. John's Parish Church, Perth. About 200 people were present at the service. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Donald Lamont, M.A., Blair Atholl, who is rendering valuable help to the Gaelic cause as Editor of the Gaelic Supplement of "Life and Work," the magazine of the Church of Scotland. Every month Mr. Lamont publishes about four large pages of excellent idiomatic Gaelic. Members of the Comunn who are genuinely interested in the life of the language should read these contributions for themselves. At the service the Rev. George Mackay, M.A., Killin, ex-President of An Comunn, read the lessons. The Perth Gaelic Choir led the praise, which included the singing of part of the eightieth psalm to a special setting of the tune, "Martyrs." The other psalms were rendered in old-time fashion by Mr. G. A. Mackenzie, precentor to the Gaelic Society of Perth, who read a line, the congregation singing it. A special collection was taken on behalf of St. John's Church Restoration Fund.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

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Leabhar XX.]

An Dùdlachd, 1924.

[Earrann 3

AN T-AMADAN.

"Is minic a fhuaras comhairle rìgh a beul amadain."

Tha da sheòrsa ann de na h-amadain. Is e an cheud ghnè am fear sin air bheag céille a chuireas e féin an riochd an duine ghlic. Agus is e an seòrsa eile an duine glic a chuireas e féin an riochd amadain. Cha ruig sinn a leas aig an am a bhi a togail ùine le leth-bhreac air a' ghloidhehd nàdurra. Aithnichear esan an àite sam bith le a chion thir is breithneachaidh. Ach is e so an nì nèonach air an gabh sinn beachd—ciamar riamh a roghnaich gliocas i féin a chur an riochd an amaideis?

Chaidh crìoch is finid air dreuchd an amadain. Ach bha uair eile dha sin. Bha uair ann is gheibhte an t-amadan aig deas laimh rìghrean. Cha robh ionad anns am biodh rìgh no àrdinbheach aig cuirm no aig comhairle, nach biodh an t-amadan 'n a chuideacha an comhnuidh. Feumaidh gu robh sònruichte mu robh companach cho neònach aig na daoine cumhachdach. Anns an t-seanaimsir cha robh clo-bhualadh pailt, agus cha robh leughadh am faisg cho cumanta 's a tha e an diugh. Ann ar latha féin tha ìosal is uasal a' faotainn móran de an ceòl-gàire o leughadh leabhraichean àbhachdach annasach. Ach anns na linntean o shean, ma bha toileachadh de 'n t-seòrsa sin a dhìth air muinntir, dh'fheumadh iad fhaotainn o chàch a chéile, no o luchd ealadhain a bha deas an còmhradh aighearrach. Cosmhuil ris gach comas a ghabhas meudachadh le saothair. faodar teòmachd bhriathran is gearradh-cainnte a neartachadh gu mór le cleachdadh. Bha so a' toirt deagh mhisnich do 'n fhear a bha airmseach gu nàdurra. Tha cuid ann a tha

abartach fileanta o 'n bhroinn. Agus an uair a bhiodh righ no duine ainmeal ag iarruidh fearas-chuideachda, gu tric gheibhte am fear a bu deise facal is a b'fhearr eanchainn gu cridhealas a dhùsgadh. Bha cead-labhairt iongantach aig an amadan. Agus a chionn is gu robh a shaorsa-cainnte cho farsuing, dh' fheumadh e modh is breithneachadh maille ri mean-eòlas air cor is cleachdadh na cuideachda. Dh' fheumadh e ciall is tuigse gu bhi geurchuiseach gun bhi oilbheumach. Mar so is minic a thachair e gur ann fo churrachd an amadain a bha an ceann a b'fheàrr agus an teanga a bu teòma anns an rìoghachd. Faodar a bhi cinnteach gur iomadh cothrom a ghabhadh a leithid so de neach air facal comhairle fo rìochd fala-ghà, a chur an cluais rìgh is tighearna. Is minic a thug àmhailteach sanas is rabhadh d' a mhaighstir mu ghnothuichean diamhair. Is tric a fhuair righ fuasgladh ceiste air a' cheart dòigh. Agus mar thoradh air na cothroman a ghlacadh duine glic an riochd amadain cha ruig sinn a leas iongnadh a bhi oirrn ged a bha cudthrom is éifeachd air iomadh uair ann am facal poncail an amadain. Is cuimhne le cuid co-dhiùbh de ar luchd

leughaidh an uair a bha Hamlet aig an uaigh, agus a thog e'n a laimh o an ùir slige a' chinn aig Yorick, a bha uaireigin an dreuchd an amadain aig cùirt a' rìgh. Tha am prionnsa a' cuimhneachadh le dubhachas air na h-àmhailtean aig Yorick—fear abhcaid aithnichte aig an robh geurchuis is deagh mhacmeanman. Tha e coltach gun biodh an t-amadan 'n a chompanach cluiche aig prionnsachan òga; oir tha Hamlet a' toirt fianuis gun do ghiùlain Yorick e téin mìle uair air a dhruim. Tha Shakespeare a' nochdadh seann nòsan mu an chuspair mu

àraidh anns a bheil pàirt thìorail 'g a togail leis an amadan. Air do Righ Lear a chrùn is a chiall a chall, threig a h-uile creutair is cùirtear e ach an t-amadan a mhàin. Is e an t-àmhailteach an aon chompanach a tha aig an t-seann rìgh, is e fo stoirm is gaillionn na h-oidhche. Tha dìlseachd an amadain smaointeanach; agus is coltach gu robh Shakespeare an dùil gu robh buaidh am pearsa an amadain co dhùibh is ann gu comhairle no càirdeas no comhfhurtachd. Tha còrr is dà cheud bliadhna o leigeadh seachad an dreuchd so a bha aon uair cho iomraiteach. An Alba is an Sasunn tha iomadh naidheachd ri chluinntinn fathast mu àbhachd nan amadan a bhiodh aig na cùirtean rìoghail. Bha rìgh aon uair am Prussia a rinn iarla de 'n amadan, a' deanamh a mach gu robh an t-àmhailteach cho geal an aithridh air urram ri feadhainn eile nach do thoill cho maith e. Is lìonmhor caochladh a thig air gnàths is beatha an t-sluaigh mar a tha na ginealaich a' ruith seachad; agus tha eachdraidh nan amadan 'n a comharradh air an aghart a bha a chuid 's a chuid a' tighinn air foghlum na Roinn Eòrpa fad an dà cheud bliadhna an déidh an Ath-leasaichidh.

ARCHIE OG.

(" A TALE OF MONTROSE'S LITTLE WARS.")

By CAMPBELL OF SADDELL, F.S.A. (Scot.), J.P., The Captain of Saddell Castle.

The mist hung low in Rhonadel Glen like steam from a giant's broth pot, cold and clammy, while through the Glen, Carradale Water ran red in heavy spate. Sorrow and weariness seemed to hang over the land like the mist, for war, bitter war was in the fair Glens of Cantire, for Montrose had slipped off the leash his wild Irishmen, to harry the lands of the Great Argyll, and now fire and sword, ruined gables pointing to the stars, and fatherless bairns greeting at their mother's cold breasts, beside blackened hearths, such was the condition of things when Archie Og stumbled in the mist over the body of a man that was lying face downwards in a pool of brown peat water among the deep black Haggs on Duchran Hill at the mouth of a grev morning.

"God be about us," said he as he turned the corpse on its back, "and Oh Righ! is it no now one of the Mac Alaister's from the Largie side, and young Ronald, the gallant fellow at that. The Black Curse on them Irish, for the country-side has lost a pritty man this day," and with that he pulled his bonnet down on his brow and faced the mist and rain once more.

"Dhé! myself will get shelter at Brackley," said he, "for the curse seems in the very day," but at the turn of the Glen only ruined Gables and smouldering damp thatch told him where once the wee black houses of Brackley had stood, whose doors once in a day aye held a friendly welcome for him, for Archie Og was a gallant chiel, be a lassie in the ploy or a song for the singing, he was the lad, and now as he passed the last ruined house, a wee bit bairn's cry came full on him.

"Mo Thruaighe!" said he, as with a bound, he entered the wee black house among the smouldering damp thatch, and there, lying with her black hair over her dead face lay the body of a young woman in her prime, while beside her, a wee bit bairn cried through hunger and weariness, like a lamb beside its dead mother on the hill.

"My wee lamb," said Archie Og, lifting the wee bit bairn from beside its dead mother, and wrapping his damp red stained plaid about it. "Rest ye there, calf of my heart," said he, and then with a gentle hand he pushed the matted black hair from off the dead woman's face.

"God save us," said he, a sudden lump coming into his throat as his eyes fell on the dead woman's face. "Aye! Aye! Rhondale Kate, and this is the end of your jaunt, my poor lassie, and was it no yourself that put a dirk in my heart and made a reckless roving chiel o' me, with an eye for every lassie that came along, to show I was no caring, while all the time I was eating out my heart below my doublet since that day Big Knapdale John took you to suckle his clan, but the best man wins, my poor lassie. And where is your man this very day-God knows-but it is myself now that will suckle your clan by my own fireside, just for the sake of one that is gone, and memories of happy days among the heather," and with that he stooped down and kissed the woman's cold brow, then drawing his wee black knife from his garter, he cut a lock of her hair, and placed it inside his doublet next his heart, then picking up the wee bit bairn, he wrapped it in his plaid safe between his shoulders, and without giving the dead woman another look, passed out of the ruin, with his naked steel in his hand and with the look of a man that has a life's purpose

A GAELIC GLOSSARY.

By Ronald Burn, Humanity Dept., University, Glasgow.

These words or meanings not given by the most complete of all dictionaries (Dwelly's, including 80,000 and all words in the other dictionaries), are really a mere by-product of extensive mountaineering through the mainland and of ceilidhs with several friends here in Glasgow. They have chiefly been gathered by means of place names. Everywhere I go I collect the names of peaks, corries, burns, boulders etc., etc. (I have very extensive collectanea from most of the Highlands, especially the glorious west from Loch Nevis to Loch Broom, every glen there and most keepers and shepherds being known to me.) This pastime generally brings in as an off-shoot several words unknown to all the Gaelic dictionaries. Thus has this vocabulary grown, and it has been swelled by the kindness of (chiefly Islemen) friends here. But I must point out that I have no Gaelic-a Highlander (of course), MacIntyre to clan, I was born in the birthplace of the Book of Deer, where Gaelic has been silent for seven centuries. All the little I know has been picked up through my many friends. On the other hand, I must emphasise the fact that my witness is honest. I have no axe to grind, no theory to special-plead, no tendenzschrift to write. As far as I am able (and the phonetics are the difficulty), I have written down each word as I heard it and given each meaning as I got it. My collectanea will no doubt swarm with blunders due to my ignorance, but the swarm will at any rate not be that of bees from my bonnet.* On the other hand, as this list is composed exclusively of words unprinted in the Dwelly (Ewen MacDonald, Herne Bay) dictionary—to which we Gaels owe a debt unpayable and I fear very little felt—and also of meanings apparently not recognised by it, I think that my collectanea have a certain value. If so, then that value is entirely due to the keepers and shepherds in countless glens and friends here who have furnished the words. To them alone belongs all the whole credit that may attach to this attempt to rescue some part of our copious and beautiful vocabulary; to me alone belongs all the blame for the blunders which repeated revisions and céilidhs will still have left. † I only hope that this word list will be of use to scholars, for whom I have compiled it, and that every reader will send me corrections and additions for future publication. This last is most important. For just reflect-if I can single-handed collect over 500 words, chiefly as a by product in collecting place-names, how many hundreds more could be added if only each reader (who will speak Gaelic) would jot down all rare and little-known words and technical terms (e.g., implements, parts of harness, ship, etc.) and cram my postbag with them. To put it another way-these words are mostly nouns and adjectives, they have therefore been garnered largely through asking names of places. Well, then, my readers who have a large vocabulary in their heads of words applicable not just to burns or corries, but to the spinning wheel, to gathering cattle, and that to verbs and adverbs and conjunctions-surely out of these must lurk not 500 but 5000 words not in Dwelly, although he includes 80,000. Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig!

Word.	Meaning, and gender if known.	District where used, often a place name. [The information here given is positive, i.e. no legative iron mission of name of other districts as if word were not used there, for I can but give the districts known to me as having the word. I do, however, add in least column sty and the least column sty was the word is not used therein.]	Informant. [Native is always added if he be a native of the district opposite his name.]	Remarks. (As for as possible left to the learned reader) and cross references to other words in dilat ny collection of similar or distinct incuming or (occasionally) of similar composition or see a constant of the composition of see a same circle of ideas.
Ablach	clownish fellow useless man	Tomintoul Jura	Spence native Neil Shaw native	
Ad	Hat (masc.)	Gl. Dessarry Sgurr an Ad is N.N.E. of Loch Morar, sheet 62 E 1 of 1 inch—to which all map refs.	Angus Stewart Strathan native	Genitive is an ad.; not na h-Aide as in map. This and gender being peculiar justify inclusion, for neither appears in Dwelly.

[•] Nor are my collections a glossary of printed literature; that is a lexicographer's proper task for which my ignorance units are That same ignorance and lack of them makes my references to books very few and scattered—indeed, except that I thought a few better than none at all. I might have suppressed these. But the reader will understand that they are not meant to be exhaustly, but rather suggestive. Perhaps those to Watson's Rose place-Names should have been more frequent, P References like 72 U at a ret, to check (72) sleft-better (0) top and for for given of 1 inch Ordance Share.

Adharc	Spicket of peesweep, teuchit's crest	Braemore (L. Broom)	Matheson native	Pronounced aorachd, whence adharcan (pron., aorgan). Dwelly gives adharcan (Machrach) as peesweep, but does not give adharcan -spicket. Cf. stuimpean and G.S.I. Trs. 24, 331, 235 (also saorcan)
A dhîth		Braemore	Matheson native	Dweily's phrase, chaidh e a dhith, means he perished with cold or hunger; so Coli, who also have it of going to the bad, e.g., through drink.
Aghaidh,	forward	Tiree Coll	Mrs. Mac- Leod native MacDougall native	Dialectic variant, $\{Cf,$ bithich. $\}$ I probably include too much that is only mere dialect (and not therefore a separate) word or meaning, but $\}$ prefer to err on the too lavish side rather than risk missing anything important.
Àillean	lovely	L. Tréig Leacann A. between Coir' A. and end of Meall Ciann Dearg 54 A 3 and 63 J 3	Robert Stewart G. L. Dessary	My Informant once "herded himself" at Invertain close by, close the word dialectic for aluin—and cf. allicanta in Dwelly.
Ainneamh	good, splendid	Braemore	Matheson native	Là a—a splendid day, a " rare " day.
Air	behind	Glen Affric	"old people" reported by Paterson, "Aultbea"	Glean Air Friedhar" (gronomoed frame)— Glean Affrie-, "glean out-of-eight". Prof. Waxio tells in that air is equivalent to 0. Ir. Iar n- behind (and see MacSaln). Gentle in the second of the second
Àirdeal	good order, methodicalness	Braemore	Matheson native	Duine à—a methodicai man, one who has every thing in good order.
Airgiod- cagainn	chewing money		Matheson, Lochaidh, Bhraoin, Braemore	"I have heard that Montrose on his way nort in 1629, when marching through Inverness le his men billet wherever they liked. They woul not look at food unless the landlord put 1/- Scot on each plate. This was termed alrg. C."—Matheson in a letter to me.
Aisith	turbulent (of river)	Glen Feshie	"old folk" reported by Finlay Mac- Intosh, a native of Glen (now Ben Alder) Lodge	Adi, and nous (Cf. Dwelly)—etyman of Fesh Cf locative of alstheadth), but obsolete now- or is it a coinage? But Feshle is also pronounce feshle by a very old matter, John Fernison, wh as a lad always frequented the old Reepers an collected names, and is best authority for all names *Lewis phrase is "matth doshith ach 's ole d'aistith given me by native.
Aisridh	narrow passage, e.g., through a rock; narrow aisle in church	Lochaber	MacDonald native	Cf. Dwelly.

IIII Dudiac				
Aiteachan	place with junipers	Glen Feshie Beinn Uluc Duibhe	Finlay Mac- Intosh who lived there formerly and is native Robertson of Lui Beg, Braemar	A is sounded long and meaning is more that "energy in the content of the content
Aitionn	Kernel, e.g., of oats unhusked, opposed to sgileadh (q.v.)	? Strath Glass	Cameron, native of Str. Glass, gardener at Corrour Lodge	?—eitean (Cf. sgileadh).
Altanich	deer hair, grass	Braemore	Matheson native	[Cf. fionn, bruchachgan fionndairneach, fiar chialscan].
Amhais	cold	Glen Nevis	folks at "Achintee"	? Albheis (spelling uncertain)—word was used the explain meaning of "Ben Nevis"t (hough miformant knew of other interpretations); ?? cf. amhas in Dw—possibly amhais is locative—nominative as glaic is almost universal in upper and mid Speyside, etc., for glac—and othe instances).
Amhan	marsh	Glen Moriston	Peter Mac- Donald, late of Innis- hirult (now at Stony Glen, Strath Farrar) native of, Gl. M.	Connected with abhalan; qx , the streaming we spot Γ . Word seems anknown elsewhere. C_f , lians, stadium.
	meadow, lon	same	same	
Amhal	yoke, for plough, etc. (masc.)	L. Ness, W. side (i.e., Abriachan district especially)	MacDonald native	Dialetic for amail ?
Anaid	heifer	Sutherland	Smith, Loch Mor- lich, Aire- more	?—ainbhte or ainmhide. Cf. G.S.I., Trs. 25, 120 (last word given by Dwelly as babbler). ? tropical sense of above. [Cf. steudag infr. and in Dw.]
	sprightly young girl	Coll	MacFadzean native	
Anail	pechin', panting (fem.)	Gl. Falloch, Tom na h- Analach, knoll just N.E. of bridge over Dubh Eas/D and W. of where rail crosses it	not noted	Cf. "short of breath," and Three Coll and Lewis phrase, that had a 'leigrid an analanch. Name would thus equate with Rest and be Thankful Stone. [Cf. osnach.]
'N am	as, when, dum, quom	Glen Kingie Braemore	Mac Lennan, now in Gl. Duibhlighe, reported by Angus Stewart, Glen Dessarry Matheson native	In song by MacLennan (cellected by me as uppublished, 'nan thouch discatch Drim Garaful' '2's mor a' mi-ghean th' air m'aire, dol a shealltain na' fadh, chaldh a' bliadhna bho thlachd olrm.
Aogh	kind	Glen Shiel Glen Tilt—Bealach na h-Aighe on B. a' Ghlo	Colin Campbell head keeper 6 inch map and local information	Probably mere dialect pronunciation of sgh. The form Belm nan Alghean (explained sometime as helfer, sometimes as hind) seems to point to a neum. Sing., aighean fr Loch Etive district Cf. ellid, ellig.

Gold Medal Series. Competition 50. Male Voices.

CATHAIR A' CHUL-CHINN .- ORAN MOR.

Am fonn le CALUM MACPHARLAIN An t-òran le DOMHNALL MACLEOID. GLEUS F. d, d ., r | m : a' Chul - chinn, m s. đ 1 | s h-aghaidh 's a ris na tuinn; Cathair d, d d | 1 d Chul - chinn a' 's i cho bòidh each: Cathair d ., r m m s. 1 | 8 , d 2 minic bha sinn cruinn, 's ri cleasachd air a druim, No'm s . m r : d: - . m đ rm 's na cuirn mhòr falach anns na tuill a: s | 1, d - : d ., 1 | s ., m : r innis i, 's mi cuallach a'c d | m . r : r ., m m ., s chiatach cuallach a' chruidh dhruimfhinn oirr' 'S mu'n leam an s | 1, d : d ., 1 | s . m laoigh mhìreagach; Cha bhiodh ann r . d|r feum air lòn, . 8 8 Air cuairt oirnn na 1, . 1 | s 1 d, d .-d ., r | m : - . m 8 . 8 Chul - chinn, air broig, Air Cathair a' 's a boineid . 1 s 1 s, m . - : s . 1 | d : 1,s.m | r:- | d:-. 8 1 h-aghaidh a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidh-each. ris na tuinn: Air Cathair

Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn; Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach; Na caileagan a' seinn, 's a' bleoghann a' chruidh-

laoigh, 'S an ceilearadh cho binn ris na smeòraich; Bu bhòidheach leam 'sa mhadainn i, Is dealt na h-oidhch' mar fhalluinn oirr',

'S na h-uiseagan an caithream rith': Na'm biodh mo spiorad trom

Có ghleusadh mi gu fonn, Ach Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh risha tuinn; Ach Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach.

Cathair a Chul-chinn, 's ah-aghaidh ris na tuinn; Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach; Nach fhaic thu'n fheamainn ruadh mar fhalt na maighdinn-chuain;

Le subhachas 'ga buan tha na h-òighean; Tha gnìomhachas 'sa bhaile so,

Le casan-crom is caibeanan, Is àm a' chur' a' teannadh oirnn;

Tha trusgan dealbhach ùr Is rìomhaiche do 'n t-sùil

Air Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn, Air Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach.

Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn; Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach; Tha réiteachadh air linn is sgadan anns na glinn,

Is eathraichean Chul-chinn uile 'n tòir air: Nis cuiridh 'n òrdugh baraillean.

Is faicidh gu'm bi salann ann; Cha bhiadh 'm bun-tàt gun sgadan leis:

Ach biodh iad pailt no gann Cha bhi gruaim no greann

Air Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn, Air Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach,

Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn;

Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach; Tha corruich air a' chuan fo bhuille na gaoith tuath.

'S i 'g iomanadh nan stuadh sìos gu Cròna; Tha chulaidh chaol an arraban A' fiaradh chun na h-acarsaid,

Is iomadh taom tha frasadh oirr'; Ach thigeadh stoirm no sìon

Bios fasgadh agus dìon Air Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn;

Air Cathair a' Chul-chinn 's i cho bòidheach.

Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn; Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach;

Is ionmhuinn leam gach smuain 's gach cleachdadh tha rith' fuaight;

Is beag a bhiodh de bhruaillean mu còsan: Na'm faigheadh dùrachd ciomhlionadh,

Na'm faigheadh iarrtas toileachadh, Cha'n fhanainn-sa measg choigearach; Nuair thig mo chuing fa sgaoil

Gu'n teid mi thìr an fhraoich,

Gu Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's a h-aghaidh ris na tuinn

Gu Cathair a' Chul-chinn, 's i cho bòidheach.

Figs Do's LEUGRADAR—CULCHINY: 5 belie beng chrotedrean 'san taobh siar de thataibh. A' CHATRAIN: roce bollabach gorn an ceann abha a' Duora a' charain a' chatrain a' chatrain a' charain a

AN "LISTENING-IN."

Còmhradh eadar Seumas Bàn agus Seònaid a bhean.

> Le IAIN MACCORMAIG, Glascho. (A' cheud duais aig Mòd, 1924.)

Seonaid—(air an urlar a' sealltuinn air a' chlog, agus troimh an uinneig, is i a' figheadh stocainn). Ach ciod e o chruthachadh an t-saoghail a thàinig air an fhear againne an nochd. Tha e 'n déidh da-uair-'éug a' mheadhon oidhche a bhualadh 's e gun tighinn dachaidh fhathast. Thig Seumas a stigh.) An d' amais thu 'lacchain air an tigh gun duine thighinn leat? Nach tusa fhuair an t-àite suidhe socrach gu dearbh.

fhuair an t-àite suidhe socrach gu dearbh. Seumas—Cha robh fàillinn 's an àite shuidhe, a bhean.

а впеш

Seonaid—Tha fhios ma's ann an tigh a' ghreusaiche bha thu gus a so gu'n do chuir iad crathadh salainn ort, a dhuine bhochd.

SEUMAS—(A' suidhe 'sa cur dheth a bhròg) An dà, ghalad a Sheònaid, cha robh cùram breothaidh domh air son na h-ùine a chuir mi seachad an tigh a' ghrensaiche chòir. Bha mi ann gun teagamh, ach cha robh mi ann gus a so air a shon sin.

Seonaid—(A' suidhe, dealg 'na beul 's i cunntas nan lùb) Seadh ma tà, Sheumais, c'àit a nis an robh thu gus an ám so dh'oidhche,

fear do theaghlaich ?

SEUMAS—(Ga shorachadh fhéin) Tut, a bhean, bi ciallach. Nach ioma rud a dh'fhaodas eadhon fear teaghlaich a chumail anmoch oidhche seach oidhcheigin.

SEONAID—Seadh, seadh. Ciod e an drideart a dh'éirich duit a nochd ma tà?

Seumas—Drideart! Cha d'éirich drideart 'sam bith. Ach an rud a chum mise a nochd cumaidh e thusa an ath-oidhch' ma thoileachas tu dol leamsa.

SEONAID-So! so! a dhuine chridhe!

SEUMAS—(A' leantuinn) agus ma théid, chi thu agus cluinnidh thu rud nach cuala is air nach do smaointich duine de ar daoine riamh, eadhon am bruadar, no an tromlighe, no am breislich.

Seonaid—(A' leigeil a làmhan air a gluinean)
A chuideachd I a chuideachd I Ciod e an
tuamhas a chunnaic na chuala tu ? Is
ann a tha thu a' toirt air m'fhalt éiridh
'na sheasamh air mo cheann.

SEUMAS—Ciod e chunnaic na chuala mi? Is ann a tha an sin sgeul, a Sheònaid a chaomhag. Stad gus an cluinn thu. SEONAID-So ma tà!

Seumas—Chuala mi an tigh a' ghreusaiche gu'n d'thàinig Murchadh Iain Bhig dachaidh. Seonaid—Tha mi agad a nis.

SEUMAS—(A' leantuinn) Agus ciod a tha agad

air ach gu'n do thadhail mi an tigh Iain Bhig 's an dol seachad.

SEONAID—Nach do dh'aithnich mi! Tha mi agad a nis. Is gun teagamh bha 'na chuideachd na bheireadh ort rudan glé neònach fhaicinn, 's a chluinntinn cuideachd.

Seumas—Air do shocair a nis, a Sheonaid.

Na tog mi gus an tuit mi.

Seonaid-Lean ort ma tà.

SEUMAS—Co dhiù, an uair chaidh mi steach do thigh Iain Bhig bha e làn bho cheann an teine gus an dorus, agus gun smid á beul duine aca—drannadh.

SEONAID—Eudail! eudail! Ciod e an ath rud!
SEUMAS—(A' leantuinn) Urad agus mionngurnud
cha robh fo chromadh an tighe!

SEONAID-Mise! mise 'n diugh!

Seumas—(A' leantuinn) Bha seann Iain Beag fhéin 'na shuidhe aig ceann a' bhùird agus rud rìomhach mar gu'm biodh srian eich mu cheann 's mu chluasan.

Seonaid—Mu cheann 's mu chluasan! An duine bochd. Tha mi an dòchas nach d'fhuair e galar a ghonaidh an là roimhe.

SEUMAS—Is fhad bhuaithe ghabh e, 'Sheònaid.
Nach ann a thig Murchadh, a mhac,
"listening-in" dachaidh á Glascho, agus
ciod e bha Iain Beag a' deanamh an uair
a chaidh mise steach ach a "listening-in"
a cheart cho dìchealach 's ged a bhiodh
e ag éisdeachd searmoin latha Chomanachaidh.

Seonaid—Is ciod e bha e a' deanamh an uair bha e a' luseanadh-in?

SEUMAS—Bha e dìreach a' luseneadh-in 's an rud ud mu chluasan. Is ann a shaoil mise leis cho balbh 'sa bha h-uile duine stigh gur ann a bha lain Beag 's na mionaidean mu dheireadh le lòinidh 'na cheann ma a b'àbhaist da is gu'm b'e inneal-leighis ùr a thug Murchadh chuige bha e a' feuchainn. Ach Moire! Chan e ach an lusenin-in so, agus a leithid eile de rud chan fhaca 's cha chuala duine de'n àl so riamh.

Seonaid—Tha thu'n déidh m'fhàgail bodhar, dall.

SEUMAS—Dh'fheuch mis' orm e agus chuala mi iad a' seinn an Glascho a cheart cho soilleir, a Sheònaid, ri aon òran a chuala mi riamh air a sheinn 's an Tigh-sgoil ud thall. Seonaid—Ach ciod an seòrsa rud a th'ann?

An e seòrs' ùr de ghrafuman a th'ann?

SEUMAS—Chan e, chan e! Chan ionann idir doibh. Chan 'eil agad ach an rud ud a chuir mu do chlussan agus cluinnidh tu rud 'sam bith. Cluinnidh tu iad a' seinn 's a bruidhinn an Glascho, an Lunnainn, 's an America.

Seonaid—Agus, a Sheumais a rùin, am bheil thusa creidsinn sin?

Seumas—Agus, a Sheònaid a rùin, saoil nach creid mi'n rud a chuala mi le mo dhà chluais féin?

Seonato—Ged a chluinneadh, a Sheumais, agus le do dha chois. Agus tha mi ag ràdh riut gu bheil e a cheart cho dòcha gu'n cluinneadh tu fear a' seinn an Glascho a nochd le do dha chois is gu'n cluinneadh tu e le do dha chluais, 's tha an deagh chlaisteachd agad.

Seumas—A Sheònaid! An ann agadsa as fhearr tha fios no agam fhéin ciod a chuala mi?

SEONAID—Ma chuala tu ceòl idir 's e'n ceòl a tha an uchd Mhurchaidh fhéin. An uair a bha e aig an tigh an uiridh bha e aon Dòmhnach 'na shuidhe air mo chulaobh 'san t-searmoin is bha dùil agam gu'n robh a h-uile pìobaire 's an Reisimid Duibh a' cluich còmhla cu'l na h-eaglais is port dha fhéin aig a h-uile fear. Thusa 's do lusenin in!

Seumas—An cluinn thusa mise, a Sheònaid.

Ciod e am freagradh a bheir thu orm an
uair a dh'innseas mi dhuit gu'n do
dh'aithnich mi urrad agus guth an eòin
a bha seinn?

Seonaid—O, Laochain! a laochain! nach ann ortsa chaidh an draoigheachd a chur. Nach ann ortsa chaidh sin gun fhàillinn. Is dh'aithnich thu eadhon an guth!

Seumas—An cluinn thu nis! Nach toir thu dhomh cead bruidhne.

SEONAID-Seadh, seadh, ma ta. Lean romhad.

SEUMAS—Mar tha foc agad, 's e Eachann Mairi Ruaidhe a fhuair duais mhór a' Mhòid an uiridh air son seinn, agus a thaobh sin tha iarrtas air anns gach àite a sheinn. Agus, a Sheònaid, chuala mise Eachann a nochd air an lusenin-in 's mì am shuidhe am Port an Tobair is esan an Glaesho a cheart cho soilleir 's ged a bhiodh e 'na sheasamh air meadhon an ùrlar ann an sud. Ciod e their thu ris a sin !

SEONAID-A luaidh! A luaidh!

SEUMAS—(A' leantuinn) Agus chan e sin a mhàin, ach ged nach biodh fios agam idir gu'm b'e bh'ann, dh'aithnichinn a ghuth a' seinn an "Eilein Mhuilich" leis a ghliog a thig 'na mhuinneal an uair a thogas e 'ghuth aig Eilein Buadhmhor (seinnidh e fhéin na facail 's thig ruith casdaidh air is Seònaid a' g'aireachdain). Chan urrainn mis' an gliog a dheanamh, ach dh'aithnichinn guth Eachainn air, c'àite 'sam bith an cluinninn e.

SEONAID—(An trithean gàire) Q, eudail! eudail!

a Sheumais! Cha toir do sheinn á
cuideachd thusa. Nach tu nach freagradh
air an lusening-in! A gus, a dhuine chridhe,
nach gòrach thu co-dhiù! Ciod an comhcheangal dìomhair a tha eadar tigh Iain
Bhig seach tigh eile 'san dùthaich is
Glascho? An do smaointich thu, a
thruaghain, air a sin?

thruaghain, air a sin ?
SEUMAS—Comh-cheangal! Nach 'eil an t-adhar.

chluinneas tu ann?

an t-adhar, a bhean!
SEONAID—An t-adhar! Agus nach 'eil an
t-adharmu'n cuairt do thìghe féin cuideachd,
agus ciod iad na miolaidean anabarrach a

SEUMAS-Och, och, nach éibhinn thu!

SEONAID—Gu dearbh fhéin na'n cluinninn ceòl mi-nadurra 'sam bith ann bu ghoirid a bhithinn a' toirt a' bhlàir-a-muigh orm.

SEUMAS—Ach, a Sheònaid, a ghràidh nam ban, nach éisd thusa riumsa tacan beag. Feumaidh inneal sòireaichte bhi agad mu'n cluinn thu leis an lusening-in. Tha sreanganan copair aig Murchadh Iain Bhig a' falbh o shlait taobh-a-muigh an tighe agus an sin tha iad air an cur a nul 'sa nall, is thall 'sa bhos, a meag nan lànan.

SEONAID—Á dhuine chridhe, 'dhuine chridhe!
SEUMAS—(A' leantuinn 'sa leigeil fhaicinn le
làmhan mar tha na sreanganan a' dol feadh
an tighe)—gus an ruig jad ceann na teine.

SEONAID—Eudail, eudail! Tha an duine làn buidseachais!

SEUMAS—Chan 'eil. Tha an rud nàdurra gu leòir, na'n tuigeadh tusa e. Tha an sin dual diubh air a cheangal ri bocsa buidhe air a' bhòrd.

SEONAID-Dìreach dearg ghisreagan anns an

aodann: seadh?

SEUMAS—(A' leantuinn)—Agus an usir a chuireas tu an seòrsa sréin ud mu do cheann 's mu do chlusan cluinnidh tu rud 'sam bith eadhon an America.

Seonaid—(A' crathadh a cinn) An America, 'laochain!

Seumas—Seadh, na an àite 'sam bith, tha Murchadh ag radh. SEONAID-Chan 'eil agad ach lùireach a chuir mu do cheann am Port an Tobair agus cluinnidh tu iad a' seinn an aite 'sam bith ! A laochain, a laochain, a Sheumais! Tha fios nach 'eil thu an da-rìreadh a' creidsinn a leithid sin de ghleòrais!

SEUMAS-Stad gus am faic 'san cluinn thu

féin, a 'Sheònaid!

SEONAID-Stadaidh gu dearbh fhéin, chan 'eil sìon air an t-saoghal ann ach dòigh rìomhach air gisreagan cailleach Dail na Boglaich an uair a chuireadh i lùireach mu ceann agus a thòisicheadh i, 'na gurraban, air toirt fiosachd as an luatha do dh'oinnsichean nighean.

SEUMAS-Ciod e, chan e gisreagan a tha an so idir ach inneal a cheart cho nadurra ri

pìob no ri fidhil.

Seonaid-Nach b'e an t-inneal e gu dearbh. Tha mi ag radh riut gu bheil a cheart cho math dhuit an droghach a thoirt bhàrr na croscaig a tha an crochadh ris a' bhalla ann a sud.

SEUMAS-Tuts, tuts, a Sheonaid!

SEONAID-(A' leantuinn)-A' cur nan driomlaichean ris na lànanan gus am bi mullach an tighe mar gu'm biodh crann deilbhe-

Seumas-Seadh, seadh!

SEONAID-(A' leantuinn 's ag obiar le làmhan mar bha Seumas fhein)-A ceann a cheangal ris a' bhocsa bhuidhe a bhios aig Mairi Mhór a' cruinneachadh nan uibhean-

Seumas-Nach b'e 'n lussening-in e! SEONAID-(A' leantuinn)-Agus an sin maide-

crom a' chleibh-spioraich a chur mu do cheann agus cluinnidh tu a cheart uibhir ciùil 'sa chluinneas tu le inneal ciùil Mhurchaidh, ged is ann a Glascho fhéin a thainig e. Sin agad a nis.

SEUMAS-Seadh, seadh, a Sheònaid a rùin, ach chan 'eil thu a' tuigsinn an ruid idir. Tha fios agad tha Alec-tricity 'san inneal aig Murchadh, agus tha e a' ceapadh na fuaim a ghiulaineas an t-adhar bho'n cheann as

fhaide air falbh de'n t-saoghal.

SEONAID-Alec-tricity! Ged a bhitheadh, a Sheumais, agus Sandy-tricity ciod e bha sin a' dol a dheanamh? Tha mi ràdh riut nach 'eil anns na rudan sin ach amhuiltean a tha aig an nàmhaid a mhealladh sluagh an t-saoghail-

SEUMAS-An cluinn thu, 'Sheonaid!

SEONAID-(A' leantuinn)-Agus gabh chomhairle 's bi cuidhte 's iad-SEUMAS-Air do shocair, a bhean! Thoir

dhomh cead bruidhne.

SEONAID-(A' leantuinn)-tha thu togail teaghlaich agus is e do dhleasdanas eisimpleir mhath a thoirt doibh.

SEUMAS-Nach éisd thu rium mionaid! SEONAID-Eisdidh 's ged a dh'éisdeas fhéin.

SEUMAS-Seall so ma tà!

SEONAID-Seallaidh 's ged a sheallas fhéin. Tha mis ag ràdh riut, a Sheumais a ghaoil. SEUMAS-Thots! Tha thusa 'g ràdh rium-

SEONAID-Thots na thets, tha mi dìreach ag ràdh riut nach cluinnear fuaim air an astar sin gu bràth-

SEUMAS-So, so! So, so!

SEONAID-gus an cluinn sinn uile feadh an t-saoghail air fad, beo agus marbh mar tha sinn ann, fuaim na Trompaid dheireannaich, 's gu dearbh fhéin, a Sheumais, 's ann mu coinne a bu chòir duit a bhi ag ullachadh 's chan ann a bhi air do mhealladh leis na h-ioraltan aig Murchadh Iain Bhig.

SEUMAS-Tha mi ag aideachadh sin, a Sheònaid, ach tha mise 'g innseadh dhuit gu bheil an lusening-in cho ceart 's cho nàdurra ri rud a chuala tu riamh air an t-saoghal. A cheart cho nàdurra 's ged bhiodh neach a' seinn 'sa bheul ri do chluais.

SEONAID-Na h-abair thusa riumsa, a Sheumais, gu bheil e nàdurra gu'n cluinn mise duine a' seinn ceud mile bhuam cho soilleir 's ged bhiodh a bheul ri mo chluais. Am bheil sin nàdurra?

SEUMAS-Tha gun teagamh, an uair tha inneal ri do chluais a' ceapadh na fuaime tha'n t-adhar a' craobh-sgaoileadh feadh an t-saoghail gu léir.

SEONAID-Tha thu dìreach coltach ris an fheadhainn a tha 'g radh gu'n teid aca air bruidhinn ris na daoine marbha.

SEUMAS-Moire! Chuala mise Murchadh Iain Bhig ag radh gu robh e iomadh uair anns na coinneamhan aig am bi iad a' bruidhinn ris na mairbh agus gu'm b'aithne dha fhéin feadhainn a bha faotuinn teachdaireachd an t-saoghail thall!

SEONAID-A Sheumais! A Sheumais! C' ait 'eil thu dol a stad ? Chan ionghnadh idir thu bhi creidsinn anns an lusening-in! Is ann a tha thu a' cur uamhais orm. Is ann a tha thu a' bruidhinn air Murchadh Iain Bhig mar gu'm biodh agad am fàidhe Ieremiah!

SEUMAS-Tha mise 'g ràdh riut gu bheil cuid de na daoine 's ionnsaichte air an t-saoghal a' creidsinn anns an rud. Ciod e mu'n duine mhór ainmeil ud a bha sgrìobhadh mu'n fhear a bha cho ealanta an innleachdan a thaobh breith air meirlich?

- Seonaid—Tha fhios gur e sheorsa bu docha tighinn a mach le àmhlaireachd. Nach fhaod do thùr nàdurra féin innseadh dhuit nach robh dìomhaireachd de'n t-seòrsa sin air a cumail am falach oinn gus an so, no gus an deach Murchadh Iain Bhig do Ghlascho na'm biodh e chum feum a' chinne-daonna?
- Seumas—Nis, a Sheònaid! Is e gille creideasach a tha am Murchadh Iain Bhig, agus gille poncail anns nach 'eil gleòdhrais 'sam bith, agus chuala mis' e le m odha chluais théin, air an oidhche air am bheil an oidhche nochd ag ràdh, gu'n robh e ioma uair aig coinneamh aig an d'fhuair feadhainn teachdaireachd o chàirdean a tha marbh o chionn ioma bliadhna.
- Seonain—A laochain, A laochain, a Sheumais!

 Nach faoin do sheanchas; agus nach faoin
 thusa cuideachd ma tha thu ag aomadh
 leis. Ma tha sin mar sin c'arson and
 d'fhuair e fhéin bruidhinn de'n Bhlaosh
 d'fhuair e fhéin bruidhinn de'n Bhlaosh
 Mhoganach, bràthair a shinn-seanair, feuch
 c'ait an do chuir e a' falach an t-airgiod
 mu'n do shiubhail e. Nach bu ghoireasach
 an dòigh sin air fhaotuinn a mach seach
 a dhaoine bhi o cheann leth-cheud bliadhna
 a' tionndadh na talmhainn bun os cionn
 le spaidean 's le geibhleagan feuch am
 faigh iad ullaidh!
- Seumas—(Ag éiridh 'sa cur dheth a sheacaid a dhol a laighe) Feumaidh mi aideachadh, a Sheònaid, gu bheil rud-eigin an sin, gun teagamh, ach tha móran an rudan de'n t-seòrsa air nach urrainn sinn ruigheachd.
- Seonaid—Tha e dìreach coltach ris an lusening-in. Agus fàgaidh sinn mar sin a nochd e.
- SEUMAS—Ciod e, a Sheònaid, cha leig mi an lusening-in seachad idir. Chan 'eil ni mi-nàdurra ann. Tha, mar thuirt mi riut, an inneal ann an sud 's chan 'eil i ach a' ceapadh na fuaime. Seall thu mhias mhór ud thall mar thig fuaim aisde an uair a bhuaileas mi mo dha bhois air a cheile (bualaidh e dha bhois air a cheile.) An cluinn thu sin! Sin agad gnè an lusening-in.
- SEONAID—Seadh, seadh, a laochain! Tha eagal orm gu'm bi thu greis a' sgailceadh de bhas mu'n toir thu air a' mhèis "An t-Eilean Muileach" a sheinn. Is fhearr dhuit, a laochainn, do leabaidh thoirt ort neo bidh lusening-in sa mhaduinn ann agus agad ris an traigh a cheapadhn.

(Falbhaidh iad le cheile).

EDINBURGH TIR NAM BEANN GATHERING.

The large and enthusiastic audience that attended the annual gathering of the Edinburgh Tir Nam Beann Society in the Usher Hall must have proved highly gratifying to its office-bearers and members.

It was thought by many when Tir Nam Beann was formed two or three years ago that there was scarcely need or room to add to the number of existing Highland Societies in the city. It now takes its place as one of the leading and most popular Societies in the city. There is to be found in the constitutions of most Highland Societies a rule to the effect that one of the objects is the preservation of the Gaelic language, a rule which is generally more honoured in the breach than in the observance. In the case, however, of Tir Nam Beann, whose members, for the most part, are Gaelic speakers, the reverse is true. At its weekly meetings Gaelic is the predominant feature. During the war when the Association of Highland Societies in Edinburgh linked the individual Societies together many Highland and Scottish concerts were held in the Usher Hall, and Tir Nam Beann on this occasion has worthily upheld the concert traditions of those years. Sir John Lorne Macleod, hon, president of the Society, occupied the chair.

Sir John Lorne Macleod said it gave him great pleasure to be present that night as hon, president of Tir Nam Beann, and to see before him so large an attendance of the members and friends of the Society. The objects of the Society was to afford facilities and means of friendship among people from the Highlands and Islands, and to do everything possible to foster and stimulate the use of the old Gaelic tongue. It was their purpose to see that the old language, which was dear to the Highland people, and which expressed the sentiments of their hearts, should not die. There had been a remarkable revival within recent years. "We Gaelic people," he said, "are very proud that the Gaelic language is the ancient language of Scotland." They believed it would remain. He congratulated the Society on the large gathering at the concert, and said he looked forward to the concert being an annual festival. He did not conceive that it was possible to bring together in Edinburgh so many Highlanders and Islanders. (Applause.)

The concert commenced with an organ selection, "Highland and Hebridean Melodies," played by Mr. George Short. This and a series of reels by the Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band and the Edinburgh Highland Reel and Strathspey Society gave that atmosphere conducive to the real appreciation of a Gaelic concert. The programme of Gaelic and Scottish solos, and Scottish recitations, was warmly appreciated.

There is no Scottish Elocutionist more welcomed by a Glasgow audience than Miss Agnes Batholomew, and her contributions were enthusiastically received. Miss Carmen Hill and Mr. Philip Malcolm were responsible for the purely Scottish songs and Miss Alice Henderson and Mr. Alastair Maclennan for the Gaelic items. Both these artistes received numerous encores. Miss Henderson is a wellknown Gaelic vocalist, whereas we believe this is Mr. Maclennan's first appearance in a concert in the Usher Hall. He was a successful competitor at the recent Mod in Perth, although not the gold medallist. The quality and rhythm of his singing, combined with native modesty, were warmly appreciated.

On the motion of Mr. Fred T. Macleod, honvice-president, Sir John Lorne Macleod was thanked for his speech and as Chairman, and the gratuitous services of the Edinburgh City Police Band, and the Edinburgh Reel and Strathspey Society, through their conductor, Mr. Ian Menzies, were recognised.

THE OGHA MOR.

We are pleased to notice that the long looked for translation of our President's Gaelic Novel has been favourably received by the English Press, of which the following from the "Glasgow Herald" is a specimen. Those who are interested in the collection of copies of author's first editions will be on the alert. Our readers will be particularly interested in the foreword by Neil Munro.

A GAELIC TALE.

"The Ogha Mor." By Angus Robertson.
6s. Introduction by Neil Munro. (Glasgow and London: Gowans and Gray.)

This is a tale originally from a Gaelic brain and in the Gaelic tongue—among the very first of novels set down in the language of Tir nam Beann. In its native form it had

not to seek praise from the critics; that came in unstinted measure. Mr. Robertson was hailed as the herald of a new dawn in Gaelic prose writing; and justly so, for the book gave evidence of a wonderful gift of storytelling in language sparkling with gems of phrase and idiom and proverb, of scene painting, thought dissecting, and character drawing, and with a power to catch at the heart by reason of the witchery of its spell. This English translation comes some ten odd years after its Gaelic birth, and the English reader will find himself in some bewilderment at the reading of it. The diction is so strange and the spirit of it so elusive that the mood will vary during the perusal. The English is cast in a Gaelic mould, and the accent has the Gaelic rhythm; the touch of the second-sight carries the non-Gael out of his depth: the meaning of much of the writing is got at a slant; responsibility for the tale is passed by the author on to Iain Og, to Iain Piobaire. or some other shadowy figure, till perplexity sometimes rubs shoulders with irritation-yet the sum total of the blended emotions of the reader is fascination, a mental stimulus that is unwonted and refreshing. Mr. Robertson has selected for his purpose the period between Sheriffmuir and Culloden. The story has relation to the plotting and counter-plotting that preceded the last and grandest flare-up of Jacobite devotion to a romantic but hopeless cause, and concerns certain Highland families in Skye and the north mainland. It is a book that demands close attention if the intertwining of events and conversations is to be followed. But probably the greater enjoyment will be got by the reader who allows his fancy to be captured by the recital of the various incidents as they come along, and revels in the description of scenery, of feuds and fights-now on the heather, again near London Bridge, and yet again in the passes of Skye-of the home life in castle and humble cottage of the period, of loves and hates and murders, all of which reaches a climax in the erie death of the hero, plunging overboard from his boat as he is being rowed away from the scene of a gory combat near Dunvegan, and seeking escape from the presence of "the doom-god's messenger." Mr. Robertson shows his artistry as much by what he witholds as by what he relates-by his calls upon the imagination of the reader. "The Ogha Mor" is a tale of subtle charm, with a freshness all its own, and abounding in revelations of the Gaelic heart and mind and manners of a tragically romantic period.

DUN-TROIN.

Le Iain MacPhaidin, Glascho.

A'cheud duais aig Mod, 1924.

Air a leantuinn.

Air còrsa na h-àirde 'n iar bithidh gu math tric iomradh air a thoirt air na h-ulaidhean so; agus b'e an t-aobhar air so na bhiodh seann daoine ag innseadh dhuinn. Theireadh iad gu'm biodh, anns na sean amannan fiadhaich a bha 'n sud, daoine air an gairm air falbh gu cogadh, agus, ce b'e maoin 'sam bith a bha aca, bhiodh iad 'ga chur an àite falaich gus an tilleadh iad. Mar is minig a thachair, cha tilleadh iad idir; agus, mar sin, nuair a thuiteadh iad 'sa chath 's a chitheadh iad gu'n robh am bàs dlùth dhoibh, 's iad fad o'n dachaidh, dh' innseadh iad doibh-san a bha mu'n cuairt orra gu'n robh am maoin am falach ann an àite sonraichte a bhiodh iad ag ainmeachadh. Ach dh' fhaodadh nach robh na comharran a bhiodh iad a' toirt doibh aig an àm cho soilleir agus a dh' fhaodadh iad a bhi; agus, mar sin, bha móran de na h-ulaidhean nach robh r'am faotainn, agus nach deach fhaotainn gus an là 'n diugh. Gun teagamh 'sam bith bu shuarach an comharra air ni a chaidh fhalach ann an àite sònraichte 'sa Ghaidhealtachd: gu'n robh badan fraoich 'ga còmhdach.

Ach, co-dhiùbh, bha Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod is badan fraoich 'ga còmhdach, agus làn crogain de 'n òr bhuidhe luachmhor fo'n bhadan fraoich a bha'n sin. Ach biodh sin mar a thogras e, cha robh na h-ulaidhean, ged a bha iad air an ainmeachadh gu tric, r'am faotainn ach ainneamh. Dh'fhaodteadh gu'n robh aobhar sònruichte air sin a bhi mar sindh'fhaodainn "dà aobhar" a ràdh. B'e cheud aobhar nach innseadh neach a gheibheadh ulaidh gu'n d' fhuair, agus an t-aobhar eile gu'n robh an sluagh am bitheantas a' creidsinn gu'n robh bròn agus miofhortan a' tighinn an lorg ulaidh fhaotainn. Leis a sin bha ulaidh fhaotainn coltach ri bàs na h-odhar-bheist, a chionn tha e air innseadh dhuinn mu 'n odhar-bheist nach d' thugadh a bàs am mach riamh gun bàs duine agus bàs coin a bhi 'na lorg. Leis a sin, cha bhitheadh dol a shealg na h-odhar-bheist air a ghabhail 'na fhala-ghà.

Ach an déidh do na cùisean a dh'ainmich mì mu Fhéill Chille Mhlcheil a bhi air am fàgail fad air ais, agus air dlochuimhne, thainig latha féill eile mu'n cuairt air am faod mi rud beag ainmeachadh. Cha robh ann am féill an latha sin ach féill chumanta: reic agus ceannach agus malairt de gach seòrsa. Bha na treudann llonmhor; agus 's iomadh mìle a dh' fheumadh iad a choiseachd gu Féill Chille Mhlcheil.

'Se Dùghall Mac Phàil, am bàrd, a thubhairt na briathran:

"S e 'n crodh breac 's na caoraich mhaola Chuir mo dhaoin' air allaban."

Ach cha d' rugadh am bàrd fad iomadh latha agus iomadh bliadhna an déidh an fhéill sin tachairt; agus cha robh crodh breac no caoraich mhaola idir r'am faicinn air an fhéill anns na làithean ud. Ach bha 'n crodh guaillfhionn, an crodh ballach agus an crodh druimfhionn ann. Cha'n eil againn de 'n chrodh ghuaillfhionn, an diugh gu sònraichte, ach an t-ainm; agus cha 'n eil an crodh druimfhionn ach ainneamh r'am faicinn. Gheibh sinn ann am fìor shean òrain iomradh orra, agus 'se sin na th' againn diùbh. Tha 'n crodh druim fhionn a' ciallachadh gu'n robh stiom gheal a' dol a sìos o'n guaillean seachad air caol an droma, ged a bhiodh an dath féin dubh no ruadh. Bha an stìom fhionn so a' ruith a sìos an druim aca. Air an dòigh cheudna an crodh guaillfhionn: Ciod e air bith an dath féin, bha an guaillean geal. Ach dh' fhalbh an crodh guaillfhionn. Thug dròbhairean Shasuinn leò iad o'n Eaglais Bhric, agus àiteannan eile, agus tha an sìlidh an diugh ainmeil agus spéiseil aig dròbhairean; 'S e sin buaile ainmeil "Hereford."

Ach, co-dhiùbh, air là na féille bha tional as gach àite o cheann gu ceann de 'n t-siorramachd, agus na b' fhaide air uairean, air an ais 's air an aghart, a' tachairt air càirdean 's air luchd-eòlais. Nuair bha obair na reic agus na malairt tighinn gu crìch bha àireamh mhór sluaigh a' fuireach mu 'n cuairt na féille, a chionn bha na bùithean fosgailte agus biadh is deoch r'am faotainn annta. Bha na pìobairean ronnach-b' iad sud na ceàird-mar a chleachd iad, deas gu ceòl a thoirt doibh-san a bha deas gu dannsadh. Bha na ruidhleachan a' dol air na lianagan réidh mu 'n cuairt, agus an òigridh ann an seus an cluich, còmhla ri mòran a dh' fhàg a bhi òg fad as an déidh. Le 'n corragan a' braghail* mu'n cuairt an cinn, agus a' leum cho aotrom ris na h-earbachan. Rachadh a' chluich ud air aghairt cho fad 's a b'urrainn na pìobairean cumail riù; agus dheanadh iad sin cho fad 's nach òladh iad tuilleadh 's a chòir; agus an sin laigheadh iad.

* Braghail-snapping of fingers.

Bha dà ghille òg a thàinig an seanchas a chéile na bu tràithe 'san latha na 'n t-àm aig an do thòisich an dannsadh, agus bha iad a' dol seachad air a h-aon de na lianagan far an robh an dannsadh a' dol air aghart, agus sheas iad ag amharc air na dannsairean. Bha iad 'nan coigrich do chach a chéile, ged a thug an gnothach iad an seanchas na bu tràithe 'san latha. Bha aon diubh 'na choigreach anns a' cheàrn ud de'n dùthaich, ach bha am fear eile gun a bhi fad o dhachaidh.

"Cha 'n eil mi cho sgith" ars an coigreach,

"'s nach bu ghasda leam ruidhle."

Ma ta, tha mi coma "ars am fear eile, god a dhannsainn ruidhle no dhà, cuideachd; agus tha nigheanan air taobh eile na dalach ann an sud; agus gabhaidh sinn a nunn far am bheil iad, agus gheibh sinn ruidhle no dhà, co-dhiùbh."

A nis faodar cuimhneachadh gur e Dùghall Dòmhnallach a bh'anns a choigreach, agus bha e nuas as an Apuinn. Bha bràthair-athar agus luchd-eòlais eile leis air an fhéill, agus ghabh iad àite-fuirich ann an Gille-Mhìcheil. 'S e Caimbeulach a bh'anns a' ghille eile, agus bha a dhachaidh ann am Bar-nan-slaod anns na àite sin 'san robh an ulaidh a dh' ainmich mi cheana.

Ach nuair a dh'aontaich iad dol a nunn far an robh an dannsadh agus na caileagan, cha robh fhios aca ciod e b' ainm do chach a chéile, ged bha fios aig a' Chaimbeulach gur ann as an Apuinn a bha a chompanach. Nuair a ràinig iad an taobh de 'n lianaig air an robh na h-ìngheanagan thubhairt an Caimbeulach nuair a bha iad a' tighinn dlùth orra: "Tha mi faicinn mo pheathar an so agus a dhà no trì eile de mhuinntir a' bhaile againn." Mar sin ghabh iad a nunn a dh' ionnsaigh nan nigheanan. Cha robh iad fad an sud nuair a chruinnich nigheanan is gillean eile, agus thòisich an dannsadh ann an da-rìreadh, agus bha 'n t-Apunnach agus piuthar a chompanaich ann an iomadh ruidhle mu'n do dhealaich iad; bhiodh sin cho anmoch 's a b' urrainn da a bhi, no gu math moch.

Co-dhiùbh, 's e crìoch gach comuinn sgaoileadh agus gach neach a thoirt a cheann-uidhe féin air. Ach cho luath 's a ràinig an t-Apunnach an t-àite anns an robh e ris an oidhche a chur sachad ann an Cille-Mhàrtainn, bha a chàirdean féin an sin roimhe agus coimhearsnaich a bhàrr orra, agus sgeòil is oil sc ridhealas gu leòr a' dol.

Cho luath 's a chaidh an t-Apunnach a steach dh' éirich fear an tighe agus thug e glaodh as, 's e bualadh an Apunnaich air an druim, agus a' tionndadh ri mhnaoi: "So agad" ars esan "am fear nach d' thug an siubhal gun siùcar as an Apuinn gu faidhir Chille-Mhicheil an diugh. Am bheil fhios agad oo leis a bha e a' dannsadh a' chuid bu mhotha de 'n fheascar g' n

"O, ciod e mar a bhiodh fios agam-sa?" arsa bhean. "Cha robh mise air faidhir Chille

Mhìcheil."

"Bha mise," ars an gille òg "a' dannsadh le piuthair a' ghille bha 'na chompanach agam a' chuid bu mhotha de 'n latha."

"Bha e" arsa fear an tighe, "a' dannsadh

le Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod."

"Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod!" ars an gille.
"Shaoil leamsa gur e a bh' ann an Ulaidh
Bhàrr-nan-slaod crogan òir air am bheil iomradh
o chionn nan ceudan bliadhna."

"The sin mar sin" arsa fear an tighe; "ach cha d' fhuaireadh nlaidh Bhàrr-nan-shad riamh, cho fad 's is fiosrach sinne. Ach sud agad an nighean is binne 's is bòidhche 's is grinne anns an sgheachd; agus sud an t-ainm air am bheil i air a h-aithneachadh anns an dùthaich mu'n cuairt; oir 's ann am Bàrr-nanslaod a rugadh i agus a tha i a chòmhnuidh.

"Ach," arsa bean-an-tighe ris a' ghille òg, "is Dòmhnallach thusa, ach is ban-Chaimbeulach

Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod."

"Na abradh sibhse," ars an gille, "diog ri bràthair m' athar mu 'n ni a thachair air an fhaidhir, mu'n dannsadh no ni 'sam bith eile."

"Faodaidh mise sin a dheanamh air do shon-sa" arsa bean an tighe "ged is coigreach

dhòmhsa thu."

Dh' fhàg an fheadhainn a bh' aig an fhéill a' choimhearsnachd mu 'n do shoilleirich an latha màireach; agus bha cùisean a' dol air aghaidh 'san dòigh àbhaistich, a chionn cha robh ni eile a bha dol a chur gluasad no luasgan am measg dhaoine.

CAIBDIL II.

Bha 'n latha giorrachadh 'sa gheamhradh agus an oidhche tighinn fad agus dorcha. Bha fear de mhuinntir an àite mu'n cuairt am feum dol agus an t-aiseag fhaotainn far abhainn Ad aig Dail-na-h-aisig. Bha bàta daonnan air an robh ròpa an ceangal aig gach ceann dith, o thaobh gu taobh na h-aibhne, leis am faodadh neach 'sam bith e féin aiseag aig am 'sam bith, agus am bàta fhàgail ann an geótha aig taobh de 'n abhainn.

an geotha aig taobh de n abhainn.
Air an oidhche so, ged a bha i dorcha,
chunnaic am fear am bàta ceart gu leòr air
an taobh eile de'n abhainn; agus, o na bha

oirre, ghabh e steach innte agus ghabh e suas do 'n toiseach; fhuair e greim air an ròpa a bha 'n sin, agus, làmh thar làimh, shlaod e gus an d'fhuair e dh' ionnsaigh an taoibh thall. Cho luath 's a fhuair e sròn a' bhàta 'sa gheòtha leum e am mach agus dh' fhàg e am bàta an sud mar a chleachd e. Ach, cho luath 's a fhuair e a chas air a' phlocan leum fear eile ri thaobh mar gu'n tigeadh e as a' bhàta, cuideachd; agus a réir a bheachd 's e sin a dh' fheumadh e a dheanamh. Cha mhór nach deach an duine seachad ann an laigsinn, agus cha b' ìonghnadh sin, a chionn an uair a chaidh esan a steach do 'n bhàta, agus a chaidh e o cheann gu ceann dith, cha robh e comasach do neach 'sam bith a bhi 'sa bhàta gun e bhi air fhaicinn. Ach cho luath 's a sheas an duine eile, leum e mach as a' bhàta làmh ris. Cha robh ann ach plathadh a chunnaic e: chaidh e as an t-sealladh gu léir. Is gann a rinn an duine, leis an eagal a ghabh e, a rathad dachaidh; agus an sin chaidh an sgeul am mach air feadh na dùthcha gu'm fac an duine so bòcan aig Dail-na-h-aisig.

e eòlach gu leòr, bha fios aige far an robh

an ròpa agus fhuair e e. Shlaod e chuige

am bàta, agus, cho luath 's a fhuair e greim

Mar is tric a thachair, bha mòran eile ag ràdh gu'n robh iadsan 'ga fhaicinn cuideachd: agus dh'fhaodteadh gu'n robh. Ach bha 'n duine a chunnaic a' cheud bhōcan firinneach gu leòr; oir bha 'n duine anns a' bhàta leis ged nach robh fios aige-san air. Bha an t-aiseag a dhith air a' bhōcan, cuideachd. Chunnaic am bòcan an duine a' dol a steach do 'n bhàta; agus cho luath 's cho sèimh 's a b' urrainn da bha e am mach guala ri gualainn ris an fhear eile.

Moch 'sa mhaduinn air là de na làithean dh' fhàg bàta, le ceathrar de sgiobadh innte, cladach na h-Apuinn, agus bha iad siar air Carraig-an-t-sruth mu'n d' thainig soilleireachd an latha. 'S e sin Carraig-an-t-sruth mu 'm bheil an seanfhacal ag ràdh: "Cha 'n eil carraig air nach caochail sruth ach Carraig-ant-sruth an Lios-mór." Ghabh am bàta a sìos troimh Chaol Chearara, seachad air Eisdeal 's air Luing; agus mu'n d' thàinig an dorcha orra chunnaic iad gu'n robh iad dlùth air an ceann-uidhe. Ach cha bu mhiann leo an ceann-uidhe a ruigheachd gus am biodh e dorcha. Nuair dhorchaich air an fheasgar, chaidh iad air tìr agus tharruing iad am bàta os cionn àirde muir-làin aig Caisteal Dhuintròin, agus dhìrich iad féin ris a' bhruthach, a' gabhail air an aghart treis de 'n astar far nach robh ach a h-aon diubh eòlach air an rathad. Chaidh a ràdh gu'n robh ceithir de

sgiobadh anns a' bhàta. B' iad sin: an gille og agus bràthair 'athar agus dithis eile mu leth-aois a suas. Bu Domhnullaich an gille òg agus am bràthair-athar, agus b' iad Mac Dulian-shleibhe agus Mac Colla a bh' anns an dithis eile. B' e an tigh agus an t-àite a bha iad am beachd ruigheachd—co-dhìabh, 's e sin a thubhairt iad—Tigh Ath-chinn-a'-chlàir, mar a bha Tigh-an-droma, Tigh-an-uillt agus tighean eile de 'n t-seòrsa sin, air an rathad mhór far am biodh coigrich a' cur seachad na h-oidhche."

B' i bana-mhaighstir an tighe, 's an fhearainn a bha leis, Ceit Chaimbeul; agus bha i riamh anns an tigh 'san d' rugadh i. Thàinig i féin ann an seilbh nuair a shiubhail a h-athair. Bha bràthair dhith a bha pòsda ann am Barnan-slaod: Niall Caimbeul aig an robh teaghlach, agus b'e a h-aon da nigheanan Ceit Chaimbeul d' an d' thug a luchd-eòlais an t-ainm "Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod."

An uair a ràinig agiobadh a' bhàta Ath-chinn-a'-chlàir agus a chaidh iad a steach, thubhairt fear dhiubh, 's e sealltainn mu'n cuairt air: "'S luaithe deoch na sgeul, a bhean-an-tighe. 'S fheàrr an t-slige chreachainn, agus rud innte, a thoirt air lom. Tha sinn a' dol dd M' Ionbhar-aora, agus tha sinn cur romhainn an oidhche a chur seachad an so, ma 's àill leibh."

Fhreagair bean-an-tighe gum b'e am beatha sin a dheanamh. "Ach," ars ise, "nach bi tuilleadh a dhith oirbh na a théid 'san t-sligechreachainn? Nach bi biadh a dhìth oirbh cho math ri deoch?"

"O, gun teagamh," ars esan, "gun teagamh."

Nuair a fhuair na daoine biadh agus deoch, 's a thug iad tacan air seanchas, thànig dà fhear eile a steach : Dùghall Bàn Mac Mhaolain à C napadal agus Mac Lachainn Chreig-an-t-aith. Dh' aithnich Dùghall Bàn à Cnapadal agus Mac Dhuinn-sléibhe as an Apuinn a chéile. Thachair iad roimhe aig Réill Chille-Mhicheil.

Bha an oidhche dol seachad gu cridheil aig na fìr le sgeòil na dùthcha mu 'n cuairt ai réad. Ach ann an ùine ghoirid thàinig fear eile a steach: Niall a' Chaisteil. Nnair a sheall e mu'n cuairt air 's a chunnaic e Dùghall Bàn Mac Mhaolain, thubhairt e ann ar cridhealas: "An tu th' ann, a laochain, a Dhùghaill? 'S mi tha toilichte t' fhaicimn. 'Fad 's a ruitheas sruth no a shéideas gaoth bithidh còir Mhic-Mhaolain air a' Chanb.'"

(R'a Leantainn).

ARMSTRONG OF KENMORE.

A PIONEER OF THE GAELIC MOVEMENT.

By the Rev. WILLIAM A. GILLIES, B.D.

Nearly a hundred years ago the Highland students connected with the Debating Society of Edinburgh University held a discussion on the question, "In what district of Scotland is the best Gaelic spoken, and which district has done most to promote the language?" Perthshire by a large majority was accorded the palm, and for the following reasons:—

- Perthshire gave birth to the translators of the Gaelic Bible—Stewart of Killin, and his son.
- Perthshire gave birth to the most celebrated Gaelic poet—Dugald Buchanan.
- Perthshire gave birth to the author of the best Gaelic Grammar, in Gaelic or any other language—Stewart, of Moulin.
- Perthshire gave birth to the author of the best Gaelic Dictionary—Armstrong, of Kenmore.

We cannot claim any longer that our county speaks the purest Gaelic. The vocabulary of the average Gaelic-speaking Perthshire man is very limited. He makes good his deficiency in this respect by using English words. In Gaelic he delights to converse about crops, cattle, markets and weather, but the moment he begins to discuss politics or religion he reverts to the language of the Sassunach. Listening at Aberfeldy markets one hears much Gaelic, but it is of a very mixed character. It is certainly a tearing of the tartna!

But while we have to admit that the old language is fast retreating beyond the ridge of Drumalban, we must recognise that the sentiment and the traditions associated with it have still a great hold upon the people. The best attended social gatherings held throughout the Highland district are always those at which Gaelic airs are sung and Celtic stories told. The whole country is still proud of those distinguished sons who lifted the language that was at one time the speech of kings and courtiers at Scone from the ignoble position into which an ignorant age had allowed it to fall. To those names of a hundred years ago many more could now be added, but no son of Perthshire has since attained to the brilliancy of the Stewarts, Buchanan, MacIntyre, or Armstrong in the Celtic firmament.

The Kenmore Branch of the Comunn Gaidhealach has set about doing for the memory of Robert A. Armstrong, of the dictionary what has already been done for Buchanan at Rannoch, for Stewart at Killin, and for MacIntyre at Dalmally. A movement has been started with a view to placing in the church at Kenmore a fitting memorial of this great promoter of the language. It is appropriate at such a time as this, when the minds of celt and Saxon alike within the county are turned to Gaelic speech and song, that we should remember the fame of those who have gone before.

Robert Archibald Armstrong was born at Kenmore in the year 1788. His father, also Robert, came to be the parish schoolmaster there in 1784, and continued until 1828, when he was succeeded by his son, William, who carried on until he retired in 1873. Both father and son made the parish school of Kenmore famous. They were both splendid classical scholars, and sent out for nearly a century a most distinguished succession of pupils into various walks of life. Robert, who was the eldest son, after leaving his father's school, went to Edinburgh University and afterwards to St. Andrews, where he graduated. After leaving College he went to be tutor to Archibald Butter of Faskally, to whom he was so much attached that he took his name of Archibald. He was fully ordained for the ministry of the church, and went the length of publishing two sermons. He never, however, sought for a charge, but decided to go to London, there to start a school for gentlemen's sons. He resided first at Chelsea, where he had as one of his earliest pupils the noted Sir Bernard Burke. Afterwards he moved to other parts of London. His plan was to have ten or twelve pupils whom he attended to and instructed in science and classics, as would a private tutor. His method proved eminently successful, and many of his students became men of public note and held official positions. When he heard that the Highland Society had appointed three scholars to compile a Gaelic dictionary, he thought that if they could do it so could he. He could devote little time to the work, but he persevered. When, however, he had got as far as the letter "M" the publishers' place was burned down, and he had to begin all over again. He managed to get the dictionary completed, and it was published in 1825. It was at once recognised as a work

bheil sinn ag iomradh; ach tha an sgrìobhaiche mór mar an ceudna a' cur an céill dhuinn cor of great value, and brought the learned author as well as the language into much prominence. He was appointed Gaelic Lexicographer Royal by special appointment to George IV., to whom he had dedicated the book. The appointment was continued under William IV. and Queen Victoria. It is still interesting to read the estimates of the dictionary formed by contemporary papers. The Literary Gazette said: "This work is a 'monumentum perennius aere ' of which every scholar and philologist throughout Europe ought to avail himself. The author has explored seventy languages in order to raise his publication to a much higher class as a dictionary of affinities."

The Athenœum wrote: "The most elaborate compilation of any of the Celtic branches of Britain or Ireland is the dictionary of Mr. Armstrong."

He had sunk his capital in the dictionary, and it was to a large extent lost. Ten years before he died a friend, who knew of his circumstances, applied to the Treasury on his behalf, and he was granted a Civil List pension. An interesting story is told of him in the days when his income was very slender owing to his having to compete with younger men in his own line. A literary friend wrote to Lord Palmerston and told him of the distress of the old scholar and writer. Lord Palmerston had been at Balmoral, and, on returning, sent a lady friend to Armstrong with an order on the Treasury for £50. She found him letting out a tax-gatherer unpaid, and with evident vexation in his countenance, for he was noted for his punctuality in paying and for his independence of character. She put the order in his hand, and, with a gleam of brightness in his face, he exclaimed: "Ah, the devil has just gone out and an angel has just come

He was a regular contributor to contemporary periodicals of his day, such as the Atheneum and Fraser's Magazine. His contributions were both grave and humourous, in poetry and in prose. He died in 1867. He married in 1842, and had three daughters, one of whom—Miss Julia—died 19th August, 1924. The University of 8t. Andrews conferred upon him the degree of LL.D., in recognition of his services to Celtic scholarship. When the late King Edward was a young man and a tutor was sought for who could teach him Gaelic, someone mentioned Dr. Armstrong, but it was suggested that he must be dead, as he had not been heard of

for some time, and so the Royal Lexicographer was passed over.

It is well that we should remember such men as Armstrong when we gather to rejoice in the songs and stories that delighted their hearts and that inspired them to devote long and tedious days of laborious toil to such compilations as the massive quarto volume which is still a valued authority on the ancient language of the Gael.

In conclusion, it may be mentioned that contributions for the Armstrong Memorial, to be placed next year—the centenary of the publication of the dictionary—in the church of which his father and brother were for ninety years elders and session clerks in succession, may be sent to Mrs. MacIntyre, Kenmore Hotel, the secretary of the local branch, or to Mr. Alex. Campbell of Boreland, Loch Tay, its well-known president.

BRANCH REPORT.

Kilmallie.—The first meeting this winter of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Hall, Corpach, on the night of 7th November. Rev. R. B. Crawford, minister of Kilmallie, and president of the branch, presided over a large and most enthusiastic meeting. He was supported on the platform by the full force, ladies and gentlemen comprising the Executive Committee. The special features of the evening were set agoing by the piping of Pipe-Major Paterson, whose spirited playing roused the audience to enthusiasm. Mr. John Wilson and Miss Macinnes rendered several pianoforte pieces. Mr. A. Crawford plays the pipes with precision and verve which shows well for the future. The vocal part of Ceilidh was pleasingly contributed to by Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Macmaster, Miss D. MacAlpine, and the Misses Campbell, and Messrs. Macgillivray, Macleod, M'Eachern, Livingstone, Thomson and Crawford. Mr. Kenneth Stewart shone as a humorist. A short biography of a now little known bard of Bliach, "Aonghas og M'Aonghas" was given by Mr. Lachlan Macdonald, Annat. Another favourite contributor to these evenings is Mr. A. M'Donell, Torcastle, who gave a rendering of "Puirt-abeul." A fine appearance was made by the two young Misses Campbell, Badabrie. As a tribute to the memory of those of the district who made the supreme sacrifice, the audience at the close of the proceedings solemly stood while Pipe-Major Paterson played "Lochaber No More."



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Leabhar XX.]

Am Faoilteach, 1925.

[Earrann 4

TEACHDAIREACHD.

Aig toiseach bliadhna ùire is mithich dhuinn fàilte a chur air luchd rannsuichidh a' mhlosachain so ge be àite anns a bheil iad feadh an t-saoghail. Mar tha an ùine a' ruith seachad tha caochlaidhean a' tighinn air cùisean A' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich mar air cùisean gach comuinn eile; agus tha an uair so freagarrach gu bnile de ar sùil a thabhairt air na thachair an eachdraidh A' Chomuinn feadh na bliadhna a tha a nis air crìochnachadh. Le so gheibh sinn beachd air an tomhas anns a bheil an obair a' soirbheachadh; agus mar an ceudna tuigidh sinn ciod iad na nithean a tha feumach gu sòrruichte air leasachadh.

Auns an dol a mach is còir a chantuinn gu bheil na mòid bheaga a nis air fàs glé mheasail aig an t-sluagh. Feadh na bliadhna a chaidh seachad chumadh sia no seachd de mhòid airson na h-òigridh an ceàrnaibh fada o chéile, o Leòdhas gu lle, agus o 'n Lathurna gu Abairpheallaidh. Is gann gu bheil daoine a' gabhail a stigh ciod e am feum a thatar a' deanamh leis na mòid ionadail, gu bhi' dhisgadh dealais am muinntir na ceàrna anns a bheil iad 'g an cumail. Agus air a' mhodh cheudna tha eud is annas na h-òigridh air an lasadh le seinn nan òran is le farpuis chàirdeil airson na buaidh. Is coma ciod e am meadhon ma tha a' chrìoch àraidh 'g a cumail anns

an t-sealladh—eadhon an òigridh a bhrosnuchadh a chum tlachd a ghabhail anns a' cheòl is anns a' chànain.

Ceaduichidh ar luchd leughaidh dhuinn iomradh a dheanamh am beagan fhacal air an leabharan so fhéin a tha 'g a chlo-bhualadh uair 's an mhìos fo ùghdarrus A' Chomuinn. Anns na duilleagan so gheibhear cuid de shaothair na feadhnach a tha 'strì gus ar cainnt a chleachdadh an rosg is an rann, Gabhaidh sinn an cothrom so gu cuireadh a thabhairt do gach aon aig a bheil comas sgrìobhaidh an Gàidhlig, iad a chur earrann d' ar n-ionnsuidh anns an t-seann chànain. Bidh e 'n a thaitneas dhaibh féin an smuaintean a sgrìobhadh; agus chan eil àicheadh nach biodh e'n a thlachd do mhuinntir eile an saothair a leughadh. An seadh sonruichte their sinn gur e am mìosachan so am bann faicsinneach a tha a' ceangal A' Chomuinn ri chéile; agus gur e mar an ceudna an guth troimh bheileas a labhairt, le earail is misnich, ri buill A' Chomunn, anns an dùthaich so fhéin is thairis thar chuantan. Chan eil neach aig a bheil dùrachd 'n a chridhe gu teachdaireachd a chur gu a chàirdean nach faod sin a chraobh sgaoileadh anns "An Ghàidheal."

Is minic a their cuid gu bheil muinntir seach sgìth de bhi cluinntinn mu theagasg na Gàidhlig do 'n chloinn anns na sgoiltean. Faodaidh tùr nadurra innse dhuinn gu bheil beatha na Gàidhlig an crochadh air an òigridh Agus gus am bi an ni so deanta cha bhi dad sam bith ceart, agus cha bhi An Comunn ach a' bualadh an adhair agus ag obair gu diamhain. Ré na bliadhna mu dheireadh rinneadh aghart gun teagamh, ach tha aobhar gearan nach eil na h-Ughdarais Foghluim a' deanamh cho math 's a dh' fhaodadh iad. Feumaidh sinn rabhadh a chur sìos an so aig an am : agus is e sin, nach eil strì os leth na Gàidhig ach air ùr thòiseachadh. Ma tha a' chainnt a dol a mhairsinn beò, chan fheum sinn a bhi riaraichte le inbhich a mhàin 'g a labhairt. Feumaidh an òigridh a h-ionnsuchadh gun dearmad, ar neo tha binn a bàis seulaichte. Agus nach bochd an ni dhuinne, cinneach saor ann an dùthaich shaoir, gu bheil sinn fo dhìmeas cho mór is nach nochdar suim de ar cainnt le luchd riaghlaidh na rìoghachd sin d' an tug ar muinntir a leithid de chabhair. Ach is e ar coire féin a th' ann. Ma bhios sinne cho maol is gu leig sinn leis na cuileagan laidhe oirnn, is ann againn fein a bhios an tàire is an anshocair ri ghiùlan.

Tha an dleasdanas so mar fhiachaibh cuideachd air na mìltean de luchd labhairt na Gàidhlig an taobh thall de na cuantan. Aig an tigh an Alba tha ar cor àraidh féin againne ri thabhairt fainear. Ach is còir do ar càirdean an tìrean céine na meadhonan sin a chleachdadh is freagarraiche 'n an sealladh fhéin a chum a' chrìoch cheudna a chiomhlionadh. Tha an t-ionmhas coitchionn dhuinn gu léir mar iarmad na sinnsir cheudna. Oir ma chailleas sinn sealladh air sin theid ar sgapadh feadh nan sluagh, is ar slugadh suas am measg chinneach eile, gun ach iomradh fann gu robh Gàidhil riamh air an talamh. A mhic a' Ghàidhil nasail, a shloinneas do dhualachas troimh mhìltean bliadhna air ais, c' àite am bi t-uaisle is t-ainm an ùine gheàrr an déidh so, ma leigeas tu bàs fo chomhair do shùl a' chainnt sin ris a bheil t-uaisle is t-ainm cho dlùth cheangailte.

THE PRESIDENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

We are delighted to observe from the pages of the "Scottish-American" that Mr. Robertson is having a reception of remarkable warmth in the United States. The following extracts are taken from the columns of the "Scottish-American":—

"Visiting the United States for the first time, and coming as the executive of the Highland Association of Scotland, Angus Robertson was formally welcomed in Montclair, N.J., at a called meeting of clasmen and Daughters of Scotia in the Metropolitan Hall. The welcome was arranged by Clan Cameron, famed through the United States and Scotland as responsible for the successful excursion to the homeland last summer. With the welcome extended to Mr. Robertson was an honorary membership in Clan Cameron, which includes a fellowship with the twenty-three thousand members of the Order of Scottish Clans.

"Mr. Robertson's visit was the occasion also for an address to the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York at its regular monthly meeting, December 4. Sitting with Mr. Robertson on the dais of the chamber magnificent assembly room was Owen D. Young, one of the three American members of the Dawes Commission for settling the reparations questions in Europe.

"Frederick H. Ecker, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said to Mr. Robertson at the conclusion of the latter's address to the members that he hoped he would recognise in their enthusiastic reception of himself and his proposal for the preservation of the ancient Celtic culture 'a gesture of sympathy with the undertaking.'

"A tang of heather-clad hills seemed to fill the air in the Montclair railroad station as Mr. Robertson stepped from the train to be received by Clan Cameron's committee and a detachment of the Cameron Highlanders and Pipe Band all dressed in kilts. Among them were Past Chiefs Adam Carlyle, captain; William Shaw, David J. Duncan, James Donald and Adam Glen; Secretary Alexander Pender, William Murray, Berthold Andsley, first lieutenant; A. McLaren, A. Hutchison, R. Drysdale, Chief James Murdoch of Clan Forbes and Chief William McConnachie of Clan Cameron. "Mr. Robertson's own party included fellow Skyemen: Murdoch MacPherson, G. Duncan MacLeod and Farquhar MacLeod, president of the Skye Society; Leslie C. Atkins, Herbert Graham and J. McLean Johnston, past chief of Clan MacDonald, Brooklyn.

"'Believing that this race of ours has a mission still to perform, a spiritual message yet to give to the world, I am glad to come here on behalf of our Association to tell you what we concieve this mission to be,' declared Mr. Robertson in his address in Metropolitan Hall."

At the dinner of the St. Andrew Society in New York, attended by over 700 members and guests, Mr. Robertson delivered a stirring patriotic address which seems to have made a deep impression. In an Editorial the "Scottish American" says:—

"It is not surprising that Mr. Robertson, a business man of wide and successful experience as well as an enthusiast for things artistic and cultural, should make a deep impression obusiness men of the United States. We have learned that this first visit of his is proving a pleasant and inspiring one.

"Much attention has been given to this gallant Highlander because of his personal charm, but his message, a vision of the great gain to be obtained from preservation and wide dissemination of the ancient Celtic culture, has struck a new and responsive note in our life.

"Mr. Robertson has come with a story that is old, but largely unknown here, no less among those of Scottiah descent than the descendents of other pioneers in the settlement of this land of the west. His mission has seemed to appeal with equal force to those without any Celtic blood as to those whose possession of it is a proud boast. This is a happy augury for an undertaking that admits its scope is world-wide as were the contacts of the Celts of antiquity."

Mr. Robertson should have a heartening story to tell when he returns.

CONFERENCE AT INVERNESS.

A meeting of the Executive Council was called to be held in Inverness on Friday, the 12th December. There were present:—Mr. Chas. Campbell, Glasgow; Miss Christian Macdonald, Pitlochry; Rev. G. W. Mackay,

M.A., Killin; Mr. Duncan Macleod of Skeabost; Mr. I. N. Macleod, Kirkhill; Rev. Neil Ross, B.D., Laggan, and Mr. Neil Shaw, secretary. The number being one short of a quorum, the ordinary business of the Executive could not be discharged. In the absence of the President, who is abroad, and of the Vice-presidents, it was unanimously agreed that Rev. Mr. Mackay, ex-president, should take the chair, and that the meeting should resolve itself into a conference on the general position and outlook of the cause for which the Comunn exists and strives. Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness, and Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness, also took part in the conference.

After some useful discussion, it was agreed by the meeting that it would be highly beneficial if the help of the organisation of the Educational Institute could be secured in order to waken a stronger interest among the teachers.

A very cordial welcome was extended to Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness, on the occasion of his return from Canada and the United States. As a fellow native of the County of Sutherland, the Chairman said he envied the thrill which Mr. Macleod must have experienced. He could also picture the wonderful spell which their good friend's singing had on the thousands and tens of thousands who gathered to hear him. Ruaraidh was the voluntary ambassador of Gaeldom across the great Dominions. (Applause.)

Mr. Macleod gave some vivid impressions of his tour, stressing the fact that the Irish colony in various parts of the United States gathered every evening to promote the teaching of their mother tongue. So far as the Highlands were concerned, he thought that if the £7000 which An Comunn raised some years ago had been spent in propaganda instead of invested in stocks, the movement would have been far better off to-day.

Mr. John N. Macleod urged that the Comunn might give financial help to the vacation classes for teachers, otherwise he was afraid it would take a long time before they could get the teaching profession interested.

Miss Macdonald, Pitlochry, said parents in that district are very anxious that their children should be taught the language.

Mr. Roderick Macleod held that the Inverness Education Authority is doing excellent work in this matter, thanks to the enthusiasm of the Director of Education. Mr. Graham, of the Academy, was also doing most satisfactory work. What he (Mr. Macleod) felt sore about was that while H.M. Inspectors' reports had references to French, German, Latin and Greek, it was silent regarding the language of the Gael. That was all the fault of the Department, because they seemed to think that the people of the Highlands were not in earnest. The Department would never be roused until the people proved that they were in dead earnest.

The Chairman said he had always held—and he would still hold even if he stood alone—that the only remedy was that thorough and rapid application of the Gaelic clause in the Act to the areas where there were Gaelic-speaking children, and that the Highland people should begin at the very top—starting with the House of Commons, the Education Department, the Education Authorities, and the Directors of Education

Mr Duncan Macleod of Skeabost said it was merely beating the air if they did not know which Authorities had adopted the clause and which had not.

The Chairman replied that the Education Committee of An Comunn had that matter in hand.

AN T-EACH ODHAR.

- "Chan eil each an cois na h-Airidh An nì còmhstri ris an àrmunn; Teichidh iad le roid is tàmailt, Nuair thig each bàn an Dannsair.
 - ' O 'se mo laochan an t-each odhar Chaidh air fuaradh sgeir a' ghobhainn ; 'S e mo laochan an t-each odhar, Chuir fogha sgéir na Lanndaidh.'
- "Tearnaidh e uchdan a' bhruthaich 'Na dheann, gu Buailc-na-Curaidh; 'S cha bhi fiadh air frìth no monadh, Nach fuadaich each an Dannsair.

'O 'se mo laochan an t-each odhar '

"Chan fheum e cipean no buarach;
Teaghair, taod, no cainbe-guaile;
Tha shùil ag coimhead air a ghualainn,
Suas gu cruit an Dannsair.

'O 'se mo laochan an t-each odhar.'

- "Ma chl e carbaid air an aonaich Ruithidh e le caise' is caonaig; Is seasaidh e le chasan caola Ag glaodhaich, ''s mise cruit an Dannsair!' O' se mo lachan an t-each odhar.'
- "Chan eil cù no cearc 's an astar Nach ruith gu sìochaint a' chladaich ; Na caoraich a' ruith 'nan caiseart, Ma chì iad each an Dannsair.

'O 's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'

" Fhuaradh seòl air cainbe is *mòline*, A cheangal seachad ma chnàmhan; Strònain teann le mìle gàdag, Is chrochadh àrd air crann e.

'O 's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'

- "Chaidh an crodh 's na laoigh gu bòilich;
 Og is aosda ag gabhail spòrs air;
 Ach 's ann a chualas e ri sgòrnaich,—
 'Droch-còmhail co a rinn teann mi!'
 'O's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'
- "Thog e chasan deiridh comhla,
 Thuit a' chrannag' measg an chòmhlain;
 Gheàrr e roid gu Creig-na-oònaich,
 Is leum e dh' òb an Dannsair.
 'O's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'
- "Chunnacas eala a' ruith 'na deannaibh, Sgarbh is ròn a' sioladh seachad;

Faoileag bhàn air sgéith na cabhaig, Is farspaich ghlasa teann oirr.'

" Bha seana chapull na dùthcha, Air an astar 's cha b'e diù e ;* Dh' ćirich toirm am measg nan diunlach, Theich iad, ceann is earball.

'O 's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'

'O 's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'

- "Bha tuinn an t-saimh a' seinn le othail Null a dh' ionnsuigh Sgèir-a'-ghobhainn; Ràinig mo laochan ceann na cobhair, Aig bogha na Lanndrach.
 - 'O 's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'
- "Bha daoine is mnathan air a' chòmhnard A' coimhead diol an eich a b' eòl leo; Dannsair le cainbe is dòrnaig Le bòid, 'Bithidh bristeadh cheann ann l'" 'O's e mo laochan an t-each odhar.'

Jas. McL.

* Cha b'e an dîù e:—Chan eil e gu math : s fearr a sheachnadh !

ORAN SEILGE.

[For Unison Singing (Junior Choirs) 1925 Mod]

From Mr John MacCallum's Mod Prize Collection.



Ach a Thomais 'ic Uilleim
Bu tu 'n companach munaidh,
Anns na coilltichean urrad
Fhuair thu urram na seilg.

Gur h-e mis' tha fo shòlas, 'S mi 'nam shineadh 'sa chòsaig; Ard air uilinn na sròine 'G eisdeachd crònan nam fiadh.

Gur a buidheach mi'n treun-fhear Thug an gunn' a Duneideann; Dhomhsa b' aithne do bheusan, 'S cha bu léir dhomh do ghiamh.

'S toigh leam àirigh nam badan, Far am b' éibhinn leam cadal; 'S am biodh fasgadh ri gaillinn Aig na h-aighean le'n laoigh. Agus frith nan damh donna, Luchd nan cùbhraichean troma; Leam bu mhiann dol 'nan coinneamh Greis mu'n cromadh a' ghrian.

Le mo chuilbhir caol, cùbhraidh, Ann am achlais 'ga giùlan ; Luaidh ghlas air a h-ùrlar Bheir tuill ùr' air am bian.

Mharbhainn dràchd agus lacha, Agus tàrmachan creachainn; 'S earbag riabhach nam badan Theid troi'n mhaduinn 'na fiamh.

Spor than gheur dhu-ghorm
'N deidh a glasadh 'sa dluthadh,
Chuireadh sradag ri fudar
'N uair a lubainn mo mhiar.

MO CHU RUADH.

Cha robh agam-sa ach an aon chù riamh. Chan eil mi ag ràdh gum bì. Chan e nach robh na coin pailt againn, is iad a bha; cha robh an tigh againne riamh gun chu-chaorach agus cha b' aineamh leis a dha a bhi ann. Ach is ann a bhiodh na coin sin leis an tigh fhéin, le m' athair, no "leinne;" is ann a bha an cù madh "leam-sa." Is ann leam-sa bha e, gun teagamh. Is mi fhéin a thagh e. Thàinig e a tigh dubh, agus bha a mhathair dubh, ach is e an dath math a chuir seun air mo chuilean anns an latha anns an do chuireadh sal, fuar, coimheach, fo shròna chàich. Fhuair e dheagh thogail, cha robh dhìth air. Chan e a mhàin gu robhas ag cumail làmh a' phailteas ris, is iomadh deagh mhìr a thug mì fhéin dha, agus gun sin ach eadar mì fhéin agus e fhéin. Dh' fhàs e mór agus eireachdail. Is e cù-chaorach a bha ann, agus is ann o choin ga rìreadh a thàinig e. Cha robh dìth athar air; chan urrain mi dad a ràdh mu mhàthair; is e cù còir a bha na athair. Agus, is ann ri athair a chaidh an cù ruadh, an dath agus an cruth, an calg agus an cnaimh. Bha aon ni anns an athair nach robh ann-san, is e sin feum. Cha robh feum fo'n ghréin na mo chù-sa, agus is cinnteach gum bu mhath mo choire-sa ris. Co dhiu, dh' fhagadh sin orm. Bu mhise a mhill an cù! Nach minic a chualas, "Seachain e, no ni thu amadan dheth," no "Mur fàg thu an cuilean, cha dean e bonn feuma am feasd." Ach feuch na dh' fhàg. De an dragh a bha na caoraich bhrògach agus na carraich bheaga ag cur ormsa ? Agus ma bha, mar nach robh, nach bi leòir gu robh fear math eile air an cùl, an seann chù, nach deanadh cluich rium no spòrs dhomh, ach a dheanadh dìchioll a b' fhiach a mholadh ri treud sgapta, sgaoilte nan cluineadh e, "Fan air falbh: dh' fhalbh iad!" Theagamh gur ann air son cù-chaorach a chuireadh air son a' choin ruaidh air tùs. Ach ma is ann air son chaorach a bha an cuilean cha b' fhiosrach mise air sin. Bha mi beag, agus b'e mo bheachd gur ann air mo shon fhéin a fhuaireadh an cù; co dhiu, bu leam-sa e on latha a thug mi dhachaidh e.

Me bha e eireachdail le a bhian or-bhuidhe, a bhroilleach geal, agus a chùilean* geal, mar a bha, bha e làidir da réir. Dh' fhalbhadh e leam air a mhuin cho togarrach ri lothag Shealtuinneach, agus an uair a bhitheamaid ag cur car, mar is tric a chuir, is ann gun fhìos car son a thuitadh esan. Leigeadh e air gun

* ? Cùilean or cùilion—collar : M'Donald, Dictionary, has cùil-fhionn, fair headed, etc.; but "bha cùilean dubh air an uan—the lamb had a black collar. ? Cùil, an Il cùlag.

deanainn an gnothuich air, ach ged a bha cleasan agam nach robh aig Fionn no Labhraidh-Loingseach, cha deanadh no taing mur b' i sin a thoil mhath fhéin. Cha b'e a h-uile madadh a ligeadh a leas aghaidh a chur air, co dhiu, chan fhaca mise cù a rinn sinn gu buadhach; agus cha mhò a chunnaic mi esan uair air bith a' tabhairt a' cheud ionnsuidh air ceithir-chasach eile, ach nan tugtadh ionnsuidh air, mo thruaighe com gun chéill a dheanadh e. Bha e cho còir agus nach b' fhiù leis tòrachd: chan iomchaireadh e mì-run. Is ann aon uair a chunnac-as coltas fiamh an eagail idir air. Thachair sinn aon latha ri sealgair agus a chù-agus b'e sin an cù! Ma chunnacas a shamhail eile chan fhacas leam-sa e co dhiu, agus tha mi nis cho eòlach air na h-uidhir aca de an iomadh seòrsa agus gu bheil amharus agam nach eil lethbhreac an fhir ud ach tearc. Cha bu tarbhaiche an cù math ri a thaobh na Sgur Urain ri taobh Beinn Nibheis. Coibhneas, agus gun dad ach coibhneas, a bha san amharc aig an Donn-mhòr Bu mhath gur e: nam b'e chaochladh bha latha muladach air a bhi againn, chan ann agam-sa a mhàin ach na bu ro-mhuladaiche, ar leam, aig an t-sealgair. An t-sìth, an t-sìth, is luach-mhor an t-sìth; dh' fhàg ise latha geal, grianach, agam-sa agus aig mo shealgair glas.

Ach thàinig latha doilleir orm-sa agus air mo chù. Chaidh mo chur do'n sgoil : cha robh sgoil ann airson a' choin. Agus nach ann a dh' éirich dha-san mar bu duilich, dualach do chreutair aig nach robh obair onarach, iomchaidh, thug e gu milleadh. Bu shuarach nam bu chearcan! (An cluinn thu sud Iain Mhóir!) Cha robh lon riamh air. Agus so na bhathar ag cur as a leth: chaidh caora no dha as an rathad agus thug truaghan air choir-eigin fianuis gum faca esan an cù-math ag teàrnadh o'n mhonadh gun mhaighstir. Bu leòir. Cha do chreid mise gun do chur e beul air caora bheò riamh ach cha rachainn an urras nach do chuir e sròn air ablach. Chaidh a dhìteadh, agus a bhàthadh, air bheagan còmhdaich. Is tric a bha mi ga chaoidh. So agaibh na their mi : cha toigh leam o'n uair sin cù gun fheum; agus cha mhò is docha leam duine gun fheum; agus cha creid mi idir, idir, gur duine, an suidheachadh cothromach, duine, gun obair dhligeach fhéin aige. Cha bhi e fallain, sona ; cha bhi e saorsnail; cha bhi e ain-eolach air buaireadh; agus gun robh e air a ghleidheadh o mhilleadh. Nan robh obair nàdura fhéin aig mo cliù math-sa cha robh an sgrìos obann ud air teachd air.

CEILIDH AN LEODHASAICH.

Le Iain MacAlasdair Moffatt-Pender.

Is e so an t-ainm a thug sinn air a' chéilidh

Bha Gàidheil Mhelbourne uile cminn, agus bha am feasgar a' dol seachad gu cridheilgus an d' cirich an Leòdhasach air a chasan a rithist. Chan 'eil fhios agam ciod è an trainm a bha air, ach is e Leòdhasach a bha ann ceart gu leòir—agus foghnaidh sin! Tha ea' fuireach an Sydney ach bha e am Melbourne airson Féill mhòr nan Each. A nis, eadar an dà bhaile mhòr sin tha farmad aig muinntir an dara àite ris an àite eile—direach mar tha aig na Muilich ris na h-Ilich—agus aig an h-Ilich ris na Carlaisaich——!

"Ma tha òran a dhith oirbh bheir mi a h-aon eile seachad dhuibh," thuirt fear Leòdhais ri Tearlach MacFhionghain, an Sgitheanach còir, agus fear-cathrach na céilidh.

"Maith gu leòir," arsa Tearlach, agus e a' sealltuinn air an uaireadair aige, "dìreach a h-aon, ma ta, oir tha am feasgar a' fàs anamoch."

Ach cha b'e an t-aon nì idir leigeil leis an Leòdhasach greim a choise fhaotainn air an àrd-ùrlar agus toirt air a thighinn a nuas a rithist. Sheinn e òran—sheinn e dà oran—sheinn e th'orain. An sin dh' éirich Tearlach MacFhionghain. Ach cha robh am fear eile air sgur dheth fhéin fhathast—"A chàirdean," thuirt esan, "Ma tha duine sam bith dhibh gu bhith an Sydney uair sam bith bithidh sinn glé thoillichte 'ur faicinn," agus chaidh e air a aghart le dianas ag innseadh dhuinn cia cho bòidheach agus a tha am baile sin aige seach a h-uile baile eile. Cha robh muinntir Mhelbourne 'ga chreidsinn, ach cha d' thuirt Mhelbourne 'ga chreidsinn, ach cha d' thuirt ad dad. Ach mu dheireadh bha e shìos.

"Seinnidh sinn 'Auld Lang Syne' mar is àbhuist dhuinn agus an sin "Laoidh na Rìoghachd," arsa fear na cathrach ris a'

choinne.

"O! dèan stad!" thuirt Leòdhas, "Is ann a tha sinn a' seinn òrain-dealachaidh eile an Sydney—is c' Soraidh leibh is Oidhche mhaith leibh' a tha againn-ne. A nis, mur 'eil sibh-se am Mebourne eòlach air, bheir mi fhéin seachad dhuibh e."

"Seimidh sinn 'Auld Lang Syne' an nochd," thuirt Tearlach, gun suim a ghabhail dheth. Ach chan éisdeadh an Leòdhasach ri guth no ri gunna—ghabh e fhéin air a aghairt air 'Soraidh leibh is Oidhche mhaith leibh' am feadh agus a bha càch a' spleuchdaireachd air leis an ioghnadh, agus a' bheanuasal aig an inneal-chiùil a' bualadh 'Auld Lang Syne' a mach gu farumach.

Bha Tearlach air bhoil. "Dèan stad uile," ghlaodh e a mach. "Seinneamaid Laoidh na Rìoghachd agus an sin théid sinn dachaidh."

Thòisich a' bhean-uasal aig an inneal-chiùil air 'God save the King.' Ach bha fhathast saighead am balg an Leòdhasaich. Is maith dh' fhaoidte gu robh e bodhar—ach cha chreid mi gu robh.) Is am a thòisich esan a nis air 'Auld Lang Syne!'

Theich sinn-mu'n robh sinn air ar toirt

thairis gu buileach.

"Thug an Leòdhasach car asaibh an nochd, a dhuine," thuirt mi ris an Sgitheanach an uair a bha sinn a' dol a mach air an dorus.

"Nach 'eil fhios gun d' thug," fhreagair esan, agus e a' toirt a chinn fodha a muigh a dh' ionnsuigh dorchadas na h-oidhche.

STUDY OF GAELIC.

PROFESSOR'S PROTEST.

"What's the use of bolstering up a dying language?" was the query by the Rev. J. T. Cox, parish minister of Dyce, at Aberdeen when the question of introducing Gaelic in the curriculum of the Aberdeen Provincial Committee for the training of teachers was brought forward, and another member asked if there were any such thing as Gaelic students nowadays. The subject arose from a query by the Rev. Professor Gilroy, of the Chair of Hebrew at Aberdeen University, who took his seat for the first time as a representative of the Church of Scotland Education Committee in room of the late Rev. James Smith, St. George's-in-the-West Parish Church. Professor Gilroy wanted to know why Spanish and Gaelic were not included in the scheme of courses of instruction for session 1924-25. Spanish, he said, was taught in Aberdeen Grammar School and Robert Gordon's College, and provision ought to be made for this subject. He understood that Gaelic scholars were desirous of the further study of Gaelic in the north, and there should be some recognition of this subject also. It was then the remarks quoted were made. Dr. C. S. M'Pherson, the Convener, said it was quite suitable that Professor Gilroy should have raised the question of Spanish and Gaelic, and it would be handed on to the Committee. for consideration. The Chairman-Mr. C. W. Sleigh, Strichen-said they would keep the matter in view.

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Bliadhna Mhath Ur le dùrachd fhallain D' ar luchd dùthcha thairis is leinn; Slàint agus mùirn an cùirt an tighean

Le sunnd gun ghean air a' chloinn. Bid sumhne nam bliadhna 'thriall 'ga aithris Gach gnìomh is beannachd is loinn Is guidheamaid dian a' bhliadhna th' againn

Bhi triall gun charraid gun fhoill.

The Syllabus for the Greenock Mod has now been issued, and the list of competitions numbers seventy, which is a very large number for the first edition. A large and representative local Committee has been formed at Greenock, with the following office-bearers, who also hold

office in the Greenock Highland Society:— Mr. Hugh MacLean, Convener; Mr. John H. Fraser, Treasurer, and Mr. P. A. MacBrayne, Secretary.

* * * *

A satisfactory response has been made to the call for Children's Plays. When it is considered how difficult it is to write for children, and the comparatively short time allowed for competitors, an entry of eight plays is very gratifying. The result will be made known as soon as possible, and steps taken to have the prize play published without delay.

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Messrs. MacLaren, Glasgow, have issued another booklet containing two Gaelie Plays by Mr. Hector MacDougall—"Côir Samhna air leannan" and "Mar dh' aisgeadh dhi a'faghaidhlig." This is a sure index of the popularity of this form of entertainment, and, more encouraging still, the increasing interest in matters Gaelic generally. The price of the booklet is one shilling.

* * * *

The same publishers are issuing shortly Book II. of the Mod songs. In addition to the prescribed songs for Senior Solo Singers, the book contains the universal favourite, "Mo Ribhimn Choibhneil," also the two duets for Junior competitors. Anyone having an interest in Gaelic songs should procure a copy of this booklet, containing as it does several songs which could only hitherto be found in back numbers of this magazine. The price is one shilling.

Mr. Hugh MacLean, Singing Master, commenced teaching in Perthshire on 1st December. He has splendid classes at Kenmore, Fearman and Fortingall. The Perthshire Provincial Mod will be held at Aberfeldy, on Friday, 26th June, 1925. Mr. Meldrum, Pitlochry, is Convener, and Miss MacDonald, High School, Pitlochry, is local secretary. Mr. Clow, Aberfeldy, was re-appointed treasurer.

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The local Committees of the Mid-Argyll and early this month syllabuses will be arranged. Dr. Donald Ross, Lochgilphead, has kindly taken up the duties of local secretary of the Mid-Argyll Mod in place of Miss Currie, who, on account of distance from the centre, was unable to continue. I hope to visit Stutherlandshire shortly and arrange for the Provincial Mod which is to be held there some time during the coming year.

* * * *

Readers are reminded of the Gaelic Service in the Bute Hall of Glasgow University, to which many have been looking forward, and which is to take place on Sunday, 1st February. The preacher is the Rev. Donald Lamont, M.A., Blair Atholl, and Principal Sir Donald Mac-Alister has kindly agreed to read the lessons. The singing will be led by Mr. Archd. Ferguson, assisted by members of his Gaelic Choir from St. Columba Church. It is highly satisfactory to many Gaels that Gaelic has found a place in the order of services where the preachers are so able and representative, and it is earnestly hoped that Gaelic-speaking Highlanders throughout the city will gather and take part in the service.

* * * *

The Annual Gatherings of the various Highland Associations are being largely attended. The programmes submitted have been of a high order and in keeping with the "Constitutions" of the Societies, much to the delight of their respective patrons. The Gathering of Paisley Highlanders was one of the most successful of a long series of enjoyable concerts. Balaich no caileagan.]

MO CHANAIN FEIN.

Le EACHANN MAC DHUGHAILL.

[Airson co-fharpais 17 aig Mod Ghrianaig.

(Tha Mórag is Una a' tachairt air a chéile air ceum-rathaid anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, is

so an seanachas a tha eatorra.)

Morag.—Bidh an sgoil a' fosgladh seachduin bho an diugh, Una; cha mhór ùine a tha againn tuille gus am feumar na leabhraichean a tharraing a mach.

UNA.—Cha mhór; nach 'eil e direach ro aimhealach a bhi a' dol air ais a rithist. Bu chòir seachduin no ceithir-la-deug eile a bhi

againn co-dhiu.

Mor .- O, nach robh ùine mhath againn, nach eil fios gum feum an sgoil a bhi 'ga fosgladh. Gun sin cha deanamaid ach na dh' ionnsaich sinn an uiridh a dhi-chuimhneachadh. Sin a tha m' athair-sa ag radh co-dhiu.

UNA .- Ma thogair; nach fearr a bhi ag cleasachd feadh nan cnoc 's nan glac na bhi air ar cumhnglachadh fo dhruim tighe-sgoil.

Mor.-O Una, chan 'eil math dhuit a bhi ag ràdh sin. Nach 'eil fios gur ann a chionn gu bheil an sgoil a' dol a dheanamh feum dhuinn a tha ar n-athair 's ar màthair 'gar cumail innte, is feumaidh sinn an aire a thoirt oirre. Thainig am maighstir-sgoil ùr an de, is chan 'eil am fear Gallda a bha againn roimhe a' tilleadh tuille.

UNA.-Bhithinn féin coma ged nach tilleadh aon aca tuille; ach chan 'eil fios am bheil am fear ùr so laghach. Tha dòchas nach bi e teann oirnn.

Mor.-Tha gu leòir de Ghàidhlig aige tha

e coltach.

UNA.—Gàidhlig! Faodaidh nach feairrd e sin dad. Chan 'eil fios ciod a tha e a' dol a dheanamh de Ghàidhlig.

Mor.-Tha e a' dol a theannadh ri Gàidhlig ionnsachadh dhuinn anns an sgoil. Bha m' athair a' bruidhinn ris, is tha e fuathasach gaolach air cànain nan Gaidheal.

UNA.-A' dol a dh' ionnsachadh Gàidhlig dhuinn! Chan fhaod e bhi nach 'eil gu leòir againn 'ga ionnsachadh gun Gàidhlig a bhi 'ga toirt dhuinn. Chan 'eil clann nan uaislean ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig, is car-son a dh' ionnsaicheadh-maide i.

Mor.-Theagamh nach 'eil; ach chuala mise m'athair ag ràdh gur i an cànain féin a' cheud chànain a bu chòir do na h-uile shluagh ionnsachadh an toiseach-iosal no uasal. Agus tha lagh ann a nis gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig ri a fòghlum an sgoiltean na Gàidhealtachd.

UNA.-Gu dé am feum a tha ann an Gàidhlig? Mor,-Ciod a tha thu ag ciallachadh le "feum," Una? Faodaidh gu'n dean neach feum as a h-eugmhais an uair a dh' fhalbhas e gu Galldachd ann a bhi ag cosnadh lòin; ach chan 'eil mi a' smaointinn gun dean i cron do dhuine, eadhon air a' Ghalldachd. Tha m' athair-sa ag ràdh nach dean, is gur ann as feairrd duine Gàidhlig.

UNA.—Tha i cho duilich a h-ionnsachadh.

Mor.-Chan 'eil ni nach 'eil duilich ionnsachadh an uair a thòisichear air an toiseach. Ach cha bhi a' Ghàidhlig duilich dhuinne is i againn mar thà.

UNA.-Tha gu leòir leam féin Fraingeis a bhi 'ga h-ionnsachadh còmhla ris gach ni eile a tha againn. De am feum a tha air barrachd

air aon chànain ?

Mor.-Tha m' athair-sa daonnan ag ràdh gur bochd an duine nach urrainn ach aon chànain a thuigsinn no a leughadh. Seall féin an t-Iudhach beag a bhios a' reic nan uaireadairean. Cha chreid mi nach 'eil cóig cànainean aige, is tha Gàidhlig gu leòir aige.

UNA.—Tha, an seorsa a tha aige dhi! Mor.-Ach an da-rireadh, nach gasda ma tha sinn a' dol a dh'fhaotainn Gàidhlig anns an sgoil, is gu'n teid againn air leabhar Gàidhlig a leughadh cho math ri mo sheanair. Agus mar a tha e ag call a léirsinn, is do sheanair féin cuideachd, nach gasda ma théid againn air a' Bhiobull Ghàidhlig, "Caraid nan Gàidheal," is na leabhraichean matha eile a tha againn a stigh a leughadh dhoibh.

UNA.-Car-son nach leughadh tu leabhar Beurla do d' sheanair. Chan 'eil ann an Gàidhlig ach cànain bhorb a tha air fàs seann-

fhasanta.

Mor.—Chan urrainn do chànain a bhuineas dhuit féin is a tha air a labhairt gach là, fàs seann-fhasanta. Cha chleòca a' Ghàidhlig a thilgeas thu dhiot an uair a chi thu aon is ùire am bùth. Mar is motha a chleachdar cànain is ann is bòidhche a tha i a' fàs; is chan 'eil cànain air bith borb a tha a leithid de fhocail bhriagha innte ris a' Ghàidhlig.

Una.—Tha daoine ionnsaichte a' sealltainn sios air a' Ghàidhlig, is chan 'eil meas air feadhainn a tha 'ga labhairt. Chuala mise nach 'eil 'ga labhairt ach a' chuid is aineolaiche de'n t-sluagh.

Mor.-Bha uair a bha nàire air cuid de dhaoine ás a' Ghàidhlig, ach dh' fhalbh an latha sin. Chuala mise m'athair ag radh gur ann a tha daoine a tha air falbh mu dheas, is aig am bheil Gàidhlig an diugh mór aisde. Is ann mar a tha, gur e a' chuid is aineolaiche de'n t-sluagh a tha 'ga h-àicheadh. Nach 'eil thu féin mór as a' chùis gur ann Gàidhealach a tha thu.

UNA.—Tha, ach nach faod thu a bhi Gàidhealach ged nach biodh Gàidhlig agad.

Mon.—Chan fhaod. Is i a' Ghàidhlig an aon chomharradh cinnteach a tha air a' Ghàidheal. Rachadh a' Ghàidhlig bàs is faodar am focal "Gàidheal" a leigeil bàs leatha, oir cha Ghàidheil sinn na 's mò.

UNA.—O, chan 'eil mi ro chinnteach as a' sin; is ged a rachadh am biodh e 'na chall?

Mor.—Nach 'eil thu féin glé ghaolach air do sheanmhair, Una.

UNA.—Gun teagamh thà, ach ciod uime sin? Mor.—Is car-son a thà?

UNA.—O, 'si mo sheanmhair féin i, 'si màthair m' athar, tha i laghach rium is———

Mor.—Is i do sheanmhair fein i: is am bheil i gu feum sam bith dhuibh an diugh?

UNA.—O, tha i air fàs sean gun teagamh, is tha laithean nach 'eil i ag éirigh idir.

Mor.—Ach cha bu mhath leat gu'n éireadh ni dhi. Nach ann is mò de aire a tha i a' faotainn mar is sine a tha i a' fàs. Nach cùnntadh tu e 'na chall i bhi gad dhith.

UNA.-O, gun teagamh feumaidh sinn a bhi math do ar seanmhair, mo sheanmhair

ghaolach féin!

Mor.—Buinidh do sheanmhair dhuit féin, agus tha thu a' toirt uiread aire dhi 's a 's urrainn dhuit. Cha bu mhath leat gu'n tigeadh am bàs oirre.

UNA.—(le crith 'na guth)—O, cha bu mhath, mo sheanmhair bhochd!

Mor.—Cho math is 'gam biodh an té a thigeadh 'na h-àite, b' i do sheanmhair féin a b' fhearr leat.

UNA.-O, gun teagamh b' i!

Mor.—Ach a' Ghàidhlig, ged is leinn féin i, is ged is i, mar gu'n abramaid ar seanmhair, bhiodh tu coma ged a rachadh i bàs am màireach, is a' Bheurla, cainnt dhaoine eile, ag gabhail a h-àite.

UNA.—Ged tha, cha tachair sin; tha feadhainn eile 'ga cumail suas, is tha sinn féin

'ga bruidhinn-air uairean.

Mor.—Tha; is math gu bheil. Ach cùm thusa suas i mar an ceudna, chan ann le bhi 'ga bruidhim air uairean ach daonnan, agus 'ga leughadh 's 'ga sgrìobhadh gach cothrom a gheabh thu. Tha m' athair ag ràdh gu'm feum gach neach againn aig am bheil i ar n-uile dhicheall a dheanamh as a leth, ma tha ir ia cumail beo; is feumar a cumail beo!

Una.—Ach chan 'eil mise cho tapaidh no cho teòma riut-sa.

Mor.—Fan thusa gus am faigh sinn leasan innte anns an sgoil, is an tòisich sinn air beagan dhi a leughadh. Cuiridh mi geall riut gu'm faigh sinn air adhairt gu gasda. Na abair gu bheil aon neach na's gleusda na thu féin. Feumaidh sinn, mar a bhois m' athair ag ràdh riumsa 's ri Dòmhulll, cuimhneachadh air na daoine bho'n d'thàinig sinn. Cha d' aidich iadsan riamh gu'n robh aon eile na b 'fhearr na iad féin l

UNA.—Cha robh mi a' sealltainn air anns an doigh sin idir. Feumaidh mi mo dhìcheall a dheanamh, mata, ma's e is gu bheil a'

Ghàidhlig ri bhi againn.

Mor.—Sin thu Una: tha thu na's coltaiche ri nighean 't athar a nis. Ach an cuala thu iad 'san tigh-sgoil an oidhche roimhe an uair a bha coinneamh a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich air a gleidheadh. Sheinn iad an t-òran ud, "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig ?" Ma chuala, sin agad a' chùis. Na'n cumamaide uile suas a' Ghàidhlig mar sin, bhiodh leabhraichean Gàidhlig mar sin, bhiodh leabhraichean Gàidhlig mar sin, spiaran naidh-eachd Gàidhlig is gach aon comasach air a leughadh, is eadhon a sgrìobhadh am beagan uine.

Una.—Tha fios gur a mór an rud a bhi 'ga cleachdadh; chan fhaighear làn-eolas oirre

air sheol eile.

Mor.—Bha a' Ghàidhlig anns an dùthaich so riamh, agus is ann le bhi 'ga cleachdadh a ghleidheadh beo i. Chan fhaod e bhi gur sinne a tha a' dol ga leigeil bàs. Is e sin a bhios m'athair ag ràdh ruinne daonnan.

UNA.—Chan 'eil fios agam nach aontaich mi leat mu dheireadh. Chan 'eil mi-féin ro ghaolach air an sgoil co-dhiu, ach cuiridh mi romham gu'n dean mi mo dhìcheall mar a tha thu ag ràdh.

Mor.—Ní sinn uile ar dìcheall. Tha mise a' dol a thòiseachadh air na litrichean a bhios mi a' sgrìobhadh gu piuthar mo mhàthar an

Glascho a sgrìobhadh an Gàidhlig.

UNA.—Tổisichidh mise air a' cheart ni, Bidh mi a' sgrìobhadh gu Màiri piùthar m'athar, is tha ise anabarrach mathair Gàidhlig. An déidh na h-uile rud, tha fios gur i a' Ghàidhlig, mar a tha thu ag ràdh, Mo Chànain Fein; is cha mhò tha teagamh nach biodh e nàrach a leigeil bàs is sin mar sin. Agus chan 'cil, mar a tha thu ag ràdh, moran feum anns an fhear no an té nach 'eil comasach air dà chànain ionnsachadh, agus is cinnteach gur còir a' chànain dhùthchail a bhi air a' cheud aon dhiubh sin.

Mor.—Bhuail thu an tarrung air a ceann a nis, ach co-dhiu ch'i mi thu aig an tigh-sgoil Di-luain.

Una.—Chi gun teagamh; bidh sinn a nunn car tràth.

Mor.—Slàn leat an dràsd, matà.

UNA .- Slàn leat, is "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig!"

DUN-TROIN.

Le Iain MacPhaidin, Glascho.

A'cheud duais aig Mod, 1924.

Air a leantuinn.

"Cha 'n eil mi gu léir cinnteach as an fhaigheadaireachd sin, a Mhaighstir Niall," arsa Dùghall Mac Mhaolain." Ach tha seann ràdh eile ann a tha 'g ràdh—agus faodaidh gu'im mair e na 's fhaide na do sheann ràdhsa —'S e sin: 'Cho fad 's a chluinnear fuaim aig tuinn, bidh Tùr Mhic Mhaolain an Caisteal Suinn.'"

Air an dòigh so bha an seanchas a' dol gu réidh treis de 'n oidhche gus an d' éirich do fhear de 'n chuideachd iomradh a thoirt air Alasdair Mac Colla, Cha robh am bodach Dòmhnallach as an Apuinn fada ag éisdeachd ris an ainm nuair a thòisich e ri beothachadh, agus bha e deas gu-cha b'e coire ach glòir a thoirt do Alasdair Mac Colla a leth na rinn e de mhilleadh agus de spuinneadh agus de mhort anns an dùthaich. Thubhairt e gur e fior churaidh a bh' ann an Alasdair Mac Colla, duine ainmeil agus duine mòr. Ach is cinnteach gu'n do dhi-chuimhnich an t-Apunnach e àite an robh e nuair a dheanadh e a leithid sud aig a leithid de àm ; agus bha bhlàth 'sa bhuil. Bha fearg bean-an-tighe ag éirigh, agus thubhairt i, le sùil naimhdeil ghuinich air a' bhodach Apuinneach :---

"Alasdair Mac Colla, fear tholladh nan tighean, Dh' ith e an t-ochdroinn ann am bruthas, 'S cha robh e buidheach dol a laighe."

Ach ma sheall bean-an-tighe guineach air an Apunnach, sheall an t-Apunnach cho guineach oirre; agus le guth anns an robh mòran de shéideil na nathrach thubhairt e; "A chailleach, am biodh a chridhe agad a leithid de chainnt a dh' uisneachadh an aghaidh uasail a bha cho urramach, fòghluinnte 's a bha Alasdair Mac Colla. Chaidh a thogail is oileanachadh fo chùram an duine urramaich agus chumhachdaich an t-Larla Anntruim."

"Ach," arsa bean-an-tighe, "Ciod e a' chumhachd shònraichte a bh' aig Iarla Anntruim nach robh aig gach neach a bha 'na staid agus na shuidheachadh 'na dhùthaich féin, agus anns an dùthaich so, cuideachd? Agus feumaidh nach robh móran cumhachd aig Iarla Anntruim nuair a b' fheudar da fios a chur air Iain Ciar do Dhun-olladh a chymail

a chinn air a choluinn mu 'n tugadh an Robair Ruadh dheth e."

Tha sin ceart, "a bhean-an-tighe," arsa Mac Dhuinn-shléibhe; agus nach ann de shòl an duine sin a tha mi fèin. Thug lain Ciar leis do dh' Birinn fear de Chloinn Duinnshléibhe nuair a dh' fhalbh e a chuideachadh Iarla Anntruim, nuair a mharbh e an Robair Ruadh. Agus nach eil an sean òran féin ag ràdh:—

"Mac Dhuinn-shléibhe chuir sud 'sa mháileid, An lùireach mháileach 'san robh 'n duais,"

"Ach nach coma sin" ars am bodach Dömhnallach. "Cha'n ann air an sin a shuidhicheadh a' chùis idir; ach air Alasdair Mac Colla, duine urramach, ionnsaichte, curaidh mòr a bha 'na aobhar uaill is urraim do Chloinn Dömhnaill, agus a chaidh a thogail ann an teashlach Iarla Anntruim."

"Chaidh a thogail ann an teaghlach Iarla Anntruim!" arsa bean-an-tighe. "Nach minig an seanfhacal air aithris a tha 'g ràdh: 'Cha 'n eil, cha robh 's cha bhi ach gur ifrinneach aig iseanan an Diabhuill."

"Cha b' fhada sheas an curaidh mór a bh' agaibh-sa 'san dùthaich so, Achairi Mór Mac Calum, mu choinnibh Alasdair Mhic Colla," ars an t-Apunnach.

"Cha b' fhada," arsa bean-an-tighe; "thug an duine môr ionnsaichte sin a dh' ainmich thu an deagh aire nach seasadh e fada m'a choinnibh. Chuir e mortair g' a mharbhadh o thaobh a chùil; agus thuit Achaire gun làimh Alasdair Mhic Colla a dhol g' a chòir. 'S e sin cuid de 'n oilean a gheibheadh e aig Iarla Anntruim, tha mi creidsinn. Ach nuair a théid ugh an fhithich a chur ann an nead a' cholmain, cha'n e colman a thig 'na ian as. 'Agus ce 'sam bith an t-oilean a gheibheadh e aig Iarla Anntruim, cha bhiodh ann ach an gealtaire, an cuipear agus am mèirleach."

"Och, och," arsa Dùghall Mac Mhaolain; "nach bochd an airidh Achairi bhi dhìth Chloinn Chalum. Ach cha b' e Alasdair Mac Colla a mharbh Achairi. Thuit Achairi le foill."

"Cha do thuit" ars an t-Apunnach. "Tha an seanfhacal ag ràdh: 'Cho fad 's a bhios craobh 'sa choill bidh foill 'sa Chaimbeulach.'"

"Cha 'n eil an sin" arsa bean-an-tighe, tach car a chuir na Dòmhnallaich anns an t-seann ràdh sn; chionn 's e tha 'n seann ràdh ag ràdh: Cho fad 's a bhios craobh 'sa choill bidh foill 'sa Chuimeanach.' Tha an briathran sin cho sean ri linn Bhruis. Ach ged a bhiodh foill anns na Caimbeulaich, b' fhoill uile na Dòmhnallaich."

"Bha aobhar aig na Dòmhnallaich, dé 'sam bith an t-olc a dheanadh iad air na Caimbeulaich," ars an t-Apunnach, "ged nach biodh ann ach Gleanna Comhann 'na aonar."

"Co mcud Caimbeulach a bh' aig Gleanna-Comhann?" arsa bean-an-tighe.

"Nach bu Chaimbeulaich uil' iad?" ars an t-Apunnach.

"Sin agad breug Iain Luim, Bàrd nan Dòmhnallach, nach d' innis an fhirinn riamh far am b' i a' bhreug a bu fhreagaraiche. Cha robh aon á ceathrar de mhortairean Ghlinnecomhann 'nan Caimbeulaich, ged bu Chaimbeulach an ceannard a' bh' orra : Gleann-lìomhann. Bha an duine sin 'na shaighdear, agus fo bhóidean saighdeir agus am feum òrduighean o'n fheadhainn a bha os a chionn a ghabhail. Ach ciod e a' choire a rinn na Caimbeulaich orra riamh nach d' rinn a h-uile cinneadh eile anns an dùthaich orra nuair fhuair iad an cothrom? Rud a tha leigeil fhaicinn gu soilleir an dòigh anns an do dh' uisnich na Dòmhnullaich an cumhachd am fad 's a bha i aca. Agus ciod e a rinn Clann Leòid orra? Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal ciod e an gnìomh deamhnaidh a thug air Cloinn Leòid a leithid de ni a dheànamh. Bhóidich Mac Leòid air ailm na bìrlinn gu'm biodh an gnìomh air a dhioladh, agus bha e mar sin."

Ach bha 'n t-Apunnach a' fas dearg agus dubh. Thug e ionnsaigh air éirigh 'na sheasamh; ach rug mac a bhràthar air ghualainn air, 's e toirt crathaidh mhaith air a chuir 'na shuidhe air ais e far an robh e, ag ràdh ris: "Dh' fhaodadh sibhse ar cainnt a thaghadh rud beag na b' fhèarr a réir na cuideachd anns am bheil sibh."

Ach thubhairt Niall a' chaisteil: "Biodh sìth 'nar measg, a chuideachd, agus cuimhnichibh air briathran a' Charsalaich mhóir: 'Maothachadh air na sìontan agus sìth eadar choimhearsnaich.'"

"'S e sin còmhradh is feàrr, a Mhaighstir Niall," ars an t-Apunnach eile; " agus 's e so an dòigh is feàrr leamsa bhi toirt air lom nam fineachan; 's cha b' e le bhi tilgeil sgeig agus dloghaltaidh air cach a chéile thar guaillibh."

Rug e air teis-meadhoin a bhata, 's e toirt smùid de cheann a' bhata air an ùrlar: "So agaibh," ars esan, "an dòigh anns an tugainn-sa air lom na fineachan;" agus thòisich e ann an guth réidh fallain air seinn:— SEAN ORAN. LUINNEAG:

Iùraibh ó, na 'm b' àill leibh e, Deoch-slàint an fhir o'n thill sinn ; Iùraibh ó na 'm b' àill leibh e.

RANN:

'S i so deoch-slànit a' Chamshronaich, An sàr dhuin-uasal leanmhainneach; Lìon i nuas de 'n bharraghucaig, 'S theid m' airgead-sa g' a dhìoladh. Iùraibh ó, etc.

'S i so deoch-slàint an Alasdair, Fear ruadh tha nuas o 'n Ghearasdan; Gur math thig gruag an ceangal ort, 'S i teannaichte le sìoda.

Gur math thig còta sgàrlaid ort, 'S e ùr o làimh nan tàillearan, Boineid is coc-àrd innte, Lann Spàinnteach a' Chinn-Ilich.

Ged nach ann de d' sheòrsa mi, 'S ann air do chnoc bu chòir dhomh bhi ; Is dh' abradh leis na h-eòlaich Gu'm bu chòir dhuinn a bhi dìleas.

Gur càirdeach do na daoine thu, 'S tu theaghlach Ghlinne-faochain, Gur faillean ùr thu 'n chraobhaig Tha 'm bun Aora taobh Loch-finne.

Agus air criochnachadh an òrain dha' thubhairt e, 's e glaodhaich ri bean-an-tighe, "Air ghaol Dia 's air eagal conais, thugaibh deoch an doruis duinn."

Chaidh sud a dheanamh agus chaidh an t-slighe-chreachainn mu 'n cuairt; agus ann an sìth dh' fhalbh luchd na céilidh dhachaidh, agus chaidh leabannan a dheanamh do na coigrich anns an t-sabhull.

Tråth air maduinn an là ud thàinig nighean bràthair Ceit Chaimbeil an an là Bàrr-nan-slaod : Ceit Chaimbeul, cuideachd. Ceit òg agus seana Cheit, mar a theirteadh riu leis na coimhearsnaich nuair a thigeadh i nall á Bàrr-nan-slaod a dh' fhuireach làithean le piuthair a h-athar, mar is minig a rinn i

Nuair dh' fhalbh na bha de chuideachd a stigh, 's nuair a thòisich na mnathan air cur air dòigh fa chomhair na maidne, thuirt Coit òg ri seana Cheit: "Rachadh sibhse a laighe; tha sibh sgith." Cuiridh mise soithichean na maidne air dòigh." Chaidh sud a dheanamh; agus nuair a fhuair Ceit òg sith agus sàmhchair nu 'n cuairt oirre, thog i leatha achlason a bh' aice agus dh' fhosgail i an dorus, agus ghabh i am mach. Dhùn i an dorus as a dèidh gun fhuaim air bith, agus chaidh iomadh bliadhna thar a cinn mu'n deach i steach air an dorus cheudna a rithis.

Cha deach i mòran cheuman o 'n tigh nuair a thàinig Dùghall Mac Mhaolain 'na còmhdhail, agus choisich iad crioman beag còmhla, agus bha an sud feitheamh orra eeithir Apunnaich, agus ghabh iad air an aghart as an sin gus

agus choisich iad crioman beag còmhla, agus bha an sud feitheamh orra ceithir Apunnaich, agus ghabh iad air an aghart as an sin gus an d'ràinig iad Tigh Chreag-an-tairbh, agus dh' fhosgail Creag-an-tairbh fèin dhoibh an dorus: cha do ruig iad a leas bualad i dir. Air dol a steach dhaibh, bha 'n sin Maighstir Lachann, am ministear; agus, gun mhòran de bhriathran mu 'n chùis, cheangail e leis an t-snaim nach fhuasgail sgian, Dùghall Dòmhnallach as an Apuinn agus Ceit Chaimbeul á Bàrr-nan-slaod.

An gnothuch nd seachad, ghabh iad am mach agus thug iad an aghaidh air Dun-tròin, agus chuir iad am mach am bàta, agus chaidh na h-Apunnaich innte a' toirt leò Ceit Chaimbeil, Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod. Nuair a bha 'in bàta a' gluasad am mach o'n chreig thubhairt Dughall Bha Mac Mhaolain: " Beannachd leat, a Cheit, m' eudail; agus ma bhios mise beò, aud a bhitheas, ruigidh mi 'n Apuinn aon chuid thar aisig na Conghaill, no mu'n cuairt air Carraig-an-t-sruth. Bidh sgeul mhòr mu na bailtean am màireach."

Thug bôcan Dhail-na-h-aisig leis Ulaidh Bhàrr-nan-slaod. Ach mu'n gann a shoilleirich an latha màireach bha seana Cheit Chaimbeul a' bualadh aig dorus Chreig-an-tairbh, agus 's c Creag-an-tairbh féin ad h' fhosgail an dorus. Cho huath 's a chunnaic Ceit e thubhairt i: "Tha fhìos gu'n cuala sibh uime so."

"Chuala," thubhairt Creag-an-tairbh.

"Ciamar bheir mise m' aghaidh air Niall mo bhràthair gu bràth as déidh so? Mar is math tha fhiso sgaibh, b' fhear leis a faicinn 'na bean aig ceàrd a' siubhal na dùthcha; agus is neònach leamsa, nuair chluinneas e, nach bi e air an lorg is nach faigh e iad ged a-shiubhaileadh e 'n Apuinn eadar Clach-tholl' 's an t-Innean."

"A Cheit" arsa Creag-an-tairbh; "Ma nì e de d'a leithid, bidh aithreachas air nach leig e dheth an giorrad. B' e dol eadar a' chraobh 's a rùsg, eadar an t-sreang, eadar an t-uan 's a mhàthair, dol eatorra. Dh' fhaibh Ulaidh Bhàrt-nan-slaod, 's am badan fraoich g 'a còmhdach,' agus feumaidh sinn bècan eile thoirt an aire Dail-na-h-aisig."

Pìobaireachd 'san t-seòmar-mhullaich,
'S fuaim na druma ri Dun-tròin;
Ach 's binne leam na toirm na druma
Fuaim na tuinne ri Dun-tròin.

BRANCH REPORTS.

BENDERLOCH.—This branch of An Comunn Gaidh-ealach held their opening Ceilidh in the Victory Hall, on Friday evening, 5th December: Rev. J. A. Mac-Cormick, president of the branch, occupied the chair. In opening the proceedings he gave an eloquent and witty speech in Gaelic. The programme was well sustained throughout by the following:—Piper J. Scoular, Ardchattan, giving a stirring selection on the Misses Cameron and M. Lucas, and M. T. John St. Williams, and S. John S. John St. Williams, and S. John St. Williams, and S. John St. Williams, and S. John S. John St. Williams, and S. John S. John St. Williams, and J. John S. John S

BOWNORE.—A highly successful Cellidh was held in the School on 5th Deember, under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach, the accommodation having been kindly granted by the School Management Committee. The chair was occupied by Rev. Neil Ross, parish minister, who commended to his audience the laudable objects of An Comunn. The programme was entirely sustained by members of the senior and junior choirs, and included solos, duets, choral pieces, purita-a-bleul, and strathapers and reels on violin and piano. Several Gaelic chorness were sumg by the whole Cellidh with a heartiness that was inspiring, consisting of Mesars. Logan and M'Gilvray, Mrs. Cameron and Mrs. Lighthody. It is hopped that at next Cellidh Rev. K. Macleod, Gigha, will give a lecture on some Cellis aublet.

BRIDGEND .- This Branch of An Comunn held a most enjoyable Ceilidh on Wednesday, 10th December in the Drill Hall, Bridgend. The weather was favourable, and there was a large gathering of members and friends. The Hall was beautifully decorated with evergreens and flowers, giving the place quite a festive appearance. The proceedings were opened by Master Iain C. Cameron with bagpipe selections, and, afterwards, on the motion of Dr. Maeintyre, Ceannloch, the whole company joined in singing "Suas leis i Ghaidhlig," the rallying song of "An Comunn." Thereafter the hours passed very pleasantly and all too quickly with song, dance and recitation. An excellent tea, which was much enjoyed by all, was provided by the ladies of the choir; and fruit, sweets, etc., were served at intervals during the evening. Those who kindly contributed to the evening's programme were as follows:—Mrs. Macintyre, Mrs. MacKillop, Misses Aird, Macintyre and MacPhee, and Messrs. Cameron, M'Calman, M'Intyre and Mactaggart. The duties of M.C. were ably performed by Messrs. Duncan and M'Affer. The members of the Branch are much indebted to Lady Mary Morrison for the use of the Islay House piano and to Mr. MacKillop, factor, Eallabus, for his valuable assistance.

BUNESSAX.—The second monthly meeting of An Comun Gaidhealach was held in the Schoolroom on the evening of 21st November, when there was a good attendance of members and friends. Rev. Neil Macphail presided. Bagpipe selections were given by Mr. John Macherson, gramophone selections by Mr. John Mackenzie, and violin and concertina selections by Meszr. M. and N. Mappherson and John Graham. Mr. Donald Morrison and Mr. Hugh readings, and the following gave Gaelie songs—Messre. William Taylor, Donald Maclean, Neil Beaton, Duncan M'Kechnie, John Campbell. The programme was greatly enjoyed, and at the close several new members were enrolled.

Dunoon.—At the monthly Ceilidh of the Association held on Friday, 12th December, Mr D. Macdonald, who presided, was supported by Bailie Miller, vice-president, and Mr. D. Buie, secretary. A most interesting address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Macleod, his subject being the life of John Morrison, the Lewis Bard. Mr Macleod gave his address in English, largely interspersed with Gaelic which made it all the more interesting to those who were not Gaelic speakers. As Mr. Macleod had to leave before the close of the programme, Bailie Miller, in a short happy speech called for a vote of thanks, and this was given with great heartiness. A programme of music was afterwards rendered. There were Gaelic songs by Mrs. Urquhart, Miss Macnab, and Mr. J. Urquhart, while a quartette party, the Misses Lindsay, Black, and Macnab gave an effective rendering of "Maccrimmon's Lament," and "Crodh Chailein." English songs were rendered by Miss H. Macdonald and Miss D. Black, and humorous Scotch readings were given by Miss Bella Dewar. The piper for the evening was Piper Smith. The accompanists were Miss Mackenzie and Miss Pollok. The Ceilidh proved a great success .- At the recent Ceilidh held in the Imperial Hall, Mr. D. Macdonald, president, presided. There was as usual a crowded audience. Councillor MacFarlane read an interesting paper giving an account of his experiences during a visit to South Africa. A varied programme of songs and readings was contributed, there being Gaelic songs by Miss Charlotte M'Kechnie and Miss N. Gillies; Scotch songs by Miss Donaldson, and a selection of readings by Mrs. Wilson. There were also pianoforte selections by Miss M. M'Kechnie and Miss Isla Scott and on the bagpipes by Piper Roynton. A pleasant evening was brought to a close by the company joining in singing "Oidhche Mhath leibh."

INVERARAY .- The fortnightly meeting of the Branch was held in the St. Malieu Hall, on the evening of Monday, 8th December. Rev. John Maclachlan presided, and pointed out to the large audience the opportunity presented by the Gaelic services in the church to those desirous of acquiring the Gaelic language. The musical programme was opened by Piper Duncan MacArthur, who played spirited bagpipe music. Thereafter songs were rendered in Gaelic and English to the delight of the audience. Tea and cake were served in the course of the evening. Several new members paid the nominal subscription and were enrolled. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to those who had sustained the programme, and a similar compliment was paid to the chairman .- The fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the St. Malieu Hall, on Thursday, 25th December. There was a very large attendance. Mrs. Nicol Macintyre, vice-president, presided. Songs in Gaelic and English were contributed, as also a reading and piano selections. All present enjoyed a pleasant evening. The usual votes of thanks were accorded at the close.

INVERGABRY.—The second Ceilidh was held in the Cronation Hall, on Friday, 5th December. The hall was full to overflowing. Mr. John Macgillivray presided, and is to be highly congratulated on the programme he presented for the evening. There were eighteen tiems in Gaelic and English, and as every performer was encored, the time was well filled up tell 10 pm. Those who took part were Miss E. Ellice, and Messrs. J. Macphee, J. Maclean, J. Macgillivray, P. Grant, A. and J. Macakelli, E. Gunn, J. Macdonald, D. Livingstone, J. Maclean, L. Kennedy and J. Macintyre.

KILMENY .- The local Branch has resumed its work for the winter session, and a very agreeable "social" was held by the committee and singing classes, in the Ballygrant Drill Hall, on the evening of Friday, 5th December. The Chairman, Mr. James M'Indeor, Ballachlaven, vice-president, an enthusiastic upholder of his native language and song, expressed his pleasure in presiding at such an agreeable function, and extended a hearty welcome to all present. He congratulated the choir on the satisfactory progress they had made during the past session, and exhorted them to persevere in constant practice and regular attendance at the singing classes. An excellent programme was then submitted—solos, recitations, reading and dance, following each other in pleasing succession. A couple of part songs by the choir also added variety to the entertainment. Tea, sweets and fruit were served by the ladies of the committee at intervals in the course of the evening. The following contributed towards the evening's enjoyment:—Mrs. Macmillan, and Misses M'Nicol, M'Eachern, Bowie, Unkles, and M Dougall, and Messrs. M Eachern, Keills, M Phail, N. Campbell, D. M Geachy, N. Shaw, Currie, W. Goldie, A. M Ewan and D. Smith. Dance music was supplied by Messrs. M'Calman and Spalding, violinists; Miss M'Geachy, Ballymartin, acting as accompanist.

KIMINVER—On Friday evening, 19th December, the local branch of An Comun Gaidhealach met to do honout to one of their most active members, Mr. John Ferguson, roadman, who is about to leave the district for Australia. The chair was occupied by Rev. Alistatir Campbell, parish minister, and a very attractive musical programme was rendered. The proceedings were opened by stirring selections on the bagpipes by Mr. Donald Macdougall, Park. In spite of very inclement weather conditions there was a crowded

audience, a very large quota of which travelled from Kilmore, Kilmelford and Easdale. At an interval in the programme the Chairman, on behalf of the Comunn, presented Mr. Ferguson with a beautiful travelling case. In doing so the Chairman spoke in eulogistic terms of the usefulness of Mr. Ferguson, and the great loss the district was about to sustain on account of his leaving for Australia. Miss Macdougall, Scammadale, on behalf of the people of the district, presented Mr. Ferguson with a wallet of Treasury notes as a tangible token of their appreciation and respect. Miss M. A. Macgregor, the Schoolhouse, presided at the piano, and among those who contributed towards the pleasant and interesting programme were Miss Currie, Cuilfail Hotel, president of the branch, who delighted the audience by her rendering of Gaelic and English songs. The piano and violin selections of Highland music by Miss Currie and Miss Craig, Kilmelford, were greatly enjoyed, as were Miss Currie's piano selections. The Gaelic songs contributed by Miss Lily Macleod, and by Messrs. Duncan Maclean, Barnacarry, and Duncan Cameron, Lagganmore, were also greatly appreciated. During the evening tea was served by lady members of the branch, under the guidance of Miss Bena MacCulloch, secretary. At the close of the programme the Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all who assisted to make the entertainment such a pleasant function, and Mr. Alex. MacCulloch proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman.

KINLOGH RANNOGH.—The opening Cellidh for the winter session filled the Jubilee Hall, and was throughout most enjoyable. A varied programme was sustained by well-known local artistes, supported by Miss Anna Campbell, Blair Atholl, and Mr. Archie Grant, Rannoch Station, whose contributions were a great saset. Captain de Sales La Terriere of Dursensent, and the Rev. Allan Muritead, Ph.D., president, presided. A feature of the proceedings was the present, and the Rev. Allan Muritead, Ph.D., president, presided. A feature of the proceedings was the presentation of an armchair to Piper Donald Mac-Master, late Black Watch, on the occasion of his marriage, by the Branch Committee and Bagpipe Class. The evening Gaelic Class has been resumed, and Miss MacLaren, Strathrummel, is again the teacher. The Class is most aucessful. In reply to Comun, the Perthabitic Education Authority expresses its cognisance of the desirability of having Gaelic taught in the local school.

Lawrs.—On Friday evening, 5th December, the first Ccilidh of the Lewis Branch was held in the Nicolson Institute, Stornoway. The function was a great success over a hundred emembers with other enthusiasts being present. After tea had been served, Mr. James Thomson, M.A., president, took the chair, In his opening remarks, delivered, of course, in the old language, Mr. Thomson referred to the great success that had attended the Junior Mod promoted unyed his fellow-members not to lag behind in their efforts to further the Gaelic cause, and in this connection he intimated that it was the intention of the Committee to arrange for the second Mod being held before the close of the school session, probably in the middle of June, when it is proposed not only to have all the competitions for Juniors repeated, but have all the competitions for Juniors repeated, but he former had already done. The musical programme was then opened in traditional fashion—Bagpipe selections.

to Gaelle songs rendered by the various singers in their happier vein, and thoroughly deserving of the warmest appreciation of the audience. Perhaps the tiem which was the most thoroughly enjoyed was "Waulking Songs." Miss Annie Macleod, as leader, ably sustained by her "girls," and the "bodach." and "cailleach." of Messra. Murdo Macleod and Alex. J. Maclesin, grave a most realistic, yet humorous, picture, and practice common in Lewis until recent musical programme was arranged by Mr. John Maciver, Laxdale, and Miss Elsie Macdonald ably acted as accompanist.

LOCHABER.—The winter series of Gaelic lectures held by the Lochaber Branch began in October, when Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary, gave an address on the Great Gathering in the Gearasdan called together by Mac 'ic Alasdair in the year of Waterloo for the preservation of all things Celtic, which Ailean Dall, Glengarry's Bard, has commemorated in Gaelic verse, and Ewen MacLachlan in both Gaelic and English. The Rev. Colin MacPherson, of Glencoe, helped the second Ceilidh by a very thoughtful paper on the works of the Skye Bard, Neil MacLeod, which was deeply appreciated by a large audience, who listened to the long and interesting paper with breathless attention. The Director of Education for the County presided on this occasion with much acceptance. The Rev. John MacDougall, of Aberfoyle, was lecturer on the last occasion, and was warmly welcomed by all, and in particular by the children he had taken great pains to teach while here. His subject was 'Oidhche Shamhna agus na Daoine Sith." Much he told of the Solus nan Gaidheal that shone in Aberfoyle in the Seventeenth Century—taken to Fairyland—perhaps for envy of his gifts, but may yet return, to shine again. At the annual meeting of the Branch he former office bearers were re-elected, and the report gave notes of the gratifying expressions of approval by authorities and judges of the Children's Mod held here last May. It is to be hoped the next may show a further advance, as the syllabus and test pieces have for some months been in the hands of teachers of 17 schools in the district, and the considerable progress made by some already promises well for the future.

TOBERMORY .- The fortnightly meeting of the Branch Branch was held on Wednesday evening, 2nd December, the schoolroom being completely filled. Mr. A. A. Macgilp, J.P., submitted a splendid programme. Mr. John Cameron, Drumfin, presided. The following ladies accompanied the singers on the piano :-- Mrs. A. A. Macgilp and Miss Calder. Messrs. A. A. Macgilp and Donald Macfarlane gave violin solos.-The members of the local branch of An Comunn and their friends held a Ceilidh in the Higher Grade School, Rev. J. M. Menzies presiding. A splendid programme was arranged by Mr D. N. Lowe and Miss Campbell. Bagpipe selections were played by Mr. D. Macleod and Mr. Ronald Livingstone; songs were contributed by Mrs. James Macfarlane, Mrs. Mackenzie, Misses Flora Maclean, Mary Cameron, Macmillan, and by Messrs John Maclean, John Macintosh, J. Cameron, Erray; James Macfarlane and L. M'Neill; duets by Mrs. Mackenzie and Miss Cameron; violin and pianoforte selections by Mr. and Miss Macmillan. There was also a reading (first prize Mod local) Mr. John Cameron, Drumfin; a reading (second prize paper) by Miss Joan Cameron; and a reading (third prize paper) by Miss Jessie Cameron. Votes of thanks were accorded at the close on the call of Mr. Hector Maclean and Mr. John Cameron.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Guth na Bliadhna. Book XX., No. 1. Winter 1924.
Alex, Maclaren & Sons. 32 pp. Price 1/6.

The leading article in the Winter Number is by the Editor, the Hon. Ruaraidh Erskine and Marr. The subject is "The People and Culture." The article in a graphic manner points out the democratic developments of the present time, which fail to assimilate true culture. With regard to the Celt the writer justly argues that there is a definite Celtic type of culture which is best suited to the Celt. Just as the Oriential, when he adopts western manners, is inferior to the white man, so the Celt steps down when he forsakes his racial heritage. The same writer has an article on the place and importance of the family in the social system of the Celts. Mr. James Thomson contributes a poem of ten stanzas, "Freiceadain Dhileas" (Faithful Guards), a memorial piece for the fallen. There is a well-written sympathetic article on the Perth Mod by U.M.P. The article contains some useful criticisms, offered in a friendly spirit. A Gaelic tale in correct idiomatic Gaelic is contributed by Hector Macdougall. A Gaelic play for children by D. M. N. C. is a welcome item. The play is well constructed; but it is quite possible that some of the ideas, however interesting, are rather advanced for young children. However, from the literary point of view the diction is fresh and natural. There are some lovely rhymes with an archaic ring; and, if they are not old, then the brain that produced them in modern days is possessed of the true literary faculty.

Pipers and Pipe Music in a Highland Regiment. By Major I. H. Mackay Scobie. 10 by 7½. VI. and 63 pp. Dingwall: Ross-shire Printing and Publishing Company, 8/6 net.

This volume is a rich contribution to the history of pipe music in the British Army in general, but to that history in the 1st Seaforths in particular. Major Mackay Scobie brings to the task a loving knowledge as is manifest, both of the Battalion and of the bagpipes. There are about thirty excellent illustrations depicting uniforms in the Battalion at different stages in the development of fashion and style, and in no uniform are the changes more stirking than in that of the piper. It will come to many Highlanders as a surprise that pipers were not officially recognised in the Army until 1854, in spite of the fact that the pipes were an inspiration in many of the fight that won the British Empire. Pipers before that date were maintained at the officers' expense. There is a list of pipe majors of the Regiment. There is, for example, a classic portrait of a Pipe-Major John Macdonald, 1854-56, a noble specimen of manhood. And the record of pipe-majors is continued to the present time. The book is a perfect expression of regimental esprit-de-corps combined at the same time with admiration for the merits and claims of other regiments and pipers, too. If other officers from the various Highland Regiments could carry out enquiries and researches with equal success, the result would be a full history, indeed, of the pipes in the British Army.

Dealbh-chluichean Gàidhlig: Gaelic Plays. By Hector Macdongall. 32 pp. Alex. MacLaren & Sons. Price, 1/-.

These two new Gaelic plays are a valuable addition to the small stock of dramatic literature in modern

Scottish Gaelic. The first, "Coir Samhna air Leannan" (The Right to a Sweetheart at Hallow'een), succeeds very happily in blending a fresh and amusing love story with a vivid picture of habits and customs which are fast passing away in the Highlands. The dialogue is racy and never flags. The presentation of character is remarkably apt a character expresses its main features before it has spoken three sentences. This will make the play successful. There is much sprightly wit. One description, conveyed in a brief speech portrays the fisherman in a storm, and the effort is highly striking. The second play "Mar dh' aisigeadh dhi a' Ghàidhlig " (How Gaelic was restored to her), depicts in a very clever way the tendency which one can remember among youth from the north, when they sometimes pretended to have forgotten their Gaelic after being a few months in the city. But this false pride has now got its death-blow, and the present play will help to cast deserved ridicule on any Gael who is ashamed of his Gaelic. The Gaelic in the plays is correct and lucid, as might be expected from this author. Printing and paper are all that could be wished. And the price is popular. This little book should find a very wide public.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

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Leabhar XX.

An Gearran, 1925.

[Earrann 5

AN CRANN-TARA.

Is iomadh cleachdadh cogadail a bha aig ar sinnsir. Mar is trice bha na cleachdaidhean sin a' nochdadh dìlseachd is duinealais. Agus ged a tha nòsan borba air dol seachad an tomhas mór, gidheadh bu mhath gun gleidheamaid ann ar cuimhne cuid de an duinealas is de an dìlseachd. Is minic a chuala sinn mu'n chrann-tara. An uair a dh'éireadh cogadh gu h-obann dh'fheumadh ceann cinnidh a shluagh a thional gun dàil. Agus b'e an cranntara an suaicheantas a bha na b' fhileanta no briathran sam bith. Bha a' ghairm cabhagach, agus bha an comharradh neònach. Chuireadh ceannard an fhreiceadain slat fhiodha anns an teine. Cho luath is a ghabhadh ceann na slaite teine bhàthadh iad an lasair am fuil. Rachadh òglach sgairteil a thaghadh agus chuirte a mach e mar theachdaire 'n a ruith. a' giùlan na slaite, is a' glaodhaich ainm an àite anns anı biodh am feachd a' cruinneachadh Cha robh fear cinnidh sam bith a chitheadh an t-slat nach feumadh umhlachd a thabhairt do 'n ghairm, no eadhon ruith leis an t-slait e féin ma bha an teachdaire fann is claoidhte Bu mhór masladh an fhir a bhiodh gealtach agus a dheanadh dearmad air gairm a' chruinntara. Dh'fhaodadh am fear sin an dùthaich fhàgail. Oir cha bhiodh e tuilleadh ach 'n a oilbheum do a mhuinntir. Bha an crann-tara a' gairm dhaoine gu seasamh airson an codach

is an cliù. Is ged a bha an gnàths finneachail gu leòr, is ann a chionn nach do dhiùlt ar sinnsir umhlachd do chaismeachd na gairmchatha, a tha aobhar air an sliochd a bhi measail an diugh aig an ainm.

Ach aig a' cheart am feumar aideachadh gu robh an crann-tara a' dùsgadh tuilleadh mór is duinealas an cridheachan ar sinnsir. Bha e mar an cendna a' dùsgadh naimhdeis is dìoghaltais. Is e sin a chum ar sluagh cho fada air an ais, gu robh iad riamh ullamh gu aimhreit mu nithean faoine. Bha móran de na treubhan an grath na sgeine d' a chéile. Is beag an tàmailt a dh'fhòghnadh gus an uaill a dhochunn; agus gun dàil bhiodh an tuasaid air a bonn. Anns a t-seadh so bha na Gàidhil coltach ris na Greugaich o shean. Tha e air innse gu robh an sluagh sin buailteach air comhstri is farmad. Cha robh aontachd 'n am measg an déidh batal mór Mharathon. Bha easaontachd 'n a mheatachadh do na Greugaich is do na Gàidhil. Ach a thaobh nan Gàidheal chan fhaod a bhi nach eil latha na h-easaontachd is an fharmaid air dol seachad. Agus tha sanas a' seirm an diugh a chum na Gàidhil a dhùsgadh gu seasamh ri guaillibh a chéile. A' chrìoch àraidh a tha anns an t-sealladh-eadhon a' Ghàidhlig a chumail beò-is i sin crìoch a dh'fhaodas iad uile a ghabhail mar rùn coitchionn, gun strì, gun fhuath, gun aimhreit. Tha Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn air chuairt an America aig an am, a' lasadh dealais is deagh-ghean am measg

Ghàidheal is Albannach ams an dùthaich sin.
Agus bu mhór an t-aobhar gàirdeachais nan
cluinneamaíd gum biodh Gàidhil a rugadh 's a
thogadh anns a' Ghàidhealtachd a' faotainn
brosnuchadh ùr as leth na cànain, an uair a
tha dùrachd cho dian 'g a thaisbeanadh le
.feadhainn nach faca riamh Tìr nam Beann,
ged a dh'fhàg an sinnsir i o chionn iomadh
bliadhna.

Faodar fheòrach ciod an comh-cheangal a tha eadar cleachdadh a' chruinn-tara is Gàidhil an latha an diugh. Tha an dleasdanas a tha feitheamh ruinne gu tur eadar-dhealaichte o an mharbhadh 's an losgadh gus an robh an crann-tara a' gairm ar n-athraichean. Is ann tha jarrtus muinntir a nis an déidh sìth is soirbheachadh 'n an crannchur. Cuide ri luchd àitichidh eile na h-Impireachd is còir dhaibh oibreachadh gu dìleas airson feabhais am maoin is am fòghluim. Ach an déidh so uile tha ceist eile ri fhaighneachd-a bheil cunnart sam bith a' bagairt air na Gàidhil gu sònruichte? A bheil riatanas àraidh gum biodh gairm chabhagach 'g a craobh-sgaoileadh ? Cho fad is a tha sinn comasach air staid na Gàidhlig a thuigsinn feumaidh sinn a chantuinn le dùrachd is le mulad gu bheil cunnart a' maoidheadh air ar cainnt an diugh. Agus a chionn gu bheil clann nan Gàidheal air an sgapadh feadh an t-saoghail, tha e iomchuidh da rìreadh gum biodh gairm chumhachdach a' dol a mach, a chum gu ruig an glaodh gach Gàidheal an cearnaibh iomallach. Is i oifig ar mìosachain a bhi a' sparradh na firinne so gun dìobradh fo iomadh cruth is le iomadh comh-samhlachd; agus cha chan sin Gàidheal ris an fhear nach aontaich le toil is le gnìomh. Cha sìneadh ar sinnsir làmh bràthrachais do 'n ghealtaire nach freagradh caismeachd a' chruinn-tara. Agus tha an comh-samhlachd fathast eagnuidh. Tha caismeachd ar sluaigh a' seirm troimh na glinn is thar thonnaibh na fairge. Tha cuid de ar teachdairean fann le saothair is astar, agus tha iad ullamh gu tuiteam le sgìos. Ach tha e mar bhòidean air Gàidhil eile an t-slat a ghlacadh as an laimh, agus a giùlan air aghart gu fearail foghainteach. Có thu féin a tha tuigseach air lagchuis do chànain, is nach eil a' deanamh na dh' fhaodas tu as a leth ? Glac an crann-tara gu h-ealamh ; is e sin ri radh, gluais is dùisg is oibrichdean rud eigin a réir do chomais gus an canain is an ceòl a chleachdadh is a bheothachadh.

THE LATE MR. DAVID MACRITCHIE, C.A.

By the death of Mr. David MacRitchie, Edinburgh has lost one of her worthiest citizens and An Comunn a strong supporter. He will be mourned not only by the members of the many learned societies of which he was a member, but by many who know how helpful he was in word and deed. He gave his life for others as few have done. He was ever ready to give advice out of his rich stores of knowledge and to give freely to those who were sorely in need of help. He was a Highlander by descent and interested himself greatly in all Highland affairs.

Mr. MacRitchie was born in Edinburgh in 1851, at 4 Archibald Place, and he used to boast that he was the only man in Edinburgh who had lived all his life in the house of his birth, and there he died. His father was a doctor in the East India Company's service. He qualified as a chartered accountant, but did not practice. He was a Fellow of the Scots Society of Antiquaries and was a vicepresident. He was president of the Gypsy Lore Society, a former president of the Rymour Club, of the St. Andrew Society, an honorary president of the Celtic Union, a vice-president of the Society for the Relief of Indigent Old Men, as well as an active member of various other charitable societies, in all of which he took an active part.

As an author he was well known by such works as "Ancient and Modern Britons," "Finas, Fairies, and Picts," and "The Savages of Gaelic Tradition," and a contributor to numerous newspapers and magazines, "An Gaidheal" included.

His grandfather was minister of Clunie, Perthshire, and was born there, where his forefathers were tenant farmers in the barony of Laighwood continuously since 1586. He was related to the Robertsons of Straloch. The last baron, General Reid, sold the estates in order to endow a Chair of Music in Edinburgh University.

Mr. MacRitchie was a man with many riends and no enemies. He spoke ill of no one and had a good word for all. He had a genuine interest in research and charitake work, and ever worked from a high ideal, never seeking to further selfish ends. He was ever a delightful companion, as much at home in the social evenings of the Monks of St. Giles or the Rymour Club as among philologists or antiquaries.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. COLQUHOUN.

(Miss Phemie Marquis.)



On the evening of Monday, the 19th January, a large and representative company met in the Royal Halls, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, to do honour to Mrs. Colquhoun. Mrs. Colquhoun creeived a platinum wristlet watch set with diamonds and a wallet of Treasury notes in recognition of her devoted and ungrudging service to Highland and other causes, and to mark the pleasure felt by her friends at her recovery from her recent illness.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Convener of the Testimonial Committee, presided, and made the presentation, and in the course of his remarks paid tribute to the valuable and unselfash service rendered by Mrs. Colquboun to Gaelic and Gaelic song. Her services had been given to these and other worthy causes with a cheerfulness and willingness which had greatly enhanced their value. He made special reference to her work on the Executive Council of An Comunn, and particularly as a member of the Mod and Music Committee. To the important work of that Committee she had brought musical knowledge, sound judgment and practical good sense. Her generous and devoted service during the war years, when she was constantly engaged in efforts to cheer and brighten the lives of the sick and wounded men who filled our hospital wards would not readily be forgotten. Mrs. Colquhoun's recent illness had given deep concern to her friends, and it was with a feeling of relief and thankfulness they learned of her restoration to health. Her generous and unselfish disposition, her constant readiness to help, her bright and cheerful nature had won the regard and affection of all who knew her.

Mrs. Colquhoun replied in a neat and appropriate speech, and returned thanks for the handsome and unexpected gifts that had been presented to her. Her work for Gaelic and Gaelic song had been a pleasure to her, and any further service she could give would

be gladly rendered.

Short speeches by Highland and Lowland friends followed, bearing testimony to the high regard cherished for Mrs. Colquinoun. Songs were sung by Miss Ann Ballantyne, Miss Cathie Clark and Mr Ian MacPherson. Recitations were given by Mr. William MacCulloch and Mr George Hutchison, and violin selections by Miss Florence MacBride, while pipe music was supplied by Mr. John MacLellan MacIntyre.

Votes of thanks to the artistes, to Mr. Robert Bain and Mr. Neil Shaw, who had acted as joint secretaries and treasurers, and to the Chairman brought to a close what was a most happy and successful meeting. Tea and cakes were served during an interval in the proceedings.

AN SRUTHAN.

Le dùbh-lach 's corr gur miann bhi 'm chòir Far brùchd mi 'mòintich ealamh, 'S mi dearrs an tùs measg roineach dlùth Le torman ciùin troimh 'n ghleannan.

Seach deich cnoic fhichead greasad sìos Feadh shloc a snìomh an cabhaig Seach fichead clachan, baile crion Us leth chiad drochaid tharam.

Roimh fhearann Philip ruith le fuaim Gu ceann mo chuairt 'san abhuinn, Dol 's teachd an t'sluaigh mar aisling shuain Ach tha mo chuairtsa maireann.

Feadh bhealach eiteagach ri seisd, 'S mi 'n ioma gleus ri cagar, Ri builgeadh seimh an saobh-shruith bhàgh Air garbhlach ard ri tabhunn.

Le ioma car mo bhruachan caitht' Seach ioma lianag 's faiche; Seach ioma srònag 's bòidhche greann Le lus-nan-meall cur mais orr'.

Le goileann buan mi ghnàth ri fuaim Gu ceann mo chuairt 'san abhuinn ; Dol 's teachd an t'sluaigh mar aisling shuain Ach tha mo chuairtsa maireann.

Mí stigh 'sa mach le ioma car 'Sni blaithean glan orm aiseag, 'S bidh bànag lùghor 's breac o'm bhùrn Gu mear a' sùrd ri caisil.

'S ni minic snàmh tlam-cóbhair tlàth Air m' uchd 'sa bhlàth mar chanach, 'S ni faolag dealbh mu m' ghrinneal meanbh 'Si dearrs mar airgiod maiseach.

Mi giùlan cuail leam bho gach bruach Gu ceann mo chuairt 'san abhuinn, Dol 's teachd an t' sluaigh mar aisling shuain Ach tha mo chuairtsa maireann. Ri snag feadh réidhlean feurach tlà Fodh challtuinn 's gàilich badain; 'Clisg fhlùran dù ghorm nan sùl òir Tha 'g ùrach' bòidean leannan,

AN GAIDHEAL.

Le gean, le greann, uair bras, uair mall, Feadh ghólan sgiathail tharam— 'San grian-ghath dìsneach mear ni danns Far ruith mi gann air gainneamh.

Am fàsach smeur ri monmhor réidh Ri soillse reultan 's gealaich, Air oitir sgàirnich 's miann leam dàil Measg biolair thlà ri maille.

Le torman buan gun lean mi 'n ruaig Chur toic le 'm chual 'san abhuinn, Dol 's teachd an t' sluaigh mar aisling shuain Ach tha mo chuairtsa maireanm.

"TRAIGH-BHAN."

TRANSPORT IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS.

The Committee administering the Highlands and Islands Distress Fund have prepared an important Memorandum on this subject. They point out that in the course of their administration of the fund for the relief of distress, the economic problems of the area were forced upon their notice, and in particular, the necessity for reform of transport facilities. The Government, to an increasing extent, have accepted responsibility for the roads in the Kingdom necessary for purposes of communication between centres of commerce and other districts, and steamer transport, which in the case of the Western Highlands and Islands, takes the place of roads, ought, therefore, to receive Government assistance as generous as that now given in the case of arterial roads. Striking and illuminating figures are given as to the diminution and deterioration in steamboat service as compared with pre-war days, while it is pointed out that transport charges have increased from 100 to 300 per cent. The economic condition of the inhabitants of the Western Highlands and Islands is being seriously prejudiced, in the opinion of the Committee, because of the high rates for passengers and goods, inferior boats and inadequate service and, in their view, the State should intervene for the amelioration of these conditions.

The Committee intend to bring these conditions and the urgent need for improvement within the notice of Members of Parliament and the Government Departments concerned.

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Tha an Geamhradh, cho fada's is ainm sin do'n rhithe, air dol seachad, agus an t-Earrach air tighinn; ach is mór m'eagal gu bheil móran de dhroch aimsir—sneachd is gaillíonn, fuachd is crainnteitheachd—air thoiseach oirnn. Ma thig sin mu'n cuairt gheibh mise mo leòir dheth oir, ma bhios mì idir comasach, tha agam ri cuairt a chuir air roinn de'n Ghaidhealtachd mu thuath. Cumaidh na Mòdan Dùthchail a' dol mì car tamuill. Tha an dleasdanas sin taitneach cho math ri bhi feumach, agus tha na Mòdan a' deanamh obair is airidh altum 'sa mhìsneachadh.

* * * *

A meeting of the Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod Committee was held at Lochgilphead on Saturday, 17th January. The syllabus was arranged and dates fixed, viz., 23rd and 24th June. Several important competitions were added to the syllabus—Literary, Oran Mór and Puirt á Beul. The second meeting of the Perthshire Provincial Mod Committee was held at Aberfeldy, on Saturday, 24th January, and the syllabus completed. Literary competitions were added here also, and the choral section extended. The date of the Mod is 26th June.

The Lewis Branch Committee have arranged to hold the Lewis Provincial Mod at Stornoway on 17th June. In addition to Islay, Lorn, and Mull district Provincial Mods arrangements are being made to hold Provincial Mods in Skye and Sutherland. The Lochaber Junior Mod is arranged for, and the Midlothian Mod promoted last year by the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir is likely to become an annual event in the capital. In all, the holding of nine Provincial Mods this year is being contemplated.

I was present at a meeting of the Tlr nam Beann Society in Edinburgh, on Thursday, 22nd January, giving them a talk on Gaelic things generally. It was an all-Gaelic ceilidh, and no other language was used from the platform. Mr. Alastair MacKillop, President, is a racy and witty speaker of Gaelic, and has the happy knack of keeping his audience in good humour. There were at least 120 people present, and all were much interested in the proceedings. Several members sang Gaelic songs appropriate to the occasion and with a fine sense of interpretation. I hope one or two of them will come forward to the National Mod.

The Glasgow University Ossianic Club held its Annual Dinner after an interval of eleven years in Ferguson & Forrester's Restaurant, Buchanan Street, on the evening of the 22nd January. The chair was occupied by the President, Mr. Donald Macphie, M.A., B.Sc., son of the late Editor of this magazine, and he was supported among others by Rev. Dr. MacLean Watt, Rev. Dr. Alex. MacKinnon, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Robertson, Mr. Norman MacLeod, M.A., and Mr. Colin Sinclair, M.A., A company of twenty-five sat down to dinner, which was considered a very satisfactory number in view of the break that had occurred, The toast of "Tr nam Beann" was proposed in Gaelic by Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Ex-President of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Mention was made at a meeting of the Executive Council some months ago of the encouragement given to Gaelic singing by the Festival Federation and cordially acknowledged. The Festival Committees for the districts of Bute, Arran and Renfrewshire (Greenock) have made provision for Gaelic solo singing competitions. Bute and Arran have Gaelic Oral competitions as well. It is up to the Gaelic speaking people within these areas to support the Committees by entering for the competitions or by attending the Gaelic sessions in large numbers.

The Rev. Dr. Alex. MacKinnon, of St. Columba's, Glasgow, a member of An Comunn Executive Council, has accepted the unanimous call presented to him by the congregation of the Parish Church of Kilmonivaig, and will be leaving the city shortly. He will be much missed in Highland circles in Glasgow, in which has been a leading figure during the last seven years. He will, we are confident, prove a tower of strength to the Gaelic cause in Lochaber.

The death of Mr J. G. Mackay, Portree, removes a well known personality who has been active in Highland affairs over a long period of years. He was a stalwart supporter of the language movement for which An Comunn stands and gave valuable assistance to the cause in Skye. His book on the Highland dress which has just been published, and which represents the research and study of many years, has been very favourably received.

BIDH FONN OIRRE DAONNAN.

[From Mr. John MacCallum's Mod Prize Collection. Words by James Shaw, Bàrd Loch nan Eala. Melody as sung by John MacIntyre, Bailedeora, Taynuilt, 1858.]

Mo dhùrachd do'n ribhinn
Dh'fhàg m' inntinn-sa cràiteach,
Bean t' aogais cha lèir domh
Air féill no latha Sàbaid;
Do bheusan tha ceutach
Is t' cudann tha ro-nàrach,
Ach 's truagh mi fhéin thug gaol duit
'S nach faod mi fuireachd làmh riut.

O, furtaich mo chàs-sa A ghràidh-bhan an t-saoghail, Is tuig mar tha mo nàdur An sàs aig do ghaol-sa; Na fàg mi mar a tha mi Dol bàs leis an fhaoineachd, 'S gur tusa stadh mo riaghailt, Mo bhiadh agus m'aodach. Gur threach mi daonnan,
Do ghaol rinn mo leònadh,
Dh'fhalbh mo dhreach is m' aogas
Is chaochail mo shòlas;
Chan 'eil àite 'n téid mi
Nach saoil mi leis a' ghòraich,
Gu bheil mi faicinn t'aodainn,
Is aoidh air an còmhnuidh.

'Nis chual thu mar tha mi,
Gur bàs domh as t' aogais,
Tionndaidh ann am blàths rium
'S na fàg aig an aog mi;
Thig is thoir do làmh dhomh,
Do ghràdh is do choibhneas,
'S chan iarr mi tuille chàirdeas
No àilleas an t-saoghail.

THE CELTIC FACTOR IN MODERN SCOTTISH LITERATURE.

By the Editor.

The Celtic factor in modern Scottish Literature may be conveniently divided into two parts. The first part includes the hereditary Celtic spirit in those Scottish writers who wrote in English, and who were not acquainted with any of the Celtic tongues. Every author who claims descent from the ancient Scottish stock is the unconscious heir of a culture which he may not always be willing to recognise. For it has long been the custom to regard the writers of the Scottish Lowlands as Teutons. Yet the very name of Sir Walter Scott, for example, marks him as a Scot, or Gael, even though his knowledge of the Gaelic Language may not have been extensive. Surely all competent judges will admit that there is something other than Teutonic in the songs and folklore of the Scottish Lowlands. The luring charm that the tales and ballads of Yarrow can conjure in every Lowland heart, is more akin to Celtic romance than to anything else. It is in subtle qualities like these that you can distinguish the emotional character of the race that created them. The placenames of a considerable portion of the South of Scotland indicate the fact of Gaelic occupation. And many a southerner of Gaelic descent has forgotten the speech of his fathers, and learned either Broad Scots, or English; but he has not thereby changed his nature. He has retained the racial spirit that still manifests itself in his literature.

The second portion of the Celtic factor is the part which can be more definitely traced to its proper source. You can easily recognise the Celtic touch wherever you see it. Matthew Arnold, in his "Study of Celtic Literature." lays down the qualities by which the literary work of the Celt can be distinguished from every other type. Just as the never-ending knot is the sure sign of Celtic influence in the region of art, so in the realm of literature there is a peculiar sensibility of spirit, and a certain distinction of style which invariably characterise the influence of the Celt. Historians and ethnologists may differ, as they do to this hour, as to who are the true Celts-the blond blue-eyed Gauls of Julius Cæsar, or the darkhaired population of the Alpine Highlands, whose claims to the title are supported by leading modern ethnologists. (See Ripley,

"Races of Europe." pp. 124-128). But there can be no such difference of opinion as to the Celtic nature, which to this day preserves the dash and the fire of the ancient race. For our present purpose, we desire to limit the source of the direct Celtic influence to the Gael of Scotland, because it is undoubtedly through the channel of Scottish Gaeldom that the Celtic factor operates in modern Scottish literature.

We may commence our brief study of the subject by a reference to the "Ossian" of James Macpherson. It is now almost universally allowed that these peoms, as published by Macpherson, are not authentic. He took unwarranted liberties with the old Gaelic ballads which had been handed down by oral tradition for generations before his time. But behind his bold manipulation of incident and tradition there was a literary quality which gave to his renderings a singular freshness and charm. Apart altogether from the structure of the poems, the new style in which he wrote made a deep impression. It struck the imagination of thoughtful readers, not only in Britain, but even on the Continent. It is said that Napoleon was so captivated by it that he slept with a copy of the "Ossian" under his pillow. The beauty of Macpherson's style was a literary heritage of the Celtic mind. I wish to emphasise that quality as being one of the main factors in the renaissance of Scottish literature in the latter portion of the eighteenth century. Macpherson's "Ossian," even though much of the subject-matter may be his own invention, is yet marked by a richness of fancy and a freshness of form, which no critic, however virulent, has ever dared to challenge,

It was here that for the first time a full and free expression was given in the English tongue to the Celtic delight in Nature. It is true, indeed, that the love of Nature in some degree was always present in Scottish literature. But the special contribution of Macpherson is a type of imagery drawn from Nature in her wilder moods. He has given a fresh significance to the lightning and the thunder; and to the rolling clouds as the home of his departed warriors. He utilised the wrath of the elements to describe the terrors of war. There was a refreshing novelty to the men of his time in his word-pictures of arresting scenes-the glory of the sea, or the gloom of the mountains, the rainbow in the moonlight on the tumbling cataract, or the first streaks of dawn on a stern sea-coast.

Now we may well ask to what source did

Macpherson owe this quality. He certainly did not owe it to the poetic school of Pope. But he owed it to the literature of his mother-tongue. The quality we have mentioned is abundantly displayed in Alexander Macdonald and in Dugald Buchanan. The imagery which charmed and surprised the western world in Macpherson's "Ossian" had been quite familiar for some time to intelligent readers of Macdonald's "Gallery of Clan Ranald," and of Buchanan's "Day of Judgment." And through Macpherson that particular element had considerable effect on several writers of the late eighteenth century.

We can trace its influence on Byron, for example, when he sings:—

"Round Lochnagar where the stormy mist gathers,
Winter precides in his cold law con-

Winter presides in his cold, icy car; Clouds there encircle the forms of my fathers, They dwell in the tempests of dark Lochnagar."

The romantic revival of Scottish letters is mainly associated with the name of Sir Walter Scott. But he was ever at his best when he worked on Highland themes. It was by his treatment of Celtic subjects that he took the literary world by storm. And the excitement of the readers was probably due, not more to the manner of treatment than to the interesting nature of the subjects themselves. "Waverley" and "The Lady of the Lake" were Scott's earliest passports to fame. That he found the Celtic field a congenial one to cultivate is further evidenced by the success of "Rob Roy" and "The Lord of the Isles." It is unnecessary here to enter upon the conditions of the romantic revival itself-how Scott possessed the power of imparting a magical charm to "old, forgotten far-off things, and battles long ago "-how he could clothe with living interest an ancient keep, or a suit of armour. But when he directs his attention to the story of the Forty-five; when he duly employs the accessories of Highland scenery and customs; when he sets himself to portray two such impersonations of Jacobite loyalty as Fergus Macivor, the chief, and his beautiful sister, Flora Macivor-it is then we perceive how, by the genuis of the artist, the separate interests of politics, pride of race, chivalry, and romance, are focussed on the glowing portraits of Highland character; and the outside world beholds the chief and his lovely sister not as uncouth barbarians, but in a new light entirely.

Till the time of Scott the Highlands were usually regarded as a bleak, inhospitable

country. The more luxuriously the hills were covered with purple heather the more weird and inaccessible did they seem. They were merely the barren fastnesses of wild tribes and caterans. It is true that Duncan Ban Macintyre had sung his native mountains in strains which are hard to parallel in any tongue -but this was only in Gaelic. It was Scott who threw the glamour of his genuis on Highland moor and loch, to make them beautiful in the eyes of strangers. No sooner had the wizard cast his spell upon them than they emerged from their despised obscurity; and the land of brown heath and shaggy wood was transformed into Caledonia stern and wild. The revelation and its practical results were surely one of the most curious things in the history of modern literature. Scott converted thousands of admiring readers into enthusiastic tourists—a very real proof of the moving power of his description of Highland scenery. The circumstances reveals how one man can enlighten a whole nation. In this respect Scott may be truly regarded as an apostle of the beauty of Nature. Strangers flocked from distant places to see for themselves the land which glowed in their imagination. They reached the Trossachs with mind and eyes prepared; and they were not disappointed when they stood on the Silver Strand of Loch Katrine. Surely many a city man, who rarely or never took any interest in the beauty of Nature, must have felt for the first time a thrill of admiration when, with a copy of "The Lady of the Lake" in hand, he gazed on a Highland sunset, and "purple peak and flinty spire, were bathed in floods of living fire.

It will be probably admitted that the character of Alan Breck Stewart, in "Kidnapped," is one of the finest sketches in the works of Stevenson. In his treatment of the Celt, Stevenson is enthusiastic and sympathetic. He had always an eye for what is best in the Highlander. We need not enter upon Stevenson's general merits; but it may be mentioned that some of his presentations have a remarkable hold on the reader's memory. And Alan Breck is drawn with such bold graphic lines that one always retains a vivid impression of his figure and disposition. Who that has ever formed an acquaintance with that singular man can ever forget the athletic form, the magnificent shoulders, the quick eye, and the features which reflected the alternate moods of his mind, as faithfully as the mountain loch reflects the sunshine after clouds? Here is the beau-ideal of a Highland soldier-enterprise, pluck, hardihood, combined with a sense of racial pride, of honour, and of self-respect. The character represents the type who first gained unfading laurels for the Highland Regiments in the battles that won our Empire. The picture of Alan Breck could stand for that of more than one Highland officer who, in the words of Scott in the epitaph on the tomb of Colonel John Cameron of Passifern, "ended a life of fame by a death of glory."

The peculiarly Celtic subject of Second Sight has been dealt with by several Scottish writers. Campbell's proverbial line, "And coming events cast their shadows before," summarises the subject-matter of Lochie's Warning. In Scott's "Legend of Montrose," there are two Highland seers, Allan MacAulay, a young moody warrior, and Ranald M'Eagh, an old cateran.

Allan—" Repeatedly have I had a sight of a Gael who seemed to plunge his weapon into the body of Menteith—of that young nobleman in the scarlet-faced cloak. By no effort, though I have gazed till my eyes were almost fixed in their sockets, can I discover the face of the Highlander, or even conjecture who he may be, although his person and air seem familiar to me."

Ranald—"Have you reversed your own plaid according to the rule of experienced seers in such case?"

Allan-" I have."

Ranald—" And in what guise did the phantom then appear to you?"

Allan-" With his plaid also reversed."

Ranald—"Then be assured that your own hand, and none other, will do the deed of which you have witnessed the shadow."

Although MacAulay does not believe the prediction, yet the turn of events is such that the Earl of Menteith is to wed Annot Lyle, the maiden whom MacAulay loves. On the bridal day Allan MacAulay makes an attempt on the life of Menteith exactly in the manner of the vision. Sir Walter Scott adds no embellishment, but faithfully presents the particulars as they exist in Gaelic lore with regard to similar cases.

Stevenson has a weird and powerful poem which comes under this class. The poem is entitled "Ticonderoga." A Stewart of Appin gives hospitality to a murderer. Stewart dreams that a figure wrapped in a mantle bends over him, and whispers in his ear the strange word, "Ticonderoga." The dreamer wakens, but the word still lingers in his ears.

He cannot rest. He joins the army, and sees foreign service, where

"The neighing of the war-pipe Spreads terror in Cathay."

He goes to another war across the Atlantic; and at the hour of midnight he finds himself in a deep, dark gorge near the enemy. He enquires the name of the place, and gets for answer, "Ticonderoga." He now knows the significance of the word that he heard in his dream in his native Appin. That night he meets his death.

(To be Continued).

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EXECUTIVE MEETING.

An ordinary meeting of the Executive of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Saturday, 17th January, Mrs. W. J. Watson, vice-president in the chair. There were also present:—Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale, Miss C. MacDonald, Pitlochry; Messrs. John R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Charles Campbell, Glasgow; Alex-Fraser, Yoker; Rev. G. W. MacKay, Killin; Messrs. T. D. MacDonald, Oban; D. MacIntiye, Kenmore; Ben. B. MacKinnon, Helensburgh; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; H. S. Shield, Edinburgh; Robert Macfarlane, C.A., treasurer, and Neil Shaw, secretary.

Mrs. Watson, in opening the meeting, explained the absence of the president, Mr. Angus Robertson, and said that in his mission on behalf of the objects of An Comunn in the United States and Canada he was meeting with encouraging success, his receptions everywhere were warm and enthusiastic, and they had every reason to be hopeful of the result of

Mr. R. Macfarlane, C.A., reported on behalf of the Finance Committee that the result of the Perth Mod showed a surplus of £98, from which had to be deducted an honorarium to the local Secretary.

The total result of the Comunn's efforts on behalf of the Highlands Distress Fund amounted to the handsome sum of £8859. £4100 of this was received through the Scottish American newspaper. Attached to the last contribution of £1000 was the condition that its distribution was to be at the personal disposal of the President of An Comunn. The balance of £7700 had been remitted to the Treasurer of the Central Distress Fund Committee in Edinburgh. The allocation to specified Mod prizes of Mrs. Stewart's (of Simla) donation of £500, as recommended, was approved, as was also the expenditure involved in the further engagement for nine months of Mr. Hugh MacLean, the Comunn's music teacher. His field of expections at present was portablished.

field of operations at present was Perthshire. The secretary read minutes of the Education Committee. Returns from Directors of Education in Counties within the Highland area showed that the number of schools in each county giving instruction in Gaelic under an approved scheme were as follows :- Sutherland, 10 schools; Ross and Cromarty, 63 schools, 36 of which were in Lewis; Inverness, 108 schools, and about 20 side schools; Perthshire-Gaelic was not taught under an approved scheme in any school in the county, but under the Continuation Class Code Gaelic was taught at Kinloch Rannoch and MacLaren High School. Callander: Buteshire-Gaelic was taught in Shiskine School, Arran. No returns had been received from the Director of Education for Argyll, but Mrs. Burnley Campbell said that she was able to say from her own knowledge of the matter that Gaelic was being taught under the approved scheme in from 80 to 100 schools in Argvllshire.

The meeting expressed satisfaction at the improvement in Sutherland, and the hope was expressed that as opportunites occurred more schools in the purely Gaelic-speaking parts of the county would provide facilities for the

teaching of the language.

A discussion took place over some differences in the approved schemes for the several counties, some of them not so favourable to Gaelic as the others, particularly as they affected the elementary stages. It was decided that an effort should be made to have more uniformity effected, and the matter was remitted to the Education Committee with this object in view.

The Publication Committee reported that a re-issue of Rosg Gaidhlig, which was now entirely sold out, was agreed upon, and that Dr. Watson had undertaken the work of seeing the issue through the press. It was also reported that the Committee had agreed to issue two booklets, each containing one Gaelic Play and one Dialogue, these being Mod first prize compositions.

The Rev. G. W. MacKay spoke to the work of the Propaganda Committee, and called for the more active co-operation of the members of the Committee. He instanced the success of the several Provincial Mods of last year,

very successful ones having been held for the first time in Islay and at Stornoway.

The Mod and Music Committee reported excellent progress being made with the arrangements for the Greenock Mod.

Mr. T. D. MacDonald moved the following motion, of which he had given notice at a previous meeting, viz.—"That the work of the Provincial Mods be recognised, encouraged and assisted by presenting each such Mod with a special prize from the central Association, in either the vocal music or the oral competitions, on the lines of the Royal Celtic Society's Prize in the literary competitions."

Mr. MacDonald observed that this request to the central Association was not primarily for financial assistance, as one prize would not matter here or there in the running of a Provincial Mod. What he wanted was recognition of their efforts by the central Association in the small way asked for. After some discussion, in which several members took part, the matter was, on the suggestion of Mrs. Watson, remitted to the Finance Committee to consider and report at next meeting of Executive.

The next meeting of Executive will be held at Edinburgh, on Friday, 17th April, at 6.30 p.m.

A cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Watson for presiding brought the meeting to a close

SGEUL GAIDHEALACH.

By the Rev. A. D. Maclean, B.D., Ardgour.

Chan eil àite anns a' Ghàidhealtachd as briagha na Loch Fada. Ma dhìreas tu sus air maduin shamhraidh chi thu sealladh cho àluinn 's a tha ri fhaicinn air uachdar an t-saoghail. Air an taobh a tuath dhiot tha beinn air muin beinne cho fad is a chl do shùil; agus air an taobh an iar tha an cuan mòr a' lionadh is a' traghadh gun fhois. Tha na h-eileanan ag éirigh suas mar sheudan am meadhon a' chuain. Agus dìreach mu do choinneamh tha Muile le a bheanntaichean dorcha, le a chaol-mara ag iadhadh mu 'n cuairt mar abhainn dhù-ghorn; Loch nan Ceall, Loch Sgrìodain

is Loch Spealbh cha mhór a' coinneachadh a chéile am meadhon an eilein. Is e sud sealladh a chuireas fonn air anam duine, an uair a sheallas e mu'n cuairt air, agus a chi e obair ghlòrmhor a' Chruithfhear.

Aig bun Beinn Shianta bha bothan beag; agus a' ruith seachad air bha sruthan uisge a' taomadh o an mhonadh, agus a' gabhail sìos le torman a dh'ionnsaidh an locha. Anns a' bhothan so bha banntrach Iain Domhnullaich agus a mac a' comhnuidh. Chaidh an duine aice a mharbhadh aig batal anns na h-Innsean, agus b'e a mac an aon chul-taic a bha aice. B'e Donnachadh a b' ainm dha. Bha e a' cosnadh a lòin le iasgach agus le bhi 'n a euandair aig Mgr Caimbeul, an duine uasal d' am buineadh am fearann. Cha robh gille 's an dùthaich cho mór, làidir ri Donnachadh òg. Bha e mar an ceudna éibhinn aighearach. Is e bhiodh air thoiseach aig féis is faidhir. Cha robh ceòl no dannsadh ann nach robh esan 'n a èid 's na uidheam airson sùrd is làn-aighear.

Bha suim mhór aig an Chaimbeulach, de 'n phille òg, a chionn bha e'n a iasgair taghta, agus mar an ceudna ro-chuimseach leis a' ghunna. Bha an Caimbeulach fhéin 'n adhuine còir fiachail. Ged nach b' ann 'n af dhuine còir fiachail. Ged nach b' ann 'n at chinn feadhna na dùthcha sin a thàinig e, agus ged a fhuair 'athair inbhe o an Ard Riaghladh Shasunnach an déidh Chuilodair, igidheadh bha esan caoimheil ris na daoine bochda. Cha do chuir e riamh air fògradh aon duine no teaghlach, mar a rinn iomadh fear eile feadh na Gàidhealtachd. Is iomadh banntrach is dilleachdan a fhuair còmhnadh uaidhe an am na trioblaid.

Ach cha b' ann mar sin a dh' éirich do a ainmeil ris an canar "Am Freiceadan Dubh;" agus cha robh ni 'n a bheachd ach cuid athar a chosg an òl is an droch-bheirt. An uair a bhiodh e a' cur seachad beagan ùine aig tigh 'athar, bha e a' leigeil fhaicinn nach robh bàigh aige ris na h-Islean a bha air an fhearann. Is liommhor duine bochd a thubhairt gum biodh riaghailtean ùra ann cho luath is a thigeadh an t-oighre gu bhi 'n a uachdaran.

Cha robh an t-oighre òg idir geal do Dhonnachadh Domhnullach, agus b'e so an t-aobhar. Thachair gu robh deireadh-bhuana aig an duine uasal; agus anns an fheasgar rinneadh sabhal mór deas air son cuirm, ceol is dannsadh a thabhairt do na daoine. Cha robh fear ann a b'fhear a ghabhadh òran na Donnachadh, Cha robh fear eile a bheireadh

ceòl cho tlachdmhor as a' phìob, no a rachadh na bu deine roimh an ruidhle. B' e féin is Màiri Nic Calum dithis bu sgiobalta air an casan is a bha anns a' chuideachd gu léir.

Thàinig an t-oighre a stigh; ach an toiseach cha b'fhiach leis pàirt sam bith a ghabhail anns na dannsachan borba Ghidhealach, oir bha e cleachdta ri dòighean nan Gall. Ach bhuail a shid air Màiri Nic Calum, agus anns a' mhionaid smaointich e nach fhacaidh e riamh caileag cho aluim rithe. Fhuair e a mach gum b'i nighean tuathanaich a bha innte, agus gu robh i fhéin is Donnachadh a' leannanachd; agus gu robh e glé chottach gun tigeadh an gnothach gu pòsadh. Fhuair an t-oighre cothrom air dannsadh leis an nighinn uair no dhà; agus bha ise moiteil gu robh an duine uasal òg a' gabhail suim dhi a measg nan cailean eile.

An déigh na h-oidhche so ghabh an t-oighre agus Màiri barrachd eòlais air a chéile; agus mu dheireadh chuir i cùl gu leir ri Donnachadh bochd. Faodaidh sinn a bhi cinnteach nach do ghabh easan sin gu math. Aon fheasgar thachair e air an oighre a' dol an coinneamh Màiri; agus leis an doigheas anns an robhe dhi-chuimhnich e' àite cho mór is gun do bhuail e a mhaighair òg gu talamh. Mun gann a rinn e sin ghabh e an t-aithreachas. Dh' éirich an t-oighre òg agus labhair e anns a' Bheurla mar bu ghnath leis. "Ille," ar sean, "leigidh mise fhaicinn dhuit gun crean thu air a' bhuille a thug thu seachad."

Dh'fhalbh Donnachadh dhachaidh; agus an uair a ràinig e an tigh fhuair e a mhathair gu tinn, agus cha robh 'n a chridhe na b' urrainn innse dhi mar a thachair.

Aig an am so bha sgioba de shaighdearan airson arm Rìgh Deòrsa. Leig an t-oighre fhaicinn dhaibh far an robh Donnachadh a' fuireach, agus thug e dhaibh ighdarras a thabhairt air falbh. Air an aobhar sin thàinig iad air Donnachadh gun fhios da, agus thug iad ieo gu baile Pheart. "Có thug ùghdarras alduibh a leithid so a dheanamh" ara esan ris na saighdearan. "Thug," ars iadsan, "an Caibdin òg Caimbeul." "Mo mhlie mallachd airsan, agus air an nighinn am heall mi. Tha mi air mo thabhairt o na glinn is o mo dhachaidh. Nam faighinn aon fhacal ris a t-sean duine uasal bheireadh esan fuasgladh dhomh."

(Ri leantainn.)

THE GAELIC SERVICE.

In a church up in the city High amid the Castle-toun There you'll find the Gaelic service Where on Sunday afternoon Folk of Highland stock assemble (Just a handful, two or three)-Singing psalm-tunes that resemble Music of the western sea.

Like the crying of the seagulls Rise the women's voices shrill, And like the wind in forest-trees-A breathing deep and still-Men sound the deeps below them While the leader chants the bar; (Oh, the thoughts that overflow them ! They've forgotten where they are).

The've forgotten that beside them, Just a few feet from the door, Are the slum-lands of the city, Crowded alleys, tears "gu leoir," And the servant-lass from Uist Spends her heart and soul and will (What although her note's scarce truest!) Singing wistfully "Coleshill."

Ay! It's there God hears the Gaelic Through the city's hurtling din, No golden note of organ-pipe To drown the voices thin; There the exiled sons and daughters Of the stormy Hebrides, Hear the sound of far-off waters And the beating of God's seas.

ISOBEL W. HUTCHISON.

CLO CADAIL.

Le SEUMAS MAC THOMAIS, A.M.

Mar a fhreagras a' chlàrsach do chrann an fhir-ealainn mar sin freagraidh an cuan do chagair na gaoithe. An sèimheachd an fheasgair shamhraidh nuair a tha gach bith a' leigeil an sgìos, agus boltradh cùbhraidh nam blàth air aiseag air sgèith an àile, nuair a phaisgeas na h-eòin an ribheid agus a chluinnear gu fann torman tùchanach an t-sruthain am measg nan crann, an sin tha an cuan mór 'na thosd le uchd air an tràigh. Tha fiamh gàire air a ghnùis, 's e beòlragaich gu socair, sèimh ris a' chloinn bhig a tha mire gu suairc an iomall a thrusgain.

Le amharas nach soirbh a chleith, le gruaim a ghineadh le deuchainn, tha freiceadain an fhuinn, stallachan aosmhor, liath-ghlas nan àl, ag amharc 'na aodann, agus a' lorg preasadh 'nan gruaidh-creuchdan goin na còmhraig

A muigh 's a' bhàgh tha an fhaoileann bhàn a' snàmh gu h-eutrom iollagach, agus an sgarbh dubh le sùil luaineach fhurachail a' tomadh a ghuib air uair an tòir air lòn.

Tha leadan àluinn na gréine tha cromadh 'san iar a' sgaoileadh gu farsuing o chladach gu cladach mar ghnùis-bhrat airgid, agus anail cùbhraidh na machrach a' cagarsaich gu

càirdeil o àirde nan speur.

Na dùisg e gus an àill leis. Le shiubhal tha e sgìth, le shaothair tha e fann. Anail nan càrn, na dùisg e. Is fada imeachd, is luaineach a cheum, is iollagach eutrom a ruitheas e a liubhairt a sgeòil. O Eilean gu Eilean, o dhùthaich gu dùthaich tha 'uidhearachd shìor a' sireadh na foise nach 'eil 'san dàn. Gu tric air a luaisneadh le doininn, 's air a liodairt ris na creagan nach toir dha fàilt, gu minic air a tholgadh, air a phreasadh, 's air a smùideadh le gaothan garga gun 10chd gun truas is mithich leis anail a leigeil air an tràigh-ghil tha socair fo cheann.

Cluinn gaoir is acain a dh' hàisgeadh á cridhe an laoich, ach casaid àrd-fhuaimneach cha deòin leis an déidh na tuasaid. Cha ghléidh e cuimhne gu bràth air diumb na dh' éirich 'na aghaidh, chan altruim e naimhdeas an aghaidh luchd tòrach; ach cha nàr leis a ghàirdean a rùsgadh ri luchd mì-ruin.

Mo thruaighe esan air am buail e làdach an àird a chorruich, nuair a bhrùchdas e le maoim nach caisgear le treise; mo thruaighe an neach sin a chuireas gu dùbhlan e nuair tha chamagan geala mu a bhathais is e 'na dheann a' dion iomall a rìoghachd. Sgàinidh na creagan le a bhuillean, teichidh na mill throma as an àite : rànaidh na clachan muile nuair a theannas e dlùth, agus sluigidh e leis iad an srùplaich na braise imeachd.

Tha e buaireasach, colgarra ri uchd comhraig, ach sèimh, tarruingeach, càirdeil ri uair na sìthe. Agus an sin bìdh a' chlann bheaga le

mùirn ri mire r 'a thaobh.

THE LOCK OF HAIR.

By Campbell of Saddell, F.S.A. (Scot.), J.P., The Captain of Saddell Castle.

It was in the old reckless days, when men drank the best of the wine of France, and their women kind wore the best lace of France in the long Glens of Cantire and among the Arran hills, for Red Sandy and his sloop were to the fore in these days, jinking the cutters and gaugers. Among his many customers Red Sandy was better known as "The Fox" for cunning as that red cheil he was, and held life as cheap as Big Colin, the hangman, but a right gallant fellow among the lassies.

One black November night when his sloop was lying off Carradale water-foot, for Big Archie, the inn keeper at Bridge End, was one of his best customers and a boon companion for-by. Well, as these two were sitting in the inn kitchen with an odd dram going on now and again the door opened, and in came a carline near bent double with age, or maybe the sorrows of a lifetime.

"Dark is the night that is in it," said she.
"Dhé," answered "The Fox" with a laugh,
"about as black as your own art, Kate
Williamson, and maybe no so black, aye! aye! I take it yourself has come to sell me a fair
wind to the Low Countries and back, and,
or righ, I will give you or your master your
due, the last spell worked fine, aye! aye! a
fair wind a fair wind all the time."

"A real good one myself has got for you this time, my hero," answered the Carline, taking from under her plaid a small packet wrapped in oil-cloth. "Just the right one for ethat is going jaunting to the Low Countries and back, and yours it will be, my hero, if you are willing with the price, for it was dearly come by, and needs must be dearly sold I am telling you."

"Name your price and be done with it, for time and tide wait for no man," answered "The Fox."

"Seven guineas is my price, no more or less," said the Carline.

"Dhé, if it were ten I would be giving you for it, for a fair passage both ways I will be needing badly this jaunt, so here's your price," said "The Fox" counting out the gold into the Carline's hand, and at the same time pocketing the oil-cloth packet.

Once aboard the sloop with her racing down the Sound, with a fine following breeze, "The Fox" went below into the cabin, and under the swinging smoking lamp, he carefully undid the packet, and the moment he unwrapped the oil-doth, a lock of red hair, with seven witch knots made among the pleats; fell on his gaze.

"God be about us," said he, "there was only one woman on yon side of the Sound that had hair like this, and she was Kate Williamson's own daughter, the same that was hanged a month back at Inneraora for the killing of her bairn. The black curse be on you, Kate Williamson, this very night for bringing a man's sins to his remembrance before the Day of Judgment," and with that he went on deck and flung the long red lock of hair astern into the darkness with a bitter laugh.

BOOK REVIEW.

"Caisleain Oir." "Màire" do sgrìobh. Dundealgan Press, Dundalk. 6/-.

"Caisleain Oir" is the name of the latest novel from the pen of "Maire," a writer already well known as the author of "Mo Dha Roisin," and hailed by many as the best Gaelic writer Ireland has yet produced. A few words on her life may interest Scotch readers. Born in the heart of the Donegal Gaedhealtacht and speaking no English in her earlier years, "Maire" writes the pure Gaelic of the Gaedhealtacht, and has no mercy on the "School Irish"—that horrible monstrosity, now so common in Ireland, which "simplifies" by mixing "Ghni" with "Déan," "Chi" with "Feic," "Chuaidh" with "Deachaidh," etc., as well as suppressing the relative in "s," aspira-tion of "n" and "r," and many other characteristics of the Gaelic language. As a school teacher, it fell to her lot to teach Shakespeare's plays to children in whose homes English had never been spoken. She did it with such success that the children were able to act the parts. Later on she founded a company of Gaelic players, writing the plays herself. The company toured the Gaedhealtacht, from Glenties to Falcarragh, playing in every parish, and was a great success. As a Donegal man said to me: "Rinn na dramai sin nios mo don Ghaedhilg i mhliadhain amhain, na a dearn Connradh na Gaedhilge o cuireadh ar bun Let that stand as preface. The book itself, while a modern novel, is Gaelic from cover to cover, for "Maire," more than any living Irish writer, makes use of the Gaelic tradition. "Caisleain Oir" is the story of Scimidh Phàdraig Duibh or "James Gallagher" as he is called at school. We can see him in the early chapters sailing cockle-shell boats to the Golden Castles where the sun sets-wading knee-deep with Bàbai, a little girl of the district; spending his nights listening to stories and lays of Fionn and Cuchulainn, and Connia, and "Nighean Riogh Chnocan-Oir." We see him at school punished for not answering to "James Gallagher," and saying to not answering to James vallagore, and saying between his sobe, "Shil me gur Séimidh Phàdraig Duibh a bhi orm. ("I thought my name was Séimidh Phàdraig Duibh.") He grows older, the cockle-shell boats are put away, and he playscardis with "Cearrbhaodh Bhetti." Then we see his last farewell to Bàbai Mhàirtin, now a girl of eighteen, as he sets out to seek his fortune in Scotland and America, and promises her that the future will hold for them days even happier than those days when they sailed to the Golden Castles where the sun sets. We see the Gaedhealtacht as it was forty years ago, before newspapers had invaded it, and substituted the day's news for tales of Fionn and Cuchulainn. We see in all its strength the sgealaidheacht, now dying out. We see the Gaedhealtacht of the land war days give place to the Gaedhealtacht of 1925, still Gaelic in language, but without the sgcalaidheacht and literary taste that came from centuries of Gaelic civilisation-the Ireland of 1925 takes the place of the Ireland of the eighties. I have purposely omitted the end of the story— Seimidh's return to Ireland—and Bàbai Mhàirtin as I don't wish to spoil the story for those who will read it. Besides the central story of Séimidh and Bàbai, and interwoven with it, are the stories of other characters, the Cearrbhac who dies to save Bàbai, and Micheal Dubh who saves Seimidh from death in Glasgow. The whole is well written, and deserves a great success apart altogether from the beauty of the language in which it is written.

DONN PLATT.

THE ROBERT A. ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL.

Mr. Alexander Campbell of Boreland, president, and Mrs. Macintyre, Kenmore, secretary, of the Kenmore and Fearnan Branch wish to acknowledge the following

sums received for the Armstrong Memoria	:		
Dr. Sinclair, Darlington	£5	5	-0
Dr. G. H. Sinclair, Lutterworth	5	0	0
Alex. Campbell, Esq. of Boreland	1	1	0
Royal Celtic Society of Edinburgh	1	1	0
Dr. MacGregor, Inverchaggrenie	1	0	0
Miss Dunn, Aberfeldy	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Macintyre, Kenmore	- 1	0	0
Miss Hockley, London	1	0	0
Mr. Walter Armstrong, Girvan	0	10	0
Mrs. Christison, Glasgow	- 0	10	0
Mr. A. MacCallum, Edinburgh	0	5	0
Mr. R. MacPharlain, Glasgow	0	5	0
Mr. Peter Macintyre, Invervar, Glenlyon	0	5	0

£18 2 0

BRANCH REPORTS.

BUTE BRANCH, ROTHESAY .- Of more than usual interest was the lecture on "Pipes and Piobaireachd" given at the fortnightly meeting of the Branch on Friday evening, 26th December, by Mr. John C. Maclean. In his introduction, he mentioned as a local note that at the battle of Barone Hill the Brandanes were so encouraged by the pipes that, though only equipped with stones, they routed the English garrison and captured Rothesay Castle. Proceeding to deal with Piobaireachd, he said they had it in the gathering, the salute, the challenge, and the lament. The occasion which called for the gathering was the time of war. The coming of age of the chief or his succession to the headship of his clan provided the theme for the triumphant salute. The greatness of the chiefs of old and the yearning hope of the future found expression in those thrilling notes which gladdened the mountain solitudes, but a more doleful subject was the burden of the lament, searching the heart to its innermost core. The Celtic revival which had been taking place had not only created a new interest in the language and literature of the Scottish Gael, but had quickened the cultivation of Highland music, both vocal and instrumental. The creators and ardent admirers of Piobaireachd in the old days were also the race which were foremost in going up to the cannon's mouth. From the gory fields of the Peninsula to the crowning carnage of Waterloo, from the Heights of Alma to the fiery zone of Dargai, and the recent world war of 1914-18, the warlike notes of the pipes followed and inspired its admirers. As it was their chief joy in life, so its music lulled them to sleep while they closed their eyes in death. The earliest notice of the bagpipes in Scotland was to be found in the work by Aristides Quintillianus who flourished about 100 A.D. The next was by Gerald Barry, a Welshman, in the 12th century. In 1362, they found an entry in Scottish exchequer returns of a payment to King David's piper. By 1506, it was the great war-pipe of the Highlanders, it having supplanted both horn and trumpet, and also the bards who used to sing the war-song. The last warsong was recited by the bard M'Mhuirich at the battle of Harlaw in 1411. Of great interest were the references

by the lecturer to what the great M'Crimmons had done for piping, and to what had been accomplished in early days by the piping college in Skye. He also referred to the piping incidents in the Jacobite wars, in the Peninsula, and at Waterloo, saying there was no sound the immortal Wellington heard with more delight, and the Marshals of France with more dismay than the notes of a Highland piobaireachd. Pleasant as it might be to dwell on the charm of the myth, legend and historical facts, it was even more inspiring to think that behind these poetic tales which they had heard in their childhood there was the genuine reality of musical power to which the present can hardly afford a parallel. Where there were noble traditions, one might rest assured that their substance was not the creation of fancy, but that it was merely the echo resounding through the ages of a noble and heroic past. The lecture was enriched by Mr. Maclean's able piping of two notable Piobaireachds. In the course of the lecture, Mrs. Mutter gave a fine rendering of "M'Crimmon's Lament" and also "Jessie's Dream. Later in the evening, Pipe-Major Stewart played a stirring selection, while songs were rendered by Mrs. Maclachlan, and others. The meeting was largely attended and greatly enjoyed. Mr. M. Mackenzie presided in the absence of Capt. Kennedy, through

CONNEL .- An enjoyable Ceilidh was held in the Public Hall, Connel, on New Year's night (old style). Rev. Mr. Macinnes presided. The following contributed to the evening's enjoyment with song and story :-Misses G. Bruce and G. M'Vean, duet; Dr. Macnicol, piano; Rev. Gillespie Campbell, song and story; Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Maclaren, stories; Misses Miller, Macdonald, B. Macswan, Macgillivray, Ferguson and Maclean and Ian M'Gilvray, children's songs; Mess's. John Macdonald, Benderloch; C. S. Crabbe, Connel; A. Macnab, Colin Macintyre, and Robert Ross, songs. There was a large attendance at the Ceilidh.

HARTWOOD .- At a Ceilidh held at the Hall, Bowhousebog, on Friday, 26th December-Dr. N. T. Kerr presiding-Mr. John (Kaid) MacLean, Glasgow, entertained the Ceilidh to his humorous songs and entertained the Centan to ma numorous songs and Gaelic and Scotch readings. He was assisted by Pipers M'Leod, Inverness, and Kelly, Ardkinglas, Messrs. D. M'Vicar and Neil Haggart gave vocal renderings. At the close a vote of thanks in Gaelic to Dr. Kerr for presiding and to the artistes was given by Mr. M'Lachlan, Wishaw. The singing of "Oidche Mhath Leibh" brought a most successful Ceilidh to a close. The closing hours of 1924 were spent by the Ceilidh members in a happy sequence of song and dance. The vocalists included Messrs. D. M. Vicar, Neil Haggart, James Gillies and John M. Vicar. In the dance, 40 couples, under the direction of Mr. Ian Haggart, availed themselves of the excellent piping of Messrs. M'Leod and Kelly and Mr. John Martin (violinist). Dancing was kept up until the warning of the clock announced the approach of 1925, when the company joined in the singing of "A Guid New Year." The decorations were in the capable hands of Mr. James Campbell, gardener, late of Poltalloch Gardens, and Mr. Malcolm Haggart. The catering, which was excellently done, was in the hands of Mrs. Whicar, Wis Haggart, and the Misses Mylicar, Haggart and assistants. Mr. James Gillies, Rhudle, in a special vote of thanks, thanked Mr. Dugald M'Vicar, the worthy secretary, for his untiring efforts to promote the welfare and comfort of the members, also to Messrs. Campbell and Haggart for the decorations, and the ladies responsible for the catering.

INVERBARY.—The fortnightly meeting of An Comunn was held on Thursday last. Mrs. Nicol Macintyre presided. The programme of readings and songs was sustained by Rev. John MacLachlan, Miss MacGregor, Mrs. Peter Machatyre, Mrs. Johnkins, Mrs. M. Dunn, and Mr. H. MacArthur sang songs, and piano selections were rendered by Mrs. P. C. Maitland

INVERGAREY.—OR Friday, 2nd January, the Cellids of An Comun met in the Hall. There was an audience of about 200 people, and with a threepenny collection to defray expenses of the tea a sum of £2 12s was realised. Mr. J. Macglillvray presided. In his opening remarks he referred to the beautiful picture and the greeting of a Happy New Year in large Gaelie printing put across the hall by Mr. P. Grant. A very fine concert was then given. Those who took part were:—Messrs. P. Grant, J. Macglillvray, and J. Macclan, violin selections; songs by Mr. Angus Grant, Fort Augustus, in Gaelie; English songs by Mrs. Noble and Liza Kennedy; Highland Fling, beattifury, and J. Macglillvray; Miss Aitken danced the Sword Dance and Sheann Triubhais in her usual fine style; Mr. Maclean, Cullocy, sang "A Guid New Year." The event of the evening was a Gaelie song by Mrs. Aitken, who is learning Gaelic, and is by her good example helping on the cause. Her Grant, L. Macchonald, K. Macdonald, H. Macchonald, H. Macchonald, H. Macchonald, T. Macchaill, A. Robertson, and A. Macdonald, all wearing neat tarkan rosettes and little aprons. Tee was prepared by Mrs. N. Macdonald and Miss Fraser, and a very hearty test is was, just like hat of a very happy family. Four gentlemen sang a very pretty song, with we have by Mrs. Aitken, Mrs. N. Macdonald, H. On hearty test is was, just like that of a very happy family. Four gentlemen sang a very pretty song, with was a M. Maclon, and H. Mache, Mrs. M. Macdonald, G. Moleskill, A. Robertson, and J. Maches. After a very remarks by Mr. Aitken, who was at the piano, and the singing of "Aul Lang Ryme," a happy Cellide neded.

KILMALLIE .- The last Ceilidh for 1924, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, was a very successful one. Rev. R. B. Crawford presided, and in the course of his introductory remarks, made touching reference to the loss An Comunn had sustained by the death of one of their members, Mrs. K. M. Stewart, son of the late "Nether Lochaber," who took part in the last Celididh. An interesting musical programme was rendered. Miss Dolly McAlpine, who made her first appearance, rendered several Gaelic airs with feeling and verve, and she was ably accompanied on the pianoforte by Miss C. McInnes, who, along with Mcssrs. Wilson and McLean on the violin, gave spirited renderings of Highland reels and strathspeys and marches. The vocal side of the concert was sustained by Miss McAlpine and Miss Sheila McDonald, whose songs were much appreciated. A notable feature in their part was the rendering of "Crodh Chailein," and the waulking song, "Faill ill o' na hu ill o," by Misses Peggy and Ina M'Intyre, Alexina Kennedy, Sheila McDonnell, and John McDonnell and Archie MoPhee. Other singers were Misses Thomson, A. Kennedy, M'Eachan, Messers. John M'Donald, E. George and John Livingstone. Mr. Robert Carr recited one of Donnachadh Ban's poems, and Mr. Allan M'Donnell gave a short and interesting account of the Doings of Domhnull Donn, Uacfear Bhohuintain, a Lochaber freebooter of bygone days, concluding by singing one of his songs.

KENMORE AND FEARNAN BRANCH .- The Kenmore and Fearnan Branch are having an active session. Classes in Gaelic reading are being conducted by the Rev. William A. Gillies, B.D., minister of the parish, and Mr. J. J. Coull, M.A., is training choirs, both senior and junior. Mr. Hugh Maclean, teacher of music from An Comunn, has been in the district for some time, and good progress has been made. The Provincial Mod in June is being looked forward to with much interest. Most enjoyable and well attended Ceilidhs were held at Fearnan and at Kenmore, while on 16th January a company from Kenmore, on the invitation of the Ardeonaig Branch, paid a visit to that district and gave a splendid entertainment in the school to a crowded audience. Mr. John M'Grigor presided, and extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. Gaelic songs and readings and instrumental music went to fill up a most varied and much appreciated programme.

TOBERMORY .- The usual fortnightly meeting of the local Branch was held in the Higher Grade School on Wednesday, 7th January. Rev. J. M. Menzies presided over a large attendance, and briefly referred to the healthy condition of the Society and its great success in the first part of the session. He hoped the new year would see it more flourishing still. The jecturer for the evening was Mr. A. Macmillan, headmaster, Dervaig School, who took as his subject, "Ceilidhean anns na laithean a dh'aom," Mr Macmillan gave a description of the customs and wit of those meetings of bygone days, interspersing the instructive with gems of Highland wit and humour. He kept his hearers interested and amused, and the applause which followed showed how greatly his paper was appreciated. The musical part of the programme was arranged by Mr. K. Macfarlane and Mrs. Grav. Songs were given by Mrs. Grav, Misses M. Macmillan. Dervaig; M. Maclean, M. Morrison, Messrs. Allan Beaton and D. Robertson. Bagpipe selections by Hugh Cameron, pianoforte by Miss Calder, and violin selections by Messrs. R. Maclean and Neil Maclean, accompanied on the piano by Miss Maclean of the school staff. A short reading was given by John Cameron, Aros Estate. The different items met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Cameron, vice-president of the Branch, moved the hearty thanks of the meeting to the lecturer, and to all those who took part in the evening's programme. He congratulated Mr. Macmillan on his paper, and he was in full agreement with all the lecturer said in praise of the old days and the old ways. He could not but think that we had lost much that was good, kindly and typical of the Highlands in those so-called progressive days. The lecturer for the next meeting is Mr. Kenneth Macfarlane, and the musical programme is in the care of Mr. Neil Mackinnon and Miss M. Maclean.

SEIRBHIS GHAIDHLIG AN OIL-THIGH GHLASCHO.

Chruinnich ann an Talla Bhóid an Oil-thigh Ghlascho air a' cheud Sàbaid de'n Earrach coimhthional mór a chluinntinn na ceud searmon Gàidhlig a chaidh a liubhairt an taobh a stigh de bhallachan na h-aitreibh ainmeil sin.

Tha fios aig an t-saoghal gu léir gur Gaidheal dìleas an Ridire Domhnall MacAlasdair, Prìomh Cheann nan Ollamh agus nam Foghlumach anns an Oil-thigh mhór so, agus faodar a ràdh le fìrinn gur ann a thaobh a mheas air cànain a mhathar agus athraichean a thug e an cothrom do a cho-Ghaidheal aoradh a dheanamh 'nan cànain féin anns an lùchairt ghreadhnaich a tha fo a chùram. Tha coinneamh ann an caibeal an Oil-thigh gach Sàbaid agus is mór an t-urram do'n Ghàidhlig aite fhaotuinn 'nam measg. Agus nach airidh air i, oir nach ann innte a liubhar Calum Cille caomh teachdaireachd an t-Soisgeil air tùs 'nar dùthaich ?

B'e an t-Urra. Domhnall MacLaomuinn, A.M., ministeir Sgìre Adholl, a bha air ceann na seirbhis agus is ainmig a chualas á cùbaid searmon anns an robh barrachd de theagasg fìorghlan, fallain-sgeul a' mhór aoibhneis a mhai eas 'nar cuimhne cho fada 's is beo sinn. Leugh an Ridire caomh féin earrannan as an t-Seann Tiomnadh agus ás an Tiomnadh Nuadh. Ged tha e aosd an làithean chan 'eil móran fàillinn 'na ghuth, agus chuir e snas agus blas air na briathran a mheudaich gu mór an seadh agus an luach.

Bha Còisir Ghàidhlig Eaglais Chaluim Chille, fo stiùradh an fhir-chiùil thaghta sin Gilleashuig MacFhearghais, a' togail fonn nan Salm agus fhuair iad cuideachadh maith bho'n choimhthional.

Chan fhaodar dearmad a dheanamh air an obair mhór a rinn an t-Olla Calder ann a bhi a' craobh-sgaoileadh eòlais am measg choimhthionalan agus chomuinn Gaidhealach bhaile Ghlascho mu'n t-seirbhis Ghàidhlig so, agus air son a dhealas agus a shaothair tha sinn a' tairgse dha taing nan Gaidheal. Mar an ceudna tha ar mór thaing aig a' choig ceud a thainig a mach a dh'eisdeachd an Fhocail an cainnt an dùthcha. Gu measar sin dhoibh mar hhaannachd

Is mór an call spioradail e do Ghaidheil a tha a' tuinneachadh far nach 'eil an cothrom aca air bhi a' cluinntinn searmon Gaidhlig. ach feumaidh gur mór an t-uallach e air coguis nam feadhnach a tha a' diùltadh nam meadhonan sin a chleachadh far an dligheach iad. fheabhas 'gan tuig sinn cànain eile is i cainnt na mathar a ghluaiseas gu ceart agus gu domhain spiorad cràbhaidh, agus is i a' chainnt sin duinne, A' GHAIDHLIG. N.

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TELEPHONE-Douglas 1097.

Leabhar XX.]

Am Mart, 1925.

[Earrann 6

NA DOIGHEAN URA.

Dh'fhaodamaid ceist a chur-ciod an éifeachd a bhios aig innleachdan ùra air a' Ghàidhlig? Chan eil maduinn a leughas sinn paipear naidheachd nach eil rud éigin as ùr 'g a fhaotainn a mach gu saothair a dheanamh aotrom, no astar is ùine a ghiorrachadh. An uair a tha nithean nodha cho cudthromach a' tighinn gu follais, feumaidh gun tig caochladh air smuain, is cainnt dhaoine mar thoradh. Tha móran de bhuill A' Chomuinn, gu h-àraidh anns na bailtean móra, mean-eòlach air feadhainn de na h-innleachdan ùra. Ciod a' bhuaidh a bhios aig an eòlas sin air an cuid Gàidhlig? Air dhaibh sealladh fhaighinn air gnothuichean annasach a tha luchdealadhain a' dealbh gun tàmh, an caill iad am meas air gliocas an sinnsir féin? Am fàs iad suarach mu'n chànain mhàtharail? An dean iad tàire air sean mhodh an aithrichean? Tha iad buailteach do gach cunnart diubh sin an uair a tha iad an suidheachadh nach eil dualach dhaibh, agus air an cuartachadh le cainnt choigreach. Ach is e an ni bu mhiann leinn a chumail a ghnàth an cuimhne na feadhnach sin, gu faod muinntir an cànain a chumail suas eadhon am measg nithibh coimheach. Saoilidh cuid gur còir daibh an dualchas a leigeil air di-chuimhne an uair a dh'atharraicheas iad an ionad còmhnuidh.

Ag amharc air eachdraidh na Gàidhlig anns an naodhamh linn deug tha sinn a' comh-dhùnadh gur iad na nithean a thug caochladh air cor an t-sluaigh a thug mar an ceudna caochladh air cor na Gàidhlig. Thugamaid fainear cuid de na h-atharraichean a thug doighean ùra sir seòl-beatha ar n-aithrichean feadh an dà ghinealach mu dheireadh. Tha cuid de shean daoine fathast bed aig a bheil cuimhne air an am anns an robh an càirdean a' cur is a' buain le cois-chruim is le corran. Eadhon air raontan còmhnard na Galldachd is ann le corrain a bha core is cruineachd 'g an gearradh le armailt bhuanuichean. Bu mhór am mùthadh air obair fearainn an uair a thugadh crann-treabhaidh is speal do'n Ghàidhealtachd air tùs. Cha b'fhada gus an tàinig erloch air dòigh àitich na sinnsir-clais is iomaire-a' chlais gu bhi sìoladh nan uisgeachan, is talamh na claise 'g a chàradh air an iomaire, a' dùblachadh doimhneachd an fhuinn, is a' meudachadh tomad a' bharra.

Thug an uidheam-thoite atharrachadh iongantach air cor na dùthcha. Rinn an t-inneal sinn mùthadh anns gach àite gus an tàinig e. Ach anns a' Ghàidhealtachd bha na glinn iomallach air am fosgladh do luchd taghail agus do luchd malairt. Bha cothrom 'g a thabhairt do mharsantan na Galldachd tighinn le an cuid bathair, gu bhi a' faotainn mar iomlaid ni sam bith luachmhor a dh'fhaodadh a bhi aig na Gàidhil, air an gabhadh airgiod deanamh. Dh'fhosgladh an dùthaich do luchd taghail aig an robh a bheag no mhór de bheartas, agus a bha deònach air a chosg ri sealg no ri iasgach. Ged is cinnteach gun tug an rathad iarruinn dòighean ùra do 'n Ghàidhealtachd, bha e 'n a mheadhon air móran de na sean dòighean a ruagadh air falbh. Cha ruigear a leas anns an ionad so a bhi a' leudachadh air an ni. Ach an aon fhacal, riamh o chaidh ar dùthaich fhosgladh do dhòighean ùra chan ann nas feàrr a tha gnothuichean a' dol. Agus mar dhearbhadh air sin

cuimhnich gu bheil ar tìr an diugh bochd gu leòr. Chan eil i dad nas cothromaiche ri linn nan dòighean ùra. An uair a tha an Gàidheal, an a dhùthaich, an eisimeil choigreach airson a bheò-shlàinte tha e buailteach air fàs miodalach brosgulach; feumaidh e a chainnt, a chleachdadh is a bheachdan a chumadh a réir a' mhaighistear Ghallda a tha a' tabhairt dha a thuarasdail: oir mur dean e sin cha bhi e fada a' faighinn cead a choise. Mar so tha finid 'g a cur air modh eireachdail neo-mathach ar n-aithrichean, air chor is nach eil fhios ciod an seòrsa dhaoine a tha am móran de luchd-àitichidh na Gàidhealtachd an diugh -cha Ghoill iad có dhiubh-agus gu dearbh cha Ghàidhil iad!

Thug dòighean ùra caochladh air biadh, air éideadh is air gnìomhachas. An uair a bha ar sinnsir a' cosnadh an lòin air muir is fearann, bha am biadh suspuinneach, is iad féin fallain. Cha robh guth air déideadh no air tinneas caitheamh. Ach le biadhan ùra chaidh foghainteachd is fallaineachd an lughad gu mór, ged a tha cruadal spioraid cho beò 's a bha e riamh. Agus tha cuid de dh'euslaintean a' fàs cumanta air nach robh iomradh idir ri linn ar seanar. A ris a thaobh éididh, is gann gu faicear coiredatha no beairt-fhighe ach an cearn iomallach-is sin mar fhasan airson margadh Lunnain-chan ann gu iomfhuasgladh coitchionn na dùthcha. Chan eil teachd-antir an diugh aig gobha no aig greusaiche, aig muillear no aig taillear. Tha e rocholtach gu feum na dòighean ùra tighinn agus na sean dòighean géilleadh; ach is e an Gàidheal glic a bheir sin fainear; agus a ghleidheas gu mùirneach na nithean is priseile anns na seann dòighean dh'fheumas triall air falbh.

THE ELECTION OF EDUCATION AUTHORITIES.

The time is again approaching when we shall be called upon to elect our representatives to the Education Authorities. We earnestly hope that the electors in the Highland area will make sure that their representatives have a clear knowledge of their duty to Gaelic, and that they are prepared to carry it through.

In 1918 a clause was inserted in the Education Act requiring Gaelic to be taught in all schools in Gaelic-speaking districts under a scheme to be approved by the Scottish Education Department. This does not mean that Gaelic is to be used merely as a means of making clear the meaning of English words or sentences, but that it is to be taught as an independent subject for its own sake.

And here we would urge on those responsible for education not to be satisfied with half measures. Begin Gaelic-speaking infants with Gaelic. The Inverness Authority have set a noteworthy example in this.

If the children are bi-lingual, do not let this valuable basis be lost—let them get their general education in one language, but let them from the beginning learn to read the other language also and develop it by degrees. In districts where the children have not very much or perhaps any Gaelic, but where it is taught as a second language, begin the study of it in time to make the reading and writing of it a pleasure before the child leaves eshool.

In some districts at present those responsible are satisfying their sense of duty by having the Gaelic class after school hours—then they point out that the class is poorly attended and that there is evidently no desire for Gaelic instruction! Can one expect children, who have already survived six hours of a school day, probably without a solid meal, and who have perhaps a three-mile walk in front of them, to be enthusiastic over a seventh hour?

Besides, such a class does not meet the requirements of the Act. The Gaelic instruction is to be part of the day's scheme, not an "extra" after hours. And here we would like to utter a warning against "uniform schemes." No Highland county would be justified in teaching Gaelic on a uniform scheme throughout its area.

Some counties, e.g., Perth, have special difficulties in being in parts Gaelic-speaking and in other parts non-Gaelic-speaking, and we understand that the Authority of Perthshire invited the parents in certain districts to express their wishes in the matter. We hope that they will do so at this election time, for we know that Gaelic feeling is very strong in some districts of that country.

We would like to congratulate the Bute Authority on introducing Gaelic to the school at Shiskine.

There is perhaps, nothing more extraordinary in the history of elementary education in the Highlands than the teaching of French a language with a subtle accent and one utterly useless to the vast majority of the children, who could never have any opportunity of using it, and who were quite unqualified to use it if the opportunity did come. Latin would be

equally useless to them, but at least it affords a mental training not gained by the study of French. Gaelic on the other hand-the language of our race and blood, affords the same mental training as Latin, and has the additional advantage of being a living tongue all round us. We can get somewhere with it, and are not led up a blind alley as with Latin and French. No matter where we live in Scotland we are surrounded with Gaelic interest-it may be in names of places and persons or it may be in objects of archæology, or it may be in traditions of battles or points of history. Lowlanders, Frenchmen, Germans, Scandanavians and Americans consider it worth while to learn Gaelic in order to study our folklore, traditions, tales and our written literature at first hand.

We have been speaking so far of pupils who will not go to a university or college: For those who do intend to proceed to further education, the study of Latin or French, or both, may be necessary according to the course they intend to pursue, but they would find a greater interest in learning these from their study of Gaelic. After all, "cha truimide

colainn ciall."

There is at present a considerable number of teachers in training who receive tuition in Gaelic in the training centres of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. With them and others to follow, and with the Gaelic summer classes held by the Provincial Committees for the Training of Teachers, there should be an ample supply of qualified teachers. But we would urge on the Authorities to take better advantage of the summer classes, and to send their existing teachers there for at least two summers. Even then their training in Gaelic will, in most cases, be less than in any other subject they are called upon to teach.

Some luke-warm supporters of Gaelic teaching used to enjoy saying that there were no bools for Gaelic teaching, but that pleasure has been taken from them. An Comunn may well congratulate itself on the series of six text books for elementary schools published by Messrs Blackie & Son, Glasgow.

It is hoped to follow them with two or three

readers for higher classes.

We would like here to recommend to Authorities the issuing of small books of local interest on the lines of "Prints of the Past around Inverness," written by Professor W. J. Watson, and published by the Northern Counties Publishing Co., Inverness, but, unfortunately, out of print for some years now. Such books, written simply and with accurate

knowledge, would give the children an interest in their homeland, and would go some way towards making those whose lot it is to stay in the country more satisfied because more in touch and in harmony with their surroundings. After all, even in these days, it is the few who go, and the many who stay have the more need to be able to read and write their own language and to know the history, songs and legends and music of their countryside. For if they do not know these they are without a spiritual home-intellectually wanderers-cut off from their own splendid inheritance and getting only the poorer side of English culture, which in any case is not sympathetic with our needs.

TO THE BRANCHES.

The Education Committee wish to direct the attention of the Branches to the forth-coming elections of members of the Education Authorities throughout the country. The Committee urge upon the members of all Branches to put before candidates the necessity for complying fully, in the spirit and in the letter, with the Galeic clause. Teaching Gaelic in one or even in two classes in a school can not be considered satisfactory.

Having the Gaelic lesson after school hours can not be considered a proper interpretation of the Act so far as children attending school are concerned. Members of Branches should make a point of seeing that the subject is adequately dealt with in the schools of their

district.

This is a definite piece of work for Gaelic • which the Branches can do, and if they do it they can give a great stimulus to this most important part of the objects of An Comunn.

GAELIC SERVICE IN KING'S COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

The Gaelic service at Glasgow University on 1st February, which was so very successful and so much enjoyed, has been quickly followed by a similar service at Aberdeen.

enjoyed, has been quickly followed by a similar service at Aberdeen. On 15th February a Gaelic service was conducted in the University Chapel, King's College, by the Rev. Dr. John MacGilchrist. The service was held under the autspiess of the University Celtic Society, and attracted a large multer of students and the service was the control of the general

and of usene-p-public.

Mr. Neil MacLean, M.A., B.Sc., acted as precentor, assisted by a choir from the Celtic Society—the line being chanted before singing, in old Highland fashion. Mr. Angus Duncan, M.A., and Mr. John MacKenzie, M.A., Divinity students, read the lessons.

COMPETITIONS IN CELTIC DESIGN. PRIZE, £1.



Size of design-12 inches by 18-19 inches,

The Art and Industry Committee of An Comunn Gaidhealach has arranged to hold a series of competitions in Celtic Art. The subject of competition will be the restoration of designs found on sculptured stones, in the West Highlands, that have been so defaced as to render the pattern only partly discernible. The visible fragment of such a pattern will be reproduced each month in this column of the magazine, and on the reproduction will be marked in inches the inside sizes of the panel containing it, or such other dimensions as are necessary to complete the pattern to the same size and scale as the original.

The competition drawings may be done on any paper which is large enough, but grease-proof paper is recommended as being transparent; if facilitates correction and recorrection of the drawings by working on each side alternately. Sheets of this paper, if not obtainable locally, can be supplied by Miss Wood on receipt of 4d in stamps. Drawings may be made in pencil, ink, or colour, but the pattern or the background should be shaded to show up the intention of the design clearly.

The above conditions having been reasonably complied with, only two points will be taken into consideration in deciding which is the winning drawing:

(1) Closeness of idea and style to the original design as judged by the portion shown.

(2) Beauty of line and design.

The winning design of each competition will be reproduced, and the name of the successful competitor published in the second issue of the magazine after the one in which the subject for competition appeared; and it is intended, if possible, to exhibit some of the drawings at the Mod. An Comunn reserves to itself the right of reproducing any designs sent in for competition.

Competitors must forward their designs to Miss Violet Wood, 16 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh—who has agreed to act as secretary to the Art Competition-to arrive not later than the last day of the month in which the subject for competition appeared. Drawings should not be too severely folded or creased. The name and address of the competitor-or, if preferred, nom de plume -should be clearly written on the lower right hand corner of the drawing.

. The competition is not confined to members of An Comunn. All who enter for it, however unsuccessfully, will have done something towards the resuscitation of Celtic Art, and therefore everyone who possibly can is asked to try. A First Prize of £1 has been guaranteed for the first of the series. Prizes for future competitions have not yet been arranged. Anyone who is able to supply material suitable for this competition is asked to communicate with Miss Wood.

Note .- "The Elements of Celtic Art"post free, 1s 2d; obtainable from the Secretary of An Comunn-will be found helpful to competitors.

MR. FRANK ADAM, F.R.G.S.

It is with sincere regret that we read of his passing-just now, too, when one hears of preparations for a great Féill to be held next year.

Our mind goes back to the Féill of 1907, and all the happy work it entailed.

Mr. Adam was home on furlough from Singapore at the time, and at once attached himself to Buth Chairdean thar a' chuain. The three days preceding the Féill we spent in the basement of a furniture shop, unpacking goods from all parts of the world -an interesting but tiring occupation-and it was he who took care of the weary workers, guiding them to a neighbouring baker's for rest and refreshment. And what a stand-by he was at the Féill itself, his tall

figure always there when help was wanted, and ever ready to explain the uses of various goods from overseas, even to putting on a Malayan sarong. And how amused he was on going into the street in his kilt-it was 31st October-to hear a small boy's remark: "Here's a man dressed up for Hallowe'en.'

The world is surely poorer by his passing.

TOIMHSEACHAN TARSUINN.



Tarsuinn.

- Blàr agus duan (Oisean).
- 8. Tha dha dhiubh air gach rathad. 9. Tric am fonn orain.
- 10. Clach bheag.

- 13. Goirid air son aice.
- 15. Naoidhean.
- "-beaga, beaga, etc."
- 20. Snas.
- 21. Ainm maighdein
- Gun chreuchd. 24. Baile an Leodhas.
- Ainneamh aig Mac an Tòisich.
- 27. Comharraichte.
- 28. Mac do shimeon
- 29. Gealach.
- 31. Sioman seilich.
- 33. Lagh sonraichte Sios.
- 1. Treun fhear an Air. 1 Shuas.
- 2. Chan e fear.
- Faisg air an Oban.
- 4. Iomaire muir-làin,
- 5. Is toil leis là fliuch
- 6. Toradh na h-àirigh.
- Mi-ghnàthachas.
- Is moch a dh'éireas.
 "Nam biodh casan air is ceann."
- 16. Craicionn sgrìobhaidh.
- Mur bi e ás-
- 18. Dùrachd fear le oighreachd. B'fhearr am breacan.
- 23. Coinneachadh uisgeachan,

- 25. Doigh eile air sgrìobhadh réidhlean.
- 26. Sealladh bradach (Gen.). 30. Far am bi bean——
- 32. Chan ann uatha.
- Sanas.—Na gearr an toimhseachan a mach. Tarruing an dealbh air paipear agus lion suas e. Faic t.d. 86.

GREAT FEILL, 1926.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held in the office of Messrs, Hourston & Mac-Farlane, C.A., 114 West Campbell Street, Glasgow, on the evening of Monday, 9th February. Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale was in the chair, and there were present-Mrs. Brown, Lochgilphead; Mrs. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Mrs. Hourston, O.B.E., Glasgow; Miss Campbell of Inverneill, J.P.; Miss Jenny M. B. Currie, Kilmelford; Miss Jessie Mac-Kenzie, Glasgow; Miss I. MacLeod, Ibrox; Miss Elma Story, Glasgow; Rev. Alex. Mac-Kinnon, Ph.D., Glasgow; Ex-Bailie Archd. Campbell, Glasgow; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth; Messrs. Robert Bain, Glasgow; John R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Alex. Fraser, Yoker; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Peter MacDougall, M.A., Glasgow; Donald MacFarlane, Baillieston; Duncan MacLeod of Skeabost; Fred. T. MacLeod, Edinburgh; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Colin Sinclair M.A. Glasgow; Neil Shaw, Glasgow, and Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Secretary.

Mr. Angus Robertson, President of An Comunn, reported on his visit to America. Mr. Robertson described his reception as a remarkably friendly one and said he was surprised at the warmth of the response made to his appeal. An American Iona Society had been formed, which proposed to set itself the task of collecting funds for the double purpose of aiding the general work of An Comunn and of establishing somewhere in the Highlands a centre of Gaelic culture. On the motion of Mrs. Burnley Campbell, seconded by Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod,

it was agreed :-That the Committee express their sincere appreciation of the service generously rendered them by Mr. Robertson by his visit to America on behalf of their appeal, thank him cordially for his report, and express their satisfaction at the interest created in their movement by his visit. They further desire to express their grateful thanks to the friends in America who have so enthusiastically promised their assistance.

It was resolved that the Feill be held in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, in the first week of June, 1926.

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Bheir am mìos so gu crìch coinneamhan caidreach nan Comunn Gaidhealach anns na bailtean móra. Cha robh bho sgur an cogadh uibhir sluaigh a' tiomndadh a mach gu cuirmean ciùil. Is beachd gu bheil so 'na chomhara air staid cosnaidh as fearr am measg luchd tuarasdail agus tha feum mór air. Tha ni eile ann agus thug mì oinmradh roimhe air. Is e sin gu bheil na comhairlean a tha deanamh suas nan clàran-ciùil a' toirt am barrachd aite do na nithean sin as fhaisge air cridhe a' Ghaidheil agus tha bhuil ann—tha tighean lha aca.

The attention of members and readers is directed to our Competition Page. This is an entirely new feature, and it is earnestly hoped that the innovation will receive the whole-hearted support of our readers. The Art and Industry Committee are responsible for the Design Competition, while the Cross Word Puzzle Competition will be conducted under the auspices of the Publication Committee. Definite rules accompany the former, but it is deemed advisable to write something regarding the Toimhseachan Tarsuinn.

Where there are 11, 5, 4, etc., consecutive white squares, it indicates that the required word consists of a corresponding number of letters. The clues given for this first competition give a more or less direct indication of the actual word wanted, but as readers become more expert at solving the toimhseachain the clues may be made more obscure, and certainly the literary value of the competition will be increased. envelopes containing solutions must bear at the left-hand corner the words, "Toimhseachan Tarsuinn." These will be opened in presence of responsible members on 23rd March, and the senders of the first three correct solutions picked from the complete mail will receive book prizes.

By the time this number is in the hands of readers I shall be among good friends in the County of Sutherland making arrangements for a Provincial Mod there. Mr Hugh MacLean is teaching Junior and Senior Classes at Killin in preparation for the Perthshire Provincial Mod. Early this month he goes to Islay for a short spell, where already five Senior Choirs are practising competition songs for the Islay Mod.

The syllabuses for the Perthshire and Lewis Provincial Mods have come to hand. A senior section has been added to the Lewis syllabus, comprising solo, duet, and quartette singing. The junior literary competitions have been extended, and, in view of the fact that over 30 schools in Lewis give systematic instruction in Gaelic, a large entry in this section may be looked for.

A most enjoyable concert, under the auspices of the Glasgow Sutherland Association, was held in the MacLellan Galleries, Glasgow, on 5th February, the proceeds from which are to be devoted to the promotion of the Provincial Mod in Sutherland. The programme arranged by Mr. Donald MacDonald was a varied one, and each item pleased. A choir of school girls sang Gaelic and Scottish choruses with fine spirit. The Gaelic soloists were Miss Cathie Clark and Mr. Calum Stewart. Mr. T. G. Bannerman, the Association's representative on the Executive, gave a resumé of the work accomplished by the Committees on which he serves and of the Council. I was given an opportunity to speak of the Mod, which is likely to be held at Tongue some time during the Summer.

Mrs. Kennedy Fraser gave a recital of her Songs of the Hebrides in the Lyric Theatre, Glasgow, on 16th February, in presence of a large audience. Several pieces were given for the first time, and of these the one that appealed most was "MacLeod's Galley," a fine poem by Mary MacLeod. This song is of the "Brlim Bharrach" type, and I feel sure it will become popular. Mrs. Kennedy Fraser sung "Or a Bhonnagan," one of her prescribed songs for the National Mod. This is a nice little song with a pretty lilt, and will catch on. Both these songs may be had from Messrs. Paterson. Miss Margaret Kennedy and Miss Patuffa Kennedy Fraser sang several pleasing items. The recital was most enjoyable and instructive.

At the Annual Concert of the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, held in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, on 24th MacLeod, in the course of his remarks, made the following quotation from the report of the annual social gathering of an

important Highland County Association in Glasgow, as reported in the volume of The Gael for the year 1875-50 years ago:-"Mr. J. MacPherson danced the Highland Fling, after which a communication was sent up to the chairman to the following effect: 'Honoured Sir,-This assembly is proving to be in harmony with the Highland spirit, but in the programme we see omitted the mention of a Gaelic song. Therefore, honoured sir, we, the undersigned, crave your attention to this in amending it.' The chairman said it was a capital suggestion, and Mr. Graham, who was in Highland costume, then sang a Gaelic song, for which he was encored." Mr. M'Leod contrasted that state of affairs with the conditions prevailing in Glasgow now, when Gaelic songs held such a conspicuous place on the programmes of all such gatherings, and declared that an important factor in bringing about the change was to be found in the educative propaganda work done by the Gaelic choirs of the city.

The Rev. Dr. MacKinnon, at the close of his farewell sermon in St. Columba Church on the 15th February, lamented the diminishing interest which, in many churches, was being taken in the Gaelic service. It was a constant surprise to him to find many who professed to love Gaelic, and who did love it, failing to avail themselves of the privilege of worshipping in it. The preservation of Gaelic was not, of

course, the primary purpose of the service, but it was fitted to subserve that purpose in an eminent degree. Dr. MacKinnon is right, and he might have added that when Gaelic ceases to be preached in churches and spoken at the fireside its end as a language in common use is not very far off.

Dr. William MacKay has announced his intention of not seeking re-election to the Inverness Education Authority—an announcement which will occasion widespread regret. High tributes were paid at the last meeting of the Authority to his valuable services as chairman. It meant much to the Authority to have had as its chairman during these first and difficult years a gentleman of Dr. MacKay's wisdom, culture, and wide knowledge of affairs. For ourselves, we rejoiced when he became chairman, knowing as we did that under his wise and sympathetic guidance the most liberal interpretation possible would be placed by the Authority on its duty in regard to the teaching of Gaelic in schools. In view of his years, it need cause no surprise that Dr. MacKay should be seeking relief from the burden of public work which he has so long and so willingly carried, but we hope there are many years of usefulness still in store for him. He has many interests, and we are sure his interest in Gaelic, of which he has always been so staunch a friend, will be one of the last to be surrendered.

'S DUBH A CHOISICH MI'N OIDHCHE.

[From Mr. John MacCallum's Mod Prize Collection. As sung by Dugald MacCulloch, Lochawe, 1869.] { : d., r | m : s : 1 | 1.s : m : m., m | d : m : d | 1 . s : 'S dubh a choisich mi'n oidhche. Chum na maighdinn bhòidhche { : s., s | m | : m | : r | d | : s : d | ., t | 1 : s :

Chaidh mi còrr is naoi mìle Anns an tir 's nach robh

'N uair a ràinig mi'm baile, Cha robh aighear no ceòl ann, Cha robh miadh air luchd gaoil ann,

'S cha robh aoidh do luchd òil ann. Bha na mnathan a' fuaigheal

'S bha na gruagaichean brònach, Bha mo ghaol-sa bu dìlse 'S i 'na sìneadh an seomar.

I 'na luidhe fo'n uinneig, 'S O, cha chluinn i mo chòmhradh, Bha i ruidhte air déile

'S i 'na léine, fuar, reòta,

Dhomhsa b'aithne do bheusan 'S thu gun leumraich, gun mhòr-chuis, Ghlac thu ciall agus gliocas, Móran tuigs' agus eòlas.

Bha thu maiseach is beusach, Cha bu spéis leat bhi spòrsail; Bha thu fialaidh ri déircich

'S móran déidh aig cloinn òig ort. 'Thi a chruthaich an saoghal,

Cùm-sa mi gun fhàs gòrach, Cum mo chiall rium 's mo thuigse, Gus an tig Thu 'gam fheòraich.

AMERICAN TRIBUTE TO AN COMUNN'S IDEALS.

It is impossible to exaggerate the cordial recognition, the generous impulse, and the spontaneous reception the claims of Gaelic found in American hearts. Moral assistance met me at every step, while its practical fruition promises to become a landmark in world history. Time, the unfailing balancer of events, will fix the values.

In the meantime, let me familiarise our members with the disinterested sponsors of our cause, as likewise the protagonists of our idealism. Their names will be written large, and with affection, in the records of our movement.

AMERICAN IONA SOCIETY.

Richard Malcolm Montgomery (chairman), Mr. James Steuart Cushman (treasurer), Dr. John H. Finley, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, Dr. Christian Brinton, Col. Alexander R. Fordyce, Mr. Nelson Macy, Mr. De Forrest Grant, Dr. J. E. Harry, Dr. A. S. MacKenzie, Col. Walter Scott, Mr. Jardine Bell Whyte, Mr. Leslie Sutherland, Dr. David George Stewart, Mr. John A. Stewart, Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, Viscomte de Frise, Mr. Wm. Peter Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Donald Millar, Joseph MacComas, D.D., Prof. Chas. H. Schultz, Mr. Thomas Blain, Prof. John L. Gerig, Mr. Warner Van Norden, Dr. J. J.
MacPhee, Mr. Robert E. Dowling, Dr.
Russell, Mr. S. L. M. Barlow, Mr.
M'Cutcheon, Mr. R. W. Chambers, Mr.
Brander Matthews, Mr. R. S. Fraser, Mr. George Fergusson, Mr. E. G. Wilmer, Mr. J. E. Switzer, Major Herbert Graham (secretary). Other influential and prominent Americans have been added to the founders, of whom more later. A ladies' auxiliary committee is also in process of formation, and I hope to introduce their names in time; likewise a short sketch of each of our foster friends.

Our public press has given a just and eloquent appreciation of the generous spirit of those friends of world idealism who have the genius to conceive and the ability to execute the laudable purposes of the American Iona Society. So, any utterance of mine in that direction would only be like the voice of a child trying to add to the plaudits of the multitude. Enough. Such a practical gesture, on their part, may be translated as a manifestation that a sense of conciliatory realism is gripping the minds of responsible men and women throughout

the world at this hour. The reasons are impressively obvious-every angle of the compass points to a certain disturbance of the basic cohesion of human society. A loaded atmosphere hangs round individual like the cromleac of doom. In a word, collective security is not discernible. and but tentatively vouched for amongst the communities of the earth. Portents of an evil hour are being continuously visualised from platform and pulpit. Samsons are universally tugging at the pillars of the temple of family life; with what cataclysms for the races of mankind, no one dare foresee or prescribe the limits. In another age such ominous signs would be sectionally disregarded amongst the nations. For moral courage, together with physical resources, could, on an occasion, be relied upon to break the will of a tyrant and the tentacles of oppression. Not so now! The very elements-essential to man's existence —are being used by man's ingenuity for his own destruction. While the progress of science, instead of being the handmaid of his creature comforts, is fast becoming the sinister symbol of a destroying angel. Security, then, is not to be sought for by distance, isolation, or material agencies, but in the universal pulsation of the human heart. Hope, however, is still triumphant, and practical idealism can become a passion as well as a creed. The creative age has not gone back to Heaven. Men and women are, in all countries, rising, as if it were, from a twilight sleep, and without the aid of blinkers looking straight at the sun. The benevolent Fates from afar behold these messengers of spiritual concord on their way to an international sanctuary, and will strengthen them in their living purposes. Their achievement will be registered on the disc of universal remembrance; meteors will gleam by their earthly resting places, and the youth of to-morrow shall, by such precept and example, carry the emanations thus generated to even higher destinies.

Angus Robertson.

Mr. Robertson's letter of appreciation, addressed to Frederick H. Ecker, President of the New York Chamber of Commerce, was as follows:—

"Permit me to record my grateful acknowledgment of your spontaneous courtesy and more than generous consideration which you so gracefully extended to me during the full and crowded hours of your meeting. Need I therefore assure you that the privilege thus accorded, and the touching reception by your members, will always remain with me as a beautiful recollection. It struck me as one of those magic incidents that bring a new note in its bosom, and, by its effect, arch the spiritual findings of a race as by the index finger of a divinity. My experience in your Chamber of Commerce will, on my return, form the happiest theme for my own people, and for myself a moment of enlightened reflection.'

SGEUL GAIDHEALACH.

By the Rev. A. D. MACLEAN, B.D., Ardgour.

Ach cha robh dòigh no seòl air faotainn mar sgaoil. Chan éisdeadh oifigeach no saighdear ris, a chionn bha feum aig an righ air gach fear a b'urrainn dhaibh fhaotainn, agus bha iad glé dheònach gille òg sgairteil mar a bha Donnachadh fhaighainn.

"Na biodh cùram ort," arsa sean saighdear ris, "an ceann sia mìosan cha bhi fear 's an réisimeid coltach riut."

Is beag sunnd a chur na facail sin air Donnachadh bochd. Smaoinich e le cridhe trom air an àite anns an deachaidh àrach, agus gu sònruichte air a mhàthair a bha 'n a laidhe an galair a bàis. Bu choltach gum biodh e a nis air a thabhairt air falbh do dhùthaich chéin; agus mar sin chuir e roimhe gu 'n teicheadh e air a' cheud chothrom.

Air oidhche àraidh a bha òl is aighear aig na saighdearan, fhuair e an cothrom a bu mhiann leis. Ghabh e na monaidhean, agus thug e aghaidh ris an iar. Bha e trì laithean air bheagan bìdh, agus gun deoch a bu làidire na uisge nan allt. Na faigheadh e aon uair a shean mhaighstir a ruigheachd, bha fios aige gum biodh an sean duine còir 'n a chul-taic dha.

Ach gu mì-fhortunach an uair a bha e dlùth air a' Ghearasdan, có thachair air ach an Caimbeulach òg air ceann fichead saighdear. Bha fios aig an oighre gun do theich Donnachadh, agus nach robh e ri fhaotainn.

Chaidh Donnachadh a ghlacadh a ris.

agus a thabairt air ais do Pheairt.

Bhiodh na saigdearan gu tric a' teicheadh aig an am ud. Cha b'e gu robh iad 'n an gealtairean; ach is ann an aghaidh an toile a chaidh móran dhiubh a thabhairt air falbh o an dachaidh. Uime sin bha an

t-àrd oifeagach am Peairt a' cur roimhe gun cuireadh esan stad air an teicheadh so am measg nan saighdearan, agus gun deanadh e eisimpleir de Dhonnachadh.

Chaidh Donnachadh fheuchainn le cùirt airm. Ged bha an t-oighre òg anns a' chùirt faodaidh sinn a bhi cinnteach nach dubhairt e facal airson a' phrìosanaich. Cha robh neach ann a labhradh air a shon, agus chaidh binn a bhàis a thabhairt a mach. Air an ath mhaduinn, an uair a bha iad a' deanamh deas airson a chur gu bàs thàinig an Seanalair Sir Iain Stiubhard, agus fhuair e mach mar thachair.

"Tha e duilich gille cho og snasmhor u chur gu bàs," ars' esan ris a' Chòirneal Chamshron, 'biodh e air a sgiùrsadh, agus air a chur thairis do 'n Olaind gun mhaille.''
''An ainm Dhé,'' arsa Donnachadh, 'na

cuiribh a leithid de thamailt orm; is fearr leam am bàs fhéin fhulang na sin.

Chòrd spiorad a' ghille cho math ris a' cheannard is gun d'òrduich e a leigeadh mar sgaoil, ach gu feumadh e falbh an soitheach làn shaighdearan a bha a' dol do 'n Olaind.

Sheòl an soitheach mór so, is dà long chogaidh eile. An ceann dà latha bha iad an cunnart am beatha. Chaill iad sealladh air na bàtaichean eile. An uair a thuit an stoirm chunnaic iad da shoitheach a' tighinn dlùth orra, agus shaoil leo an toiseach gum b'e an companaich a bh'annta. An uine ghoirid fhuair iad a mach gum bu Fhrangaich iad. Dh'fheuch an sgiobair ri teicheadh, oir cha robh a bheag de dhòigh aige air e féin a dhìon. Cha robh na Frangaich fada a leagail a sheòl is a chrann; is b'fheudar dha géilleachdainn dhaibh. Chuireadh na saighdearan air tìr anns a' Fhraing, gu bhi cur seachad iomadh bliadhna am prìosan. Ràinig iad baile ris an abrar Lille. Cha robh Donnachadh ach trì mìosan an sin an uair a labhradh e Fraingis; a chionn rachadh an teanga Ghàidhealach timchioll air an Fhraingis gu fileanta. Fhuair e eòlas air oifeagach òg Frangach d'am b'ainm Esmé Stiubhard. Bhuineadh am fear so do an t-Seanalair Dhomhnullach, fear de àrd-oifigich Napoleon, agus ghabh c suim mhór de Dhonnachadh an uair a chuala e mar dh'éirich dha an Alba, ach gu sònruichte an uair a thuig e gu robh Donnachadh de Chloinn Dòmhnuill.

Thachair gu robh an Seanalair Mac-Dhomhnuill an Lille, agus dh'innis an t-oifigeach òg Frangach dha mu' fhearcinnidh. Las aodann an t-seanalair an uair a chuala e mu 'n Ghàidheal òg, agus thubhairt e gum bu mhath leis fhaicinn.

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An uair a chunnaic e Donnachadh rug e air laimh air gu cridheil, agus thubhairt ris anns a' Fhraingis, ''is ann as a' Ghàidhealtachd a tha thu, agus is ann de mo chinneadh thu Is math a bhruidhneadh m'athair Gàidhlig, ged nach eil móran agam fhéin dhith. Chuala mi gu'n do sgiùrs iad thusa air falbh as do dhùthaich. Car son a leigeas tu leas a bhi nas fhaide am prìosan? Car son a bhiodh tu 'n ad sheirbheiseach do shlìochd Dheòrsa, feadhain a bha riamh na naimhdea do na Gàidheil. Thig is bheir mise dhuit àite o an Impire féin. Chan eil maighstir air an t-sacghal is fear no Bonaparte.''

Ghabh Donnachadh an tairgse gu toileach, oir cha robh spéis aige do righ Deòrsa an déigh na dh'fhuiling e. Bha e nis 'n a oifigeach an aon de réisimeidean ainmeil Napoleon. Chaidh réisimeid Dhonnachaidh troimh an Ghearmailt gus an d'ràinig 1 Austria far an robh na Ruiseanaich is na Gearmailtich a' feuchainn ri stad a chur air na Frangaich. Bha na Ruiseanaich air àite àrd, dlùth air Austerlits; agus nan d'fhan iad an sin bha iad air maille a chur air na Frangaich gus an tigeadh cuideachadh o an fheachd a bha air cùl nan Ruiseanach. Ach bha Napoleon cho seòlta is gun tug e orra teàrnadh. Chuir iad rompa na Frangaich an toiseach, gus an do chuir Napoleon a fhreicedan féin 'g an cuideachadh. B' i réisimeid Dhonnachaidh a bha air thoiseach. Leig an nàmhaid grìosach orra a leag an dara leth; agus cha robh oifigeach air fhàgail air ceann na réisimeid ach Donnachadh. An uair a chunnaic esan gu robh na daoine a' tilleadh air an ais leis an sgrios a thug an làdach orra, thog e suas a' bhratach, agus ghlaodh e, "thigibh air ur n-aghaidh, ar neo gheibh na naimhdean a' bhratach so.'' Ghabh esan air aghart leis an iolaire, agus an uair a chunnaic na saighdearan Frangach so ghabh iad nàire agus thill iad. Lean iad Donnachadh, agus sgiùrs iad na Ruiseanaich air an ais. Thuit milltean de na naimhdean, agus mun tàinig deireadh an latha bha ruaig mar an ceudna air na h-Austrianaich.

Chaidh innse do Bhonaparte cho treun 's a ghiùlain an Gàidheal òg e féin ri uchd cruadail. Dh'òrduich e Donnachadh a thabhairt g'a ionnsuidh; agus cheangail e le a làmhan féin a' chrois air 'uchd, agus rinn e caiptein dheth. Is ann an sin a dh'éirich an iolach am measg nan saighdearan. Ghlaodh iad, "Gu ma fada beò an t-Albannach."

Sheall Bonaparte gu dùrachdach air Donnachadh agus thubhairt e ris, "Is 2 tìr na h-Alba, a tìr Oisein nan dàn a tha thusa. Bu mhath leam dùthaich Fhionnghail fhaicinn. Is tric a leughas mi mu ghrìomhara nan sonn an uair a tha mo shaighdearan 'nan suain is a namaid dùth do'n champa. Cha n-iongantach fear a mhuinntir na h-Alba a bhi 'na ghaisgeach. Gabh air t-aghaidh a chaiptein, agus dh'fhaodte fhathast gu'm bith thu 'n ad cheannard anns an arm Fhrangach.

Cha b'urrainn Donnachadh facal a ràdh, ach a làmh a chur 'na chlogad. Bha e 'am beachd gun robh e an aisling na h-oidhche. Esan a bha 'na iasgair bochd taobh Loch Fada o chionn bliadhna, a nis a' faotainn a leithid de dh'onoir o ghaisgeach na Roinn

Fhuair an Domhnullach òg air aghaidh gu bhi 'na choimeal agus bha réisimeid choise fo òrdugh aig blàr mór Lena, far an robh na Gearmailtich air an sgapadh fad is farsuinn. Aig a bhlar sin, bha oifigeach òg Germailteach air a leòn agus ghlacadh e leis na Frangaich. Sheall an Coimeal Domhnullach ann an aodann an duine, agus dh'aithnich e a' shean nàmhaid, an Caimbeulach òg. Dh'òrduich e an fhaire a thoirt do'n duine leònta, gus am biodh e leighiste.

Rinn e e féin aithnichte do'n Chaimbeulach, nuair a fhuair e cothrom, "agus bithemaid cinnteach gun do ghabh esan iongantas gu leòr, nuair a chunnaic e am balach iasgair 'na Choirneal Frangach.

Dh'fharraid Donnachadh dheth mu mhàthair agus mu'n chaileig a thréig e agus a bhris a gealladh. Fhreagair an t-oighre e mar so:

"The mise a' faireachduinn a' bhàis a' teannadh dlùth orm, agus innsidh mi an fhìrinn dhiut. Chum mise a mach gun do theich thu agus gun d'thug thu an t-arm ort le do thoil fhéin. Ghabh m'athair iongantas, agus ged a chuir e forfhais ort, cha d'fhuair e mach an reisimeid anns an robh thu.

Fhuair do mhàthair am bàs nuair chuala i gun d'fhalbh thu, 's i lag le tinneas.

"Phos mi an nighean gun fhios do m'athair, o chionn bha eagail orm nach gabhadh esan ri nighean tuathanaich, agus an ceann beagan ùine fhuair i am bàs ann an Luinnein. Tha mi ag iarraidh maitheanais ort, a chionn is mi thug bhuait do chàirdean, agus a chuir air fògradh thu as do dhùthaich. Cha till mise am feasda tuille do'n Ghàidhealtachd, agus na diùlt dhomh a' chomfhurtachd so ann mo mhìonaidean deireannach."

Shìn Donnachadh a làmh dha. Cha b'urrainn e facal a labhairt leis a bhròn a thàinig air a spiorad nuair a chuala e an naidheachd aig an oighre.

Cha do sheas an t-oighre fads an déidh a' chòmhraidh ri Donnachadh. Dh'òrduich donnachadh a chur fo'n talamh leis a h-uile h-onoir is gnath leo a thoirt do chorp saighdear. Chaidh buidheann de shaighdearan Frangach leis an torradh a dh'onnsuidh an àite-adhlaic; rinn ministeir Gearmailteach tìrnuigh aig an uaigh, agus loisgeadh trì griosaichean thairis orra, nuair a chaidh a lionadh; ach cha robh aon de luchd-dùthcha an oighre an lathair ach a' namhaid, Donnachadh MacDhomhnuill.

Cha robh moit air Donnachadh ged a bha a' nàmhaid 'na shìneadh aig a chasan; gidheadh is ann a bha e duilich air son an fhir a thuit cho fad air falbh bho thir 's bho chàirdean.

Smaonich e air fhéin am measg choigreach; smaonich e air na chaidh seachad agus air thr òige, agus dh'fhàs a chridhe trom nuair a shaoil e nach faiceadh e Alba gu bráth. Ach cha b'fhada dh'fhan na smaointeanan sin 'na inntinn; chuir farum na truimp agus caismeachd cogaidh am bròn as a chridhe, agus bha e rithist 'na shaighdear agus 'na chuiridh; agus le chompanaich a' sgaoileadh aimm na Frainge fada is farsuinn, agus a' cur crith air a' Roinn Eòrpa.

Lean e gu dlleas ri Napoleon gus an uair dheireannaich; ach dh'iarr e mar fhàbhar nach biodh e air a chur do'n Spàin, o chionn nach b'urrainn e cogadh an aghaidh a luchd-dùthcha. Air an aobhar sin, bha e ann am feachd an Impaire, nuair a thòisich e air chomhstri amaideach agus dheistinneach le Russia, agus bha e an làthair aig an strì mhòir aig Leipsic; agus mur bhoidh e fhéin agus fear eile bha Napoleon air a' ghlaeadh leis na naimhdean. Thug an t-Impaire dha a' chlaidheamh féin mar chuimhneachan air an latha sin, agus faodaidh sinn a bhi cinnteach nach dealaicheadh an Domhnallach ris an arm so air son rìoghachd.

Ach a nis, cha robh grian an fhortain is an raith a' dealradh na b'fhaide air Bonaparte, agus bh'fheudar do Dhonnachadh, comhla ri càch, géilleachdain do'n righ ùr, a bha nis a riaghladh thairis air an Fhrainz.

Ach cha robh e mìr na bu mhiosa na bha e roimhe, a chionn fhuair e àite an t-seanalair anns an arm aig Louis. Ged a bha e air bhior air son éirigh le a shean Mhaighstir ann am bliadhna Waterloo, clum a' bhean Fhrangach air ais e, a chionn bha ise de shean uaislean na dùthcha. Nuair a bha sith eadar Breatunn is a' Fhraing smaoinich Donnachadh gun gabhadh e sgrìob do dh'Alba agus gum faiceadh e aon uair eile an t-ùite anns an d'rugadh agus anns an do chuir e seachad làithean òige.

Có fhuair e na chompanach leis ach a shean charaid am Maréchal Domhnullach, Diuc Tharentuim. Bha toil aig an duine ainmeil so Uibhist, àite a shinnsireachd, fhaicinn; agus rinn e gàirdeachas nuair a chuala e gun robh Donnachadh a' dol do dh'Alba. Nuair a chunnaic iad a h-uile nì a b'fhiach fhaicinn ann an Lunnain is an Duneideann, thug iad an aghaidh ris an àird' an iar.

Fhuair an dà cheannard mór urram o uaislean na dùtcha; ach cha robh Donnachadh toilichte gus an d'ràinig e Loch Fada. Is iomadh ni a ruith troimh inntinn, nuair a sheas e air cnoc agus a dh'aimhairce air an t-sean àite—an t-àite iommhuinn nach fhacaidh e o chionn coig bliadhna deug—cha do chruaidhaich càmp is cogadh a chridhe cho mór is nach robh spéis aige do dh'fhearann òige.

Chuir e fàilte air a shean-luchd-bolais, agus ged nach do labhair e ach Frainges ré iomadh bliadhna, cha do chaill e a' Ghàidhlig is cha do dhi-chuirmhich e chanin Oisein. Bha i cho blasda binn 'na bheul, 's a bha i an latha a dh'fhag e Alba. Ghabh e an sin a dh'fhaicinn a shean mhaighstir an Caimbeulach. Bha an duine uasail còir so crom leis an aois agus le briseadh-cridhe; ach nuair a chunnaic e có bh'aige, dh'éirich e agus chur e failte chridheil air a' choigreach.

"Is mi tha toilichte t-fhaicinn, a laochain," ars' esan, "ach b'fheàrr leam còta dearg Bhreatunn a bhi air do dhruim

na côta gorm na Fraing.''

"Chan eil àrach air an sin," fhreagair Donnachadh, "ach tha moit orm nach do loisg mi urchair riamh an aghaidh mo luchd-dùthcha, ged is iomadh Gearmailteach 'us Ruiseanach a chur sinn fo na casan. Tha sìth a nis eadar an dà rioghachd, agus tha mi "n dòchas gun lean i fada. Ach cha threig mi an tìr a thug fasgadh dhomh, ged a tha blàths agam ri Breatum."

"Innis dhomh a nis," ars' an sean duine còir, "innis dhomh mu'm mhac. Ciamar a fhuair e bàs." Dh'innis Donnachadh dha mar a thachair eadar beag 'us mór. "Rinn thusa gu dearbh gu gasda," ars' an duine-ussail, nuair a chuir Donnachadh crìoch ais a sgeul; "rinn thusa mar fhior Ghàidheal. Cha b'urrainn Lochial fhèid deanadh na b'uaisle, an dèidh an eucoir a rinneadh ort. Gu'm beannaicheadh Dia thu air son do mhaitheis ris a' ghille."

"Mu dh'fhanas tu leam anns an dùthaich so, fàgadh mi an oighreachd so agad fhéin," ars' esan an ceann beagan ùine, "a chionn cha'n eil càirdean dlùth agam bho'n a dh'fhalbh mo mhac; agus bu mhath leam duine eòlach a bhi dlùth orm ann mo

làithean deireannach."

An deigh beagan smaointean, dh'aontaich Donnachadh fuireach leis, agus bha an sean duine tangeil toilichte.

Bha Donnachadh mar mhac dha, fad 's a bha e beò, agus nuair a chaochail e bha esan na uachdaran air an fhearann anns an d'rugadh e. Agus cuideachd chunnaic Donnachadh an làtha nuair a bha na Breatunnaich is na Frangaich 'nan seasamh air an aon bhlàr gualainn ri gualainn an aghaidh an namhaid.

THE CELTIC FACTOR IN MODERN SCOTTISH LITERATURE.

By the Editor.

II.

A decidedly Celtic note was struck by Aytoun in the "Lays of the Scottish Cavaliers." The extraordinary swing and spirit of the poems accord well with the stirring themes on which they touch. They celebrate the warlike achievments of the Highland clans in the Jacobite They certainly do justice to the military dash of the Celt, when once his enthusiasm has been aroused. But there is also an undertone of regret over lost causes and unavailing heroism. The "Soliloquy of of Prince Charles Edward at Versailles on the Anniversary of Culloden" still finds a warm place in every Scottish or English heart that can feel the luxury of sentiment over the unselfish loyalty of the clans towards the heir of the old Scottish kings. Each piece deals with some leading episode in repeated endeavours to gain the British crown for the Stuarts. The whole matter has by this time become a mere sentiment; and the late Queen Victoria was a generous admirer of Jacobite song and story. In the "Execution of Montrose," an aged veteran recalls a series of martial events wherein the Celtic love of enterprise is adequately expressed. "The Burial March of Dundee" presents a similar picture. And "The Widow of Glencoe" recounts with becoming vehemence the atrocious crime which went far to justify the subsequent insurrections. In a word, "The Lays of the Cavaliers" have long held a standard place in their own class of poetry in modern Scottish literature; but let us not forget that the Celtic factor is all the time the secret of their glow and inspiration.

The entrance of Neil Munro into the field of Scottish literature marks a new area. The literary world hailed the arrival of one of the great masters. Men felt the power of a writer who brought to his work not only the gift of innate genius, but who held the key to a whole treasury of fresh material. That key was his acquaintance with Gaelic as his native language, and his knowledge at first hand of Highland character, with its strength and weakness; and of Highland life in all its ways and grades, from peer to peasant. His tastes led him early to a study of the old chronicles of his native county of Argyll. An extensive acquaintance with the annals and authorities bearing on the periods of which he wrote imparted a realistic air to his narrative. His most graphic incidents turn out on further inquiry to be no fiction at all, but historical facts faithfully related. For this reason his work is valuable as well as amusing. He has achieved a singular mastery in the domain of historical romance. Indeed, in the matter of general equipment it is very doubtful whether any of his predecessors was equally competent to write a Highland story.

Neil Munro's portraiture of Highland character displays a wonderful fidelity to life. He shows the faults as faithfully as the merits of his heroes. He can enable a character to retain its attractiveness even when he reveals its worst failings. John Splendid himself is a case in point. His great fault is the want of sufficient resolution to be sincere in his counsel to Argyll. He would rather be pleasant and courteous than be straightforward and severe by expressing his convictions. yet, in spite of all his faults, we cannot but have a kindly feeling for John Splendid, with his pleasing speeches and fascinating manners. I should like to draw special attention to the rare art of Neil Munro in the development of his leading characters. You may remember that one of the weak points alleged by Matthew Arnold against the Celt as writer, is the lack of ability to conceive and carry out a large design ("Study of Celtic Lit.," p. 83). I venture to submit that the conception and elaboration of character in the works of Neil Munro is by no means open to this criticism. Not a single Highland character in Scott or Stevenson displays so many features of their inward disposition and essence, as do the leading personalities in Munro. He employs a more searching technique, and uses greater detail to produce his complete effect, than do the other two masters. I have always held the conviction that full justice has never yet been done to this excellence in Munro. Although he has gained a world-wide reputation, no reviewer, so far as I am aware, has given him credit for being the first to carry the subtle architectonic of the Celtic seanachie to the writing of an English novel. This, too, is part of the Celtic factor. Consider with what insight and patience the effort is produced. In Gillian the Dreamer the characteristic of the visionary is skilfully developed from the day-dreams of the boy to the delusions of the lad; and from these again to the hallucinations of the grown youth. The whole thing is a deep psychological analysis, not only of Gillian, but of the Celtic race—the lack of practicability, the failure to carry the vision into effect.

Finally, in the matter of language, Munro employs a style which only a Gaelic-speaking writer could create. Its peculiar feature is the successful use of Gaelic idiom in English form without sacrificing clearness, force, or dignity. This alone is a remarkable achievement, and shows, we think, a very intimate mastery of the two tongues. He casts over his pages the flavour and atmosphere of Gaelic romance. Such a style is absolutely unique in Scottish letters, and is itself a very distinct Celtic contribution. Others have tried to perform a similar feat, but without success. It was Scott who popularised the fashion of putting in the mouth of the Highlander a fictitious dialect of "Highland-English," which no real Highlander has ever yet been heard to speak; and the ludicrous invention was easily imitated by smaller men, until it found its reductio ad absurdum in such bunglers as William Black and "Fiona Macleod." But there is no such unreality in Neil Munro. Knowing well how, through the absence of the neuter in modern Gaelic, a Highlander unpractised in English, may make an occasional slip in the use of gender, he appreciates the tendency, but never "out-herods Herod."

It ought to be remarked that there are certain sections of modern Scottish literature where direct Celtic influence does not appear to have operated. It does not seem to have had much effect on the Kail Yaird school for

example. In "The Bonnie Briar Bush" of Ian Maclaren, there is a Highlander, Lachlan Campbell. The difficulty about this character is, that there is nothing Highland about him but the name. We certainly do not recognise him by the family likeness to the Highland race. His peculiar type of theology is not any more Highland than it is Lowland. The works of Barrie and Maclaren are rightly regarded as true delineations of the social and ecclestical life of Thrums and Drumtochty; but for some reason or other the Gaelic-speaking man is not at home in these villages.

Far otherwise is the case with "The Reminiscences of a Highland Parish," by Norman Macleod. There we have a noble picture of Highland life on an ample scale. Pathos, humour, and sympathetic affection all play upon it by turns. Needless to say, it is the work of a master who had a thorough insight into the disposition, ideals, and prejudices of the people among whom he was reared in Morven. No book in its day enjoyed a wider popularity in Scotland. It is not a novel or story, but a whole gallery of sketches from The theme is the character, customs, superstitions, the social conditions, the educational methods, and the religious life of a typical parish in the West of Scotland. Here, surely, is the Celtic factor, imparting interest and fulness to one of the most popular books of its time. It is an object lesson to successors, to show how such things should be done. If the portrayal of human life in its varied conditions is a legitimate function of literature we have it duly fulfilled in "The Reminiscences of a Highland Parish."

The outstanding Scottish poem of the twentieth century is entitled "The Gray Mother." I need not enter into consummate art which is hidden in the structure, for that is an essential part of the craftsmaship. What I wish to emphasise is the Celtic fire and vivacity that make the poem a living force. It is a rare gift to be able to make a theme of that nature to scintillate and glow and shine. The cultured taste, the intellectual grasp, but above all, the animating soul, have produced a poem which entitles its author to be regarded as the true laureate of his time. The author is Lauchlan MacLean Watten.

In conclusion it may be noted that while modern Scottish literature has been considerably enriched by the transfusion, so to speak, of fresh blood from a Celtic source, on the other hand the life and literature of the Celt in Scotland have been very greatly benefitted by what he has been able to assimilate from his brother in the Scottish Lowlands. Our feuds and rivalries are long since dead. A warm welcome is ever extended to the Celt even to the best positions—professional, municipal, commercial—that the Lowlands have to offer. And we do not withold our best from our brothers in the south. This is the secret of the solidarity of the Scottish nation. While every foot of Scottish soil is sacred to every Highland heart, yet Alexander Nicolson, a man of Skye, and Sheriff of Kirkcudbright, gave expression to a Highland yearning when he sang !—

"Bright are the golden green fields to me Here in the Lowlands; Sweet sings the may is in the thorn-tree, Snowy with fragrance; But oh, for a breath of the great North Sea, Girdling the mountains!"

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.

ORDINARY

Miss Jseabail MacGilp, Lochgilphead. Miss Janie MacVean, Lochgilphead. P. McLeod, Esq., M.A., Lochgilphead. Mrs. A. C. Munro, Lochgilphead. Miss Rachel Dempster, Lochgilphead. Miss Jessie Gillies, Lochgilphead.

BRANCH REPORTS.

ABISAIG.—A Csilidh was held in the Astley Hall Club Room on 24th January, Councilior William Macdonald, president, presided. A varied programme was submitted, the first item being baggipe selections (marches, strathspeys, and reels) by Piper Hugh Macdonald, Bunacaimbe. Songs were sung by Mr Lacilian Gillies, secretary; Mr John Macdonald, Camasatalen, Mr Angus Macdonald, Dunacaimbes Strath, etc. Great interest was taken in the bagpipe selections by Mr Angus Macdonald, Gortinacpulis, a young piper, who made his first public appearance. He was accorded an ovastion.

BERNIDALE.—A concert and dance in aid of An Comun Gaidhealach was held in the Hall, Skeabost House, on a recent Friday. Mr John Macdonald, Edinbane, occupied the chair. A long and varied programme, which included elightful bagpire selections by Pipe-Major Macdonald, who is presently holding priping classes in Fortree programments of the control of t

Bernisdale Branch of An Commun Gaidhealach, who organised the concert, and whose untring efforts were responsible for its success. Appreciation of M Macleod's great kindness in giving the hall and providing such an excellent repeat was freely unfailing interest in and beneficence towards An Comum Gaidhealach is well known and greatly appreciated.

Batnoexn—On Friday, 30th January, a most enjoyable function took place at Bridgend. This was the opening of the new Drill Hall recently built there, and which was officially opened by Mr Hugh Morrison of Islay. The proceedings during the early part of the evening were confined to presentations of cups, etc., to the local company of the 8th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (T.F.) and Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (T.F.) and Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (T.F.) and Thorpe, and Major Fraser Campbell of Dummore, who presided. Following this came the item of special interest to the Bridgend Branch of Amount—the presentation of the Morrison Challenge Cup won by the Bridgend Gaelic Choir at the Islay Mod in 1824. Mr Morrison of Islay, the donor, made Morrison, Springhank, secretary of the branch, Mr Morrison of Islay, the donor, made with the second of the presentation of the presentation of the Workson Springhank, secretary of the branch, Mr Morrison, as most complimentary speech, spoke of the beasure it gave him to hand over the cup to the winners, and his only regret was that Lady Mary Morrison was not present to do so, as it was her suggestion that the cup be given at last year's Islay Mod. Major Cameron, Newton, the present behalf of the secretary and the choir, and also on behalf of Mr Hugh MacLean, who had trained the holir for the Mod, and acted as their conductor when they successfully carried off the much-coveted Challenge Cup. The concert programme, which was sustained by the Gaelic Choir, was then opened challenge Cup. The concert programme, which was sustained by the Gaelic Choir, was then opened mimerous privises—with bagpips selections. The singing of the National Anthem brought a pleasant and successfully glathering to a close.

BUNESSAN.—The third meeting of this branch was held in the Schoolroom on the evening of 16th January, when there was a large muster of members and friends. There was also present a number from Creich in the neighbouring parish of Iona. Rev Neil Macphall presided, and the meeting took the form of a Celith. In musical programmer Messre Neil and Malcolm Macpherson, and John Graham gave violin and concertina selections; Mr Hugh Macmaster a Gaelic reading, and the following gave Gaelic songs:—Mrs Macdiarmid, Messrs A. Downie, M.A., Artch Macdonald, James Thomson, Neil Maclean, William Neil, Lachlam Nicolson, Parlam Macdraham, Thomas Carrie, and John Campbell. The programme was much solyace and John Campbell. The programme was much solyace the entertainers.

entertainers:
BUTE.—"The West Highlands in the Seventeenth
Century" was the subject of an interesting historical
paper read by Mr. Robert Bain, Glasgow, at the
regular meeting of Comunn Gaidhealach Bhold in
the Tower Street Hall on Friday, oth February.
Capt. James Kennedy presided over a very statendance. Mr. Bain said most of his information
was got from Murro's account of the West Highlands, now a very rare book.

It showed that the
country in general was much afficenced by the West
Highlands at the period referred to. It was
mentioned that as core of the Highland clans fought

with Bruce at Bannockburn. The usual musical programme followed, bagpine selections being given by Pipe-Major Stewart, while the Seann Triubhas was danced by Master Archie Martin in a very pleasing manner. Gaelle songs were given by Mrs Macleod, Pinkerton and Mrs Maclachian, one of whose songs was "Sweet Rotheasy Bay." Votes of thanks were accorded to those who had sustained the programme.

CAMPENITOWN.—The annual "Old New Year" gathering of the Campbeltown Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Town Hall on 16th January. The programme opened with a lecture by Rev. Kenneth Maeleod, Gigha, whose subject was "St. Columba." Mr Maeleod was formally introduced by the hon. president, Sheriff Macmaster Campbell, who spoke of his notable contributions to the cause of Gaelic culture. The lecture was illustrated by a number of appropriate songs, sung in Gaptesian of the branch contributions of the Contribution of the Contributi

Connex.—The local branch of An Comunic Gaidhealach gave a concert and dance in the Public Hall on Friday evening, 5th February. The Rev. Manufacture of the Public Hall on Friday evening, 5th February. The Rev. Manufacture of the Committee on their success in keeping up and adding to the membership. The programme opened with bagpipe selections by Captain M'Laren. The accompanists were Misses G. Bruce and Murray. The following ladies and gentlemen from Oban contributed to the programme:—Misses Molly Campbell, Polly Galbrath, MacDonald, and Mr WGallum (songs); Miss Cameron and Mr Fletcher (dialoguel): Mr John M'Oonald, Benderloch (Gaelle songs). The local artistes were Captain M'Laren (Gaelic and Giller) and M'Gilluray (duet), and Mr Rey MacDonald, Canthelion for the Mr Sagart, Temona, moved a vote of thanks to the Performers, and Mr M'Taggart, Temona, moved a vote of thanks

Duncon.—The first Ceilidih of the year was held on Friday, 16th January. As usual, it took the form of a social and musical evening, followed by a dance, and the Imperial Hall was filled to overflowing. Mr D. MacDonald, M.A., occupied the chair, and was supported on the platform by Baile secretary. An interesting programme was submitted by Miss A. Morrison, Miss Gallacher, and Misses Lindsay, Black, and MacLean; pianoforte and violin selections by Miss Pollock and Mr Smith; Mr Buie gave an entertaining Gaelic reading; and Baille Miller and Mr D. MacDonald's contributions to the programme were geadly appreciated contributions to the programme were geadly appreciated Stewart.

FORTMORLE.—A concert in sid of the funds of the Singing Class was held in the Recreation Hall on 29th January. In the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr Alex. Stewart, Mr John MacDougall, Baile Chnoic, presided. The proceedings were opened with selections on the bagpines by Mr John Fraser, piper to the branch, followed by the singing of "Suas leis as 'Ghaidhig," in which the whole audience joined. Short addresses were delivered by

the Chairman and Mr. Alexander Campbell of Borland. The choir rendered "Till till Oigh morhin" and "Ellean Mulle," in pleasing style. The following contributed Gaelie and English songes:— Mrs Lumsden, Miss K. E. Fisher, Miss C. Fraser, Mrs. Lumsden, Miss K. E. Fisher, Miss C. Fraser, Jun. The following friends from Kenmore, Miss Gillies, Messrs J. J. Coull, and C. MacDonald, rendered both Gaelie and Scottish songe. Mr Hugh MacLean, singing master, rendered several songe and was a host in himself. Miss MacCallum gave a humorous Gaelie reading and violin, and plano Ford were loudly applauded. Quartette singing by Misses Fisher and Ford, and Messrs MacDongal and Ford, was another pleasing item on an excellent programme. Miss C. C. Ford was the accompanist, and contributed largely to the success of the concert.

INVERBRAY.—The fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray Branch of An Comun Gaidhealach was held in the St. Malieu Hall—Rev. John Maclachlan, vice-president, in the chair. A programme of vocal and piano music was submitted, and each item was Investigated to the company of the comp

KILIN.—One of the most successful and largest attended Ceilidhs ever held in Killin took place there on 19th January. The branch is very active, and the singing classes under the direction of Mr Hugh MacLean are largely attended.

KIMMALIE—A Ceilidh was held in the Gordon Smith Cameron Hall on Friday, 9th January. Rev. R. B. Crawford presided, and there was a large attendance. After the usual opening remarks, the Chairman, in a happy manner, wished the audience the compliments of the season. A varied programme was then submitted, the first item being selections by Mr. Hugh Maedonald, Corpach. He also contributed to the evening's enjoyment at intervals during the evening. Miss Dolly Macalpine gave selections on the violin. Songs were sung by Mrs Campbell, Badabrie, and also by her little daughters, Catherine and Minnie; by Mrs D. Macamaster, Banavie Locks; Miss Shiela Macdonell, Macamaster, Banavie Locks; Miss Shiela Macdonel, J. Macdonald, D. R. Macgillivray, Hugh Machers, Olanca Maclean, and E. George, Mr Allan Macdonell gave a "Puirt-a-beal" and a "Cumha," and Mr Lachian Macdonal a "Sgeulach" and m "Oran." Mr John Colquhoun, who is at present studying medicine in the Edinburgh University, treated the audience to a number of racy Gaelic University, Chile Society (of which he is senior president) was doing in their effort to preserve the Gaelic language and customs.

KILMMEIN.—A Cellidh was held in the Poltalloch Hall on the 9th February, when there was a goodly gathering of members and friends. Rev. J. Cameron, B.D., Glassary, gave a highly interesting talk on old Highland customs, and related some entertaining personal experiences. A very cordial vote of thanks was afterwards accorded Mr Cameron. The lady members provided tea, and thereafter an impromptu programme of songs, recitations, and stories was engaged in, the following members contributing:—Misses J. M'Arthur, A. Cameron, M. Clark, J. M'Neill, and A. Campbell. The singing of 'O'dicheh mhah liebh' concluded

an enjoyable evening. The Gaelic classes in connection with the branch are conducted on Monday evenings as usual.

KILMENY .- The Kilmeny Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held a highly successful Ceilidh in the Keills Schoolroom on the evening of Tuesday, 27th January. The weather proving favourable, the genial chairman, Mr Archd. MacEachern, Keills, a typical and enthusiastic Highlander, had the pleasure of presiding over a large, attentive, and appreciative audience. Mr MacEachern, after a few appropriate introductory remarks, called on Mr Donald M'Phee, who opened the musical part of the programme with some excellent selections on the bagpipes. The following were the artistes who took part in the evening's entertainment :- Messrs took par in the evening's enter-daminent:—arcssize Mr Heamil, violin selections; Misses L. Smith, M'Phee, Unkles, MacKachern, and F. Macdougall, and Messrs Goldie, Macphail, Logan, MacEwan, MacEachern, Carmichael, and A. Shaw, solos; Miss Unkles and Mr Currie, duet; Miss F. Macdougall and Mr Currie, recitations, and Mr Macfadyen, a reading. Most of the performers are young and promising vocalists, who bid fair to be able to uphold and bear forward "Bratach na Gaidhlig" for many a year to come.

KILNINVER .- The local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held a successful Ceilidh in the School last Friday. Ex-Provost MacCowan, Oban, presided. The programme was one of the best ever rendered to a Kilninver audience, and, notwithrenneese to a Minimver audience, and, notwith-standing the inclemency of the weather, there was a large assemblage. Iwo Mod medallists, Miss Jenny M. B. Currie, Cuilial Hotel, and Miss MacVoli, Balvicar, and Miss Chrissic Campbell, Ellensheich, who took high places at former Mods, and Mr. Archd. Campbell, Esadale, contributed to the programme.

LOCHABER. - This branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach had the pleasure of welcoming Mr John Macdonald, M.A., Glasgow, who gave an interesting account of Saint Columba and his times. The speaker's great command of Gaelic, the elevation of the subject and its treatment, gave great pleasure to a very attentive audience. Their thanks were conveyed by Mr John MacIntyre with his usual felicity. At the close instrumental and vocal music was given, Mr Macdonald singing the final song,

which was greatly enjoyed.

Lochcarron.—This branch held a most successful Burns Night at its last fortnightly meeting. Mr Fleming, M.A., made an admirable chairman, and provided the necessary literary flavour to the pro-ceedings, which mainly consisted of song and music. At the close, Mr A. MacLeod, M.A. proposed votes of thanks to all who contributed to the

evening's entertainment. LOCHGILPHEAD.-On the evening of Wednesday the February, a very successful social evening was held by the local branch of An Comunn in the Masonic Hall. Mrs Brown presided, and there was a company of about 100 present. The proceedings a company of anout 100 present. Ine proceedings were opened by the company singing the rallying song, "Suas leis a' Ghaidhig." An excellent programme, sustained by local artistes, including Mod winners, was submitted—quartettes, duets, solos, recitations, reading, and dance following each other in pleasing succession. During an interval in the programme, tea was served in excellent style by the ladies' committee. The company separated at midnight, after singing "Oidche Mhath Leibh" and "Auld Lang Syne." The function was very successful, and twenty new members were enrolled.

It was intimated that the next Ceilidh would be held in the H.G. School on Wednesday, 18th February

PORT ELLEN .- The Branch of An Comunn in this district has been re-organised, and the following office-bearers and committee appointed :- President Mr John MacDougall, Kilbride; vice-president, Mr Mr John MacDougall, Ardbeg; treasurer, Mr John MacMillan, Port Ellen; secretary, Miss Mary Calder, 24 Charlotta Street, Port Ellen; committee— Mrs Brown, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Urquhart, Misses Morag MacRachern, and Jean MacGillivray, Messrs Archd. Calder, Duncan Campbell, D. MacLachlan, M.A., and William Whyte.

Roy Bridge.—On Friday, 30th January, a successful Ceilidh was held in the Drill Hall. Colonel A. W. Macdonald, D.S.O., vice-president, presided. An interesting and varied programme, comprising bagpipe and violin music, song, dance, and story was rendered. The special feature of the evening was a lantern lecture entitled "An hour with Prince Charlie," given by the president, Mrs Ryan, Prince Charle, given by the president, are kyan, Blaracha. Appropriate Jacobite songs were given by the ladies' choir. The lantern was operated by Mr A. MacDonald, Fort William. Mrs Ryan is to be praised and thanked for her untiring zeal in the

cause of the Gaelic language

Tobermory.—The fortnightly meeting of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the School. The speaker for the evening was Mr T. D. School. The speaker for the evening was air t. D. Macdonald, Oban, who took as his subject "Sgeul agus Sgeulachd." A discussion had taken place on this subject at the Mod held in Tobermory during the summer, at which Mr Macdonald acted as one of the judges. Briefly, the lecturer explained the meaning of Sgeul and of Sgeulachd. A discussion followed in which several members took part. Mr followed, in which several members took part. Mr John Cameron expressed the thanks of the Ceilidh John Unmeron expressed the thanks of the Geliddh to the essayist. A short paper in a serio-comic vein was read by Miss Joan Cameron, Higher Grade School. The paper was greatly appreciated. During the evening a musical programme, arranged by Mrs Ralph, fallon Maclean, was submitted. Bagpips selections were given by Duncan Macleod, songs by Mrs Ralph, Rives and Mackimon, Joan Macledold, Mrs Ralph, Stagery Mackimon, Joan Macledold, Songs by Mrs Ralph, Misselay Mackimon, Joan Macledold, Songs by Mrs Ralph, Misselay Mackimon, Joan Macledold, Songs by Mackimon, Joan Macledold, Misselay M Mr Roderick Maclean rendered Highland selections on the violin. The programme for the next meeting is in the hands of Mr Hector Maclean and Mrs Grant.

CEILIDH AT ARDGAY.

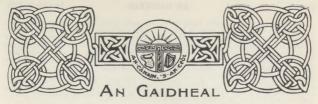
A number of Gaelic enthusiasts at Ardgay now enjoy the pleasures of a Ceilidh weekly. The first meeting was held on the evening of 14th January. The weather was terrific, but quite a goodly company

of members assembled

One of the rules of the "Ceilidh" is that all proceedings be conducted in Gaelic, and Mr W. T. Brown sent his apology for absence according to rule. Rev. K. Macleod, U.F. Church, after reading the Gaelic apology, gave well chosen extracts from "An t-Eileanach" and "Caraid nan Gaidheal," which were heard with keen appreciation. An

which were leard with axeen appreciation. At exchange of ideas in Gaelic was then enjoyed. The next week Rev. R. L. Ritchie, Creich, favoured with extracts from "Mo Nighean Donn Bhoidheach," by Isin Moffat-Pender, and the audience (much larger than the previous week's) again followed with deep interest.

Readings are to be undertaken by numerous gentlemen in the district, and the prospects of the Ceilidh promise well.



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Leabhar XX.

An Giblein, 1925.

[Earrann 7

SEALG AN FHEIDH.

Their cuid nach eil Gàidheal an latha an diugh fo chomain sam bith do'n fhiadh. Is math a dh'fhaodta nach ann air an fhiadh a bu chòir a bhi cur na coire. A theagamh nach e so an t-ionad a chum bhi leudachadh air a' cheann sin; ach tha e ceart gun abramaid gu robh uair a bha am fiadh feumail do ar sinnsir, agus a bha iadsan mar an ceudna ro-mheasail air an fhiadh. Tha an cinne-daonnda a' togail ùine mhór mun tig iad gu ìre àird a thaobh soirbheachadh saoghalta. Chan eil ach aimsir ghoirid o thàinig ar sluagh gu oilean is cothrom, an coimeas ris na linntean fada anns an robh iad finneachail gun mhùnadh. Tha beagan chiadan bliadhna o theann muinntir ri àiteach fearainn anns an dùthaich so gu bhi tighinn beò air a thoradh; ach an taca ri sin tha mìltean bliadhna o thòisich iad air am beò-shlàinte fhaotainn o shealg an fhéidh. Tha mi de'n bheachd gur ann a chionn so a bha uidh cho annasach aig na seann Ghàidheil anns an fhiadh; eadhon gu robh an athraichean cho dian 'g a shealg feadh nan linntean o shean; agus mar sin chan ann gun aobhar a chrochas Gàidheil ceann an fhéidh 'n an cuid seòmraichean, no ghabhas iad cròic an fhéidh mar shuaicheantas air am brataichean.

Faodaidh gur ann airson an aobhair cheudna a fhuair am fiadh àite cho sònruichte an litreachas na dùthcha. Gheibhear iomradh air sealg an fhéidh anns a cunntais as a osmhoire 's a' Ghàidhlig. Anns na seann duain is gann gu bheil cuspair idir cho cumanta ri faoghaid is fiadhach. Agus tha spiorad sunndach aigeannach an

comhnuidh an tuairisgeul na seilge. Bu shealgairean na bàird a rinn na duain; agus mar sin bha dealas 'n am briathran a bha deanamh greim air cuimhne nan ginealach. Is e sin an dealas flor a chumas na seann duain gun dol a dhlth fad 's a bhios ar cànain 'g a labhairt. Chan e mhàin gu robh an t-sealg 'n a toil-inntinn, ach bha i aig an am cheudna 'n a h-obair làthail, o an robh an sealgair a' cosnadh a bheathachaidh. Is e so a dh'fhàg an seann iomradh cho blasda, gu robh dùrachd is dleasdanas a' coinneachadh a chéile-eadhon gu robh am bàrd a' faotainn deachdadh iongantach o an obair anns a' robh a thlachd. Bheir so 'n ar cuimhne nach robh ar n-athraichean a' cur suim an cuspair sam bith ach a mhain anns na cuspairean a bha dlùth do an aire is do'm beatha fein. Is e sin a dh'fhàg an cuid chunntas cho eagnuidh is an cuid bhriathran cho snasmhor is cho firinneach.

Bha buaidh-tharruing riamh aig an fhiadh air a shealgair. Cha ghlacar am beathach beothail so gun saothair is gun eòlas. Is éigin do'n t-sealgair a bhi aotrom astarach air a chasan, gun ghiorra analach a' dìreadh an aonaich, agus fuasgailte sgiobalta an déidh a chuid chon. Is mór a' chùis annais is uaill an teòmachd a dh'fheumas an sealgair a' tilgeadh leis a' ghunna. Is e sin an t-inneal marbhaidh anns na ginealaich mu dheireadh; ach faodaidh gu robh sealgairean anns na seann linntean a cheart cho mór as a' bhogha-saighid. Tha cleachdaidhean na maoislich is an daimh alluidh, 'n an staid nàdurra anns na beanntan, air leth fiadhta faiceallach. Tha iad an comhnuidh ullamh gu teicheadh air do neach dol eadar iad is a' ghaoth. Tha na

creutairean so mar an ceudna luath air an casan, agus comasach air astar is leum a chuireas am mial-chu gu a dhùlan. Feumaidh a' sealgair gluasad romh éirigh na gréine, gu tighinn dlùth do 'n fhiadh mar a dhùisgeas e as a chadal. Tha leabaidh an fhéidh an lagan seasgair; agus air uairibh cuiridh e seachad an oidhche an còs creige no ri fasgadh an tuim. Agus tha e iomchuidh gum beachdaicheadh an sealgair air cor na h-aimsir. Tha móran an crochadh air an àird o'n tig a' ghaoth. Giùlainidh am fàile am fuaim is lugha, agus bheir sin sanas gun dàil do'n fhiadh. Cho luath 's a dh'éireas caithream na seilge theid am fiadh 'n a làn shiubhal, agus ni e air na coireachan is gairbhe far an gann is dàna le duine no le cù a leantainn.

Tha e dualach gun tigeadh Donnachadh Bàn ann ar smuaintean an coimhcheangal ris an fhiadh an litreachas nan Gàidheal. Is ann tearc a bha iad, ma bha iad idir ann, a chuir an altan a chéile a leithid de bhàrdachd mu shealg an fhéidh is a chuir Donnachadh Bàn. Coltach ris na bàird o shean cha robh esan móran an eisimeil leabhraichean. Le gibhtean nàduir a bha barraichte chleachd e a shullean is a chluasan mar mheadhon foghluim; agus b'i an t-sealg an obair aoibhinn a ghlac a chridhe glé òg. Cho fad is a bha an comas aige b'i an t-sealg bu cheàird dha feadh làithean a bheatha. Bha e tur-eolach air dòighean an fhéidh. B'aithne dha na frìthean far am faighte damh na cròice, agus far an tilgeadh an damh a chròic; gach fuaran fionnar as an òladh an eilid; na coireachan anns an ionaltradh na maoislichean leis na minn, maille ri gach amhuilt neònach a bhuineadh dhaibh gu léir. Chan e mhàin gu bheil Donnachadh Bàn a' tabhairt dhuinn dealbh na seilge air mhodh gun choimeas, ach tha e ag innse dhuinn mar nach d'rinneadh riamh roimhe mu aigneadh an t-sealgair; cia mar a rùnaich e fàile fallain nam beann; cia mar a thug e gràdh do'n bheatha chùbhraidh an comh chomunn ri maise nàduir. Tha an sealgair aig tréine a spionnaidh am Moladh Beinn Dórain; agus chi sinn a' cheart shealgair is e aosmhor fann, a' gabhail soraidh leis na féidh is leis na frìthean an Cead Deireannach nam Beann.

HIGHLAND CHARACTER.

There are still enlightened people who believe that all Scotsmen habitually wear kilts, live on porridge and whisky, talk a lingo that no civilised being can understand, and gloomly devote their Sundays to a religion which is a smothering blend of fire and brimstone. Highlanders they continue to regard, more or less, as a race of Caterans and robbers, fortunately, in these latter days, held in check by the iron hand of the law from following

The good old rule, the simple plan, That they should take who have the power And they should keep who can.

Thieving and lying naturally go together, and, being a thief, the Highlander was inevitably a liar. But we must discriminate. "I have too much respect for the truth, declared Mark Twain once, "to think of using it on every trivial occasion." At the back of his mind the marauding Highlander may have cherished a similar delicacy of regard. At anyrate, it may be said that as a rule he plundered in obedience to superiors; and that his liberties with truth resulted from one of the noblest of human virtues-fidelity. Since it is salutary to see ourselves as others see us, we must look somewhat more closely at the charges of critics and detractors. The true Highlander, they tell us, is proud, haughty, arrogant, vain, vauntful, and despotic. He is at the same time gloomy, unforgiving, revengeful, ludicrously sentimental, and, of course, grossly superstitious. Candour will admit an element of truth in the charges. It cannot be denied that the Highlander is proud, haughty, imperious, quick to anger, and a first-class hater. Undoubtedly he has a long memory for wrongs wantonly inflicted upon him, and occasionally finds difficulty in forgiving an enemy. "Rory, the doctor says I am dying," said the old chief on calling his son and successor to his bedside, "and the minister says I must forgive Alastair. I do that. But Rory, my man, may the devil take you if you forgive him.'

On the credit side he can show, I think, rather more than the average list of virtues. With his pride and haughtiness go a chivalry that is proverbial and an honour which, to adapt the splendid words of Burke, "feels a stain like a wound, which inspires courage whilst it mitigates ferocity, which ennobles whatever it touches and under which vice itself loses half its evil by losing all its grossness." To prosaic observers his loyalty often appears quixotic. In the past, at the bidding of his chief, he would burn, harry, and commit perjury with a whole-hearted devotion that took no reckoning of consequences. Highland history abounds in

instances of self-sacrifice, which was ever the readier the direr the need. On the other hand, if the Highlander is a bad enemy he is the very best of friends. He is not of the weaklings or traitors who turn their backs in a crisis; and his word is even better than his bond. Moreover, if he knows how to pursue a quarrel, no man was ever readier to relent and forgive on any real show of regret or penitence by the offender. Indeed, in this respect he is distinguished by an impulsive generosity, which has too frequently been turned to his disadvantage by the wily and unscrupulous.

For the rest, in spite of his imperiousness, his power of hate, his turbulence and occasional harshness, he is marked by a delicacy and tenderness that justify, and more than justify, all that Renan and other eulogists have said of the Celtic race. Towards woman his chivalry is notable and consistent. He is an ideal lover, an ideal hero of romance; and his sentiment for home and kindred is entwined with every fibre of his being. An inveterate idealist, he gives his heart easily to "lost causes, forsaken beliefs, unpopular names, and impossible loyalties, and his adherence once given he marches unflinchingly to all the glories of martyrdom. That is why his history is at once so romantic and so tragic. In faith he is a fatalist, showing in that respect traces of his Eastern origin. "What is to be, will be," he says, and meekly resigns himself to fate.

On the intellectual side he is eager, ardent, versatile, adventurous, with a keen wit, a turn for satire, an engaging humour, and a gift of style which is the admiration of all competent judges. Withal he is a poet, with the poet's emotion, the poet's vision, the poet's sensibility, the poet's yearning for that "light that never was on sea or land," and finally the poet's instinctive rebellion against the domination of dull, brutal, material fact.

One quality in particular his worst enemies cannot deny him, a courage that once roused knows not what it is to yield. He is literally and absolutely the best soldier in the world. Since Pitt discovered and utilised the military capabilities of the Highlanders, they have fought the battles of Britain wherever Britain had battles to fight, and never without covering themselves with glory. I may mention a fact, not generally known outside the War Office, that in the late war the highest honours won by any single battalion of our army were won by a Highland battalion. Four times

wiped out, it four times rose afresh from the deluge of blood and swept on to victory.

Reverting for a moment to the charge of superstition, I fear its accuracy must be admitted. On reading that wonderful but disenchanting and depressing book, Frazer's Golden Bough, I was surprised, though not greatly shocked, to learn that I myself hail from one of the most darkly superstitious spots in the world. My native parish seems, indeed, to have appropriated to itself pretty nearly all the superstitions that were going. In my boyhood we all cherished beliefs which the higher critics had demolished generations before. We had a devout faith in fairies, and a dread of witches and warlocks: some of us, in fact, knew witches in the flesh; the Second Sight was a commonplace, and ghosts and the Evil Eye were unholy realities. A privileged few had actually encountered the Arch-enemy of mankind himself. Even to-day I recall, with a certain chilliness of the spine, the tales of wandering and perturbed spirits told around the winter fire in my boyhood. Since then I have often wished that I could tell a tale with half the vividness, the graphic force, the thrilling, curdling reality that marked the narratives of those rare storytellers who made the winter evening a shuddering delight to youngsters.

Here the Highlander is but exhibiting the defects of his qualities. His superstition is primarily due to his sensitive, imaginative temperament, and his constant awe of the unseen and the supernatural. Dull people have not imagination enough to be superstitious. The ox, the ass, and the mule know nothing of superstition: on the contrary, they are models of the practical and the prosaic. The Highlander being compact of imagination, conjures up for himself fears, beliefs, and visions utterly beyond the reach of the stolid Saxon.

Of the "Celtic Gloom," almost as much nonsense has been written as of the "Celtic Glamour," and the so-called "Celtic Fringe." That the Gael has a deep, haunting melancholy, none who knows him will deny. But here again his imagination and his sensibility, deepened by environment, are responsible. He is sad because he sees clearly and feels keenly the fatality which always and everywhere presses upon the human family. Čeltic peoples, how-ever, have no monopoly of sadness. The Greeks, the gayest, blithest people who ever lived, were also the most pessimistic. Their melancholy is deep and abiding. It dims if it does not quench the fire of Homer. Sophocles and Euripides are saturated with it, and it is the ever-recurring note in the great representative collection known to us as the Greek Anthology. Nor for all their soaring ambitions and splendid practical gifts were the Romans exempt, as their chief poets testify. The pessimism of Lucretius is a black despair, and Virgil's pathetic "sense of tears in human things" has passed into a proverb. For examples of Hebrew pessimism, Hebrew revolt against destiny, we have only to glance at Ecclesiastes and the Book of Job. Shakespeare had his period of intense gloom; and to come to our own day a great English novelist, Mr. Thomas Hardy, in his greatest works, presents and illustrates a doctrine of unadulterated pessimism. Yet, in spite of all, the Greeks were gay and joyous: the Romans and the Hebrews had a keen relish of life, and the English are not perpetually sad. The Highlander, too, knows how to be merry; indeed, it may be said he has a quite unusual capacity for fun and lightheartedness.

But here once more he is peculiar. His gaiety is modified and controlled by that exquisite, almost unique, reserve, which, in turn, is the result of dignity and instinctive good taste. It has nothing of the pertness of the Boulevard, which is half-defiant, halfblasphemous, and wholly vulgar, nor has it the rough horse-play which so often marks the English form of gaiety.

On the many failures to understand and delineate the Highlander it is unnecessary to dwell. Even the rare and penetrating genius of Scott scarcely succeeded with the subtler elements and finer shades of Highland character. I hesitate to breathe a word against Sir Walter, one of the grandest, noblest figures in any literature, but it is no libel to say that his Highlanders have not the living actuality which nearly always distinguishes his presentations of his own familiar people of the lowlands. What was romantic and picturesque he seized with unerring intuition, what was essentially and intimately Highland generally eluded him. The same may be said with even greater emphasis of Stevenson, whose Highlanders, when they are not inspired by Scott, are merely Lowlanders in Highland costume. But Scott's wizardry did one thing very effectively: it turned the Highlands into a national and international playground. With the publication of The Lady of the Lake, a new era opened for Scottish Gaeldom, the era of the tourist and sporting millionaire. Whether this was entirely a good thing for the Highlander may well be a matter of debate.

JOHN A. STEUART.

DOMHNULL MACLEOID.

By Angus Macleod, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., Rector of Oban High School.

Part 1.

Tha mi'n nochd le'r cead, dol a dh'nnasadh sgéulachd fhlor dhuibh, mu dheighinn bodach calma, a dh'fhalbh aon là gu baile Inbhirnis, a cheannach mine Is beag a smaoinich Domhnull MacLeòid an là ud, 'nuair a dh'fhàg e' thaca beag an Galtraigeil, ri taobh Loch Dhunbheagain, ciod a bha'n dàn dha air an turus, no gu'm bitheadh a chàirdean a' feitheamh cho fada ri' thilleadh.

Ràinig an Sgìtheanach Inbhirnis, beagan laithean mu'n d'thàinig feachd a Phrionnsa air fàire, oir'si bliadhna Theàrlaich a bh'ann. Cò choinnich Dòmhnull air drochaid a bhaile ach a cheann-cinnidh fhéin, Tormod Mac-Leòid, Dhunbheagain, aon de na flaithean Gàidhealach nach robh muigh le Teàrlach. Ach bha Leodaich eile ann nach do ghabh comhairle Thormoid fuireach aig an tigh, mar a bha MacLeòid, Bheàrnaraidh, agus mic ghaisgeil Raasaidh. Cha'n eil teagamh sam bith nach robh chuid mhór de na Gàidheil eudmhor airson Theàrlaich, ged a chum cumhachd is òrdugh nam flath aig baile iad. Am measg chàich, tha e soilleir gu'n robh aignidhean Dhòmhaill 'Ic Leòid leis a Phrionnsa. Cha do ghabh e comhairle a thriath an là ud air drochaid Inbhirnis. Bha Tormod a' sparradh air tilleadh dhachaidh—'nuair a thàinig ceòl na pìoba gu'n cluasan; bha feachd Theàrlaich a' tighinn dlùth air a bhaile. Cha do rinn Tormod maille: agus cha mho rinn Dòmhnull cabhag. Fhuair e e féin am measg chàirdean 'nuair a thainig feachd Theàrlaich a steach, agus tha e coltach nach b'urrainn na b'fhearr le ar caraid.

Cha b'fhada gus an d'fhuair e cothrom air a dhùrachd a nochdadh. Bha suim airgid (mu cheithir cheud punnd Sasunnach), as an Fhraing, air a cur air tir am Barraidh, agus b'e Aonghas MacDhòrnhanil, o Cheann Loch Muideirt, a thaghadh airson an t-suim so aiseag gu Teàrlach. Thug Aonghas leis air an turus chunnartach so Dòrnhnull Macleòid,

mar fhear-iùil, oir bha an Sgitheanach mioneòlach air gach ceàrnaidh de Innse-Gall. Sin mar a thàinig Dòmhnull an luib a Phrionnsa, agus bu mhath do'n Phrionnsa bhochd, 'nuair a bha e iomadh la 'na dhioldéirig air an allaban, gu'n deach fear Ghaltraigeil a dh'iarraidh luchd mine dh'Inbhirnis an là ud.

F udaidh sinn Dòmhnull is Aonghas fhàgail an dràsda air an ceann-turuis; agus cha b'e gnothuch soirbh a bh'ann, oir bha iomadh long a' seòladh a' Chuain-Sgith aig an am, gus gach bacadh a chur air cùis Theàrlaich. Tilleamaid, mata, gu Inbhirnis. Bha Murchadh, mac Dhòmhnaill 'san sgoil 'sa bhaile so, ach feudaidh sinn bhi cinnteach nach robh móran diù aige de 'chuid leabhraichean aig an àm so, measg gach upraid armailt a bh'ann, agus ag éisdeachd ri sgéulachdan laoich Theàrlaich. Nach robh am Prionnsa fhéin, riomhach, sgiamhach, ion-ghràdhaichte a' comhnaidh greis' sa' bhaile, agus cò am balach no a' chaileag nach tugadh rùn dha? Cha robh Murchadh ach còig bliadhna deug a dh'aois, ach fhuair e claidheamh is daga air dhòigh air choireigin, agus chuir e cùl ri sgoil Inbhirnis, nuair a ghluais feachd Theàrlaich a mach gu mòinteach Chuil-Iodair. Rinn Murchadh a dhichioll 'sa 'bhlàr, agus thàr e as le 'bheatha.

Bha 'm Prionnsa nis fo'n ruaig, agus deich mile fichead punnd Sasunnach mar phrìs air a cheann, beò no marbh. 'Sann gu n-iar a chuir am fògarach aghaidh, agus bhuinneadh dha bhi siùbhlach. Sios mu Chille-Chuimein gu ruige Inbhir-garaidh, null taobh Loch Arcaig, thairis air na beanntan gu Morar, agus a sin gu Borradal -sud mar a shiubhail Teàrlach 'og, a dh'ionnsuidh an dearbh àite 's an do chuir e' chas air tìr an toiseach air mór-thir rìoghachd aithrichean, naoi miosan roimhe

Beagan làithean mu'n do ràinig am Prionnsa Borradal, bha Aonghas Dòmhnullach agus Domhnull MacLeòid air tilleadh à Barraidh. Cha robh fhios aca de ghabh àite no c'àite an stiùradh iad, ach fhuair iad Phrionnsa, teachdaireachd bho'n innseadh mu bhlàr Chuil-lodair agus ag iarraidh orra 'choinneachadh am Borradal. 'S ann an so a choinnich Dòmhnull am Prionnsa 'n toiseach, 'se 'na aonar. "An tusa Dòmhnull MacLeòid, á Galtraigeil 'san Eilean Sgitheanach?" arsa Teàrlach. mise an dearbh dhuine, le'r cead," fhreagair Dòmhnull, "de b'àill le'r mórachd?" "Dhòmhnaill," ars' am fògarach, "tha thu h-i-rmailt a' còrdadh ri Dòmhnull idir, agus

ga'm fhaicinn 'na m' éiginn; tha mi ga'm thilgeil fhéin 'na d'uchd: dean rium mar is toil leat. Tha mi a' cluinntinn gur duine onarach thu, agus earbsach.'' Mun do dhealaich iad, dhearbh an Sgltheanach nach robh breug 'san aithris.

Tha e glé neònach, mata, gu'n do dhiult Dòmhnull a' cheud dleasdanas a chuireadh air a dheanamh. B'e sin a dhol le litrichean gu MacLeòid Dhunbheagain, agus Dòmhnullach Shléibhte. Bha Teàrlach cinnteach, ged nach robh iad 'na fheachd, gun robh an aigne leis, 's gu'n teisrigeadh iad e 'na fhéum.

Cha chreideadh Dòmhnull sin, "Nach d'fhuair sibh," ars' esan, "dearbhadh gu leòir air an slaightireachd? Cha teid sibh air an àruinn." Ghabh am Prionnsa comhairle Dhòmhnaill, agus rinn iad suas an inntinn gu'm b'fheàrr deanamh air an Eilean Fhada, ann an dòchas gu'm faighte long an Steòrnabhagh a ghiùlaineadh Teàrlach do'n Fhraing. Fhuair iad bàta ochdràmhach, agus rinn iad ullachadh gu seòladh à Loch nan Uamh. Cha robh an t-ullachadh mór, ach co-dhiùbh bha poit is beagan mine aca air bòrd.

Tacan mun do sheòl iad, cò thigeadh do'n chuideachd ach Murchadh òg. An àite dhol air ais do bhaile Inbhirnis gu leantainn ris an sgoil, lorg an giollan duineil so an rathad a shiubhail am Prionnsa, agus lean e fear a chridhe, céum air chéum, gus an d'ràinig e an ceann-uidhe 'am Borradal. Bha Dòmhnull de'n làn bheachd gun robh a mhac a' strl ris an fhoghlum an sgoil Inbhirnis, 's cha mhotha bha fhios aige gu so, gu'n robh Murchadh aig blàr Chuil-lodair. 'Se coinn-eachadh iongantach a bha sud: Dòmhnull trì fichead bliadhna sa h-ochd, Murchadh, coig bliadhna deug, 's an dithis, gun fhios da chéile, deònach air am beatha leigeil sios airson a' Phrionnsa.

Cha robh feum an claidheamh Mhurchaidh tuilleadh, ach mur an robh, laimhsicheadh e ràmh is ròp an seirbhis a Phrionnsa. Bhitheadh e iomchuidh dhuinn, mu'n teid sinn na's fhaide, ainmeachadh chàich: b'e an sgioba Donnachadh Ruadh, Lachlan Mac-Ruairidh Macascaill, triùir Mhuirich. Dhòmhnullach-Alasdair, Iain is Ruairi, agus Eideird Burc, Uidhisteach a lean am Prionnsa a Dunéidinn; thuilleadh air sin bha triùir chompanach maille ri Teàrlach, Ailean Dòmhnullach a bha 'na shagairt roimhe so, and dithis Eireannach, O'Neill agus Sullivan. Sin, mata, a bhuidhean a sheòl air feasgar Di-sathurn; cha robh coslas na is ann do 'cheart aindheoin a charaich iad a Loch nan Uamh.

Cha b'fhada gus an do thuig iad gu'n robh Dòmh'l na' b'eòlaiche na iadsan air comharraidhean aimsir, nuair a bhris an doineann orra. Shéid a' ghaoth, 's thàinig tuil uisge: bha 'm Prionnsa nise deònach gu leòir a chas a bhi air tìr; ach dhiult Dòmhnull cur mu'n cuairt, oir bha fhios aig an deagh mharaiche nach gabhadh e deanamh. Cha robh air ach ruith roimh ghaoith, agus 'se Sealbh mór a chum bho na creagan iad, oir bha'n oidhche cho dorch 's nach fhaiceadh iad slat rompa. 'Se oidhche iargalt a bh'ann le tairneanaich is dealanaich, ach bha làmh Dhòmhnuill tré gach gailleann gramail air an stiùir, agus threòraich Freasdal an iùbhrach sàbhailt tré na caoil gus an do ràinig i an t-Eilean Fada. am briseadh na faire rinn iad a mach fearann Beinne Bhaoghala, agus chaidh iad air tìr an Roisinnis, 's tharruing iad an t-ochdràmhach an àird air a chladach. Ged a bha Dòmhnull MacLeòid 'na sheana mharaiche, cha do thachair a riamh samhail na h-oidhche ud ris; ann an deich uairean de shide dh'fhuadaicheadh iad ceithir fichead mile.

Fhuair iad gu fortanach bothan beag, falamh, a dheanadh beag no mór a dhldean dhoibh; chaidh teine de fhiodh fuadach a lasadh, agus, gu firinneach, cha robh droch fheum aca air garadh 's air tiornachadh; chuir iad a' phoit air an teine gu brochan a dheasachadh, oir cha robh an còrr aca—gus am facas mart ag ionaltradh gu socrach faisg air a bhothan. Cha b'fhada 'gus an robh feòil a measg a' bhrochain.

Bha Teàrlach a nise an dùthaich Chlann Raonuill agus cha robh càirdean fad as, na faighte fios thuca. Shaoil iad co-dhiùbh nach cuirte dragh orra air Di-dòmhnaich.

Air an dearbh là sin bha an T-Urr. Iain MacAmhlaidh ministear Uidhist mu Dheas, na shuidhe aig a dhinneir maille ri seann cheannard Chlann Ra'il. Bha MacAmhlaidh eudmhor do Righ Deòrsa, 's cha robh bàigh no iochd aige ris a' Phrìonnsa. Cha robh e fdumail, mata, do'n fhògrarch gu'm b'e so a' mhionaid a ràinig buachaille, le anail 'na uchd, is naigheachd mhór aige air na coigrich uasal a thainig air tàr an Roisinnis. 'S math a thuig an dithis a bh' aig a' bhord, cb bh'ann, anc had ho leig iad dad orra. 'Se ministear so a mhill a chùis air Teàrlach mar a chl sinn.

Air ball chuir e teachdaire thun a Phrìonnsa, mar gu'm b'ann bho thighearna Chlann Ra'il, agus fhuair é mach dé bha na rùn. Ann an ùine ghoirid, bha litir bhuaithe aig athair, an t-Urr. Amhlaidh, ministear na h-Earadh, ag Innseadh faeal air an fhacal, agus thug esan mar an ceudna rabhadh do mhinisteir sgìre nan Loch, an Leòdhas, an t-Urr. Cailean MacChoinnich, gu'n robh dùil aig a' Phrionnsa thol do Steòrnabhagh, an dochas gu'n faigheadh e aiseag as a' chala sin, do'n Fhraing. Chi sinn toradh na h-obrach-sa ann an tiota.

(Ri leantainn.)

TRANSPORT IN THE HIGHLANDS.

In February, an influential deputation from the Highlands and Islands Distress Fund Committee waited on the Secretary for Scotland at Dover House, and subsequently had a meeting with the Scottish Members of Parliament at the House of Commons. The deputation consisted of Sir William Sleigh, Lord Provost of Edinburgh; MacKintosh of MacKintosh; Sir John M. MacLeed, Bart., of Fiunary, Col. Norman MacLead, D.S.O., C.M.G.; Rev. Dr. Norman MacLean; Rev. Dr. Malcolm MacLennan; Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod, and Mr. Archd. Campbell.

Sir William Sleigh stated that the Committee, in the administration of their fund, found that in the economic problems of the Highlands and Islands transport facilities were a factor of vital importance. If we were to have these districts as an integral part of the country, then better transport facilities must be provided, and in this matter the Government should give assistance as generous as that which it had given to the construction of arterial roads.

Sir Reginald MacLeod pointed out that the success of land settlements was absolutely dependent on improved communications and cheaper transport facilities. At present the steamer service was inadequate and unsuitable; and yet, miserable as some of the steamers were, their charges were most exaggerated. Bread cost 2d or 3d more per loaf because of transport. Sir John M. MacLeod said the deputation were there to plead the causes of these simple noble inhabitants of our country who dwelt in the North and West. These people did not want doles, but they did want the chance of not being isolated, and some opportunity of shifting what they could of their produce, and so be enabled to enjoy a simple existence and be removed from the danger of famine and want. What was wanted was a substantial subsidy to enable transport charges to be reduced. Rev. Dr. Norman MacLean said that was a subject of supreme national importance. The only pure race found in the islands was in the Hebrides. If there was one race the Empire ought to preserve, it was this one, but, like a retreating tide, it was ebbing away. MacKintosh of MacKintosh and Mr. Archd. Campbell, S.S.C., also spoke. Sir John Gilmour, in reply, said he would examine the whole position very carefully and sympathetically. When he had examined the matter further

he might approach the Committee for advice.

Referring to emigration, he said the Govern-

ment had sent to British Columbia and offered to investigate the position so that they might be able to settle agriculturists

and fishers there. Sir John Lorne MacLeod

thanked the Secretary, and the deputation

withdrew.

The deputation afterwards had a meeting with the Scottish Members of Parliament—
The Bight Hon. Iain Macpherson in the chair. At this meeting Sir William Sleigh, Sir Reginald MacLeed, Sir John M. MacLeod, Dr. Malcolm MacLeman, Dr. Norman MacLean, and Sir John Lorne MacLeod spoke. On the motion of Dr. Drummond Shiels, seconded by Mr. Westwood, and supported by Sir Harry Hope, it was resolved to convene a meeting of all Scottish members, under the chairmanship of Mr. Iain Macpherson, to discuss practical proposals and to decide what further steps

DEPUTATION TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE.

should be taken.

On 14th March, a deputation from An Comunn, consisting of Mrs. Watson, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, and Mr. Fred T. MacLeod was received by the General Council of the Educational Institute at their meeting in the Moray House Training College, Edinburgh. The President, Miss Tweedie, cordially welcomed the deputation. Thereafter Mrs. Watson spoke, indicating that the deputation had come to convey their thanks to the Educational Institute for the help received from them in the past, particularly for the invaluable assistance rendered by their representatives, in connection with the Gaelic amendment, when

the Act of 1918 was passing through Parliament, and for their assistance and representations at the Conference held in 1923. They were also greatly indebted to the Editor of the Institute's professional organ, The Educational Journal, for his invariably friendly and helpful attitude. An Comunn sought a continuance of the Institute's interest and help, and they were certain that teachers in the Highland area, who they believed were as a body sympathetic and loyal, would be glad to know that in this work of Gaelic teaching they had the approval and backing of the Institute. Mr. M. MacLeod followed on the same lines. The Institute, he said, having helped them to win the concession, they desired their further help in their efforts to ensure that effective use was made of it. The President assured the deputation of the friendly attitude of the Institute, and promised that the representations made would receive full consideration. Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod having thanked the Council for their reception, the deputation withdrew.

Mrs. Burnley Campbell, who was to have formed one of the deputation, was unavoidably detained at home, and Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod very kindly took her place at the last moment.

GREAT FEILL, 1926.

Glasgow Highland Societies' Stall.

A preliminary meeting of the General Committee, consisting of the local members on the Feill Committee, together with representatives from the District and Clan Associations, was held at 114 West Campbell Street on the evening of the 16th March. Mr. Angus Robertson presided, and there was a good attendance. An Executive Committee was appointed, with Mrs. Christison as convener, and Mr. Robert Bain and Mr. Peter MacNab as joint secretaries. Various suggestions for the raising of funds were made, and these were remitted to the Executive Committee, which will report to a meeting of the larger Committee on an early date. The meeting was a hearty and harmonious one, and gave promise of effective and united work being accomplished in behalf of the Glasgow Stall. The Chairman strongly emphasised the urgent importance of a supreme effort being made on this occasion to place the finances of An Comunn on a permanently satisfactory basis.

SUTHERLAND MOD.

For some months past members have been kept informed of the prospects of a Provincial Mod for the County of Sutherland. Arrangements are now complete as a result of my visit to the county last month.

I travelled by the ordinary mail route to Rhiconich, at the head of Loch Inchard, and after a night's rest in the snug and comfortable hotel there, I walked the two miles to the school at Inshegra on the morning of 4th March. There is a branch of An Comunn at this place, but, unfortunately, it does not meet often. The most disappointing feature, however, is the absence of any facility whatsoever for the teaching of Gaelic to the school children, who are almost entirely Gaelic-speaking. My object was to arouse interest in the local people with regard to the proposed Mod, and I am still hopeful that a class or classes may be formed there to justify An Comunn in sending Mr. Hugh MacLean to that outpost of our Gaelicspeaking constituency. Juniors certainly take advantage of his teaching, and it is also expected that some seniors may attend Mr. MacLean's class. travelled to Durness late the same day, and, along with the Rev, Dr. Adam Gunn, interviewed several people still interested in the cause. It was decided to take the names of those willing to join a class, and I am pleased to report that, since returning, Dr. Gunn has written to me intimating that a sufficient number of names have been secured to warrant Mr. MacLean taking up part of a session in the Durness and Kinlochbervie district.

I attended a meeting of the Literary Society at Rogart the following evening. At the close of a lecture by Provost Murray, Dornoch, I was called on to speak, and made the most of the time at my disposal to press the claims of Gaelic in a parish which has been so much favoured financially on behalf of Gaelic.

At Tongue a large number turned out to a branch ceilidh, and there was no difficulty about Mod arrangements. The Branch Committee formed the nucleus for a Mod Committee, and Miss MacKay, teacher, was appointed Mod secretary.

The week-end I spent with old Jura friends at the Free Church Manse, Bettyhill. A largely attended meeting, presided over by the Rev. Allan MacLean, U.F. Manse, gave me another opportunity of pressing the claims of Gaelic. All there now are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Mr. Hugh MacLean. My host, the Rev. Angus MacKay, is conducting a Gaelic Psalmody class twice weekly, with an attendance of from 20 to 30 young people. Gaelic is not taught in the school, although a number of the children are Gaelic speaking.

I interviewed the teacher at Strathy, and he very kindly agreed to prepare the way for Mr. MacLean, and expressed himself as hopeful of forming a class. Gaelic is being taught in Strathy School, but not in a properly recognised way. I mean, he has no definite scheme of instruction; but something is done, which is more than can be said of other schools similarly placed.

The largest meeting of my tour was at Port Skerray, Melvich. The schoolhouse was packed, and the late headmaster was in the chair. It was easy to form classes here, and I expect a very large number of entrants for the Mod from this district. The branch, which has been more or less dornant for some time, was resuscitated, and new office-bearers appointed.

I called on the President and Secretary of the Thurso Branch on my way home. The Branch there is very much alive, and much good work is being done at Thurso.

By special request I called at Wick, and was met at the railway station by five Gaelic-speaking Gaels. After consultation, they decided to form a branch of An Comunn, and I expect to hear at any time that one more branch has been added to the list.

The Sutherland Mod has now been definitely fixed for the second week of September in Tongue. Mr. MacLean will begin a session of about three months there, to allow him to conduct choirs at the Mod.

Musically, I think Sutherland has been very much neglected, and I hope Mr. MacLean will help to make up for it. The Mod will certainly stir up interest in Gaelic, and if pressure is brought to bear on the newly appointed Education Authority from the proper quarter, backed up by the people who really matter, the parents, Gaelic may yet have its proper place in the schools of the county.

NIALL.

[Owing to pressure on our space this month, the Music Page is being held over.]

COMPETITION IN CELTIC DESIGN. Prize, £1,



The subject for competition is reproduced from a block kindly lent by the Scottush Society of Antiquaries, and shows the shaft of a cross from Coldingham. Competitors will reproduce the portion shown to twice its liniar size, and will thereafter restore the upper part of the cross as they conceive it to have been originally. The conditions of

competition will be found in the March number of the magazine. It may be pointed out that the original intention of selecting only West Highland stones will not be strictly adhered to. Competitors must forward their designs to Miss Violet Wood, 16 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh, to arrive not later than 30th April.

TOIMHSEACHAN TARSUINN.

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Tarsuinn.

- 1. Co-chuideachd.
- 6. Sòlas do'n fhear-mhonaidh,
- 12. Nach bruidhinn thu!
- 14. Tigh-an—
 15. Màgh.
 16. Baile 'n Arainn 'san Diùra.

- 18. Linn.
- 19. Tràth.
- 20. Soisgeulaiche. 22. Luach.
- 23. Casgair.
- 24. Cha chnàmh i a cìr.
- 25. Ach beag. 27. Lith. 28. Dath.
- 29. Gu feum an fhigheadar.
- 31. Tréine.
- 32. Air crann 's air muic. 34. Riadh. 37. Mar dh'innseas filidh sgeul. 40. T.S.

- 42. Eòin gun earbull.43. Is feàirde gad e.44. Buinnidh e dhomhsa.

- 45. Staid sona (pl.).
- 47. Cràigean. 49. Beàrna.
- 50. Clachan beag am Peairt.
- 52. Brath.
- 53. Dearc.
- Luach saoithreach (gen.).
 Bheir e droch ainm air muime.
- 57. Neach gun fheum. 58. Bha fear dhiubh mabach.

Sios.

- 1. Tùchadh.
- Tha i gann gu leòir.
 Brùchd uisge.
 Tacan.
- 5. N.R.
- 7. Cronaich.
- 8. Air lìon. 9. Suaicheantas nan Caimbeulach.
- 10. Na bi air dheireadh.

- Gnè (gen.).
 Cuir moille.
 Ceithir-chasach.
- 17. Lion gu sàth.
- 20. Cuir air dealg e.
- 21. Dh'ainmicheadh maraiche Muileach orra. 24. Ionann ri 24 shuas (gen.).
- Ionann ri 24 shuas (gen.).
 Slige fhalamh.
 Ni beagan dhiubh sguab.
 Tràth no lèanag.
 Socrach.
- 35. Sleuchd.
- 36. Toil-inntinn.
- 37. Baile 'n Earraghaidheal.38. Nighean righ fo gheasaibh.39. Bidh thu crùbach gun a dhà dhiubh.
- 41. Suath ás. 44. Lom (pl.).
- 46. Iarratas. 48. Fa chomhar. 49. Maide connaidh.
- 51. B.T.A.
- 53. Cuir teagamh. 55. Bruidheann.
- 56. Aig toiseach gach là.

Thainig sè litrichean le fuasglaidhean an deadh ám. Bha tri dhiubh a réir nam facal a bha foghlais an so, agus tha sin na 'cur an leabhair, "Songa and Hymns of the Gael," gu Domhnall Greumach, Inbhir-Nis, Domhnall MacDhomhnall, Inbhir-Nis, agus an t-Urr, Iain Mac an Aba, Sgiobnais. Bha na facal mar a leanas:—Tassursx—1, Cathloduinn; 3, Oiir; 9, Ro neo Ri; 10, Artan; 11, Gó; 13, Airi; 15, Urra; 16, Mraz; 29, Loinn; 21, Madi; 22, Elain; 24, Cnoe; 25, Mod; 24, Chin; 27, Neonaichead; 12, Grian; 4, Oiiti; 5, Drac; 6, Im; 7, Neonaichead; 12, Grian; 4, Oiiti; 5, Drac; 6, Im; 7, Neonaichead; 12, Grian; 4, Unine; 16, Rol; 17, Ann; 18, Mac; 19, Clò; 25, Comar; 25, Magh; 26, Dide; 30, Bó; 32, Ac. Lean sinn seòl nam paipearan eile anns gach ám. Bha trì dhiubh a réir nam facal a bha fo

Lean sinn seòl nam paipearan eile anns gach dòigh. Far am bheil facal mar tha "ro" neo "ri," mar a dh'iarr sinn e am fonn orain, theid aon air bith dhiubh a ghabhail, mur 'eil an litir mu dheir-eadh a' deanamh suas facail eile. Bha mearachdan aig an fheadhainn eile a dh'fheuch, ach tha sinn 'nan comain air son an dealais agus theagamh nach bi am fear so cho duilich fhuasgladh. Tha sinn an or an rear so cno dullen inuasgiadh. Tha sinn an dòchas gun tig móran barrachd g'ar n-ionnsuidh air a' mhìos so. Cuir do litir air sheòl do Ghlascho le "Toimhseachan Tarsuim" air oisinn na laimhe clìthe, agus biodh i an so roimh mheadhon là Di-ciadain, an 22mh là de'n mhìos so.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

NEW MEMBERS.

LIFE.

The Honourable Mrs. MacGilchrist, Old Machar. Rev. J. MacGilchrist, D.D., Old Machar. Miss Campbell of Inverneill.

ORDINARY.

Donald MacLachlan, Esq., Port Ellen. Alastair Urquhart, Esq., Ardbeg. Miss Munro, Aberfeldy. Dr. D. M. R. Crichton, Maryhill.

A GAELIC GLOSSARY.

By Ronald Burn, B.A., Humanity Dept., University, Glasgow.

A most humble and abject apology is owing all readers because of the state in which my words appeared in the December number. The blame lies in no possible way at my door, as I had not seen proof sheets, nor had a chance to revise the MS. Hence the errors which (or rather only the important ones) I now ask the reader to correct. They are not all due to me, for most could have been corrected in the proofs. Of course, too, the statement in the preface that I have collected 500 words is ludicrously out of date. At the moment of writing they total 2433, but increase almost weekly. Since writing the preface I have climbed all the 558 hills in Scotland over 3000 feet, being the first and only one to have done so. This has taken me into every district almost, and increased my words, provided me with some 100 puirt-á-beul, several songs and nursery rhymes, and a huge envelope of stories.

The words which follow are part of my last two years' gathering, and complete what should have been put into the December number. In future the two collections will be undistinguishably united in one continuous alphabet. I hope in future to have an instalment appear regularly each month as far as space will allow. I owe An Comunn more than I can ever repay them for their kindly allowing my poor efforts to appear side by side with experts' contributions. The method of printing differs, because the previous one was needlessly costly and space-wasting. The abbreviation n. stands for native.

Preface:—For 500 read 2433. Ablach:—Delete clownish fellow and add: poor thing in mind and body. To districts add: and W. Highlands all over. To remarks column add: cf. piaid, liapaire, etc. [The reader knows now that the words after "cf." refer to my own collection only unless otherwise noted.] Ad:—So, too, fireun is fem. in Meallan na Fireòin 1750 contour of 92 E 5 (4 m. SSE, to fL. Beinn Dearg), parting Gl.

na Muice Mór and Gl. Beag:-masc. in Meall an Fh., L. Arkaig, 62 E 3, and Tom an Fh. beyond it. Adharc: -Adharcan is peesweep in Torridon. For Machrach read luachrach, and before "spicket" in next line place = (the sign of equality or equivalence -this has been elsewhere misprinted as dash (-). Aghaidh:-Add as last word to last column: philologically. Make next line's last letter r, not n. Aillean:—Cf. baiseach. Ainneamh:—Last column, read Là a.= :-So under àirdeal read duine à. = :—Under éitean read ?= . At end of fourth line below, read iar n-, . Air:—Last column, line 8, for: and rough roads, read with rough rocks. Five lines lower down, before "ft." add + . Three lines below: make Mhaoldonaich one word. It appears abbreviated five and eight lines below this. In last column, for meaning of Affric, cf. also Gl. Falach, near L. Lomond, of which it was once said that (owing to its thick woods and ravine-form) a man on a white horse could be seen from the hills on either side twice only between Ardlui and Crianlarich. Airgiod:-Delete comma in column 4, after Lochaidh. Aisith:-In last column should precede aisitheadh. symbolizes a word (or root) non-existent in that form, but needing to be assumed to explain other words or forms.] Delete * lower down, and put inverted commas before is, and for 's read is. Aiteachan:-Accent the A each time. Column 5, after In Glen Feshie, insert Ruigh Aiteachan and delete comma before Carn Toul. Delete E in E.G.S.I. For (Beinn) Uluc, in column 3, read Muc. Altanich:-Read -ach. In column 2, delete comma after hair. Add: N. Tolsta, Lewis: - Miss Mary Murray, native. Last column :- cf. clp, creachan. Amhais:-Last column, line 3, after locative, read:—hyphen. Amhan:—Delete altogether. Anaid:—Spell ainmhide and transpose to follow aillean. In column 4, read Aviemore. Column 5, transpose the () to enclose G.S.I. reference, and run on next two lines, adding to column 5: Old Ir. ainner=woman, whereas Welsh anner=heifer (cf. Stokes Ir. Metr. Glosses, p. 40 in Trs. Phil. Soc., pt. 1, 1893). Anail:—Column 3, delete /D. 'N am:—Col. 5, put capitals to Dol and Chaidh (to show stanza-start). Last column, read òsnaich. Aogh:—Column 2, read hind. Column 3, read "B. a' Ghlò," for reason for the "" v. glò below. Column 5, line 4, read "Nom. Sing. a fr." Last column:—cf. boganach, mùsgan, ruadhag, griach.

FICHEAD LEABHAR GAIDHLIG.

Chan eil fada bho thuirt ard-mhaighster sgoile an Innse-Gall, ma is fior an aithris, gun leughadh e fhéin an ceartail na h-uaireach na bha sgrìobhta anns a' Ghàidhlig. Bu e fhéin an gille! Ach, gun amharus, bha e ag leigeil ruith leis fhein; oir, ged a bhiodh a Ghàidhlig fhéin aige (ni nach robh), chumadh Litreachas na Ghàidhlige cagnadh maith nan iomadh bliadhna ris. Chan eil an Litreachas so tomadach an coimeas ri Litreachas Shasuinn, na Frainge, agus na Gearmaillt. Is fìor: ach chan eil an dìleab Gàidhealach, eadar Eire agus Alba, eadar sean agus nodha, idir tàireil ach taisealach, agus prìseil, chan ann a mhain do na Gàidheil, oir fhuair eadhon Coigrich Eorpach seudan luachmhor ann. Agus tha tobar aig na Gàidheil anns an t-seann Litreachas Ghaisgeanta a tha nis air ùr-fhosgladh agus ag toirt ùrachadh càil is fionarachd do luchdealain na Beurla fhéin.

Ach, airson a' ghnothuich a tha romham-sa an diugh, cha bhi mo shùil air an t-seann aimsir fad as airson Fichead Leabhar Gàidhlig. Bha mi ag céilidh air eòlaich còmhla ri Chaucer, am bàrd Sasunnach, agus co a bha anns a' chuideachd ach an t-Oileanach a Ocsford. Is e leughadair dìon a bha ann-san, agus fear a roghnaicheadh "Fichead Leabhar" thar Endach is ceòl. Bha a roghainn fhein aig a ghille fhada, ghlas, so; agus, mar sin, bidh a roghainn fhein aig gach leughadair; agus ged a bhiodh fichead leabhar agam-sa, an Gaidhlig, ri mo laimh, is ceart cho docha nach biodh a seachd aca anns an taghadh aig mo charaid. Oir chan ionnan cail agus chan ionnan àidh. An deidh sin, ge bu e air bith na leabhraichean Gaidhlig a thogadh neach, is maith an taghadh Fichead Leabhar Gaidhlig airson cur-seachad agus buanachd Geamhraidh. An dachaidh bhan, ri taobh beinne, no ri cladach cuain, tu bhriagha leam iad, taobh ri taobh, far am faiceadh suil agus far an ruigeadh lamh.

Co iad na Leabhraichean a chúireas sinn anns an tasgadh bheag so ? Chan eil amharus air bith mun cheud fhear. Is e am Biobull Gaidhlig a cheud leabhar Gaidhlig is fearr a tha againn. Nam biomaid air ar dunadh a mach bho gach leabhar ach a h-aon cha deanadh duine againn mearachd na roghainn. Oir, gun tighinn air luach an Leabhair agus a lanachd, tha a' Ghaidhlig anns an Leabhar ag toirt barr air gach Gaidhlig sgrìobhte. Cha d' teid neach tuathal a rachas airson Gaidhlig ghlan, mar airson oirdhearcas eile, an toir air a' Bhiobull Ghaidhlig. Agus chan eil

Gaidheal nach fhaod am fear so is fhearr a bhi aige air tus. Agus, co-cheangailte ris an roinn so, tha Leabhraichean crabhaidh againn a tha airidh air aite. So agaibh mo roghainn aig an am—ceithir; Leabhar Aithghear nan Ceisd, Leabhar Iain Bhuiniain, Leabhar Dhughaill Bochannan, agus Leabhar Iain Ghobha. Sin a coig. Agus beagan mu na ceithir ud. Theagamh gun can fear is fear nach eil an so ach da leabhar Ghaidhealach. Ag amharc air na h-ughdair, is fior; ach, ged a tha ar daimh mar sin gu sòmhraichte ris na dha mu dheireadh, airson taghadh Gaidhlig cha chunntar càch coimheach. Cha chanar Litreachas ri Leabhar Aithghear nan Ceisd; ach is fior leabhar Gaidhlig e, air eadar theangachadh le Eoin Domhnullach, ministear ainmeil na Toisidheachd, agus prìomhlabhraiche na Gaidhlige na latha fein. Agus tha an leabhar beag so ag nochdadh dhuinne comasan ar cànan air nithean móra, cudthromach, a chur an geill an cainnt shoilleir, liomhta, air a cumadh gu dileas ri gach smuain. Agus, air son saothair Iain Bhuiniain, bu fhallain a' Ghaidhlig a bha aig an eadar-Theangair, an t-Ollamh T. R. Mac Gille-bhra.

Mu an dithis chliu-mhór Dughall Bochannan agus Iain Gobha nach fhaod sinn a radh gum bu daoine beusach, glic, iadsan, agus gu bheil a bhuil air an saothair. Co am measg bhard nan Gaidheal, na raoin fhein, a choimeasar ri Dughall Bochannan: agus na linn fhein co a bha co-ionnan ri Gobha na Hearadh? Their cuid gur e Niall Mac Leoid Gaidheal na naoidheamh linn deug; nan canadh iad a' ghinealach fhein' bu leoir; oir bha Tormod Mac Leoid anns an naoidheamh linn deug agus nach fhaca Eoghann coir Mac Lachlainn an linn cheudna, gun tighinn air aireamh mhór aig a bheil an saothair an clo-bhualadh, chan ann an dubh agus an geal, ach air cridheachan an t-sluaigh ? Cha chan sinn dad ach gu bheil Niall Mac Leoid agus bard eile comhla ris anns an linn ud agus iad le cheile gle ion-mholta.

Airson bardachd, so agaibh an ath choig.
Alasdair, Uilleam Ros, Rob Donn, Niall Mac
Leòid: a leabhar fhein aig gach fear. Cha
mhór nach do chuir mi Niall Mac Leoid air
thoiseach air Rob Donn, ach tha urram na
h-aoise aig an duine do am buin i. Agus, ged
a tha móran am bardachd "a' Chaoidhich aig
an dachaidh" air nach cil bun no barr ach
do na h-eolaich, tha cuibhrionn is cuibhrionn
aig Rob Donn nan rogha-bardachd. Agus, a
ribhisd, chan e gu robh Donnchadh Mac-an-tsaoir air thoiseach air Alasdair Mac Dhomhuili
(oir bha e an nadur an Domhnullaich a bhi

air thoiseach ge bu e taobh an rachadh e) ach tha ni-eigin tairis, caomh, fallain, a bhuineas do ghnè nan daoine Gaidhealach, ann an cridhe bardachd Mhic-an-t-saoir. Tha Leabhar Uilleam Rois, le a bhinneas is a ghrinneas, na aite fein. Agus airson eolas a chur air Rob Donn (tha eagal orm nach robh a shleinneadh fein ag cur dragh mór air an duine gheur-chuiseach, sgaiteach, so l'an duine gheur-chuiseach, s

A bharrachd air bardachd nam fear so,

bu choir gum biodh cuid de na leabhraichean ud againn anns a bheil oidhirpean air an deanamh airson a chùid is fhearr, nan aite fhein, de bhardachd na Gaidhlige a thional eadar da chlar. So agaibh a coig dhiubh. Sar-obair nam Bard, Bardachd Ghaidhlig, Bardachd Clann Domhnuill, An t-Oranaiche, Bardachd Leodhuis. Is cinnteach gum biodh Sar-obair nam Bard agus Bardachd Ghaidhlig anns gach roghainn. An Sar-obair nam Bard cha leabhar a tha againn ach leabhraichean agus sgeulachdan eadar da chlar; agus tha againn anns an Leabhar aig an Ollamh Mac Bhatair roghabardachd de gach seorsa. Airson nan leabhraichean eile ans an aireamh so is leoir gu bheil aireamh a haith ann agus gum bi muinntir ag taghadh a reir an duthchas agus an eolais. Tha leabhar mar Bardachd Leodhuis na uinneag-chuil troimh a bheil sealladh againn air cnuic nach fhaic sinn troimh na h-uinneagan eile. Agus, ag amharc am mach air an uinneig so, is e a chi sinn bard air gach cnoc! Agus, ged a tha moran anns an leabhar so, agus anns gach leabhar de sheorsa, nach togadh ceann ach airson muinntir na sgìre-beag na mor an sgire, tha ann cuideachd roinn a bhuineas chan ann a mhain do Leodhuis ach don Ghaidhealtach-Bardachd fear taobh Loch an Ròg.

Airson Rosg tha a ceithir agam. Caraid nan Gaidheal, Leabhar nan Cnoc, Deirdre, Rosg Gaidhig. Tha caraid nan Gaidheal agus Leabhar nan enoc coltach ri an ughdar fein, coir, fiosrach. Tha Deirdre againn mar chuimhneachan air iomadh sgeula mhor eile an rosg a bha aig na Gaidheil mun do chuir iad eithear a mach a "Caladh Eirionnach airson cladach Albannach. Tha cuid de na sgeulach-dan sin air an lamh aithris anns an t-seann

Ghaidhig. Tha naidheachd Deirdre againn air a lamh aithris cuideachd. Ach bhiodh na sgeulachdan ceudna air am beul-aithris an iomadh tigh agus an seanachaidh air cean a sgoile fein; agus a mach a aon de na sgoilean sin thugadh an sgeulachd so—rosg air a tharruing o bheul-aithris. Tha an leabhar so taitneach le blas Gaidhlig Bharraidh. Anns an leabhar so gaidh an sgeulachd so—rosg air a sa tharruing os Gaidhlig, tha againn saothair iomadh fear an Rosg; agus anns an leabhar so rinn an t-ollamh Mac Bhatair cho maith airson an Rosg agus a rinn e anns an leabhar cile airson na Bardachd. Fa dheoidh, tha agam Carmina Gadelica—fior ullaidh,

Gun teagamh is neonach a' chuideachd a tha againn an so; sgeudaichte am breacan nan cleireach, an clo dubh, am feile beag, an clo Hearach, agus an deise na morachd, ach tha guth na cuideachd so am mac talla na Gaidhige agus iomadh guth eile nach eil anns an Fhichead Leabhar so idir.

PETIT BLANC.

GAELIC DAY AT THE GREENOCK FESTIVAL.

Enthusiasm of Sir Richard Terry, Doc. Mus.

GAELIC SOLOISTS.

On 3rd March two competitions for Gaelic vocalists were held in the Saloon during the afternoon. Sir Richard Terry adjudicated, and was assisted by Mr Calum MacPharlain, Gaelic language assessor.

Eight competitors were forward for the Vocal Solos (female) Class. The test pieces were "Am Faigh a' Ghaidhilg Bas?" and "Soiridh." Sir Richard said the wimer, Miss Bessie Campbell, Ardrishaig, had a clear tone, and had good breathing. She was always on the top of her song. She was always on the top of her song. She was beautifully in tune, and opened her throat well. To his ears her rendering of the second song sounded the genuine article. Miss Flora Macdonald, Greenock, had elasticity of voice. She caressed the rhythm nicely. There was a tendency to vibrate, but she kept the lilt of the first song going well. In the second one she sang very well.

Six male singers competed in the other class, and they had as test pieces, "Oich u agus h-iuraibh eile" and "Mo chailin dileas donn."

^{*} Be so beachd (oghlum alchean foorach air Galdheil Albuan mu be Eire an air-ctuidid mu robh son aca an Albaian. Tha a' mhuintirt sin de'n bheachd mach bu Ghaidheil na hair ann air-ctuidid mu ann air-ctuidid mu ann air-ctuidid mu ann air-ctuidid agus a bha iad do na Breatmanacht a chaidheach do na Gaidheil agus a bha iad do na Breatmanacht ann air-ctuidid agus a bha iad do na Breatmanacht ann air-ctuidid agus a bha iad con air-ctuidid agus cho air-ctuidid agus cho han agus gur ann a bha iad gan amhliachadh ri ac-ctuididh agus cho han agus gur ann a bha iad gan amhliachadh ri ac-ctuididh ach air chuidid agus cho han agus gur ann a bha iad gan amhliachadh ri ac-ctuididh ach air chuidid ann air chuidid ai

The Gaelic assessor emphasised the need for telling the story that the songs contained. The words must be given clearly. Sir Richard agreed, and said he had missed the military measure that one of the songs contained. The winner, Mr. John M'Donald, Glasgow, had a good range of voice. He made an impression upon his listeners. Both his performances were very good. Mr. Neil MacEachnie, Port-Glasgow (second), had an untrained voice, but he had a good sense of rhythm, and he put some passion into the songs. Mr. Iain M. Colquhoun, Glasgow, took the third place in this He gave an intelligent competition. rendering of his song.

Gaelic Music.

The evening session concluded with a competition for Gaelic Mixed Voice Choirs, for which there were two entries. This event gave Sir Richard Terry an opportunity to test the Gaelic-singing strength of the gathering. He led the two choirs, and, exercising his persuasive powers on the audience, got a good response at the chorus parts. The lilt of the song was infectious, and Sir Richard's example of la-la-ing the tune was followed enthusiastically by many, who, like himself, are non-Gaelic speakers. It was a somewhat novel ending to an interesting session. Sir Richard described the pleasure that had been his while adjudicating at the Gaelic competitions in the afternoon, and spoke of the spontaneous way in which members of the audience joined in the chorus of a song he had asked the competitors to sing. He thought the Gaelic section of the Festival could be made one of the finest in the whole programme. They should do the old things under the old conditions. The old song had these qualities that made for success and endurance throughout the centuries.

Sir Richard advised both choirs to improve their vocal technique. They had the real temperament, which was the more important quality, as it could not be acquired by study. He felt sure they would go on improving if they made use of the opportunities given at the Festival of learning how to develop their powers. Both choirs had a wandering tenor. Gaelic Parish Church won because they had the better tone The other choir came from quality. Ardrishaig.

GAELIC FOLK SONGS.

The Gaelic singing at the evening session in the Saloon proved very enjoyable, and the youthful competitors came in for warm praise from Sir Richard Terry.

Mr. Calum MacPharlain, the Gaelic assessor, said the pronunciation was very good, the letter L being delivered in many cases more correctly than by the seniors. He was greatly pleased with what he had heard.

Sir Richard remarked that this experience of Gaelic singing was one of the most interesting he had had at any Festival. He had expressed certain opinions there in the afternoon, and he wished to repeat that these old folk songs should be sung without accompaniment. Following a united rendering of one of the pieces without the piano, Sir Richard added, "To my mind that is the only way to have a folk song sung," a remark which was heartily applauded by the large company present.

Dealing individually with the competitors, the adjudicator said most of the children had got the right lilt. They had the root of the matter in them, and all that was required was a little technique and training. The first among the girls had a good o en tone, and she sang well in tune. Of the boys, the one to gain most marks showed fine temperament, but he had to cultivate his upper register.

RESULTS.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Gaelic—Vocal Solos—Female (A). Test pieces, "Am Faigh a' Ghaidhlig Bas?" (Coisir a' Mhoid) and "Soiridh" (A' Choisir-chiuil). 1, Miss Bessie Campbell, Ardrishaig, 38.76—169; 2, Miss Flora Macdonald, Greenock, 84.84—169; 3, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow, 82-81—163.

Gaelic—Vocal Solos—Male (A). Test pieces, "Oich u agus h-iuraibh eile" (A' Choisir-chiuil) and "Mo chailin dileas donn" (A' Choisir-chiuil). 1, Mr. John M'Donald, Glasgow, 85-80—165; 2, Mr. Neil MacEachnie, Port-Glasgow, 84-79—165; 3, Mr. Iain M. Colquhoun, Glasgow, 81-73—154.

EVENING SESSION.

Gaelic Mixed Voice Choirs (A). Test pieces,
"Oran mor Mhic Leoid" (Coisir a' Mhoid) and "Chi
mi na Mor-beanna" (Coisir a' Mhoid), 1, Gaelic
Parish Church Choir (conductor, Mr. Alex. N.
Nicolson), 163-79—247; 2, Ardrishaig Gaelic Choir
(conductor, Mr. C. R. S. Malcolm), 164-81—245.

Confluctory attr. C. r. S. Raucolm), 164-61—290.
Gaelic—Vocal Solos—Girls (B). Test pieces,
"Thainig an Gille Dubh" (A' Choisi-chiui) and
'Me Roghaim's mo Run' (A' Choisi-chiui). 1,
Miss Annie S. M'Lellan, Greenock, 67-78—165; 2,
Miss Sarah Ann MacDonald, Glasgow, 82-75—157;
5, Miss Morap Robertson, Greenock, 80-69—149.

Gondon-Woods Splos—Rove (B) "Test integes "O

Miss Morag Robertson, Greenock, 90-69-149.
 Gaelic-Voca Slous-Boys (B). Test pieces, "O Gur mis' tha sona dheth" (A' Choisir-chiuil) and "S Fheudar Dhomh Bhi Togail orm" (A' Choisir-chiuil).
 Master Alister Cameron, Port-Glasgow, 97-63-154; Master Nel Rose, Glasgow, 76-66-142; 3, Master Hugh B. Sutherland, Greenock, co. 6., 173.

BRANCH REPORTS.

BUSESSEN.—The monthly meeting of this branch was held in the Public School on the evening of Friday, 20th February. There was a large gathering of members and friends, and some were present from the neighbouring districts. Rev. Neil Machan and the help of the property o

which is in a nourishing condition, concludes the work of the session next month.

DERWAG.—The fortnightly meeting of the Dervaig branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the War Memorial Hall, Derwaig, on Wednesday, 26th February. Rev. Mr. MacRae presided. Mr. Neil Morison gave a paper on "Clann Duilidh, na Piobairean." The musical programme was sustained by Misses Shelia Macintyre, Marie B. Macmillan, Neilina Cowan, Messrs. Neil and Angus Morison and Hugh M'Neil. Agapipe selections were played by Mr. Hugh M'Neil and Mr. Neil

Morison.

Duxoon.—The monthly ceilidh of this branch was held on Friday, 15th March Mr. D. MacDonald, M.A., president, who presided, was supported on the platform by Mr. D. Buie, secretary. An interesting paper by Mr. Miller, "Dunoon Herald Office," was read by Councillor MacFarlane, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Miller. The lecture, which dealt with the making of a newspaper, was which dealt with the making of a newspaper, was been considered to the control of the control to the Commun to Mr. Miller of the artistes of the control of the control

a close by the singing of "Ordiche miath leith."

INTERNATA—The fortnightly meeting a life of the late of the late

ENVERGARY.—The last ceilidh for this session was held in the hall on Wednesday evening, and it was a glorious success. Mr. Macgillivray presided. A very fine programme was gone through, with strict injunction that there were to be no encores. Alas! the items were often so very fine that peace

could be got only by submitting to encores. The first item was pipe selections by Mr. M'Coll, Gaelic songs by Mr. A. Macaskill, sen., English songs by Mrs. Noble, Gaelic songs by M. Mackimon, a reel by four Girl Guides, pipe selections by D. Kennedy, a fine Gaelic story by Conncillor J. Grant, Caselic songs by J. Mackillop, duest (English) by Gaelic song called "Lost in the Mists". Then two very fine recitations were given by Mr. Hector was a selection of the Mists" of the Mists of the Mists of the Mists of the Mists of the Macdonald in great style. We hope next session he will give us them in Gaelic. Mr. Jim Macaskill sang a Gaelic song. Mr. G. Moss gave selections on the pipes. Then Messrs. Kennedy, Mackillop, and the pipes. Then Messrs. Kennedy, Mackillop, song, and Messrs. Maclean, Grant, and Macgillivric gave fine rousing selections on the violin. They have played at every ceilidh this session, and their untiring energy has helped the success of the untiring energia has helped the success of the untiring energia h

KILIM.—Under the auspiese of An Comund Gaidhealach, a concert of Gaelic and English anga was held in Killin Public Hall. Rev. G. W. Mackay, president of the local branch, presided over a crowded audience. The concert was conducted under the baton of Mr. Hugh. Mr. Lean, singing instructor of An Comunn Gaidhealach, who has been holding classes during the past few weeks. The senior and junior choirs rendered a number of songs in a tastedul manner, including test pieces for the Provincial Mod to be held in Aberfeldy in June. Duets were given by Misses M Indyre and M Naugh. Duets were given by Misses M Indyre and M Naugh. Mr. J. M. Flariane, J. M. Tilly M. M. Flariane, and L. King, and Messrs. M.Laren, M. Flariane, Morrell, J. M. Tilly M. M. Flariane, Morrell, and Cameron. Strathspeys were rendered by Miss Stewart and Mr. D. M. Diarmid. Mr. Ian Graham gave a humorous recitation. At the close, Rev. Mr. Mackay proposed a general vote of thanks to the Concert Committee, the accompanist, and the choirs and their instructor, Mr. M.Lean. The total drawings amounted to 522.

KIMALIE.—A ceilidh was held in the Gordon Smith Cameron Hall on the evening of 13th February. Rev. R. B. Crawford presided over a large attendance. He was supported on the platform by Rev. A. Macdiarmid, Messrs. Doig, Corpseh; Maeleyd, Erracht, D. Cumming, Banavie; Alian MacDonald, Tocastie, Lechlan Macdonald, MacDonald, Tocastie, Lechlan Macdonald, Macdiarmid, Betured on St. Columba, and Miss Macleod, Erracht, on the national bard, Robert Burns. Both lecturers maritained the interest of the audience throughout, and the lectures were greatly appreciated. Mr. Lachlan Macdonald and Mr. Alian Macdonald Mr. Lachlan Macdonald and Mr. Alian Macdonald with selections on the piob-mhor, and Messra. John with selections on the piob-mhor, and Messra. John Wilson and George MacLean on the violin, Mr.

Hugh Macdonald also gave an exhibition dancehlighland Fling. Songs were rendered by Mrs. Mackenzie, Corpach; Mrs. Macmaster, Banavie; Misses Macalpine, Macintyre, Kennedy, Macdonell, Messrs. Livingstone, Doig, Thomson, J. Micdonald, and D. Maclean. On the call of the president, a hearty vote of thanks was given to the artistes, while Mr. Allan Macdonell moved a vote of thanks to the President. The singing of the National Anthem brought a successful ceilidh to a close.

LOCHABER.—The heaviest snowfall of the season did not deter the Rev. T. S. MacPherson, vice-president of An Comunn Gaidhealach, from his journey to lecture to a gathering of this branch. The President, who was in the chair, offered a hearty welcome, which was warmly responded to by the audience, who followed with great interest the subject chosen, "The Life and Work of Dr. Norman MacLeod" (Caraid nan Gaidheal)—fondly remembered by his countrymen not only for his talents, but for the warmth of his heart and indefatigable labours on their behalf. When cholera devastated his flock at Campsie, he was fearless in its midst, and both the Scottish and Irish Gaels, drawn there in search of work, found in him a true and staunch friend. His labours for education in the Highlands were brought to mind. The Gaelic school books, then a rarity, gave an impetus to the literary know-ledge of the language. Pupils of the schools he was the means of founding were taught to read and write Gaelic correctly before the State took education in the Highlands under its control. The lecturer was familiar with many pithy aneedotes and numerous sallies not generally known of the great man whose life he described, which were thoroughly enjoyed by his hearers. At the close the Rev. Mr. MacPherson did not fail to remind his audience of their duty as Gaels at the coming election of Education Authorities. He trusted that all would exercise their votes, and not fail to impress upon candidates their wish for firm support for Gaelic teaching, and determination to see that the law of the land on that subject was put into

Oasa.—The annual meeting of this branch of An Comunn was held in the County Hotel, Ohan, on Tuesday evening. Mr. T. D. MacDonald, the president presided. The secretary and treasurer's reports were submitted. They showed balances in favour of the ordinary account of £12 So 94, after paying £1 2s to meet the deficit on last year's Provincial Mod. The office-bearers and members of Committee for the existing year. In addition, the contract of the contract of the paying £1 2s to meet the deficit on last year's provincial Mod. The office-bearers and members of Committee for the existing year. In addition, the contract of the paying £1 2s to meet the deficit on the paying the paying £1 2s to meet the deficit on the paying £1 2s to meet the pay

PORT ELLEN.-Under the auspices of the Port Ellen branch, a ceilidh was held in the Public School on the evening of Friday, 13th February. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Macdougall (late of Kilbride), who has been appointed president of the local branch of An Comunn, and who is untiring in support of things Highland. The accompaniments were played throughout the evening by Mrs. Brown, Post Office House, Port Ellen, who was made the recipient of a handsome Bible and Hymnary in appreciation of her valuable services to the Comun. The gift was handed over by Mr. D. Maclachlan, The Schoolhouse, Port Ellen, who spoke of Mrs. Brown's good services as accompanist. Mr. John Macdougall, president, suitably replied on behalf of Mrs. Brown. After the Chairman's behalf of Mrs. Brown. After the Chairman's remarks, bagpipe selections were rendered by Mr. Alastat Logan; Gaelic susses of the Chairman's Alastat Logan; Gaelic susses of the Chairman A Gaelic reading was given by Mr. Duncan Campbell; pianoforte and violin selections by Miss C. M'Gibbon and Mr. Don. Macintyre, and English songs by Mr. Angus. After a vote of thanks to the artistes and accompanist, proposed by the president, had been responded to, Mr. Maclachlan congratulated the executive of An Comunn for having been so fortunate as to secure the services of Mr. Angus, Temperance Hotel, as singing teacher for senior and junior choirs until such time as Mr. Maclean

TOBERMONY.—On Wednesday night, 18th February, in the Higher Grade School, this branch held their usual fortnightly meeting. There was a large gathering of members and friends, and a most interesting and enjoyable evening was spent with song and story. The programme was arranged by Mr. Hector Maclean, vice-president of the branch, who was the lecturer for the evening. Taking as his subject "Blar Traigh Gruineaird," where the Maclean gave an interesting and instructive address on the events that led up to the doings of that fateful day in the history of Mull. The lecture was very much enjoyed.—At the meeting of the branch on Wednesday, 4th March, an interesting paper on the "Mull Bards" was given by Mr. C. R. Morison, Dervaig, Mr. Morison has made this subject a life-long study, and there are few to-day better fitted to speak on the history of Mull on its life and its bards. Rev. H. Cameron, of Oban Parish Church, but the state of the control of the cont

ULVA FERRY.—Meetings of the local branch of An Comunn have been held fortnightly in Ulva Ferry School during the winter. Mr. Alister Macdonald, Lagganulva, presided at last meeting. Mr. D. N. MacColl, the teacher, read a hummorous Gaelic stetch, and Mr. Macdonald also read a short Gaelic piecs. By special request, the latter samp of the control of t



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Leabhar XX.]

An Céitein, 1925.

Earrann 8

PIOBAIREACHD AN BHOGHA FROIS.

Is aluinn an sealladh a gheibh thu an uair a sheasas tu aig Slochd nam Piobairean, air bil Creag na Hó am Boraraig anns an Eilean Sgiathanach. Than Uidhist is na Hearradh air fànas a' chuain an iar; agus mu thuath chi thu mu d'choinneamh An Airdmhór is Eilean Iasaidh. An ear ort that Caisteal Dhunbheagain, gu daingean liath air carraig; agus dlùth air sin chi thu coig dùin le aon chuairt de do shuil, eadhon Dùn Thàlunn, Dùnbheagain, Dùn Osdail, Dùn Chailboist is Dùn Bhoraraig. dheas tha beanntan a' Chuilinn a' gearradh nan spèur. Shonruich Clann Mhicruimein an t-ionad ud a chum gum biodh sealladh fradharcach agus sgrìob fharsuing fa chomhair nam piobairean an am a bhi a' cluich. Cha robh ballachan seòmar ri bhi air an samhlachadh ri sealladh air creag is cuan, air beinn is iarmailt.

"Chan eil sealladh mo dhà shùl agamsa; agus o nach eil bhithinn ann ad chomain nan cluicheadh tu dhomh air a' phìob cuid de na dathan a tha cho taitneach, aréir coltais, do'n t-sùil."

Is ann mar sin a labhair Iain Dall ri a charaid Pàdruig Og, is iad le chéile an Slochd nam Plobairean. Bha iad a' teannadh ri crìch an cuid foghlum anns a' cheòl mhór. Bha iad aona bliadhain deug an Oil-thigh Mhicruinnein, far am b'abhaist foghlumaichean am pailteas a bhi a' tighinn a dh'ionnsachadh na pìobaireachd.

"Tha eagal orm nach urrainn mise sin a dheanamh a charaid chaoimh," fhreagair Pàdruig Og. "An aon phort a dh'fheuch mise riamh de'n t-seòrsa sin is e aithris air

torman an uisge a' tuiteam aig Coire-aneasain.

"Is fior dhuit sin a laochain," arsa Iain Dall. "Tha port Choire-an-easan cho tìorail is gun cuir e sàruchadh air falbh o neach a tha sglth. Anns an t-seadh sin gu dearbh tha e a' ciùineachadh ar buaireis mar a chiùinicheas torman nan allt cluas an fhir-shiubhail.

Bha Iain Dall aig àirde chuimsich a thaobh dealbh a phearsa. Bha aghaidh gu tana gun a bheag de dhath an deirg. Bha a chuid fuilt ciabhach donn, a' tuiteam dlùth air a ghuailean mar a bha an cleachdadh anns an am ud. Ach bha e dall o'n bhroinn, ged a shaoileadh neach gu robh fhradharc 'na shùilean a bha dorcha agus ceannsgalach. Air an laimh eile bha Pàdruig Og Macruimein àrd foghainteach 'na dhealbh. Bha a shùilean glasa agus 'fholt bàn, eucoltach ris a' mhór chuid de a chinneadh, oir b'e gnàths an teaghlaich ud a bhi dorcha am folt is an eugas.

"An cuala tu féin riamh," fhreagair Pàdruig Og, "mu neach air bith a chuireadh dathan an ceòl?"

"Chuala gun teagamh," thubhairt am fear eile. "Tha e air innse dhuinn gun cluicheadh an Clàrsair Dall dol fodha na gréine air a' chlàrsaich. Bha a fhradharc aige san an uair a bha e òg, agus mar sin cha b'ionann e is neach a rugadh dall mar a ta mise. Bha èolas is comas a' chlàrsair cuideachd cho eagnaidh is gun tug e dùlan do Mhac Talla a bhi a' deanamh aithris phoncail air luaths a chuid meur."

Is ann a fhreagar Pàdruig Og le guth dùrachdach "Ciod e do bheachd, Iain, mas e is gun cluicheadh an Clàrsair Dall dol

fodha na gréine air clàrsaich, am b'urrainn neach an gorm an àird nan speur, an dearg an tòs na maidne, agus am buidhe mar an t-òr air neòil an fheasgair a chluich air a'

phiobinhóir.

Ghabh Iain Dall iongantas air leth an uair a chuala e an iomaguin is an dùrachd leis an d'fhaighneachd am fear eile a' cheist. Cha robh fios no amharus aige air an aobhar mu'n robh Pàdruig Og cho cùramach anns

a' ghnothuch.

Thuit fras de uisge an t-samhraidh, an uair a bha an dithis oganach a' fàgail Slochd nam Pìobairean. Dh'innis Pàdruig Og do a charaid gu robh bogha frois òirdhearc air a lùbadh anns an iarmailt, oir bha a' ghrian a' dealradh. Is minic a chuala an dall mu'n bhogha frois le a sheachd dathan; agus b'e a dhùrachd riamh o thàinig cuimhne dha gun cluinneadh e air a' phìob ceòl àraidh a bheireadh smuain d'a inntinn mu mhaise nan dathan. Bha a chluas air leth geur mar is tric a thachair do na doill. Agus bha am beachd ud 'na chridhe, gum bu chòir gun aithnicheadh an dall le a chluais, troimh cheòl, a' mhaise a bha muinntir eile a' faicinn le an sùilean. Sheòl Pàdruig Og do'n dall an ceàrn de an iarmailt anns an robh am bogha frois. Thug an dall dheth a chòmhdach-cinn gu h-iriosal, agus thionndaidh e ris an àird sin de'n speur. An uair sin féin bha uiseag a' ceilearadh os an cionn, agus bhuail Iain Dall a dhà bhois ri chéile le gàirdeachas. Ars' esan, "Sud maise a' bhogha frois an òran na h-uiseig.

An làrach nam bonn thòisich an dall air port piobaireachd a dhealbh mar aithris air ceilearadh an eòin; oir bha e cinnteach gun tugadh port de an ghnè sin lethbhreac firinneach do an chluais mu'n mhaise nach b'urrainn a shùilean féin fhaicinn. Chrìochnuich an dall am port, agus chluich e an ceòl gu mineadach an lathair na cuideachda a bha an Sgoil Chiùil Bhoraraig. Theireadh an dall gum b'e ainm a' phuirt, "Am Bogha Frois." Ach theireadh na piobairean eile gur e bha ann ach "Cath Gailbheach nan Eun''; agus theirear "An Cath Gailbheach" ris a' phort a nuas gus an latha an diugh.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in the Palace Hotel, Edinburgh, on Friday, 17th April. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. Angus Robertson, through indisposition, the Rev. G. W. MacKay, M.A., Killin, ex-President, presided.

The following members were present:—
The Lady Helen Tod, Dunkeld; Mrs.
Christison, Glasgow; Mrs. Colquhoun,
Glasgow; Mrs. MacDonald of Dunach; Sir
Norman Lamont of Kneckdow; Messrs. J.
R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Thos. G. Bannerman, Glasgow; Charles Campbell, Glasgow;
Hugh F. Campbell, Dornoch; John J.
Currie, Kilnnelford; Alex. Fraser, Yoker,
Peter MacIntyre, Glasgow; John MacLellan, Greenock; Malcolm MacLeod,
Glasgow; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; H. S.
Shield, Edinburgh; Robert Macfarlane,
C.A., Treasurer, and Neil Shaw, Secretary.

A gratifying increase in membership fees was reported by the Finance Committee. This was due to the splendid response to the appeal for increased membership made last year. The Committee recommended that An Comunn should recognise local Mods by offering books, certificates, or other prizes as might be deemed desirable. The minutes

were approved.

Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Glasgow, reported on behalf of the Education Committee that the deputation appointed at the last meeting of the Executive had met the General Council of the Educational Institute of Scotland, who received them very cordially. They took the opportunity of thanking the teachers for the interest they had taken in the teaching of Gaelic, and they also thanked the Institute for the very friendly attitude adopted towards them in their professional journal. The help given by the teachers' representatives when the Act of 1918 was going through the House of Commons was cordially acknowledged. Mr. Macleod referred to the desirability of approaching the Scottish Education Department with a request that the wording of the code should be brought more into line with the Act of 1918, which required that adequate provision should be made for the teaching of Gaelic in the Gaelic-speaking areas. code stated that "in each school in a Gaelic-speaking area reasonable provision must be made for the teaching of Gaelic to Gaelic-speaking children." They believed that Education Authorities took a broad view of their powers under that clause, but they thought that it would be better that the wording of the code should be brought more into conformity with the intentions of the Act. They thought that the Executive should authorise the Secretary to approach the Scottish Education Department with the

suggestion that the wording of the code should be altered in that direction. They also thought that the Department should be asked to report specially on the teaching of Gaelic in Sutherlandshire. They were afraid that the beginning which had been made in Sutherlandshire was not of so substantial a character as they should like, and they thought that it would be a more satisfactory way of getting at the facts of the situation if a report were sent to the Department by one of their local inspectors.

The meeting approved of these suggestions.

The Propaganda Committee reported that Mr. Hugh MacLean, singing master, had been employed in Perthshire for three months, and was now in Islay. It had been arranged to hold the Sutherland Provincial Mod at Tongue early in September, and Mr. Hugh MacLean was to proceed there in May for the purpose of preparing competitors and choirs for the Mod.

The minute of the Mod and Music Committee reported good progress with the National Mod arrangements. The Executive approved of the Committee's recommendation to accept the offer of the Paisley Highlanders' Association to provide prizes for the singing of an original Gaelic song and tune, published or unpublished, both made within the last ten years, not necessarily by the same person. A new literary competition for pupils attending secondary and intermediate schools was accepted. Prizes for this competition are being provided by Mr. Duncan MacLeod of Skeabost.

Permission was granted Mr. Donn Piatt, Dublin, to transliterate into Irish Gaelic six specified songs from "Coisir a' Mhoid."

Mr. Neil Orr raised the question of the standard of Gaelic demanded of those who form 50 per cent. of choirs competing for the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield. After some discussion, it was remitted to the Mod and Music Committee to consider the matter and report.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod reported that the Feill Committee desired that Mr. Shaw should act as secretary, and the Executive approved.

On the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, the Executive resolved to place on record their sympathy with the President in his illness, and their best wishes for a rapid and complete recovery.

The date of next meeting was fixed for 11th July at Porth, with power to the President and Secretary to alter the date to the 4th if the 11th clashed with the Pan-Celtic Congress.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

DOMHNULL MACLEOID.

By Angus Macleod, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., Rector of Oban High School.

Part II.

Cho luath sa b'urrainn da, choisich triath Chlann Ra'il dh'ionnsuidh a' Phrionnsa, agus spàrr e air cabhag a dheanamh, oir thuig e gu'n robh na naimhdean dealasach. Bha e nise faisg air ceithir-la-deug an déigh latha Chuil-lodair, is bha'n Cuan Sgith air ealadh le luingeas bheaga is mhóra a' sireadh a' Phrionnsa.

'Nuair a thainig an oidhche, mata, chuir an da an d-ochdramhach gu sàil agus rinn iad an cùrsa air Eilean Sgalpaidh, far an robh caraid do Dhòmhnull MacLeòid a chòmhnuidh. B' es o Dòmhnull Caimbeul, agus ged bha e féin agus a chuideachd air taobh an rìgh, bha earbsa aig fear-iùil a' Phrionnsa ann, agus 'se dh'fhaodadh. Chuir Dòmhnull 'sa bhean, fàilt air na h-allabanaich, agus thug iad aoidheachd choibhneil 'nan tigh dhoibh.

Air an ath latha, dh'fhàg Dòmhnull MacLeòid am Prionnsa 's a thriùir chompanaich air cùram a charaid, agus sheòl e féin leis an sgìoba ann an eathar a' Chaimbculaich gu Loch Steòrnabhaigh.

Chunnaic Dòmhnull bàta freagarrach agus rinn e cùmhnant ris an sgiobair, fear Mac-Amhlaidh, airson turus-cuain gu ruige Arcaimh. (Chuir e fios air ball gu Teàrlach gu'n do shoirbhich leis.) Bha muinntir Steòrnabhaigh eòlach gu leòir air Dòmhnull, 's cha do chuireadh umhail sam bith air e 'bhi 'g iarraidh soithich, oir cha b'e so a' cheud uair a rinn e cùmhnant ri maraichean a' bhaile. Ach tha e coltach gu'n do thuit facal air choir-eigin (am feasgar sin fhein) bho bheul Dhomhnuill, a chuir MacAmhlaidh air 'fhaiceal: co-dhiùbh dhiult e seòladh. Thairg Dòmhnull am bata 'cheannach, agus dh'aontaich MacAmhlaidh. Sgitheanach gu'n robh nise gach cùis air dòigh, ach cha chuireadh MacAmhlaidh fhein, an sgiobair, cas air bòrd, agus cha'n fhalbhadh an sgioba as aonais. Dòmhnull bochd mar a thàinig e.

Théid sinn a nise air ais gu Eilean Sgalpaidh, far na dh'fhàg sinn am Prionnsa. Cha do dh'innseadh do Dhomhnull Caimbeul cò bh'air aoidheachd aige, ach cha b'fhada gus an d'fhuair e soillearachd. Aon la, an déigh do Dhòmhnull MacLeòid seòladh, thàinig buidheann air tìr 'san eilean, 's an t-Urramach Amhlaidh MacAmhlaidh air an ceann. Leig iad ris do'n Chaimbeulach cò bh'aige, agus dh'fhéuch iad ri Dòmhnull a bhrosnuchadh gu Teàrlach a ghlacadh. Ma's flor an sgéul, cha robh an t-Urr. Amhlaidh idir di-chuimhneach air an duais. Dhiult Dòmhnull còir làmh a chur 'san obair so; an àite sin 's ann a thug e rabhadh do Theàrlach, agus b'fhéudar do MhacAmhlaidh dol dhachaidh falamh. Nochd an ionnsuidh so do'n Phrionnsa cho dlùth 'sa bha'n cunnart, agus bha e ro-thoilichte, mar sin, nuair a fhuair e teachdaireachd Dhòmhnuill 'Ic Leòid. Bha e'n dùil gu'n robh an t-slighe nise fosgailt dha. Thill Ailean Dòmhnullach a dh' Uidhist, agus sheòl Teàrlach 's an dithis Eireannach suas Loch Sithphort chum an t-shlighe 'ghiorrachadh gu Steòrnabhagh. 'Se oidhche fhliuch, dhorcha a thuit orra; chaidh iad air seacharan 'dol troimh mhòinteach nan Loch, 's cha robh sin duilich dhoibh. 'S ann sgìth, airsneulach, mata, a thug iad a mach Airinnis air taobh deas Loch Steòrnabhaigh, far na choinnich Dòmhnull MacLeòid iad. Fhuair iad aoidheachd bho bhantrach MhicCoinnich, an tigh Chill-dùin. (Tha làrach an tighe so ri faicinn fhathast an Airinnis. Feudaidh sibh marbhrann air fear Chill-duin, a léughadh an Sàr-Obair nam Bàrd; sgrìobhadh an iorram le Sachairi MacAmhlaidh.) Thill Dòmh'l gu Steòrnabhagh gus oidhirp eile dheanamh air soitheach fhaotainn, ach bha nise am baile 'na ùpraid, oir bha sanas aig a mhaor bho mhinisteir nan Loch, gu'n robh am Prionnsa 'san eilean. Chaidh an ceòl air feadh na fidhle; bha uirsgeul troimh 'n bhaile gu'n robh Teàrlach air teachd le còig ceud saighdear a chreachadh an àite. Cha b'e fàilte chaomh a chuireadh air Dòmhnull MacLeòid, mata, nuair a thill e do Steòrnabhagh, ach cha tug e boineid a nuas dhoibh. "Caite," ars' esan, "am faigheadh am Prionnsa còig ceud, no aon cheud, 'san t-suidheachadh 's a bheil e? Tha e gun teagamh, 'san eilean, ach cha'n eil còmhla ris ach dithis. Aig a cheart am, ged a bhitheadh 'ur ceannard, Sìthphort fhéin, an làthair, cha ghabhadh e air làmh a chur am broilleach a' Phrionnsa.'' Ach cha robh math a bhi cònnspaid riutha; cha robh iad ag iarraidh dochann sam bith do'n Phrionnsa, ach e a mhàin e a thoirt a chasan leis a mach as an crìochan.

Dh'aidich Dòmhnull MacLeòid an dèidh so, nach b'urrainn dha coire fhaighinn do Chlann Te Choinnich. Nan robh iad naimhdeil do Theàrlach, no sanntach gu duais a chosnadh, bha e furasda gu leòir a ghlacadh. Bha iad fo òrdugh an uachdarain fuireach aig an tigh, 's gun chuideachadh sam bith a dheanamh leis a' Phrionnsa. Cha ruig sinn a leas mòr umhail a ghabhail airson sin: dh'fhuiling Clann 'Ie Choinnich mòran air los bliadhna Sheumais, deich bliadhna Sheumais, deich bliadhna 'san Fheang. 'cheannaire sin, agus chaith Sithport fhèin deich bliadhna 'san Fhraing.

Feudaidh sinn aobhar eile 'nochdadh airson bàta a dhiultadh do Dhòmhnull MacLeòid an là ud. Bha long chogaidh a seòladh glé fhaisg air a' bhaile, agus bha fhios aca nach robh peanas ri sheachnadh.

Nach fhaod sinn mar an céudna lethsgeul clann Amhlaidh a ghabhail. Bha móran a tuath 'sa deas de'n bharail gu'n stáidhicheadh na Stiùbhartaich an creideamh Ròmanach nam faigheadh iad an cothrom, agus cò their gu'n robh iad meallta? Co-dhiùbh féumaidh sinn a chùis fhàgail mar sin, ged a bhitheas amharus gu bràth air MacAmhlaidh, agus air a mhac, gu'n robh

sannt an òir ga'm buaireadh.

Thachair tubaist eile an Steòrnabhagh. Bha naigheachd uamhasach air siubhal a nise air obair bhorb, anacneasda, nan saighdearan, agus b'u bheag an t-iongnadh ged dh'fhàs sgioba Dhòmhnuill meata. Dhiult dithis diubh seòladh maille ris. 'S ann glé bhrònach, mata, a thill Dòmhnull gu Airinnis a dh'innseadh do'n Phrionnsa mar a thachair. Ciod a nise? An stiùradh iad gu tuath a dh'fheuchain air Arcaimh, no'n deanadh iad oidhirp air ruighinn tir-mór? Cha'n aontaicheadh an sgioba ri aon chuid de'n dà chuid; cha robh an aimsir freagarrach, cha robh aca ach eathar beag, fosgailt, agus cha robh dol as, nan deaneadh long chogaidh orra fada bho thir. B'fhéudar, mata, tionndadh a deas gu Beinne-a'-Bhaoghala, an dearbh rathad a thàinig iad. 'S ann iomaguineach, éudòchasach, a sheòl Teàrlach moch maduinn Chéitein (an 6 mh la de'n mhios). Bha'n tòir air anns gach àite; bha bàtaichean le saighdearan anns gach caolas is loch, 's bha buidheanan feachd-dùthcha 'ga shireadh thall 's a bhos. Cha b'fhada gus an dh'fhuair iad dearbhadh air cho teann 's bha'n lion mu'n tiomchioll. Mach ma Rudha na Càbaig chunnacas siùil àrda longchogaidh, ach gu fortanach, cha tug i toighe

do'n na h-Allabanaich. Chum Dòmhnull ri cois an fhearainn agus fhuair e seachad air luchd na faire, ach bha e soilleir nach b'urrainn dhoibh leantainn air an cùrsa. Rinn iad, uime sin, air Eilean Iubhard, eilean fàsail air am b'àbhaist do iasgairean sgìre nan Loch a bhi tioramachadh éisg. Bha'n t-iasg so ro fhéumail do bhuidhean Theàrlaich fad nan ceithir latha a b'fhéudar dhoibh fanntuinn air an eilean, ann am bothagan beaga, gun dion 's gun chomhfhurtachd. 'S ann truagh a bha'n staid, ach cha robh duine 'sa chuideachd bu chridheile na'm Prionnsa fhein, ged a bha siùil nan luingeas-chogaidh fa'n comhair gach latha. Air a' cheathramh là, chaidh gach seòl á fianuis, agus chuir na fògaraich cùl ri Iubhard. Bha Teàrlach Og rodheònach air taing a thoirt do Dhòmhnuill Caimbeul, fear taca Scalpaidh, airson a choibhneis, agus air an aobhar sin, rinn iad cùrsa air an eilean sin. Cho luath 'sa ràinig iad cladach Sgalpaidh, mhothaich iad do choigrich nach do chòrd riutha, agus b'fhéudar scòladh gun dàil. Na'm bitheadh fhios aca mar bha cùisean cha robh iad air stad idir. Bha MacAmhlaidh air craobhsgaoileadh an uirsgeul air aoidheachd a' Chaimbeulaich do'n Phrionnsa, agus thug Dòmhnull còir a cheann fodha.

Sios mu Sgalpaidh, thuit an oidhche dhoibh, agus bha i cho fiathach 's gu'm b'fhéudar na raimh a chur a mach. Dh'iomair iad fad na h-oidche, oir cha'n fhaodadh iad éirigh na gréine fhaicinn fada bho thir, ach am béul an làtha thus soirbheas na maidne anail dhoibh, 's b'fheunach oirr' iad. Bha iad fann le sgios is acras, 's cha robh de'n bhiadh air bòrd ach beagan mine. B'e 'n lòn-maidne an la ud, stapag—min air a fliuchadh le sàl, agus ghabh am Prionnsa a chuid fhéin, ged nach fhaca e riamh a' leithid.

Còrsachadh ri slios na h-Earadh, dhearc long chogaidh air an eathar agus as a déigh gu'n d'thug l. Sgith, claoidhte 's mar a bhà iad, b'fhéudar na raimh a chur a mach; cha robh an soirbheas sgairteil aig an am, 's bha an t-eathar a' toirt dùbhlan do'n luing. Lean an réis fada, 's ged a bha an stapag gu math, bha sgioba Teàrlaich an impis bhi toirt suas, mu'n do ràinig iad Roghadal. Stiùir Dòmhnull an so an t-eathar a steach do'n uisge thana, far nach nach robh an long mhòr comasach an leantainn, agus fa dheòigh, b'fhéudar dhith cur ma'n cuairt mu'n deanadh sgeirean na h-Earadh ceann-cirlehe dith.

'S ann gu Beinne-Bhaòghala a rùnaich

Teàrlach a dhol, an dòchas ri cobhair ann an dùthaich Chlann Ra'il. Deas mu fhearran Uidhist, cho dlùth ri cladach 'sa b'urrainn da, stiùir Dòmhnull MacLeòid. sealladh air dà long-chogaidh, a bha air acair am béul Loch-nam-Madadh, plosgadh 'nan cridhe. Mach leis na raimh a rithist a chuideachadh an t-siùil. Gu fàbharach dhoibhsan cha d'thug na naimhdean an aire dhoibh; bha'n sgioba nise cho fann's nach seasadh iad ri réis eile. An ath mhaduinn chaidh iad air tìr an eilean beag ann an Loch Uisgemhath, agus a sin gu Roisinnis, far an do chuir iad seachad trì laithean ann an àirigh bhig nach cumadh móran dion orra nuair a thigeadh an tuil, agus 'se fìor dhroch aimsir a thuit orra aig an am so. Bha iad beò air partain, agus beagan éisg is eun a mharbh iad; bu mhath an t-annlan an t-acras.

Chuireadh teachdaire gu Clann Ra'il, agus thàinig am flath e fhéin is Niall MacEachainn le biadh is aodach—'s gu dearbh b'fhéumach am Prionnsa air leasachadh. Cho-dhùin iad gu'm b'e tigh Néill àite bu tearuinnt a bha ri' fhaighinn, oir bha an taca aige-san, an Coradal, am an gleann cumhang, far nach tigeadh nàmhaid gun fhios doibh. Ghabh Teàrlach agus a chompanaich a choiseachd gu ruige Coradal, fichead mìle air astar, am feadh a bha Dómhnull MacLeòid leis an sgioba a' seòladh, agus ràinig iad uile Coradal gun thubaist.

Bha nise am Prionnsa sàbhailt is socrach. car greis co-dhiùbh, agus mhiannaich e naigheachd air na càirdean a bh'air an sgapadh là Chùil-lodair, agus litrichean a chur thuca. Cò an teachdaire cunbhalach a rachadh air ceann-turuis cho cudthromach, co ach an t-sùil-dhìlis, Dòmhnull MacLeòid? Sin mar a thug am fear-iùil sgrìob eile thairis air a Mhaoile gu ruige Mùideirt. Dh'fhag e an t-eathar an so air cùram a mhic, agus thòisich e air sìreadh nan càirdean, gu h-aràidh triath Chloinn Chamshroin, Lochiall gaisgeil, fear a dh'fhuiling gu dòrainneach air sgàth Thearlaich, 's a dh'fhan dìleas nuair a chlaon iomadh fear. Cha robh daoine air choillteireachd furasda lorg, ach bha Dòmhnull easgaidh, dìchiollach, agus mu dheireadh, threòraicheadh e gu ceann Loch Arcaig, far an robh an Camshronach còir is am Moirreach, rùnaire Theàrlaich, am folach. Bha suim mhór airgid a thàinig as an Fhraing air a cur an tasgaidh an àit-eigin mu Loch Arcaig, 's cha'n eil fhios gus an is 'n diugh ciod a thachair dith.

(Ri leantainn.)

'S TROM TIAMHAIDH MO CHRIDHE.

(Leis an LIGHICHE MACLACHAINN).

From Miss A. C. WHYTE'S Mod Collection.

KRY A. Beating twice in the measure, slowly.

 $\begin{cases} : \; s_i \mid s_i \; : \; l_i \; : \; d \mid d \; : \; - \; : \; d \mid r \; : \; - \; : \; d \mid l_i \; : \; s_i \; : \; f_i \mid s_i : - \end{cases} \\ \text{Strom tiamhaidh} \quad \text{mo} \quad \text{chridhe} \qquad \text{ag} \qquad \text{imeachd troimh-e} \quad \text{'n ghleann,} \\ \begin{cases} : \; s_i \mid l_i \; : \; s_i \; : \; l_i \mid d \; : \; - \; : \; d \mid r \; : \; m \; : \; f \mid s \; : \; f \; : \; m \mid r : - \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} : \; s_i \mid l_i \; : \; s_i \; : \; l_i \mid d \; : \; - \; : \; d \mid r \; : \; m \; s_i \; : \; f \mid s_i \; : \; s_i \; :$

Chan fhaic mi ann duine, ach cluinnidh mi'n Gall

A' sgriachail r'a chuilein air a' mhullach ud thall ; Is chi mi na caoraich 's muilt mhaola nach gann An àite nan curaidh 's nan cruinneagan donn-

Cha chluinn mi 's chan fhaic mi na b'aithne

dhomh uair, Ach na cnocan 's na h-easan 's na creagan ud

shuas; Bu chaomh leam an sealladh, aon choileach air

Ged a b'eiginn domh 'bhreabadh, cha bu bheag orm an cù.

Ag ionndrainn nam feara, a' cheatharna chòir, A bheireadh dhomh cuireadh le furan gun ghò; Cha chluinn mi 's chan fhaic mi na fleasgaichean òg,

'Dol cruinn air an achadh le'n camain 'nan dòrn, 'S iad a chuireadh an iomain 'sa leanadh i teann;

Cho luath ri buic earba feadh gharbhlaich nam beann—

A bhuaileadh na buillean gu curanta, cruaidh,

A' comh-strith ri chéile gun bhréine, gun ghruaim.

Am sònraicht' de'n oidhche 'n uair rachadh iad cruinn

Bu shunndach 's bu chridheil an fhidheall a' seinn;

Na gruagaichean teisteil 's na fleasgaichean treun

A' dannsadh gu h-innealt 's ri mireag gun

Tha mise 'n so 'm ònrachd ag imeachd troimh 'n ghleann,

n ghleann, Mo shùil air an fhàsach le làraichean lom;

B'e 'n t-ioghnadh nan cinneadh mo chridhe cho fuar

'S nach tigeadh a' mhuinntir am chuimhne 'san uair.

THE SOUL OF THE CELTIC RACE.

By Campbell of Saddell, F.S.A. (Scot.), J.P.
The Captain of Saddell Castle.

Staunch to a friend, but bitter to a foe, Old wrongs, old slights, old hates, Like a fire of peats at the heart aglow Ready to break into flame at Vengeance Breath Such is the soul of the Celtic Race.

A depth of feeling, the world knows not, A restless soul with a longing heart, Thoughts too deep for words or tears, A smile may hide the sorrow of years Such is the soul of the Celtic Race.

For me that has sprung from the Celtic Race Their riddle of Life I can easy trace, Of an ancient race on a new world cast Striving against Tradition's Past,

Such is the soul of the Celtic Race.

BI-LINGUAL SONGS IN HIGHLAND POETRY.

Of these there are not many. There are, of course, quite a number of English, and some foreign words, and even lines, that found their way into Gaelic poetry, in Ireland and Scotland, from time to time. This is especially true as regards the works of the great Jacobite bard, Alexander MacDonald. There was, however, at one time a disposition to compose a song occasionally containing more or less line about in Gaelic and English.

In Gillies' Collection (1786) one appears, the first verse of which we reproduce. It was composed on the occasion of a wedding, and proposes the toast of the young couple.

"Brave lads be merry,
Le feadaran 's le gràdh,
Most willing atà 'm,
Le aighear gu leòr;
As I'm a sinner
I cannot bhi m' thàmh,

While tha'n cipan 'na n' làmh,
Cuir tuilleadh 's an stòp;
Come toast the lass, fill the glass,
Cuir mu'n seach cumant' e,
Here's a health do gach neach
Ged bhiodh seachd urad ann;
To the new couple that's buckled an dràsd,
Làmh air làmh 's am fuaran nam pòg.''

To the same air, William Ross, the sweet singer of Gairloch, composed his famous "Advice to Young Maidens."

"Ye bonny young virgins,
Ge sgiobalt 'ur céum,
Be careful gu'n tréig
Sibh 'n fhéill so gun dàil,
For though ye be handsome,
'S ge meachair 'ur béul,
'S for nonsense gun chéill
Mur réitich sibh tràth;
For old age is a béist,
'S bidh gach gne choire dhi,
'Cur dihm-buaidh air an t-snuadh,
'S cha bhi uair loinneil di;
Therefore don t tarry,
But marry gu luath,
Mu 's bi sibh gu truagh

"For beauty is fading
Gun stad ach air sgéith,
Mar aiteal de 'n ghréin
Air éudann nan àrd;
And though you have riches
Gur tubaist' gun chéill,
Mur tuig sibh 'ur féum
Air an fhéill so 'na thràth;
When you want you'll repent,
But they sha'n't marry you;
Their gach bean tha i sean,
'S cha toir fear aire dhi;
'S bidh sibhse gu dubhach
Ri cumha 's ri caoidh,
Is liunn-dubh fo thuinn
A chaoidh ga nar cnàmh.

'Dol am buar mar is àill.

"Nach chis ghràin agus mì-thoirt
Seann nighean gun agiamh
'Na brìogaid gun mhiagh,
'S nach iarrar a pòg;
Bidh h-addann air casadh,
'S a falt air fàs liath;
Bidh com-char 'na sioin;
When she'll whine and repine
Cha bhi loinn tuilleadh dhi;
Not a kiss a gheibh is';
She'll be meas cumanta,

Gun chéile gun leannan, Gun teallaich gun tuar, 'Na seasg-chaillich thruagh, Fo smuairean 's fo bhron,

"The lily the fairest
By far of the flowers,
Ge moiteil a mhùirn
Cha mhair e ach geàrr,
And the beautiful rose
Of most glorious hue,
Tha 'shnuadh 'dol a mùgh
Seach bruthainn a' Mhàigh;

Sud mar 's nòs do gach òigh Tha gach lò seanachadh, Gus an caill iad an geall, 'S nach e 'n t' am teannadh riu';

'N uair threigeas a' mhaise,
'S a sguireas an loinn,
'Bhi 'g acain a chaoidh
Nach d' rinn iad e tràth.''

An echo of the same principle occurs in the following few verses composed on the occasion of the Grant Raid on Elgin, in the year 1820, the history of which is well known. We quote from "Glenmore."

- When the Chief of Grant abroad did rant, Bha féum air gaisgich Ghàidhealach, Gu dhol air ball air feadh nan Gall A chumail ceart na meirleach.
- "With bonnets blue and hearts so true, Rim iadsan Eilginn a sguabadh, 'S na Gaill gu dlùth ruith anns gach cùil, Gun toil gun sùrd gu bualadh.
- "The River Spey will sconer dry
 B' fhusa 'n Càrngorm a thionndadh,
 Na iadsan buaidh thoirt air an t-sluagh
 Tha shuas an glac nam beanntan.
- "Now here adieu! Miss Grant to you, Do dheagh dheoch slàint 's a' Ghàidhlig; 'S mu bhios féum air daoine Shrathspé, Cha thréig iad thù 's cha'n fhàilling."

Some forty years ago or so the following was a particular favourite along Glemmore district and the Central Highlands generally. It is the composition of a Mr. D. Campbell, Merchant, Kingussie, whose father was the author of that well-known and deservedly popular song, "Duanag a' Chiobair." The words appeared in "The Gael" during the year 1872, and the chorus is understood to be old. It should be sung to the air of "The Laird of Cockpen." It is known by the name of "Bàlla Ghlinn-Truim."

- "Yesterday evening 's an fheasgar an raoir, We marched away to Bàlla Ghlinntruim; We couldna get lassies cha rachadh iad leinn,
 - And going without them bu mhuladach sinn.
- "When we arrived gu'n d'fhuair sinn hò-ré, They all enquired, 'Nach d'thug thu leat
 - 'We're better without them,' 'se fhreagair
 - But never let on nach fhaighinn a h-aon.
- "And when we entered an rum 's an robh
 - The lasses were dressed anns na fasanan Galld':
 - With white muslin frocks agus crotaibh 'na 'n ceann,
 - They would cheer up your heart ged a bhiodh tu fann.
- "With gum-flowers and ribbons gur iad a bha briagh",
- All trimmed in the fashion nach fhaca mi riamh;
- With hoops in their skirts 's ann annta bha'n liad;
- They thought nach robh'n leithid ri'm faicinn, ma's fhior.
- "When the dancing commenced cha robh iad cho gann,
 - And you would get plenty a rachadh a dhanns';
 - The house was so crowded, 's bha'n t-ùrlar cho trang;
 - You never saw leithid de rabble 's a
- "The butler then went leis an toddy mu'n cuairt;
 - When they got the whisky 's ann aca bha'n fhuaim;
- The lads were with lasses ri barganan cruaidh,
- And I went to listen an taice ri'n cluais.
- "The wind was hard blowing an sabhal
- Ghlinntruim; The candles were dripping a mhàn air ar
- druim;
 They painted our coats gun fhaireachadh
 dhuinn.
- If we stayed at home cha d'éirich sud dhuinn!

"It was four o'clock, 's i mhaduinn a bh'ann,

We started for home anns a choach aig a' Ghall;

When we reached Cinn-a'-Ghiùbhsaich gu'n deach' mi na ghleann, Regretting the loss bhi gun chadal 's an

Regretting the loss bhi gun chadal 's an

Refrain:

"Ho! ro! cha bhi mi ga d' chaoidh ni 's mò, Ma thréig thu mi regrettidh mi thù; Ma thilleas tu fhathasd 's tu m'aighear 's

mo rùn,
'S perhaps I will marry you 's t-Earrach
co-dhiùbh.''

That delightful little publication by Murdoch MacLean, entitled "Songs of a Roving Celt," contains one interesting effusion of the class herein under review. The words are:—

"To sing thy praises would I try, Cha bhàrd mi gu mo ghràdh a sheinn; 'Na m' aonar 's mi an so leam fhéin, So distant from the Isle of Skye.

"But though the waves are raging white,
Is muir nan tonn ag éirigh àrd,
'Cur eadar mise is mo ghràdh;
To thee my fancy takes its flight.

"And hours like fleeting moments speed,
"N uair smaoinicheas mi air do thlachd;
Ged bhiodh mo chridh' fo bhròn 's fo
smachd.

What other balm could sufferer need?

"Skilled in poetic art were I,
Air té do chliù gu'n togainn fonn;
Ach 's àrd na beanntan 's fuar an tonn,
Between me and the Isle of Skye."

Simple as these effusions may appear, it requires considerable fluency in both Gaelic and English to construct them.

GLEANNACH.

THE HIGHLANDS AND THEIR NEEDS.

Your March issue contained a notice of the deputations of influential gentlemen who have this year, once again, approached the Government seeking to obtain increased facilities by steamer and rail to meet the wants of the Highlands, and more especially in their western parts. Desirable as such conveniences undoubtedly are, these improvements hardly constitute the true means of relieving the present unfavourable and age-old drawbacks to Highland life.

Nor can the expense of these services, even with prohibitive rates by rail and sea, be met by the districts themselves, but fall eventually on subsidies granted by the central Government, an irritating and humiliating state of affairs which is more than ever undesirable in the present condition of Britain.

Railway rates and steamer freights must independently of high wages and costs, so long as the Western Highlands only receive imports of commodities and export so very little to pay return fares, steamers and trains alike returning south to so large an extent empty.

The late Lochiel spent his life in the development of West Highland traffic especially by rail, hoping that the wealth of the south would in large measure fertilise a barren country. Some further traffic did indeed result, and sporting rents increased to some ten times their value as a richer and different class succeeded Richard Scrope and the class of sportsmen he represented and popularised. Some benefit accrued, but the scale of expenditure suitable to commercial millionaires accorded ill with the conditions of a frugal people, and accentuated the differences between affluence and scarcity. The sporting season (as well as the tourist one) became crystallized into two months of the year, leaving the other ten more palpably deserted and unproductive than ever, and so adding to the discontent. A fine statue on Fort William green records the gratitude of Lochaber to the late Lochiel and their affection towards his memory, but in his late years this fine chief keenly felt that all his labours had effected but a small fraction of the benefits to his district which his kindly disposition had sought to confer.

It is probable that Sir James MacDonald (the Marcellus of the Isles), living in the latter half of the eighteenth century, was on sounder and more up-to-date lines in the objects he sought so long ago to effect.

His proposals were to introduce "arts and industries" into the Highlands, and during his short life he repeatedly spoke of the difficulty of such an installation in a country "where there were none."

At the time of the Land League, and of a greater land hunger, when small holdings were regarded as the unfailing panacea for discontent, another capable Highlander was accustomed to speak of this craze as an imaginary one.

According to Lachlan MacDonald of Skeabost, "what the Highlander really needs is employment and wages"; and in thus speaking he was really repeating the creed ef Sir James MacDonald of Sleat and the Isles. When the impracticable suggestion was made, Skeabost replied: "A railway would never pay in Skye, even though every sheep in the island took a first-class ticket!"

It may not be at once evident what industries are practicable in the Highlands to supplement cattle and sheep raising and fishing, and to provide the means of paying for the sea and land transport by providing exports.

So long as the Highlands possess steep gradients and a superabundant rainfall, they contain the means of installing mills driven by water power, which are impossible in other parts of Britain, where cheaper power is essential to compete with dearer coal.

Nor is fresh-water power the only one available. Our numerous land-locked inlets on our coasts, however small, are suitable when dammed to utilise the power of the tides, which inventors have already found the means to harness at small as well as prodigious expense.

One such invention is designed by Mr. J. G. Thomson, 13 London Street, Edinburgh, and is at least deserving of experiment.

Such water power can be turned to any purpose, and in small factories as well as thuge one in progress at Fort William. The power gives the means of drying as well as compressing peat, which has proved too costly to effect in a kiln, and such peats have been already put in the market at Oban, but at a price which hardly renders them a cheaper fuel than coal.

A perennially useful application of power exists in the fixation of nitrogen from the air and the production of nitrates for fertilizers and other purposes. This purpose is naturally available on any site whatever.

As a smaller utility, oysters were formerly plentiful in Skye and elsewhere, but have been pouched and scraped bare to extinction in many places. A revival of this industry was promised by the Fishery Board for a considerable time, but the writer was informed this year by the Scottish Department that the proposal had been turned down on the score of expense, a very small expense limited to renewal of oyster beds and conservance.

Forestry is an industry, favoured by even excessive rainfall as well as by proximity to

sea transport, which only inexperience seeks to belittle and discourage.

When a spendthrift or unfortunate landlord obtains £10,000 for the woods planted perhaps by his grandfather, he has no doubt about the benefits of forestry, nor have those of his neighbours who receive payment by his windfall.

Ah! but, it is said, once the timber is cut there is a wait of 40 or 80 years till it again

With scientific forestry, there is plantation every year, and also an annual crop, while the work on the woods is continual, and affords at least ten times the employment per square mile as do sheep runs.

Neither is it reasonable for a people who pay doles during idleness to cavil at the slow results of forest industry, while the pay for no labour at all.

Indeed, the present unemployment has led the Government to call on the Forestry Commission to enlarge its operations as some help to combating the evils of the dole. The above are mere hints at possibilities of true Highland development, and have been laid before the Scottish Office this year.

The objects of "An Gàidheal" are, indeed, more literary, musical, and artistic than they are industrial, but successful industry, which would bring employment and content to the Highlands, would retain a disappearing Celtic people on the land to continue the use of the language, song, and art, which form the soul of a nation.

MARTIN MARTIN.

KINTYRE MOD.

The second Kintyre Mod was held in the Town Hall, Campbeltown, on Friday, 3rd April. The increase in the numbers both of entries and competitors as compared with those of the first Mod held in January, 1924, shows that the Provincial Mod only needs a beginning to become a conspicuous event in the musical life of a community. At last year's Mod there were only 18 entries and 12 competitors, and most of these had to be beaten up and coaxed to come forward. This year, without any canvassing at all, the entries had increased to 79, and the competitors to 45. Perhaps the most gratifying feature of all was the increases in the Junior Classes for Gaelic Singing and Reading. It had been originally intended to hold the Mod in the evening, but owing to the large number of entries the competitions had to

be taken in two sessions, the Junior Singing in the afternoon and the remaining classes in the evening. There was a good attendance of the public in the afternoon to hear the youngsters, and in the evening, when the main competitions came on, the Town Hall was packed to its utmost capacity by an audience, the bulk of whom, it was obvious, either understood or spoke Gaelic. The Mod Committee had been fortunate in securing the services as adjudicators of Mr. Neil Shaw, Secretary of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and Miss Jennie Given, A.R.C.M., Glasgow. No more judicious selection could have been made. A heartless adjudicator, or even a caustic or cynical one, can do no end of harm by criticisms which damp enthusiasm and discourage effort. In the Provincial Mod Movement, what is wanted are praise for what has been done, even though it may fall short of an ideal standard, and guidance and help for what still remains to be accomplished. The adjudicators at the Kintyre Mod fulfilled these two conditions to the letter. Their observations and hints to singers and readers were an admirable combination of criticism, encouragement, and counsel, valuable in themselves, and an incentive, alike to winners and losers, not to relax effort, but to work on, so that the next Mod may better what was best in the present one. Both adjudicators had many complimentary things to say of the singing and the reading, the efforts of the boys and girls in particular coming in for a special word of praise. Miss Given's remark in adjudicating the Junior Singing, that she had never heard more unforced voices at any of the Mods she attended, and Mr. Shaw's confession that the high standard of Gaelic attained was far beyond his expectations, were especially pleasing. There were 10 classes in all, and 26 prizes. In the Junior Classes, both for reading and singing, the children from Rhunahaorine School, 18 miles from Campbeltown, carried off 11 prizes out of a possible 14: several important prizes went to the village of Southend, 10 miles from Campbeltown; and Campbeltown itself won the remainder. It is probable that the success of the country districts, notably of Rhunahaorine, will be a stimulus to other districts in the peninsula to train children for next year's Mod. The hope of the language lies with the young. Anything which arouses their interest in it, and helps them to exhibit its beauties in speech or song, cannot be too highly commended.

Shcriff J. Macmaster Campbell, O.B.E., Honorary President of the Campbeltown Branch, presided, and both he and the Acting President, the Rev. B. B. Blackwood, in the course of their addresses, emphasised the importance of the cultivation of that sporting spirit which makes the losers rejoice in the success of the winners. and urged those who failed not to lose heart or give up hope or effort, but to remember

" Victor from vanquished issues at the last, And overthrower from being overthrown."

PRIZE LIST.

Class I.—Men. Gaelic Songs (5 entries). Possible marks—Gaelic 80, music 80—160. First prize, Mr. Archibald M Callum, Southend; marks—Gaelic 76, music 77—153. Second prize, Mr. Alex. M Kechnie,

music r/--105. Second prize, BIT. Alex. M Recume, Jura; marks--Gaelic 76, music 69--145. Class II.—Women. Gaelic Songs (4 entries). Possible marks--Gaelic 80, music 80--160. First prize, Miss Barbara M (Conachy, Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown; marks--Gaelic 70, music 73--143. Second prize, Miss Helen M'Murchy, Rhunahaorine;

marks—Gaelic 75, music 67—142. Class III.—Boys and Girls. Gaelic Song (13 entries). First prize, Rose M'Conachie, Rhunahaorine. Second prize, Duncan C. Stalker, Castlepark, Campbeltown. Third prize, Rose Livingstone, Rhunahaorine School. Fourth prize, Barbara

Smart, Rhunahaorine School.
Class IV.—Men. Celtic Song in English. No

Class V.—Women. Celtic Song in English (4 entries). Possible marks, 30. First prize, Mrs. Brown, Machribeg; marks, 75. Second prize, Miss Jean M'Intyre, Eagle Park, Campbeltown; marks,

Class VI.—Boys and Girls. Celtic Songs in English (21 entries). First prize, Margaret Coffield, Gayfield Place, Campbeltown (Dalintober School). teayneid Piace, Campbeltown (Dalintober School), Second prize, Arthur Muir, Rhunahaorine School. Third prize, Alistair Massie, Rhunahaorine School. Fourth prize, Euphemia M'Innes, Mill Street, Campbeltown (Dalintober School). Class VII.-Seniors and Juniors. Gaelic Sight Reading (4 entries). First prize, Mr. Alexander M'Kechnie, Jura. Second prize, Miss Marion Falconer, Eagle Park, Campbeltown. Class VIII.-Seniors. Gaelic Memor. Positistics.

Falconer, Eagle Park, Campoetsown.
Class VIII.—Seniors, Gaelic Memory Recitation
(5 entries). First prize, Miss Jessie M'Laren, The
Manse, Southend. Second prize, Miss Susie B.
M'Donald, Killocraw, Bellochantuy.

Class IX .- Juniors. Gaelic Memory Recitation (8 entries). First prize, Margaret Mitchell, Rhuna-haorine School. Second prize, Isa M'Donald, Rhunahaorine School.

Class X.—Seniors. Gaelic Bible Reading (8 entries). Possible marks, 40. First prize, Mr. Donald Galbrath, Killean Place, Campbeltown; marks 39. Second prize, Miss Marion Falconer, Eagle Parky, Campbeltown; marks 37.

Eagle Park, compositions; marks 57.

Class XI.—Juniors. Gaelic Bible Reading (7 entries). Possible marks, 40. First prize, Rose Mitchell, Rhunahaorine School; marks 38. Second prize, Isa M'Donald, Rhunahaorine School; marks 37. Third prize (equal). Ellen M'Sporran, Saddell Street, Campbeltown, and Margaret Mitchell, Phumahaorine School; marks 46. Rhunahaorine School; marks 36,

COMPETITION IN CELTIC DESIGN. No. 3.

Prize, £1.



The subject for competition is reproduced from Block 489 of the "Early Christian Monuments of Scotland," kindly lent by the Society of Antiquaries. It represents a cross-slab found at Govan, the original being 61 feet high. Competition drawings should be 5 times the scale of the block-that is, nearly 1 the size of the original. The stone has been defaced in part by having some letters cut into it at a later date. In reconstructing the design this part should, of course, be restored to its original form, and the pattern at the foot of the slab completed. Competitors should aim, in this, as in all other cases, at a reconstruction which will show what they suppose to have been the real intention of the designer regardless of any blemishes in the workmanship of the original, while remembering that mathematical accuracy is not necessarily good

Competitors must forward their designs to Miss Violet Wood, 16 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh, to arrive not later than 31st May. March Competition.—The judges regret that only one drawing was sent in for competition. They were unable to award the prize, as the work failed to conform to one of the most important canons of all Celtic Art., viz., that the pattern must be complete within the panel, and must not run into, or be cut off by the border. (See "Elements of Celtic Art," p. 18.)

"Elements of Celtic Art," p. 13.)
The purpose of these competitions is, firstly, to encourage study of the principles of construction of Celtic Design, and secondly, to familiarise competitors and others with the deeper and more abstract qualities of the art to an extent that will enable them to appreciate and enjoy the work of their forefathers.

[Rules for the competition can be had from the Secretary on receipt of a post card.]

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Tha an t-am a' teannadh cirm anns am teum ullachadh ionlan a dheanadh fa chomhar nam Modan Duthchail, agus is math a bhi a' cluinntinn gu bheil sunnd agus surd air gach neach riu. Bha a' cheud Mhod air a' bhliadhna so am baile Cheann-loch agus is foor mhath a fhuaireadh muinntir Chinntire. Thug iad bhrr ann an seadh no dha air muinntir aitean eile aig am bheil cothroman conaltraidh moran na's fhearr. Rinn an luchd-teagaisg gu math agus bha bhlàth 'sa bhuil. Far am bheil luchd-stiuraidh dealasach tha buannachd an cois na h-oidheirpe.

A large committee is working enthusiastically in Greenock to make this year's Mod a record success. Two senior choirs are in regular practice locally, and a few junior choirs are also preparing. So far as my, information goes, about nine senior choirs in all are practising the prescribed songs. This almost ensures a record attendance of choirs, and as each contains many soloists a large entry in this section may be looked for.

Another competition, sponsored by Mr. Duncan MacLeod of Skeabost is to be added to the syllabus. This competition is intended for pupils of all ages attending secondary schools. Under the syllabus rules, all persons competing in the junior section must be under 1b years of age, arthis new literary competition will allow of pupils over 16 to compete. Handsome book prizes are offered, and an earnest appeal is being made to headmasters to give the necessary facilities for study.

Throughout the winter months a Gaelic class was conducted in Ormidale House each Friday evening. The attendance was very encouraging, and the results quite satisfactory. The Rev. Mr. Ferguson, Minard, conducted Gaelic classes there throughout

last session, and his kindly help was much appreciated by the members of the branch.

Signal success attended the Gaelic classes held under the auspices of the Glasgow High School Ceilidh. The meeting place was the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, an hour before the Saturday evening Ceilidh. A pleasing feature was the attendance, 32 students enrolling in October, of whom 28 attended regularly throughout. Both beginners and intermediates showed marked interest in the work. The teachers were Miss Lucy Cameron, Mr. Duncan MacCallum, and Mr. William MacDonald

The attention of soloists is directed to the report of the Executive Council meeting on another page. The new competition, for which we cordially thank the Directors of the Paisley Highlanders' Association, is worthy of the support of our many competitors. They should at once set about procuring new songs to new melodies, and get written guarantees that the songs and melodies are the genuine products of the last decade.

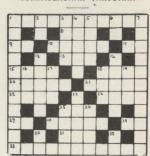
I have much pleasure in directing the attention of readers to the advertisement on the front page of the cover. The sgeulachd has been written by a well-known Gaelic writer, and a free copy is sent with this number. I hope all our readers will peruse it carefully, and have a title ready when the next intimation appears

NIALL.

OBITUARY.

Died at Melbourne, on 23rd February, 1925, Alex. MacDonald, late secretary, Comunn nan Gaidheal, Victoria, Australia. Born at Boraray, North Uist, 1886

TOIMHSEACHAN TARSUINN.



Tarsuinn.

- 1. Bha fear autrom 's 24. Cuir 'a' ri 18 sios (air ais). fear gruamach.
- 8. S.R.I. 25. Sean doigh air sgrìo-bhadh 'òr' (air 9. Is tioram bonnach
- gun è. 10. Iargain. 27. Cruinne.
- Toiseach an là.
 Maslach. 28. Ainm mnà (Biob). 29. An deidh na
- 15. Eilean. h-oidhche. 18. Cuir as.
- 31. Sgith, gun chasan 20. Le chéile. (air ais). '. . . d'an ainm an 33. Seòrsa rainich. ceò.''

Sios.

- 1. Mathas feart. 16. Tighinn air aghart.
- 2. Dath. 17. Eòin, le litir goirid.
- 18. Sleuchd (air ais).
- 3. E fhéin.
- 4. Corruich. 19. Air son chaorach. 23. Mach.
- 5. An cuan-
- 6. Cronaich. 25. Sin.
- 7. A bhuineas do Thir 26. Thubhairt.
- nam Beann. 30. Geodha.
- 12. Guanag. 14. Bean t'athar. 32. Ràth (goirid).

Tha sinn a' cur an leabhair "An t-Oranaiche" gu Iain MacDhòmhnaill, A.M., Steòrnabhagh, agus an Urra. Iain Mac-an-Aba, Sgiobnais, aig nach robh aon mhearachd.

So fuasgladlı aır Toimbseachain mu dheireadlı:—TARSUNN-I., Comunn j. 6, Euaran j. 2, Abair, 14, Droma; 15, Raon; 16, Lag; 18, Ciad; 19, Sir; 20, Lucas; 22, Diu; 23, Ar; 24, Muc; 25, Ion; 27, Li; 28, Dubh; 20, Spal; 33, Oli; 32, Soc; 27, Li; 38, Dubh; 20, Spal; 33, Oli; 32, Soc; 34, Mo; 44, Mo; 45, Ora; 47, Magan; 49, Cab; 50, Laib; 52, Run; 53, Caor; 54, Dalta; 56, Diola; 57, Ablach; 58, Ciaran, Stos—I., Cartan; 2, Obair; 3, Maor; 4, Uin; 5, N.R.; 7, Ud; 8, Arc; 9, Roid; 10, Amal; 11, Naduir; 15, Bac; 16, Luch; 17, Gais; 20, Lab; 21, Soc); 24, Muice; 25, Nasag; 28, Dlo; 20, Lab; 23, Scolda; 53, Aon; 55, Khir; 37, Oban; 38, Ron; 53, Scolda; 53, Aon; 55, Khir; 37, Oban; 38, Ron; Gus; 49, Lower, 18, Lower, 18, Lower, 19, Lower, 19 So fuasgladh an Toimhseachain mu dheireadh:-56, Di.

NAIDHEACHD A MELBOURNE.

Bha céilidh a' mhiosa a' dol air a h-aghart gu cridheil. Bha Tearlach MacFhionghain, Daibhidh Ros, Alasdair Stiùbhart, Dòmhnull Stiùbhart MacColla (an lighiche ainmeil) agus Uilleam Friseal a Baile Inbhir Nis (duine annasach-oir tha a' Ghàidhlig aige) a' cumail seanchais agus sgeòil a' sruthadh, agus bha caileagan agus fleasgaich a' togail nan òran. B'ann aig Donnchadh MacRath a Meallan Tearlaich a bha a' phìob mhór. Is ann air a ghualainn

deis a chluicheas e i. Ach gun fhios againn an toiseach ciamar thàinig e, ghrad bha suaimhneas ciùin thairis oirnn. Bha ar n-aire air a glacadh agus bha sinn ag éisdeachd 'nar tosd. Bha bantrach uasal, og a' seinn. Shuidh i 'nar measgbha balach beag, mu dhà bhliadhna de aois,

'na chadal air a h-uchd.

Thàinig do ar n-ionnsuigh cuimhne air balach eile. Bha e 'na ghille dealasach, tagaidh. Chunnaic sinn e an uair a dh'fhàg e srath a bhreith an Siorramachd Rois. Chaidh sinn maille ris do an bhaile mhór an uair a ghabh e anns an arm. Dh'fhairich sinn aon uair eile an fhuil a' ruith gu bras 'nar cuislibh. Thuig sinn aigneadh beothail an laoich òig an latha sin-agus thuig ar cridheachan anns na laithean deireannach e.

. . . B'e gaisgeach Omdurman, Eachann MacDhòmhnuill, a bha romhainn, oir b'e Eachann a b'ainm do an bhalach bheag so a bha 'na chadal an gàirdeanan a mhàthar-B'ise nighean mac piuthar athar do an t-saighdear mhór.

IAIN MACALASDAIR MOFFATT-PENDER. BOOK BEVIEWS.

GUTH NA BLIADHNA, An t-Earrach, 1925 This Gaelic quarterly maintains in the present number its high literary standard as well as its handsome appearance in its new form. The leading article is entitled "Taigh nan Compach." The article opens with a reference to Petarch, the Italian poet of the fourteenth century, and his appreciation of the life of silence and solitude. A return to habits of inwardness marked the approach of the Renaissance in Italy. The writer traces a similarity between the mediæval culture of North Italy and those of the Scottish and Irish Gaels of the same era. Then follows an excellent Gaelic satire by Aonghas og Mac-Aonghais of Morar. A piece of Gaelic prose under the title "Oidheam," by Mr. Donald Sinclair, is very haunting. It is prose-poetry, the work of one who has manifestly a perfect mastery of the type of diction suited to his purpose, and who has also the taste to choose a line of treatment which is always subtle in its appeal. Mr. Neil Shaw contributes a skilfully constructed song, "Mo Run Chailin," to be sung to the old air of "Crodh Chailein." The Hon, R. Erskine writes a Gaelic article on the law of property among the Celts, and compares and contrasts the quality of these Celtic laws with other forms of ancient jurisprudence.

EVERYDAY LIFE ON AN OLD HIGHLAND FARM, 1769-1782. By J. F. Grant. 280 pp. 9 inches by 6 inches. Longmans. Price, 12/6 net.

Miss J. F. Grant has produced a book which is MISS J. F. Grant has produced a book which is recognised as being unique in Scotland. The skeleton of the volume, so to speak, is a business ledger kept by a gentleman farmer in the farm Dunachton on the Spey, four miles north-east of Kingussie. The record was throughly kept, and gives us an excellent view of prices and farming methods and conditions shortly before the era of big sheep-runs began to make havoc of agriculture in the Highlands. The bare record itself would be interesting to any one who had an intelligent eye for the state of our Highlands a century and a half for the state of our Highlands a century and a half ago—for the old account book is typical of this class of farm. But Miss J. F. Grant is manifestly a trained political economist, and has managed to put the ledger in a proper economic setting. The favourable introduction by a learned professor of political economy is a guarantee that the work awitten on modern scientific lines. But Miss Grant is also a patriotic lover of the Highlands, and the old romantic times. She has made not only the farming operations assume an attractive form, but she has cast at the same time a glamour over the see has cast at the same time a glamour over the former customs and life of the people when the population of the glens was still numerous. All this makes a valuable contribution to social history. The mere study of local and personal names occurring in the record may indicate the way in which traditions are preserved among the peasantry. The book is well worth possessing. The printing and binding are done in first class style.

The Romantic Story of the Highland Garb and the Tartan. By J. G. Mackay, M.B. E., J.P., Portree. 10½ inches by 6½ inches, 208 pp. Price, Two Guineas. Published by Mr. Eneas Mackay, Stirling

Connected with the appearance of this beautiful book there is one melancholy circumstance—that the author should have passed away when the volume was about to be published. The late Mr. Mackay brought to the performance of his task a life-long acquaintance with the subject, a keen interest in the garb and the tartan, and a fine intellect equipped with all the knowledge that history can give on this romantic theme. The author made himself familiar with the evidence which bears on the antiquity of the Highland garb; and he has arranged the the Highland gar); and ne has arranged the evidence in a manner that should convince any mind which is not unduly warped by prejudice. The story is traced from the early stages to the time when the garb was utilised as a military dress. The glory of the garment culminates in the Great War, and the volume is dedicated to the memory of the many who have dyed the checks of the tartan with their life's blood in defence of civilization and liberty. There are many new things in the sections which treat of the history of the tartan. It was probably an early interest in the whole question that moved the author to choose the tartan trade as his calling for some years. We feel that no description could be more fitting than his own words: "On one count of more many than its own words: On one occasion, while getting up a book of patterns, I started to arrange them in the order of the map, beginning at the north. That did not please me; so

I thought they would look better placed by the arrangement of designs. To my surprise I found that I had unconsciously placed them by their families. I then proceeded to arrange them so, and found that all the bigger septs were each designed from the one parent pattern. . . . Here, then, I had made an important discovery—the old clan tartans were not a haphazard affair after all, that tarrains were not a naphazard aniar acter about a beautifully designed system of clan heraldry."
This principle is illustrated by nine superb plates in facsimile colour of nine distinct tartans of the Clan Donald. The book is an edition de luxe—the paper is rich, the workmanship is very fine. paper is rich, the workmanship is very inne. As regards the coloured plates, we believe that nothing to equal them, on a Highland subject, has been produced in this generation. There is an appendix by Lieut. Colonel Norman Macleod, C.M.G., D.S.O. dealing with the kill in the Great War. The Colonel shows conclusively the superiority of the kill in war from three points of view:—(1) The health in war from three points of view:—(1) The health of the troops; (2) usefulness and comfort of design; (3) effect on "morale." "Taking it all over, if I had to go through the war again I would certainly choose the kilt in preference to any other dress."

A PRONOUNCING AND ETYMOLOGICAL DICTIONARY OF THE GAELIC LANGUAGE. Gaelic-English, English-Gaelic. 16 + 613 pp. By Malcolm Maclennan, D.D. Published by John Grant, Edinburgh. Price, 30/- net.

This new dictionary supplies a need that has been felt for some years, especially by modern students of the language in schools and colleges. The phonetic pronunciation is a great help to the learner. The etymological side is a vast aid to the academic student. In many instances the ancient and middle Gaelic forms of words, as well as cognate Welsh forms, are given. Brought into immediate contrast with the living words, these older forms furnish the linguistic history of a term at one glance. We feel that this new feature imparts a subtle freshness to the book. Numerous words have been included from the literature of modern Gaelic. A considerable number of terms which are current in the spoken language, but which are not recorded in other dictionaries, have also been incorporated It is estimated that the new volume contains 13,000 words more than are given in Macbain, and about 10,000 more than are found in Macalpine's twelfth and last edition

Works in English, Irish, French, German, and Danish, dealing with Celtic, have been laid under contribution. The influence of Old Norse has been taken into account, as well as the indebtedness of

Celtic to Latin and Greek.

There can be no doubt but this new volume is the most up-to-date of its kind. It deserves a hearty welcome from all Gaels. The printing, paper, and general appearance are attractive. Acknowledgment is made in the preface of help rendered by a group of Gaelic scholars. Special reference is made to the personal interest which Professor Watson took in the work, and to the generous way in which he put his expert knowledge at the service of the editor.

BRANCH REPORTS.

Benderlock.-The local branch of the Commun wound up their session by holding a ceilidh in the Victory Hall, on 27th March, in aid of the West Highland Cottage Hospital, Oban. Rev. J. A. MacCormick, president of the branch, occupied the

chair. In an able Gaelic speech, he explained the deserving object for which the entertainment was got up. The committee were fortunate in securing the services of such noted singers as Miss Mary Campbell and Mr. Charles MacColl, both Mod gold medallists, ably supported by Miss Irene MacCowan, Oban; Captain J. D. Macpherson, Messrs. D. Macdonald, D. Macmillan, and I. Macdonald. Bagpipe selections were played by Piper J. Scoular. The accompaniments for the singers were tastefully played by Mrs. Macpherson and Misses MacCowan and MacCormick.

DERVAIG.—On Friday, 27th March, a social evening was held in the War Memorial Hall, Dervaig, under the auspices of the Dervaig Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Rev. Martin Macrae presided. The chief item on the programme was a presentation to Mr. John MacCallum, Tobermory, by the members of the Dervaig Music Class. Mr. MacCallum held a singing class in Dervaig School during the spring and summer of last year, with great success, and the members of the class and other friends in the district, in appreciation of the services so kindly rendered them, presented him with an Aladdin lamp, suitably inscribed. During an interval on the programme, and after tea, Rev. Mr. Macrae called upon Mr. Neil Morison to speak on behalf of the class. Mr. MacCallum, in his reply, spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to be of help to his Dervaig friends, and said he would always look back with happy remembrance on the evenings he spent with them teaching them their own beautiful songs. Rev. Mr. Macrae thanked Mr. MacCallum for the services he had given to the

FERINTOSH.—There was a good attendance at the ceilidh on Thursday, 16th April, when Mr. D. Urquhart presided. A good programme was sustained by Misses W. Urquhart (Gaelic songs) and sustained by assess w. Urqunart (wache songs) and J Montgomery (Scottish songs), Messrs, John Fraser (English and Scottish songs), Messrs, John Mackinnon (Gaelic songs), Duncan Macdonald (Gaelic song, humorous), and Miss J. Macdonald (Gaelic song, humorous), and Miss J. Macdonald the statefully rendered by Machon Control of the Statefully rendered by Machon Control of the Mr. D. Urquhart gave a story. All the performers were cordially received and heartily thanked for their contributions towards a very pleasant evening.

Kinloch Rannoch.—The Rannoch members of An Comunn Gaidhealach produced a play entitled "Posadh Moraig," which made an interesting sequel to last year's production of "Reiteach Moraig." This formed a leading feature of the closing ceilidh This formed a leading feature of the closing ceilidh of the branch for the present session. The leading characters included Mrs. Burgess, Miss Macdonald, Mrlanes, Mrs. Mr. Master, Messrs, Duncan Robertson, Jun, Aulier, Mr. Master, Messrs, Duncan Robertson, John Macphierson, John Macmillan, and Roy Cameron. The entertainment opened with the singing of "Suais leis a Galdhlig," and the second part of the programme included a fine warrety of the control of the programme included a fine variety of Lassintullies Lodge, who also played the piano Lassintullich Lodge, who also played the piano accompaniments; Mrs. Cameron Agar, Drunchastle; Miss Macdarmid, Finnart; Miss Macpherson, Glenlyon; Messrs. John Macpherson, and John Robertson, Croiscraig; and Archd. Grant, Rannoch Station. Gaelic recitations were given by Miss M'Donald, Dunalastair Schoolhouse. The young pipe class, under their instructor, Piper Master, appeared for the first time in full strength. Their rendering of various selections was a credit alike to teacher and pupils, and gratifying to the local branch of An Comunn, under whose suspices the class is conducted. Mr. Neil Shaw, as the properties of Cashieles and the supportance of Gaelic-speaking teachers being appointed to schools in Gaelic-speaking districts. Mr. Shaw also sang in Gaelic. Rev. A. Muirhead, parish minister, presided, and tea was served.

KENMORE.—The session was brought to a close by a grand concert on the evening of Friday, 27th March. Mr. Alexander Campbell of Borland, president of the Fearman and Kenmore Branch, was in the chair. Mr. Campbell's address was interesting and informative, and revealed an intimate knowledge of Gaelic literature. There was a large audience, and the concert was thoroughly enjoyed, and the concert was thoroughly enjoyed, statement of the concert was thoroughly enjoyed, statement of the concert was thoroughly enjoyed, statement of the concert was thoroughly enjoyed. The concert was a Gaelic and English. Mr. Nell Shaw, General Secretary, was present, and gave short addresses in Gaelic and English, and sang several songs. Mrs. MacIntyre and her Committee are to be congratulated on the splendid success of the gathering.

LOCHABER .- The last of the Gaelic lectures of the season was given at a meeting of the branch by Mr. D. J. MacLeod, H.M.I.S., on "The Humour and Satire of the Gaelic People." This proved a great treat to the audience, and Mr. MacLeod's illustrations were taken up with much enjoyment. Passages between the country people and the factors, and the sub-factors, or "baillies," the schoolmasters and their neighbours, showed the retort courteous, the witty repartee, and keen shaft of the satire. Only those ignorant of his language could suppose the Gael without a sense of humour. On the call of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was awarded the lecturer, and comparisons were drawn between the former and the latter days. The first inspector remembered in the district made gallant ' but unfortunate attempts at our difficult language with ludicrous results, while now our school inspectors are armed cap-à-pie to break a lance with the wittiest of their countrymen.

The approaching Lochaber Children's Mod is causing much interest in the neighbourhood.

LEWIS .- The local branch held their second and last ceilidh for the session in the Masonic Hall, Stornoway, on the evening of Friday, 20th March. Although the literary meetings have not been well attended, it was gratifying to the Committee that about 100 members were present at the ceilidh. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. James Thomson, president, the chair was taken by Mr. Duncan Macdonald, Sandwickhill. After a delightful tea had been served, Mr. Macdonald, in a rousing Gaelic address, made a stirring appeal to the members to uphold their native language, now that it showed unmistakable signs of blossoming forth on a new lease of life. It was the duty of every Gael worthy of the name to be able, not only to speak, but also to read and write the old language. The branch Mod to be held at Stornoway on 17th June would be an opportunity to increase the sphere of Gaelic interests, and in this connection he hoped that the number of entrants this year for both the Vocal and Literary Sections would be worthy of the cause they were fostering. He wished, in particular, to appeal to the rural teachers to take tull opportunity of the provisions for the teaching of Gaelic in the schools, and to present as many candidates as possible for the Mod competitions. The local branch was now entering on its second year of existence, and, in view of the fact that most of the present members were resident in the town of Stornoway, the hoped that when the time for enrolment came at the end of March many of those outside the town would join the branch. The Gaelic choir, conducted by Mr. John Maciver, Laxdale, then commenced their excellent musical programme. For two hours the company were entertained with solos from various members of the choir, interspersed with instrumental musical selections, while at intervals there were choruses from the whole choir.

Tobesmony.—The ordinary session of Comunn Casidhealach. Thobarmhoire closed with a well-and Morison, Kongharair, who took for his subject. Which was a subject of the control of the contr

Wick.-At a meeting held in the Wick Carnegie Library on Monday evening, 6th April, a branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach (The Highland Association) was duly constituted, and office-bearers were appointed as follows:—President, Mr. R. J. G. Millar, editor; vice-president, Mr. M. Mackenzie, Wick High School; secretary, Mr. G. W. Sutherland, Labour Exchange; treasurer, Mr. D. Ross, Cliff Store, together with the following committee-Messrs. D. Beaton, R. Bissett, A. Matheson, Thos. Munro, A. Macdonald, W. Macdonald, W. Macdonald, W. Macdonald, W. Macdonald, W. Macdonald, O. Macleod, A. Polson, and Geo. Sutherland—with power to add to their number. It was resolved to hold a ceilidh or social meeting before the close of the present session, and it was remitted to a sub-committee to arrange in regard to a hall, etc., the branch to meet in the Library on the evening of Monday, 20th April, to complete the arrangements. All interested in the Gaelic language, literature, and music will be made heartily welcome The annual subscription for membership was fixed at 2s 6d for gentlemen and Is for ladies. It was agreed to ask Sir Archibald Sinclair, M.P., to accept the office of hon. president. It is in contemplation at the opening of next winter season to begin the holding of weekly or fortnightly meetings in the form of a Gaelic reading circle, ceilidhs, etc., and—later—to organise a Highland concert on the lines of that given recently in Thurso by the branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach in that town.



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TELEGRAMS-Runaire, Glasgow,

TELEPHONE-Douglas 1097.

Leabhar XX.]

An t-Og-mhios, 1925.

[Earrann 9

LEANNAN MHICRUIMEIN.

Chan eil neach sam bith a tha eòlach air ceòl mór Cloinn Mhicruimein nach do bheachdaich gu sònruichte air a' phort bhreagha ris an canar "Maol Donn." An Dùthaich Mhicleòid gus an là an diugh tha beul aithris ri lorg mu eachdraidh a' phuirt eireachdail so. An uair a tha ath-leasachadh gun amharus a tighinn air aire nan Gaidheal mu dheidhinn a' chiùil mhóir, is mithich gun cuirte sios an sgrìobhadh cuid de na seann nithean a tha fathast air sgeul-thaobh mu eachdraidh nam port. Air dhuit "Maol Donn" a chluinntinn air a' phìob tha an seann chunntas 'n a annas, is 'n a chuideachadh gu bhi a' tuigsinn nàdur a' chiùil. A' cheart spiorad bàrdachd a g eibhear anns an sgeul, is e an spiorad ceudna a tha 'g a nochdadh fhéin anns a' phort mu bheil sinn a' labhairt.

Anns an sgeulach ris an canar "An Siunnsair Airgid" tha iomradh air an dòigh anns an robh muinntir a' creidsinn uaireigin gur ann o an bhean-shìthe a fhuair Clann Mhicruimein buaidh a' chiùil. Ged nach eil an sin ach faoineis, gidheadh is ann le a leithid sin a tha anail na bàrdachd a' cur loinn air a' cheòl. Tha e air aithris gu facaidh fear no dhà de an chinneadh sin a' bhean-shìthe aig an robh cùram sonruichte de an teaghlach ainmeil a bha am Boraraig fad cheudan bliadhna. Agus b' ann an Slochd nam Pìobairean, seach bad sam bith eile, a b' àbhaist dhaibh a faicinn, ma 's fìor an sgeul. Bha e mar ghnàths aig na pìobairean iomraiteach so nach cluicheadh iad port o cheann gu ceann far am faiceadh no an cluinneadh coigreach iad. Ged a bha e ceaduichte do na foghlumaichean òga a

bhiodh anns an sgoil-chiùil, teàrnadh air uairibh do Shlochd nam Piòbairean, gidheadh is mìnic a dhùin na maighistearan iad féin an uaighneas anns an ionad chunnartach so air mullach Creag na Hô. Tha e air innse gu robh Padruig Og Macruimein air latha 'n a aonar anns an ionad dhiamhair, agus gu facaidh e sealladh de 'n bhean-shithc. Bha i an cruth maighdinn òige—a cuailean air dhath an òir, a sùilean mar ghorm na fairge, is a bilean fo shnuadh nan ròs.

B' fhiosrach Padruig Og gun do chuir a charaid Iain Dall port binn fo uidheam mu dhathan rìomhach a' bhogha frois. Agus bu chuimhne leis a bhi cluinntinn gun cuireadh an Clàrsair Dall dol fodha na gréine air teudan na clàrsaich. Eadar gach iongnadh is iomradh a bh' ann smaoinich Padruig Og nach deanadh dathan talmhaidh a' chùis gu maise na beanshìthe a chur an céill. Agus thug e fainear dathan òirdhearc nan speur mar shamhladh. An gorm florghlan an àirde na h-iarmailt shamhraidh-b'e sin iomhaigh a dà shùl. Fhuaras coimeas do a bilean an ruthadh dearg na gréine an cabhanaich na maidne. Agus b' e coltas a fuilt dol fodha na gréine, an uair a thionndas an àird' an iar car tiota gu snuadh gach datha air a bheil ainm an cainnt dhaoine. Rùnaich Macruimein gun dealbhadh e port a bheireadh na dathan sgiamhach nàdurra gu inntinn an luchd-éisdeachd. Bha e de 'n bharail gur ann air a' mhodh sin a b' fhearr a dheanadh e luaidh an ceòl air maise na bean-shithe.

Bha Clann Mhicruimein 'g a meas féin air leth o 'n t-sluagh choitchionn. Bha iad mórchuiseach as an sinnsir. Theiridh cuid dhuibh gun dleasadh iad an sloinneadh o na Draoidhean, aig an robh inbhe àrd is uasal a thaobh foghluim am measg nan Gaidheal o shean. Tha e coltach gu robh trasgadh 'n a ghuàths aig na Draoidhean, an uair a bhiodh iad ri meòrachadh dian air ceist chudthromaich. Co dhiubh is iad Clann Mhicruimein sliochd nan Draoidhean no nach iad tha aon nì cinnteach-eadhon gu robh comas meòraichidh dian aig an treubh ud thar na treubhan eile a bha mu'n cuairt orra. Bu chleachdadh do luchd ciùil Bhoraraig trasgadh fad latha is oidhche gus am faigheadh iad rian air port a bhiodh iad a' dealbh. Neach air bith aig am bheil breithneachadh a thaobh a' chiùil-mhóir, chan eil aige ach beachdachadh air alt is innleachd nam port gu bhi 'tuigsinn ciod e an grunnachadh is am meòrachadh a bha riatanach mun do chuireadh gach cor is tionndadh an òrdugh. Faodaidh gur ann o dhualachas, mar is tric a thachair, a fhuar an treubh so na gibhtean meòraichidh do nach eil coimeas a measg phiòbairean an la an diugh.

Is iomadh ionnsaigh a thug Padruig Og air a' phort a dheanamh. Ach gu mi-fhortunach cha robh e a' soirbheachadh anns na h-oidheirpean. Ach air oidhche shònruichte chunnaic e aisling. Chunnaic e ann am bruadar, Padruig Mór Macruimein nach bu bheò, a' cluich port grinn mu mhaise na bean-shìthe. Bha am port an cuimhne Phadruig Oig an am dùsgadh—Is e sin am port do 'n ainm "Maol Donn" no mar a their cuid "Leannan Mhicruimein." Faodaidh an sgeulachd a bhi coltach ri toradh macmeanmna. Ach tha luchd foghluim a tha an diugh a' dlùth bheachdachadh air modh oibrichidh na h-inntinn ag innse dhuinn, gur tric a chuireas neach a smuaintean féin am beul neach eile ann am bruadar. Chan eil teagamh nach ann mar sin a chuala Macruimein ann an aisling am port sin air an robh e fhéin a' meòrachadh cho fada agus cho dian.

GREAT FEILL, 1926.

A meeting of the General Committee was held in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, on 19th May. There were over thirty members present, and Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale, Convener, presided.

Reports from the Convener's Committee, a meeting of which was held prior to the meeting of the General Committee, were considered and approved.

Mr. Robert Bain reported on the work of the Glasgow Highland Society's Stall Committee. A whist drive and dance, to be held in the Tramways Hall, Ibrox, on 22nd May, promised to be a successful function, and the hope was expressed that as a result the local Stall Committee would be in possession of funds to meet current expenditure.

The Kelvin Hall has been engaged for the week commening 31st May, 1926, at a rental of £300. The Convener pointed out that the Féill would be of the greatest interest to those of Scottish and Highland descent scattered over the wide world, but united in their loyalty and affection for the old Homeland.

A London and English Stall is in progress, and it is hoped the Daughters of Scotia Society in America will provide a stall. There will also be Overseas' Stalls.

A Highland Clachan, it is hoped, will be one of the attractions of the Féill, and Mr. Colin Sinclair, F.R.I.B.A., has kindly consented to act as Convener of the Clachan Sub-Committee.

A loan exhibition of Scottish and Highland Antiquities will, if possible, be arranged, also a display of Highland Home Industries.

It is proposed to hold a Provincial Gaelic Mod and Highland Sports with Dancing and Piping Competitions.

Miss Donalda Robertson is arranging for a series of Tableaux of Deirde and the Sons of Usine, and there will also be representations of Gaelic and Scottish Drama.

The compilation of a Féill Book has been undertaken by Mr. John Macdonald, M.A.

The Treasurer referred to the proposed Guarantee Fund, and indicated that a sum of £1000 might suffice. Guarantees to the extent of £600, in sums varying from £5 to £100 were obtained at the meeting.

We hope to keep members informed from time to time through the columns of the Magazine as to the progress of the various Stall Committees.

DOMHNULL MACLEOID.

By Angus Macleod, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., Rector of Oban High School.

Bha Domhnull tur aineolach air so, agus cha mhotha dh'iarr e airgiod airson a' Phrionnsa gus an robh e leigeadh beannachd leis an rùnaire ann am Muideirt. 'S ann a bha am Moirreach feargach is amharusach, 's cha d'fhuair Dòmhnull sgillinn; ach thug a leis dà leth-bharraile bhranndaidh, rud nach bu mhisde le cuid. Bha e air ais an Coradal an ceann ceithir-la-deug; b'iongantach mar a thàr e dol is tighinn a dheanamh gur aimlisg, 's liuthad neach bha'n tòir orra.

Bha nise ribe na naimhdean a' fàs glé theann mu'n cuairt air a' Phrìonnsa; ach cha robh e idir gun chàirdean eadhon am measg a luchd-tòireachd. Mur b'e sin a bhi fìor, cha robh dol as dha. Thàinig Uisdean Dòmhnullach, Bhaile-siar, agus Dòmhnullach Loch Baosdail a thoirt sanas dha gu'n deach buidhean air th' am Barraidh—naigheachd nach do chuir cus bruaillein air Teàrlach, nuair a dh'fhidir e gur e Dòmhnullaich is Leòdaich a bh'ann. S ann a choeiginich e na càirdean an oidhche chaitheamh na chuideachd, 's thùg iad traothadh math air na buideil bhranndaidh.

Ach cha deanadh so a' chùis. buidheanan eile 'san Eilean Fhada-Caimbeulaich, Granndaich, 's Rothaich, thuilleadh air saighdearan dearga, aig nach robh deadh-ghean no truacantas do'n Phrionnsa 'na aimhleas, agus bha na h-uile coslas gu'm bitheadh gach eilean, beag is mór, air a chlreadh leò. Dh'fhàg iad, mata, tigh furanach Néill, agus sheòl iad a tuath aon uair eile, gus an do ràinig iad Eilean Ouia. an earra-dheas air Beinn-a'-Bhaoghala; b'fhéudar dhoibh fuireach ann an uaimh creige air an eilean so ceithir làithean, leis cho dlùth 's bha na naimhdean. Rinn am Prionnsa an t-slighe gu Roisinnis, ach an ceann trì la chomhairlicheadh dà tilleadh do'n eilean. Cha robh sin cho furasd, 's na naimhdean cho caithriseach. Ach bha Dòmhnull MacLeòid furachail cuideachd, 'se 'feitheamh 's a' faire air Eilean Ouia. Thug e 'n t-eathar gu seòlta air an oidhche null gu Roisinnis, agus chaidh Teàrlach air bòrd. B'u mhór an teanntachd aig an am; bha bàtaichean a' seòladh suas is sìos gun tàmh, bha na fadhalaichean air an gleidheadh, fearann is fairge araon air an glasadh orra. Chuir na truaghain an aghaidh air Coradal a rithist, ach mu'n do ràinig iad an ceann-uidhe, rug stoirm gharbh orra, 's b'fhéudar fasgadh a ghabhail aig Rudha Uisinnis; chuir iad an là sin seachad glé mhuladach, fliuch, ànrach mar a bhà iad, ann an sgor creige.

Bha nàmhaid a nise cho faisg ri dà mhìle dhoibh air tìr, 's cha robh math féuchainn air tigh Néill. Nuair a thuit an oidhche, mata, stiùir iad air Loch Baosdail, an dùi cobhair bho'n Dömhnullach; ach cha b'ann an so bu lugha a' choileid. Anns a chamhanaich chunnaeas trì longa air acair am beul Loch Baosdail, ach cha do dhearc iad an eathar. 'S ann air fhior éiginn a liùg Dòmhnull a steach do Chaol Stùlaidh. Chuir iad an là seachad 'sa 'chaol glé iomaguineach; gu fortanach dhoibh-san cha do smaoinich an nàmhaid rannsachadh a chaolais, agus moch la'r na mhàireach sheòl iad na trì mlie gu Eilean Chalbhaidh am béul Loch Baosdail.

Bha nise a chuideachd gu léir air an cruaidh shàrachadh, agus ro-fhéumach air àite tàimh. Rinn iad ullachadh ann an seann làrach caisteil airson bidh is cadail, ach cha robh fois an dàn do na seòid fhathast. Air iomall a chuain chìteadh siùil àrda dà luing; shamhlaich Dòmhnull MacLeòid iad ri Frangaich, ach 'nuair a theann iad air fearann, dh'aithnich Dòmhnull nach robh aige ach na Sasunnaich 's an cùrsa dìreach air an eilean. Rinn na fògaraich cabhag gu cladach Loch Baosdail; thug Teàrlach 's a chompanaich am monadh orra, agus dh'iomair an sgioba mar am beatha suas an loch. Nuair a choinnich iad an oidhche sin air a' chladach, cha b'e naigheachd a b'fheàrr a bha aca: bha'n Dòmhnullach ann an cuing, agus ged a bha a' bhean uasal aige teò-chridheach gu leòir do'n Phrionnsa, cha robh i comasach air dìon no fasgadh thoirt dhà. Chuir iad seachad còig la, eadar beanntan is cladach, 's gun rian teichidh ann. Bha 'chùis doichiollach da rìreadh: dà luing am béul an locha agus còig ceud saighdear air tìr, na b'fhaisge na da mhìle orra; bha gach rathad a nise air a ghlasadh.

Gidheadh, se'n uair bu duirche a bh'ann, roimh bhriseadh an là. 'Sann a nìse tha a' chailin ainmeil Fionnghal NicDhòmhnuil 'a a h-oide a' beantainn ri allaban a' Phrionnsa. Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal mar a theasairg i Teàrlach òg, esan le deise ban-òglaich, agus Niall MacEachuinn 'na fhear-iùil dhoibh. Mairidh cliù na h-ainir chaoimh; cha cha'n fhaod sinn an so a h-eachdraidh a leantainn. Cha mhotha ruigeas sinn a leas iomradh a thoirt air eachdraidh a' Phrionnsa tuilleadh.

B'e sud an là duilich, brònach do Dhòmhnuill MacLeòid—là dhealaich e ri Teàrlach òg air cladach Loch Baosdail. Bha na deòir a' silleadh bhò gach suil nuair a leig e beannachd leis na seòid a dh'fhuiling uiread air a shon, fad na seachd seachduinean a thug iad fo'n ruaig le chèile, air muir 's air tir, an Innse-Gall.

Féumaidh sinn a nise sgéula Dhòmhnuill a thoirt gu crìch ann am beagan fhacal. Bha e soilleir do'n sgioba nach robh dòigh air faighinn cuidhte 's na h-eileanan còmhla ri chéile anns an eathar, agus cho-dhùin iad gu'm b'fheàrr sgapadh, 's gach duine dheanamh air a shon fhéin.

Tha sinn nise 'call sealladh air Murchadh òg; cha'n aithne dhuinn ciamar a rinn alcohan curanta an t-slighe dhachaidh gu Galtraigell; 's math dh'fhaoidte nach bitheadh luchd na tòireachd ro-amhurasach air balachan cho òg—co-dhiùbh thàr e as; agus gu dearbh, 's iomadh càs is gàbhadh troimh 'n deach e bho'n là chuir e cùi rì sgoil Inbhirnis, is a lean e Teàrlach òg a mach gu mòinnteach Chùil-lodair.

Cha robh 'athair cho fortanach. Chuir e fodha eathar Dhòmhnuill Chaimbeil; tha sinn cinnteach gur ann glé chianail a leig Dòmhnull gu grunnd an iùbhrach ghasd anns an deach a liuthad seun air, bho'n sheòl e leatha a Scalpaidh. Cha'n eil cunntas againn dé'n rathad a ghabh e, no cionnas a bha e beò fad a' cheithir-la-deug a ghléidh e a Ghlacadh an seann laoch mu dheireadh, an deigh dha coiseachd bho Loch Baosdail gu Beinne-Bhaoghala; agus is bochd ri innseadh gur e Sgitheanach eile a chuir an gréim fear Ghaltraigeil. Thugadh do Bharraidh e gu bhi air a cheasnachadh le ceannard feachd-dùthcha Earraghàidheil: cha b'e duine eile bha so ach mac Mhic Cailein, an deigh so an ceathramh Diuc. Bha'n Caimbeulach air seòladh gu tuath, agus b'ann am bàta am Bàgh na Comraich a thugadh Domhnull MacLeòid air a bheulthaobh. Cha robh aobhar sam bith a nise aig Domhnull cleith na rinn e, agus dh'aidich e gu fearail gu'n robh e an cuideachd a' Phrionnsa. "Nach robh fhios agad," arsa MacCailean, "gu'n robh deich mile ar fhichead punnd Sasunnach air ceann a' ghille sin?'' ''Dé ged a bha?'' fhreagair Dòmhnull, "ged a gheibhinn Alba agus Sasunn, cha leiginn dochann air fuiltean a chinn, na'm b'urrainn domh a dhìon.

Bha rìgh Deòrsa fada an comain nan Caimbeulach airson an obair aig an an so. Bha iad eòlach air garbh-chrìochan na Gàidhealtachd, agus is iad a threòraich na saighdearan dearga a dh'ionnsuidh iomadh àite falaich a bh'aig fògaraich feachd a' Phrionnsa. Bha mar so, gamhlas ar leth dhoibh air feadh na dùthcha, ach feumar aideachadh nach robh MacCailein mi-cheart no mi-spéiseil ri Dòmhnull MacLeòid. Is ann a thòisich a dhòrainn nuair a dh'fhàgadh e air cùram Caiptein na Soithich, Iain MacFhearguis, duine borb, gun truas, gun dochd, arus cha bu mhìosa e na'n sgoiba aire.

Sheòl e le buidhean phriosanach gu ruige Lunainn, far an deach an cuingealachadh ann an luing eile. Tha naigheachd oilteil air an càradh: cuid aca thug suas an deò, agus a' chuid a bha beò, bu truagh an cor, nuair a fhuair iad saorsa.

Bha Domhnull MacLeòid cho lag, an déigh deich miosan 'sa' phrìosan, 's nach robh math smaoineachadh air an turus dhachaidh. Thuilleadh air sin bha càirdean an Lunainn déidheil air fàilte chur air feariùil a' Phrionnsa, agus gach coibhneas a nochdadh dhà. An ceann dà mhios chuir e cùl ris a' bhaile mhór, agus ràinig e Dunéidinn air a shocair. Cha b'ann 'sa bhaile so bu lugha rinneadh dheth: cha robh fois aige bho bhi 'toirt cunntais air allaban a' Phrionnsa. Rinn na cairdean tional gasda dha chum a chuideachaidh air a thurus gu tuath. Leis gach éis a chuireadh air, bha deireadh an fhoghair ann mu'n do ràinig e Eilean a' Cheo. 'S iomadh déuchainn is àmhghar a dh'fhuiling an duine còir bho'n dh'fhalbh e air là earraich an uraidh a cheannach mine. Nochd e dìlseachd nach bu bheag, ach chuir e ri dìlseachd tùr, agus ri tùr eòlas air gach geò is rudha 'sa' Chuan Sglth; chuir e ri eòlas cruadalachd, agus ri cruadalachd treibhdhireachd. Cha'n e mhàin gu'n do choisinn e cliù dha fhéin, ach tha a eachdraidh a' cur urraim air ar dùthaich.

Chaochail fear-iùil a' Phrionnsa dà bhliadhna an deidh so, ach cha tig caochladh air a chliù. Cho fad 'sa bhitheas meas air dùrachd gun sùil ri duais, fhad 's a nithear uaill a uaisleachd gun truailleadh, cha deanar dù-chuimhne air Dòmhnull MacLeoid

GAELIC POET, TEACHER, AND EVANGELIST.

DUGALD BUCHANAN OF STRATHYRE.

HIS GRAVE AT LITTLE LENY.

MEMORIAL STONE DEDICATED.

Oft-times described as the sacred poet of the Highlands, probably no man of the Gaelic-speaking people was ever held in such high esteem and respect by his fellow men as was Dugald Buchanan, poet, teacher, and evangelist, who was born near the old mill of Ardoch, Stratbyre, early in the 18th century, and devoted the greater part of his life to the spreading of the Gospel, while his poetic and .

other works, long after his death, were to be found in many a humble croft in the Highlands hand in hand with the Word of God. When about 30 years of age, Buchanan began teaching, and worked in Strathyre, Balquhidder, and Lochearnhead, before going to Rannoch, where, after two years' teaching he was appointed catechist. There in 1768 he died at the age of 52, and immediately there arose a controversy as to where he should be buried. Naturally, his many followers in Rannoch wished him interred there, but they were ultimately persuaded to allow Buchanan's remains to be laid to rest in the family burial ground at Little Leny, Callander. His grave, however, for the past 150 years has been practically unmarked, but over a year ago a movement was set afoot in Callander to raise money for the purpose of erecting a suitable memorial to the famous Gaelic poet. A committee was at that time formed, and now a well-appointed granite slab set into the south wall of the burial ground marks the poet's last resting place. Sufficient money also came in to permit the committee restoring the ancient burial ground, the amenity of which has been

Among members of the Buchanan clan and Highlanders generally, a wide interest was taken in this scheme, and Wednesday afternoon, 15th April, was fixed for the ceremony of dedicating the memorial, which day found a large and representative company assembled at Callander for this purpose. To the great disappointment of all, however, it was decided not to proceed to the burial ground, but to hold a formal ceremony in the Dreadnought Hotel, not that Little Leny was water bound, but there was sufficient about it on Wednesday to make conditions most unpleasant. The Teith and the Leny were in high flood at the time, and as the burial ground lies immediately behind the meeting of these waters, it was thought advisable not to risk a journey to that secluded spot under such conditions. As readers will be aware, the burial ground at Little Lenv is situated on a beautiful knoll, where at one time stood the Church of Leny, which was erected in 1219. Here now stands the memorial to Dugald Buchanan. In the form of a granite slab erected in the south wall on this sacred ground, the memorial was designed by Dr. Pittendrigh Macgillivray, sculptor to the King in Scotland, and bears at the top a Celtic cross and other Celtic and Roman ornamentations, while the following inscription is carved on the stone in Celtic letters :-

Dugald Buchanan.

Gaelic Poet : Teacher : Evangelist.

Born 1716. Died 1768.

This monument to mark his resting place was erected in 1925 by many at home and abroad, in reverent commemoration of a spiritual genius whose gifts of inspired language and sacred song have enriched the literature of his native Highlands.

An fhuil do dhìol do cheartas teann, 'S a dhòirteadh air a' chrann gu làr, 'S ann aisd' tha m'earbsa, O mo Rìgh Nach dit thu m'anam air a sgàth.

THE CEREMONY OF DEDICATION.

The proceedings were opened by the singing

of Psalm 121, after which

The Chairman, Captain E. Murray Buchanan of Leny, stated that they were met there that day owing to stress of weather. It had been intended to meet at Little Leny, but owing to the flooded rivers-traditionally said to occur whenever there was a Buchanan burialit was impossible to get to the spot that day without much discomfort. Although there was a memorial at Dugald Buchanan's birth-place, Strathyre, and also at Kinloch Rannoch, where he died, there was nothing to mark the place of his burial or indicate where he was laid, or even that he was buried anywhere at Little Leny. Some time ago a committee was formed to rectify this, and they had been successful in raising sufficient money to put Little Leny in order and to erect a memorial to Dugald Buchanan. They were left, however, with nothing on hand for future upkeep, which, of course, would have to be faced.

Giving an introductory narrative of events leading up to that day's ceremony, Mr. James Macdonald, treasurer to the committee, stated that on various occasions during the last forty years attempts had been made to stimulate interest in the restoration of Little Leny burial ground. The fewness of those possessing the right of burial, on whom the onus of maintainence properly fell, and the fact that they were widely scattered in different parts of the world, made action in the matter difficult, if not impossible. About ten years ago the Parish Council of Callander were anxious to take up the question of restoration, but eventually found that they had no powers to proceed effectively. In the summer of 1923 an interesting article, written by Dr. King Hewison, dealing with Little Leny and Dugald Buchanan's grave, appeared in the "Glasgow Herald." In the article the writer called attention, pointedly, to the absence of any memorial at

the grave of the famous poet. It was as a result of this newspaper article that a local committee was formed, with Capt. E. M. Buchanan of Leny as chairman, and an appeal issued for funds for the purposes of restoring the ancient burial-ground and the erection of a suitable memorial at the grave of Dugald Buchanan. A generous donation of £50 from Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine of Castlemilk headed the subscriptions list, and sums varying from 1s to £10 came from the Highlands and all parts of the country, as well as from friends beyond the seas. The total sum received was £190. The committee had been able to restore the old wall and to protect the outlying graves by an iron fence. As far as possible, fallen headstones had been re-erected, and a fine memorial stone, prepared under the personal supervision of Dr. Pittendrigh Macgillivray, sculptor to the King in Scotland, had been set in the south wall to the honour of Dugald Buchanan.

Prayer of dedication was offered in Gaelic by the Rev. David Cameron, Balquhidder, following upon which was a very interesting address by Professor Watson, who said:—

THE EFFECT OF THE POET'S WORK.

We are met here to-day to honour the memory of a man who died more than 150 years ago, and who lies buried with the men of his name and kin. There are but few whose names and fame live in the hearts of their countrymen after the lapse of so long a time, and the mere fact of your presence here is enough to show that Dugald Buchanan was no ordinary man. It is true that he had neither wealth nor high position. His life was cut short when he was little past his prime. Most of it was lived far remote from towns and from what we call culture. Though he was not unlearned, he made no claim to learning. For all that, he was a burning and a shining light in his own day, and long after his death the influence of his life and writings persisted and still continue. The 18th century was rich in Gaelic poets of great natural ability. Buchanan himself was born in 1716, when the great Jacobite poet, Alexander MacDonald, was in his early manhood. Duncan Macintyre was born in 1724, and he and Buchanan belonged to almost neighbouring districts. In the outer isles there was John MacCodrum of North Uist, and in the far north there was Rob Donn of Durness, all of them highly gifted men and men of vigorous personality. If any of these is to be compared with Buchanan, I think it is Alexander MacDonald. No two men could be more unlike in the tenor of their lives and

in the subject of their poetry than the warrior bard of Clan Donald and the peace loving catechist of Rannoch; vet when we consider their natural fervour of spirit and firmness of purpose, each in his chosen cause, we might almost say of MacDonald, "There, but for the grace of God, goes Dugald Buchanan." As it fell out, each became supreme in his own chosen sphere-MacDonald is the chief of our secular poets; Buchanan is beyond all question supreme in sacred poetry. Dugald Buchanan was born at Ardoch, in Strathyre, a few miles from this place. His life was divided mainly between his native district and Rannoch, and in externals it was simple and uneventful. He took no part, for instance, in the rising of 1745, for, as he says himself, he thought the cause was bad. But, though his life was peaceful outwardly, it was far from peaceful inwardly. Here we can distinguish very plainly two periods-an earlier period of spiritual unrest, and a later period of comparative tranquility. Of the former he has left an account written by himself in English, and covering the stages of his spiritual pilgrimage up to the end of 1750, when he was about 34 years of age. It is a most remarkable record of religious experience, somewhat after the style of the English Puritans, a record of the kind with which only a man like the late Dr. Alexander Whyte or William James could deal effectively. The last entry is on December 13th, 1750, and begins thus: "There has not been one day since the 26th July in which I have not experienced something of the love and power of God, and for the most part of that time there has not been five minutes at one time except when I was asleep. in which the Lord has not been either instructing or quickening and comforting me. And at this day the high tide of God's consolation has almost overwhelmed my spirit." To understand and appreciate Buchanan's poetry, it is most necessary to study this record, which is the record of his preparation for his life's real work. He began that work about 1750, when he became an itinerant teacher in Strathyre, Balquhidder, and Lochearnhead. He became teacher in Rannoch in 1753: two vears thereafter he was appointed catechist there, and there he died in 1768 at the age of 52. It was doubtless in Rannoch that he wrote his hymns. Some very interesting sidelights on his work there and on the esteem in which he was held are found in a volume of the Scottish History Society, dealing with the administration of the Forfeited Estates. In summer and autumn he preached in the

open air, often to congregations of about 500. On one occasion his hearers belonged to two sects who were at variance so bitter that they could not or would not join together for worship. Buchanan arranged them on opposite sides of a stream and preached to them from a stone in the middle of the stream. Buchanan's poetry is deep rooted in his religious experience. In it he gives the results to which he had attained through long pondering and spiritual conflict. His poems or hymns are meant for instruction; each of them deals with things needful to be realised by the ordinary plain man. His method is eminently practical and concrete, and his vigorous and brilliant imagination is under perfect control. His subjects are the greatest and weightiest that a man could undertake. In the hands of a lesser man, the treatment might easily become inadequate or grotesque, but not so with Buchanan. He has a dignity that would be not unworthy of Milton. He is grave and sober minded, but not in the least melancholic. He is earnest without being rapturous or mystical. Everywhere his tone is that of a man who knows what he has believed, and who speaks with authority. His style is uniformly clear and simple, so that he who runs may read his meaning. He produces his effect, not by the use of strong or impassioned language, but by definite concrete touches, each designed to bring out a special aspect of his theme. This restraint and severity, combined with richness of imagination and persuasiveness of reasoning, entitle Buchanan's work to be styled classic. Dugald Buchanan's knowledge of Gaelic was such that he was chosen to assist the Rev. James Stewart of Killin in translating the New Testament. In 1766 and the winter following he was in Edinburgh seeing that work through the press. It was characteristic of the man that during his stay there he attended the lectures on Natural Philosophy, Anatomy, and Astronomy at the University. It was then, too, that he made the acquaintance of David Hume, and obtained Hume's acknowledgment of the sublimity of that passage in Revelations which describes the final judgment. It is not too much to claim for Buchanan that in consecration of life he resembled the saints of old, and that the authority and power of his teaching were due to the fact that to him, as to some of them, it had been granted in a measure to see the truth face to face. (Applause.)

Rev. Robert Buchanan, president of the Buchanan Society, Glasgow, said he was very pleased to see such a large audience, and have

the opportunity of expressing his word of thanks to Professor Watson for the interesting and eloquent way he had spoken of Dugald Buchanan. In connection with their Buchanan Clan, he always thought that their greatest man was George Buchanan, and he was proud to think that their Society now had the keeping of his memorial, but it was a great regret to him that the Society was not able to take over the care of the memorial to Dugald Buchanan which had just been dedicated, as well as those at Kinloch Rannoch and Strathyre, because there was no question that unless some one looked after them the time would come when they would be left in a condition which would make one sorry and rather ashamed. They were a large Society, and had a great deal of funds, but, unfortunately, all the Buchanans who had left them money had been keen on the education of boys and girls, or keen on charity. He appealed to the Buchanans present, however, especially those who were in more fortunate circumstances, to leave the Society some money for general purposes, so that the memorials he had mentioned might be well cared for and preserved for all time.

Mr. William Buchanan, an ex-presse of the Buchanan Society, said he felt much impressed by that unique gathering, and he assured them he would not readily forget what he had heard that day, especially when reading the life of Dugald Buchanan he had found that he was such a waster when a young fellow, and that his conversion had made him such a famous man in the Highlands. He had a tremendous man in the Highlands. He had a tremendous influence over the Highlanders with his Gaelic-speaking tongue, and he agreed that nothing would please the Society more than to be able to have the care and look after the three monuments which had been erected to his memory. (Applause.)

Professor M'Lean, Edinburgh, said there were two men of whom Perthshire might very well be proud. The one was Robert Kirk and the other Dugald Buchanan. Robert Kirk, a fine scholar, with a great heart, sought to bring people to God in the language which they knew best, and he succeeded. Dugald Buchanan sought to bring the teachings of that great Word to bear upon the lives of his fellow men, and he redeemed them from the state of barbarity in which they lived. Both men under God had succeeded beyond all calculations, for no man could measure the success of the eternal word on the souls or lives of people. Their influence was not confined to this country, but spread to every country in the world where Gaelic-speaking men dwelt. (Applause.)

Rev. Mr. Mackay, Killin, said there was a third man of whom Perthshire might also be proud, and that was the Rev. James Stewart, his most illustrious predecessor, who translated the New Testament into Gaelic, a man who was worthy of their profoundest reverence. Now he (Mr. Mackay) occupied the same room every night in which the Rev. James Stewart translated the Scriptures into Gaelic, so there was little wonder that he was an ardent and enthusiastic student of the Gaelic tongue. (Applause.) He appealed to them to take more interest in Gaelic Hymnology by reading these Hymns and singing them, allowing the touch and feeling of the song to enter deeply into their moral vitals.

Mr. John Macdonald, M.A., Callander, proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee who had carried out the arrangements, and, as president of the Gaelic Society in Callander, he wished to say how pleased he was to have the Society identified with that most interesting ceremony. He did that with all the greater feeling because he believed that Dugald Buchanan's influence had been the most powerful amongst the most thoughtful Highlanders, at least more powerful than any other Gaelic bard. He was about the first poet to whom he was introduced, for in his boyhood days it was the common custom to hear Gaelic songs and hymns sung by the fireside, and he could still recall the vivid impression he derived from Dugald Buchanan's poetry. He felt sure that Dugald Buchanan was in the direct line of descent from St. Columba, for he was imbued with the missionary spirit, and all through his life after his conversion everything he did was done entirely in the spirit of influencing his fellow men about spiritual things. (Applause.) He proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for the admirable way in which they had carried through the work entrusted to them.

Bailie Cumming next proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Watson, whose presence there that day they greatly appreciated, while they were also pleased to have with them Mrs. Watson, probably the greatest authority on Celtic literature amongst the ladies present. (Applause.) He thought it was peculiarly appropriate that Professor Watson should have delivered the address that afternoon, because a number of years ago Mrs. Watson's distinguished father, Dr. Alexander Carmichael, the well-known author, in visiting Callander commended to them there as their duty to raise a memorial to the distinguished poet,

Dugald Buchanan, and the project, he knew, had been very near to the heart of Professor and Mrs. Watson, and the Committee were greatly indebted to the Professor for his services that day, and also for his assistance and advice regarding the inscription on the monument and other matters. Referring to the Dugald Buchanan grave, Bailie Cumming said that 60 or 70 years ago it was common for Highland drovers and others to come to Callander and inquire at the Lawson's, descendants of the poet, as to the spot where Dugald Buchanan was buried. In connection with this memorial they had been greatly favoured by the sculptor, Dr. Pittendrigh MacGillivray, who carried through the work with the utmost care and as a labour of love. He proposed votes of thanks to the professor and to the sculptor for their services. (Applanse.)

Mr. Donald M'Laren proposed a vote of thanks to Captain Murray Buchanan of Leny for his services as Chairman of the Committee, for presiding over the gathering that day, and for his granting facilities in connection with their restoration scheme at the burial ground. He also wished to thank Mr. M'Michael and Mr Macdonald for their services to the Committee in the offices of secretary and treasurer respectively. (Applause.)

The pronouncing of the Benediction by the Rev. D. Lamont, Blair Athol, brought the ceremony to a close.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

NEW MEMBERS.

LIFE.

Miss Margaret MacTavish, Bridgend. John R. Bannerman, Esq., Pollokshields. Mrs. Muriel E. Maitland Stockwell, Strathtay. Miss Ada Mary MacNeill, Cushendall. Hugh MacLean, Esq., Greenock. Dugald C. MacLeod, Esq., Skelmorlie.

ORDINARY.

John Cameron, Esq., Edinburgh.
John M. Bannerman, Bsq., Pollokshields.
David S. Borland, Esq., Newtonmore.
D. M. Christison, Esq., Glasgow.
Mrs. K. MacDiarmid, Edinburgh.
Miss M. M. MacLeod, Richmond.
Malcolm MacAlpine, Esq., Ardrishaig.

A GAELIC GLOSSARY.

By Ronald Burn, Humanity Department, University, Glasgow.

Abhainn: ditch about 4 feet wide: S. Uist (Garryhilly), Lindsay, n.: cf. lònan, ligeadh, amar. What an abuse of a good word; and they possess (says L.) big streams too!

Abhainn: mill-lead: S. Uist (Garryhilly), Lindsay, n.: cf. ligeadh, moidhle, muill-

eadh, etc

Abh. na muilleadh: same: Waternish, Mac-Askill, n. Never amar in Kilmuir.

Abasaidh: the alphabet: Barra, Fr. Mac-Millan, n.: Islav, Duncan Johnston, n.: Moidart, Miss M. MacIntyre, n.: cf. abusaidh, aibid. Kilmuir form I cannot spell for certain. First 'a' is short, and second is short but accented:-it would almost spell a-bassaidh. Perhaps it is absaidh, the second 'a' being Svarabhaktic (cf. balgair).

Abusaidh: the alphabet: Coll, MacDougall, n.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: cf. aibid, abasaidh. In S.U. sounded abbsee often, and in Tiree.

Acthuinn: furniture of house: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: also=harness here, as in

Adag: the largest cuddy, the stenlock, ugsa: N. Uist, a native: S.U., MacEachen, n.: Moidart, Miss M. MacIntyre, n.: cf. liùch. (Liùth is second stage of saithe in N. and S.U.) Adag=haddock in Barra, Islay, Tiree, S.U., Skye, Lewis, Braemore, Torridon; and in T., Skye, etc., they say, ball dubh air an adaig is earball fad' air a' chaoideig. Lewis varies saying, . . . ball ban air a' chaoideag. Waternish says that the flounder's mouth got twisted owing to his having called out mockingly this saying at the haddock and whiting so often as to twist it permanently. But Kilmuir relates that Calum Cille was once fishing in the parish and caught a flounder. He got it so far out of the water but it managed to give a great wriggle and jump and so got off the hook. As it fell back into the sea it turned its tail to its nose and cocked a snooks at the Saint. For this impudence he cursed its mouth twisted.

Adag: any number of corn sheaves less than 12-they are not "crowned" with ears upside down as is a crac (q.v.); a stook or shock of corn of 10-12: Coll, Neil and Hector MacDougall, n.: S. Uist (Garryhilly), Lindsay, n.: and crowned with 2 sheaves on top: Kilmuir, A. MacDonald,

Contrasted with crac, the adag is properly 12 sheaves (10 below and 2 on top uncrowned). This is the recognized amount in buying. Furthermore, even when not in stook-form (but e.g. lying in yard, etc., ready for sale) the adag is made up of the contents of 12 sheaves, so that a buyer of three stooks would say he had got tri adagan and be understood to mean 36 sheaves. So Islay, L. Ness (W.), Torridon, Moidart, Barra, Coll. Usually 8 stooks in S. Uist. Cf. sguab-, sgaothan, badan, bad-, buig, buidhge, crac, currac(ag), toitean, coca-, etc. Toit in Kilmuir is any number larger than 12.

Adag: a stook of 3 or 4 (not 12) sheaves of corn leant against one another on the field with a passage at the foot to let air dry them (fem.): L. Suaineart, Mrs. Spence, from natives: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: cf. coca-, prabag, toitean, crac, currac, Not adag in Tiree. Adag in Moidart is 5-sheaved stook. Waternish leans 4 on each side. Sguab is one sheaf in L. Suaineart and Skye. Not masc. gender in Tiree.

A.-beag: 3 sheaves in stook: Tiree, Mrs. MacLeod, n. A.-bheag: 3 sheaves in stook: Moidart, Miss

MacIntyre, n. A .- mór: 5 sheaves in stook: Tiree, Mrs.

MacLeod, n. A .- mhór: 5 sheaves in stook: Moidart, Miss

MacIntyre, n.

Adhastar: headgear of horse: - the harness put on head including bit, bridle, blinkers, nose-strap, etc.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n. See on srian-, and cf. beairtein, cairt-, duain, etc. Srian in Waternish. Taod is bridle, and in S. Uist which also adds taodan.

Adhastar: chain fastening cow in byre: Lewis (N. Tolsta), Miss Mary Murray, n. : Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n. Cf. féisd.

Adhlaigeadh: funeral: heard by Mrs. Mac-Donald, native of Skye: Waternish, MacAskill, n. In Mull torradh is the word. Cf. ealatrom, tiolaigeadh, ealaire, etc. Dial. for adhlacadh and adhlaic in Jn 127. -igeadh is favourite termination in Skye I understand especially for Gaelicized English words. I have ladaigeadh among others below, also cuthaigeadh and tiolaigeadh

(To be continued.)

LOCHABER JUNIOR MOD.

The Lochaber Junior Mod of 25th April showed a highly gratifying increase in attendance. A cheerful crowd of eighty children with their teachers from the district schools assembled at the beflagged Masonic Hall at 9 a.m., together with the scholars of the Public School and of St. Marv's, Fort William. Mr. M. Morrison, Director of Education for the County of Inverness, presided, and helped to adjudicate. We believe this to be the first instance of an Educational Authority taking an active part in a Gaelic Mod, and his presence was a source of inspiration to the teachers and their pupils. The other judges who kindly gave their services were the Revs. Mr. Crawford of Kilmallie, Dr. Mackinnon of Kilmonivaig, Dr. Morrison of St. Andrews (for music), and, in the regrettable absence of the Vice-President of An Comunn Gaidhealach, the Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Mr. John MacIntyre gave valuable assistance in the Scripture Reading Competition.

The advanced elementary reading tests were taken in the Hall before a large audience. A difficult poem of James Munro's, the much revered Master of Kilmonivaig School in former days, formed the advanced reading test, and "Glaistig Lianachan," a Lochaber legend, was the advanced recitation. The latter, with the Scripture Reading, judges' selection test, and spelling test were heard in the Committee Room, while elementary recitation and solo singing followed the easier reading tests in the Hall by Mr. M. Morrison. It was pleasant to notice the joy children take in meeting each other, and their generosity in applauding the successes of rival schools and playmates. While those superfluous and interfering persons known to youth as "grown-ups" were crowded into the background where standing room was scarce, the boys and girls were left to feel themselves the centre of attraction, and seemed thoroughly to enjoy the situation.

After the lunch interval the choral test was sung, and the shrill screams of applause must have gratified the performers.

Five schools entered for the "Place Name" competition, which, it is hoped, may interest the children to learn something of the history of their own district. Three long and well written letters in Gaelic were sent in, but all too late to be judged.

At the conclusion, the Director gave away the prizes and spoke of the great pleasure the gathering had given him in the number of children and parents present. He congratulated the teachers on the excellent work they had done, and encouraged the children to persevere and take full advantage of the tuition provided for them. He dwelt on the duty of keeping up the language, not only from motives of patiotic and racial pride, but also as a most powerful educational instrument, and trusted that another year would see a still greater advance. Those who now could only recite or sing would then be able to read with fluency and intelligence.

The National Anthem was led by the Rev. Dr. Mackinnon, and the general company and different schools dispersed.

The following is the prize list :-

1st Competition—Scripture Reading—1, Mary Fraser, Blarmacfaoldach; 2, Jessie Kennedy, Fort William H.G. School.

2nd Competition—Elementary Reading Test—1, Mary MacNeill, St. Brides; 2, Kate Anne Macdonald, Tulloch.

3rd Competition—Advanced Reading Test— 1, Mary Fraser, Blarmacfaoldach; 2, Duncan Robertson, Fort William H.G. School.

4th Competition—Advanced Recitation, "Glaistig Lianachan"—1, Mary Fraser, Blarmacfaoldach School; 2, Mary Cumming, Locheilside.

5th Competition—Elementary Recitation— 1, Morag Macdonald, St. Mary's, Fort William, equal with Mary Love, Glenfinnan School, and with Iain Macdougall, St. Mary's, Fort William.

6th Competition—Singing (advanced Girls)— 1, Mary Macdonald, Locheilside School, equal with Jeannie Simpson, St. Bride's School.

6th Competition—Elementary Singing (Girls)
—1, Lily Macpherson, St. Mary's, Fort William;
2, Morag Maclellan, St. Mary's, Fort William;
equal with Silis Campbell, Fort William School.
7th Competition—Singing (Boys, elementary)

—1, John Maclellan, St. Mary's, equal with Angus Cameron, St. Brides', N. Ballachulish.

8th Competition—Solo Singing (Boys, advanced)—I, William Stewart, St. Mary's, Fort William; 2, Robert Love, Glenfinnan School.

Choral Competition—I, Roy Bridge School; 2, St. Mary's, Fort William.

Place Name Competition—1, Roy Bridge School, Mr. J. Macdonald, headmaster; 2, Kinlocheil School, Mrs. Cameron, headmistress, COMPETITION IN CELTIC DESIGN. No. 4.

Prize, £1,



The subject for competition this month is taken from Fig. 525, early Christian Monuments of Scotland, kindly lent by the Society of Antiquaries. The fragment is 3 ft. 9 in. in height, and 4 in. thick and is ornamented on both sides.

Competitors are left free to restore and complete the stone in the most plausible way they can imagine. The missing part need not necessarily have the same pattern as the part shown, so long as it is in harmony or pleasing

contrast. The completed drawing should be about 24 inches long. Designs to be sent to Miss VIOLET WOOD, 16 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh, by 30th June.

The winner of the May Competition in Celtic Design is Mr. R. E. Turnbull, 1 Valleyfield Street, Edinburgh. The prize has been awarded to him, and has been well earned with a very elaborate and carefully executed drawing, which we will reproduce on a much reduced scale in our next number.

CAOIDH MHIC NEACHDAIN AN DUIN.

(LE A LEANNAN).

From Miss A. C. Whyte's Mod Prize Collection.

KEY G. Slowly. 1 : r : m | r : oidhche nochd fuar :1., se 1 : t : d t .s:-Och mo thruaigh 's gur fad i, 1 : m : Ged tha càch 'nan sìor shuain :s., m m:r: d 'S beag mo luadhs' air a'

Chan e giorrad mo ruim, Chan e cuinge mo leapa, Ach òig-fhear a' chùl duinn A' sìor chur truim' air m'aigne.

Bruadar chunnaic mi'n raoir Thusa 'ghaoil a bhi agam, Ann an leaba chaoin, chùbhr' 'S thu bhi lùbt 'ann am achlais.

Ach 'n nair thionndaidh mi null Bha do rùm-sa, ghaoil, falamh; Dheadh Mhic Neachdain an Dùin, Thig bho àrd-thùr nam baideal.

B'fhada dh'aithnichinn do chùl Direadh stùcan a' chreachainn, Le do bhreacan 's le d' chù,

Le do lùghor cheum gaisgich.

Le do chuilbhear caol, ùr, Té nach diùltadh an t-sradag, 'S math thig dag duit fo d' sgiath, 'S claidheamh liath-ghorm, sgaiteach.

Leam bu mhilse do phòg Na mil òg thig o'n bheachann, Na ùbhlan bhàrr nan craobh 'S caoin' 's as cùbhraidh leam t'anail.

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Thainig and Samhradh agus chuala sinn a' chuthag. Tha guth gach eoin 's an ealtainn r' a chluinntinn 's na feasgair chiuin air an dùthaich agus is binn, fonnmhor an ceileir. Leugh mi o chionn là no dhà mu neach a dh'iarr fois agus tàmh air an dùthaich le ordugh an léigh ach bha ceòl nan eun ro chaithreamach agus dh'fhàs e sgìth dheth. Is cuimhne leinn maduinn àraidh a bhi 'nar laighe air an raon air ar cuartachadh le coille agus roimh éirigh na gréine bha coirill nan eun cho dian agus nach bu chomasach norra cadail fhaotainn an déidh sin. Fàsaidh sinn sgìth de ghlòir nan eun ach cha chuala mi fhathast neach ag ràdh gu robh e sgìth no searbh ag eisdeachd ri guth na cloinne aig a' Mhòd,

This month we give the first list of contributions towards the Greenock Mod Prize Fund. Subscriptions however small will be gladly received and gratefully acknowledged by the Local Treasurer or by the General Treasurer of An Comunn. Already three Junior Choirs have entered from Greenock, and altogether the prospects of a great gathering in September are encounging.

In connection with the prizes offered for a Gaelic Play suitable for children the awards have been made as follows:—(1) £10, John MacCormick, F.S.A. (Scot.), Glasgow; (2) £7, Calnım MacPharlain, Elderslie; (3) equal, £4, Mrs. Kenneth MacLeod, Fortrose, and John MacFadyen, Corkerhill. The First Prize Play, "An Ceol Sithe," and Mrs. MacLeod's Play, "Na Raithean," are now published, and may be had for 6d. each; postage, ½d. extra.

We offer Mr. Duncan MacGillivray, M.A., Rector of the Hillhead High School, Glasgow, the sincere congratulations of his fellow members of "An Comunn Gaidhealach" on the announcement that the University of Glasgow has resolved to confer upon him the honorary degree of LL.D. Mr. MacGillivray has been for many years in the front rank of Scottish Educationists, and those who know him and his work are aware of how richly in his case this coveted distinction is deserved. He is an ardent Highlander and a lover of the Gaelic, whose great influence in Educational circles has always been exercised in support of the study and the teaching of the old language. Buaidh is piseach leis!

It is also our agreeable duty to tender cordial congratulations to another of our members, Mr. John Bartholomew, O.B.E., on his appointment as Sheriff-Substitute at Kilmarnock. Sheriff Bartholomew takes a deep and practical interest in the work of An Comunn, and was a member of the Executive for many years. Saoghal fada, sona dha!

Great interest is being taken in the coming Celtic Congress which is to be held this year for the first time in Ireland. Many delegates and distinguished visitors are expected from Scotland, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall and Man, and the reunion of the scattered races which still cling to the old language in its various survivals should prove a mique and interesting experience. The Congress opens on 30th June and ends on 8th July.

The Gaelic story which accompanied last month's issue is now distributed to every Gaelic area school in the country—that is to say to all schools in the Gaelic-speaking areas of Argyll, Caithness, Inverness, Perth, Ross and Cromarty, and Sutherland. Four thousand copies have been sent to over 380 schools. (If any school has been overlooked, copies of the story will be sent immediately upon application to Messrs. W. M. Urquhart & Son, Il Queensferry Street, Edinburgh.)

The conditions of this competition are very simple and are enclosed herewith, as well as accompanying each copy of the story. Schoolmasters and mistresses are requested by the author, however, to distribute first amongst the senior pupils. There will be further copies sent to any school if a request is made. It is urgently requested that every boy or girl who desires a copy should have one. Therefore, let masters and nistresses be unhesitating in asking Messrs. W. M. Urquhart & Son to send more. This will be done with pleasure.

From The Butt to Barra Head and from Badcall Inchard to Gigha there need be no boy or girl not taking part:—i-e., reading the story, selecting a title for it, and sending the title forward as directed. The closing date is 10th July, and all boys and girls under 17 years of age at that date are eligible. The judges are a guarantee in themselves! Dr. Neil Munro, LL.D., is the judge for Argyll

shire; The Rev. Lachlan MacLcan Watt, D.D., for Inverness-shire; the Rt. Hon. James Ian MacPherson, K.C., M.P. for Ross-shire, and the Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., for Sutherland, Caithness and Perth.

I might state here that owing to a slight misunderstanding (of the most cordial nature 'I) between the author, the publisher, the printer and myself it was only a "proof" copy of the story that was sent out with last month's issue. The story now has an attractive appearance. A photograph of Loch Ewe at sunset is on the cover. Ian MacAlasdair Mcfatt-Pender is the author.

NIATI

WHAT IS CELTIC?

By DONALD GRANT, in Vox Studentium.

There is no Latin race, but there is a Latin civilisation. There is, apparently, no Celtic race, and not even a Celtic civilisation. But there is a Celtic spirit, a Celtic genius—an attitude to life, a way of life, which is Celtic. This Celtic spirit has influenced peoples and literatures in all the countries of Europe, and continues unto this day to move and to seek expression as powerfully as ever.

Prince Bianchi de Medicis, writing in La Bretagne Touristique, says that Renan was wrong when he limited the scope of the term "Celtic" to Scotland, Ireland, Brittany (Armorica) and Wales. It is certainly an arbitrary frontier line, and one that cannot be maintained to-day, when even the amateur student of race knows that there is no pure race—Celtic, Latin, Teutonic or other.

Renan, however, qualifies the statement defining the borders of that which is Celtic, when, at the end of his charming essay on "The Poetry of the Celtic Races," he says:—

"In presence of the ever-encrosching progress of a civilisation which is of no country, and can receive no name, other than that of modern or European, it would be puerlie to hope that the Celtic race is in the future to succeed in obtaining isolated expression of its originality. And yet we are far from believing that this race has said its last word. After having put in practice all chivalires, devout and worldly, gone with Peredur in quest of the Holy Grail and fair ladies, and dreamed with St. Brandan of mystical fair ladies, and dreamed with St. Brandan of mystical entrance into the world, and subjected its rich and profound nature to the conditions of modern thought? It appears to me that there would result from this

combination, productions of high originality, a subtle and discreet manner of taking life, a singular union of strength and weakness, of rude simplicity and mildness. Few races have had so complete a poetic childhood as the Celtic; mythology, lyric poetrapie, comantic imagination, religious enthusiasm none of these failed them; why should reflection fail them the strength of the strength of the conlated that it is a strength of the strength of the and awakening of nations; and that modern civiliastion, which appeared to be made to absorb them may perhaps be nothing more than their united frution."

The point of view stated in that paragraph is surely the true one. The study of race has made great advances since Renan wrote his essay, and it teaches us that the qualities which are Celtic, or indeed Latin or Teutonic, may appear anywhere-so complete has been the mixing of the various racial stocks Biological science supports the same thesis. And indeed our own experience, if we have been sufficiently interested to take note, must assure us that it is possible within the borders of Scotland, or of Ireland or of Wales, to find people, in appearance Celtic, yet totally devoid of "the Celtic spirit," and to find others, teutonic according to outward type, who answer mentally and spiritually, to all that is Celtic. All of which strengthens the opinion that it is impossible to locate the genius of the Celt within any geographical boundaries.

The Celts, even if we grant to them a racial existence, have never, as a race or as a people, wielded an influence which can compare with their leavening influence in the sphere of literature and culture. This leavening influence derives from the fact that the Celt, especially the Celtic bard or scholar, has ever been characterised by a certain spirit, a sensitiveness, an insight, nearly always in contrast to the prevailing time-spirit. The important factor has been and is, not anything racial or national, but simply "the Celtic spirit" and Celtic culture.

It is interesting in this connection to read these words of M. Charles le Goffic, one of the scholar-bards of Celtic culture:—

"This Gdite race, which has covered all the fields of Europe with its moving harvests of blonde, blue-eyed people, who, from the banks of the Danube have apread over France, Spain, Northern Italy, Great Britain—it is their Celife genius—passionate, restless, adventurous, subtle, dusive and imaginative—which, through the 'Olarissa Harlowe' of Richardson, and the 'Fingal' of Ossian, communicates itself to Rousseau's 'Jalie,' to Byron's 'Childe Harold,' to Goothe's 'Werther,' to Chatcharbirande', Sené,' to Senancour's 'Obermann,' and, through them, to all the opics great and small of Western romanticism.

Can we look forward to something which will be asgood, as that which is passing ? Race of gymnasta, . . systhetic of the Stadium, . . . poesie inspired by exprese-trained, . . . will these be able to take the place of the misty charm, the subtle essence, the indefinite outlines of the Celtic dream?"

What are the characteristics of the Celtic spirit? What is Celtic?

"No race conversed so intimately as did the Celtic race with the lower creation, and accorded it so large a share of moral life. Gentleness towards animals informs all the legends of the saints of Brittany and Ireland. . . . One day St. Kevin fell asleep, while he was praying at his window with outstretched arms; and a swallow perceiving the open hand of the venerable monk, considered it an excellent place wherein to make her nest. The saint on awaking saw the mother sitting upon her eggs, and loth to disturb her, waited for the little ones to be hatched before he arose from his hnees. This touching sympathy was derived from the singular vivacity with which the Celtic races have inspired their feeling for nature. Their mythology is nothing more than a transparent naturalism, not that anthropomorphic naturalism of Greece and India, in which the forces of the universe, viewed as living beings and endowed with consciousness, tend more and more to detach themselves from physical phenomena, and to become moral beings; but in some measure a realistic naturalism, the love of nature for herself, the vivid impression of her magic, accompanied by the sorrowful feeling that man knows, when, face to face with her, he believes that he hears her commune with him concerning his origin and destiny."

Gentleness and sympathy are very characteristic of Celtic culture. In the imaginative compositions of the Celtic races, says Renan, one is struck above all by the mildness of manners pervading them.

"There are none of those frightful vengeances which fill the Edda and the Nibelungen. Compare the Teutonic with the Gaelic hero—Beowulf with Peredur, for example. What a difference there is 1 in the one all the horror of disgusting and blood-embrued barbarism, the drunkenness of carnage, the disinterested taste, if I may say so, for destruction and death; in the other a profound sense of justice, a great height of personal pride it is true, but also a great capacity for devotion, an exquisite loyalty."

Such qualities as gentleness and sympathy are to be expected in people of insight and imagination, but it is owing to these and to similar qualities, that the Celt has always been pushed into the background in the struggle for "a place in the sun." More sensitive, more imaginative than other peoples the Celt has been driven to his "furthest horizons,"

there to dream of "Tir nan Og," the Laud of Eternal Youth, the Celtic Paradise; there, too, living upon seanty material resources, he enters naturally into the joys of communion with earth, sky and sea. A greater contrast to the modern man of the world cannot be imagined. The latter thinks the Celt (if we may use the term as a label) a fool, his poetry and melancholy mere moonshine. The Celt wants "the man of push and go" to leave him alone, so that he may live in his own way. This opposition and lack of understanding between two attitudes to life explain much of the tragic history of Ireland's long conflict with England.

Someone has said that the greatest gift which a person can have is imagination. It is a gift which especially characterises the Celt. And we are surely justified in thinking that it is owing to their superior imagnative powers that the Celts have been able to produce such figures as those of Arthur, Deirdre, Merlin, Perceval and others—figures which have been adopted by other peoples until they are now universal.

"It was by this ideal and representative character that the Arthurian legend had such an astonishing prestige throughout the whole world. Had Arthur been only a provincial hero, the more or less happy defender of a little country, all peoples would not have adopted him, any more the peoples would not have adopted him, any more the peoples would not have adopted him, any more that have the same table, and the Saxons. The Arthur who has charmed the world is backed in the head of an order of equality, in which all sit at the same table, in which a man's worth depends upon his valour and his natural gifts. . . . How otherwise shall we explain why a forgotten tribe on the very confines of the world should have imposed its heroes upon Europe, and, in the domain of imagination of the world should have imposed its heroes upon Europe, and, in the domain of imagination of the world should have revolutions known to the historian of letters? "

In the peculiar quality of the Celtic spiritseen in its sensitiveness and spiritual insightwe find the reason for the sense of unity and of friendship with the animal creation, and with nature as a whole. The same quality which characterises Celtic culture, inevitably causes the Celt to accord to woman the high position which she always occupies in Celtic literature. Throughout the Middle Ages the influence was widely felt of these Celtic types of womankind-Guenevere, Iseult, Enid. These were new types of woman; and the whole attitude to woman pervading the Celtic romances was an innovation in mediæval Europe. The influence of this ideal of womanhood cannot be over-estimated.

These are some of the characteristics of Celtic culture, Celtic spirit. They enable us better to understand why a certain aloofness and an

[•] This sense of the dignity and worth of the animal world, coupled with a capacity of being vividly aware of nature, in her various moods, informs the finely written Celtic tales of Fions Macleod, whose writings have enabled so many people to enjoy, in English, the intense feeling for beauty and the inveterate melancholy permeating the old Scottish-Gaelic Jiterature, of song, story and legend.

inveterate melancholy seem to cling to the Celt, and help us to see the importance of the contribution made by the Celtic spirit in the sphere of thought and culture to all the peoples of the Occident from the sixth century to the twentieth. With the same vision we may surely go on to say that it is the full and vitual inspiration of the Celtic spirit of which the world to-day, blasé and materialistic, stands in need.

A millenium ago the Celts created romantic personalities which have become universal in modern civilisation; while their attitude to womanhood exercised an influence nothing less than revolutionary. At the present day the Celtic genius has much to give along the same lines. And more than that. The Celt often knows a relationship between man and the animals, between man and nature, which unlocks secrets and enriches life. There is in him an awareness of fine things, a quick sense of contact with all beauty, an openness of the ears of the spirit, a continual yearning towards the unattained, as towards the ever receding West, a sense of undying, ever-renewed Lifetypified in the dream land of Tir nan Og, the Land of Youth.

On the other hand there is this modern lifevoid of sympathy, void of understanding for such an attitude. Man's cleverness has enabled him to fabricate machines and to organise systems so intricate and so all-embracing that life to-day is mechanical and often joyless. It is not alone in one city or in one country that the people "go to hell like lambs because the hooter hoots." It is an accepted commonplace to say that civilised man is to-day a slave to material things, which he himself has produced. He is tied to the machine. In the machine he finds his life-such as it is!

It may be indeed that the alcofness from the sources of real living lies in the world of affairs, which we accept, rather than in the Celt, and that the Celtic spirit will again in our time be the Spring of Youth from which our old world will drink and be renewed.

TOIMHSEACHAN TARSUINN.

Tha a' cheud duais aig Ceit NicDhomhnaill, Inbhirnis; agus an dara duais eadar Neilina NicDhomhnaill, Inbhirnis, agus Iain Mac-Dhomhnaill, Steornabhagh, aig an robh aon mhearachd le cheile.

Is e so fuasgladh an Toimhseachain—Tarsuinn—1, Gilleasbuig; 8, S.R.I., 9, Im; 10, Fadal; 11, Dt; 13, Når; 15, Eige; 18, Můch; 20, Araon; 21, Coire; 24, Amoa; 25, Rua; 27, Cé; 28, Muire;

29, Là; 31, Igs; 33, Dubhc(g)hasach. Stos—1, Gridealachd; 2, L1; 3, Esan; 4, Ardan; 5, Siar; 6, Ud; 7, Gaidhealach; 12, Sgaog; 14, Muime; 16, Ire; 17, Eo(j)n; 18, Moa; 19, Crò; 23, Muigh; 25, Ruig(c); 26, Arsa; 39, Ob; 32, Rahmbic bheir sing oothers.

Àir an ath mhios bheir sinn cothrom dhoibhsan nach leugh a' Ghaidhlig ro-fhileanta le bhi a'toirt seòladh am beurla, ach bidh cead aig gach neach feuchainn.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

GREENOCK MOD FUND.

Received at Head Office-				
Greenock Highland Society		£5	5	0
Ceilidh nan Gaidheal		5		ŏ
Sir Norman Lamont of Knockdow		2	2	ő
Mrs. M. E. M. Stockwell, Strathtay		2	õ	0
The Earl of Cassillis		ĩ	1	0
W. C. MacKenzie, Esq., Richmond	1	1	ı.	U
Thomas Thomas		1	1	0
Thames				
Finaly M. Ross, Esq., Glasgow		0	10	0
Miss Morag Cameron, Ballachulish		0	10	0
Hugh Paterson, Esq., Woodside		0	5	0
Andrew Gilchrist, Esq., Burnbank		0		0
Miss Annie MacMillan, Trislaig		0		0
Donald Sutherland, Esq., Scone		0		0
James Craigie, Esq., Perth		0	5	0
Miss MacLeod Clerk, Dumbarton		0	5	0
John Hosack, Esq., Kyle		0	2	6
Received at Greenock-				
Wm. S. Arbuckle, Esq, Greenock		£10	0	0
Grierson Macara, Esq., Greenock		3	3	0
Archibald Shearer, Esq., Greenock		2	2	0
Matthew Neilson, Esq., Greenock		2	2	0
		2	2	0
John S. Wingate, Esq., Greenock		2	0	0
R. D. Carmichael, Esq., Greenock		2	U	0

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BRANCH REPORT.

KILMODNI.—A spleudid concert was held at Ormidale on 15th April. Sir Norman Lamont of Knockdow presided, and was accompanied by Mirs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale; Miss Eleanora Cameron London; Miss Donialda Robertson, Glasgow, and Mr. Neill Silaw, General Secretary. A special feature of the evening's entertainment was "Bettidh." All the performers did their respective parts splendidly, and the play was thoroughly enjoyed.

BRANCH REPORTS.

FERINTOSH.—The session 1924-25 concluded with a grand Ceilidh in Kinkell School, when Mr. Urquhart, M.A., presided over a crowded house. After tea had been partaken of, the Chairman called upon Mr. James Jack, Wellhouse, to present Mr. A. MacLeod, vicepresident, with a beautiful pipe in token of the Committee's appreciation of his valuable services during the past three sessions. Mr. Jack felicitously performed the pleasant duty, and Mr. MacLeod modestly, as usual, expressed his thanks. The programme was as follows :- Gaelic songs-Misses W. Urquhart and F. MacLennan and Messrs. John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill; John MacRae, Dingwall; George Urquhart, Bellfield; Duncan MacDonald, Mulbuie; Donald MacKinnon, Harris; and Joe Urquhart. English and Scottish songs—Misses Molly MacLeod, Resolis; Janet Montgomery, and Mr John Fraser. Mandoline selections—Miss Jessie MacDonald. Violinist—Miss Mackay, Tore. Accordeon selections—Mr. Ross, Muir of Conon and Mr. Arthur Fraser. Mr. Ross also played the bagpipes with perfect satisfaction to his audience. After the artistes had received the cordial thanks of the audience, Mr. MacLeod acknowledged the compliment, and, instead of proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, intimated that the latter's associates in the Branch desired to show their gratitude in a tangible way. Miss MacDonald, teacher, was the medium of handing to Mr. Urquhart a chaste solid silver inkstand, and she did so in choice and fitting language. Mr. Urquhart confessed his inability to thank the kind donors suitably, but assured them of the sincerity of his gratitude and of pride in their handsome gift. The singing of "Oidhche Mhath Leibh" and "God save the King" brought to a close one of the happiest evenings in the memory of those who were present. The prizes for Gaelic reading in the Ferintosh Branch Reading Class have been awarded to :-- 1, Messrs. Alex. MacLeod; 2 and 3 (equal), James MacKintosh and John Simpson. Though the numbers attending were not large, the work was enthusiastically taken up by the members and notable progress was made.

Pour ELLES.—A successful Ceilidh and dance, under the auspies of the local branch of An Comun Gaidhealach, was held in the Ramsay Memorial Hall recently. In the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr. John Macdougall, Kilbride, the chair was occupied by Mr. D. Machelahn, M.A., the Schoolhouse, Port Ellen. The Chairman directed special attention to the Gaelie Stetch, "Posach Mhoraig," performed by the Port Ellen The Chairman directed special attention to the Gaelie Mrs. Urquhart, the Schoolhouse, Port Ellen. The Chairman directed special attention to the Gaelie Gaelie Dramatic Society, under the supervision of Mrs. Urquhart, the Schoolhouse, Artbeg, and intimated Ellen. He hoped the people would continue their interest in all things Gaelie. An excellent programme concluded with the Gaelie sketch, "Posadh Mhoraig," which was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience. Those who took part in the sketch were:—Iain Osdair, Mr. Donald Macdougall; Sile, Miss Christian Macgibbon; Murchadh, Mr. Alastair Woodrow; Calum Beatum, Mr. Duncan Campbell; Alsadair Sheumais Mr. Alasdair Urquhart; Bean Dhomhnuill Thormoid, Miss Katie Macmillan; Sine Globba, Miss Morag MacSachern; Peigi Sheorais, Miss Jean Macgilvray.

Mr. William White; Donnachadh Piobaire, Mr. Alastair, Mr. William White; Donnachadh Piobaire, Mr. Alastair, Mr. Arbeld, Calder; Sconaid Chrotach, Miss Jean

Macgivray. On the call of Mr. Maclachlan votes of thanks were accorded to Mrs. Brown, Post Office House, who played the accompaniments, to Mrs. Urquhart for her help to the sketch party, and to all the artistes who took part in the evening's entertainment.

Wick .- With the object of interesting a wider circle in the work of the newly-formed branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach in Wick, and for the purpose of obtaining more members, a Ceilidh was organised by the officebearers and committee. The function came off in the Parish Church Hall last Friday evening, and proved a very happy and successful event. Though the Ceilidh was arranged on quite informal lines, the attendance exceeded expectations, there being about 200 persons present. Mr. Millar, editor, president, who occupied the chair, gave a short address, beginning with a sentence or two in Gaelic. He expressed regret that his vocabulary of the language was not sufficient to enable him to give them a speech in Gaelic, but when the work of the Branch would be taken up at the beginning of next season he and others who had largely lost the power of speaking the language hoped to renew their acquaintance with it and become more proficient. The purpose of the branch was educative, both in regard to the Gaelic language and Celtic music, and the object of the Ceilidh was to enlist the support and help of all who were interested in Highland sentiment, literature and song. Next season they hoped to have a syllabus prepared to include two or three similar Ceilidhs, a reading circle (using the New Testament as a text book), and one or two lectures, etc., to be followed by a full Highland concert on lines similar to that held annually by the branch at Thurso. As the objects were educative, they hoped to be granted a room in the Academy or High School for their meetings, and they might also apply for certain grants that were available for the promotion of the Gaelic language. It was proposed to have an outing or picnic in the summer time, and probably also a Ceilidh with the Highland girls and others who came to Wick in the fishing season. Having referred to the ancient history and characteristics of the Celtic races, the expressiveness of the Gaelic language, and the wealth of its literature, especially in poetry, Mr. Millar said that most people whether they knew Gaelic or not, could appreciate and enjoy Highland music and song. Caithness folk prided themselves in being a mixture of the Scandinavian and Celtic elements, inheriting the good rather than the bad qualities of both-(laughter)and it was therefore desirable that the Celtic side of their type should be maintained no less than the Scandinavian. In their language, literature, music, art and social customs the Celtic people had a rich and goodly heritage, well worthy of being preserved, honoured, and handed down strengthened and, as far as possible, enriched. That was the object of An Comunn Gaihdealach and its various branches, and he therefore appealed to all who were willing to help to join the Wick Branch, the subscription to which was only 2s. 6d. for gentlemen and 1s. for ladies. Votes of thanks to the artistes, accompanists, caterer and committee were heartily accorded on the call of the Chairman, who himself received a similar compliment on the motion of Mr. M. Mackenzie. A Ceilidh which was pronounced a success in all respects, having the true social cordiality characteristic of such a gathering, closed with the singing of "God save the King." Over 30 persons remained behind and joined the Branch, in addition to those who had previously become members. The membership is now about 70.



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Leabhar XX.]

An t-Iuchar, 1925.

[Earrann 10

LATHA NA CEISTE.

Is cuimhne le luchd leughaidh a' mhìosachain so gun do sgrìobh am fear deasachaidh caomh nach maireann, Mhr Domhnall Mac-a-phì, earann thaitneach mu latha nan òrduighean. An ceàrnaibh de 'n Ghaidhealtachd bha coig laithean as lethoir a chéile 'g an coimhead an coimhcheangal ris a' chomanachadh. An cuid de dh' àitean anns an taobh-tuath tha an cleachdadh ceudna ri fhaotainn fathast. Aig a leithid sin de dh' am gheibhte cruinnichidhean móra a thàinig fada air astar. Bha aobhar no dha airson nan tional sin. Is tric a bhiodh na teachdairean a bu chomasaiche anns an dùthaich a làthair gu bhi a' searmonachadh do na coimhthionail. Agus tha buaidh tharruinn aig cainntear dùrachdach a' labhairt ri àireamh lìonmhor. Bu mhinic a chunnacas trì mìle sluaigh ag éisdeachd ris an luchd-teagaisg.

A thuilleadh air buaidh na teachdaireachd. bha na tionail shòlumta 'n an ùrachadh diamhair do mhóran de 'n luchd éisdeachd. An diugh fhéin, eadhon anns na bailtean móra, an uair a thig searmonaiche drùidhteach air a chuairt, chithear na mìltean 's an éisdeachd a' h-uile latha de 'n t-seachdain. Ma tha sin fìor anns an fhicheadamh linn cha ruig sinn a leas a bhi fo iongnadh ged bu ghnàth le ar n-aithrichean tlachd a ghabhail anns na tionail shuidhichte. Cha robh leabhraichean no paipeirean naidheachd cho pailt aig an am sin; agus is minic a fhuaras fiosrachadh ùr o bheul coigrich. Is bu chaomh le cairdean coinneachadh. Bu tric a thòisich caidreamh le muinntir a bhi an comunn a chéile gun dad air an aire mu mhalairt no farpuis shaoghalta. Chuireadh iad seachad laithean nan òrduighean comhla: agus bhiodh fadachd air gach aon gus an deagh eòlas ùrachadh.

Am bitheantas b'e Diardaoin an latha traisg, is Diahaoine latha na ceiste. Air an latha sin bha cothrom 'g a thabhairt do na h-éildearan, no do dhuine cubhaidh sam bith labhairt air a cheist. Is ann o na Puritans an Sasuinn a thàinig an cleachdadh do dh' Alba; agus ghabh an cleachdadh freumh daingean am measg nan Gàidheal. Chan eil nòs air bith gun "mar a bhiodh;" air uairibh chaidh sochair na saor-labhairt ud a chur gu droch bhuil. Ach aig an am cheudna bha an nòs feumail an uair a bhiodh daoine ciallach dùrachdach a' togail fianuis gu follaiseach air taobh na fìrinn. Bha sin a' tabhairt misnich do mhuinntir a dh'fhaodadh a bhi fo iomaguin a thaobh an cor spioradail. Bu ghnàths le aon air choreigin de na foirfich éiridh anns a' choimhthional agus earrann de 'n sgrìobtuir bhona-labhairt. chomharrachadh mar Theireadh iad tabhairt a mach na ceiste ris a' chleachdadh sin. Cha bhiodh fios romh laimh aig neach sam bith eile ciod an earrann a bha gu bhi air a sònruchadh. An sin labhradh fear an déidh fir gu poncail faiceallach air a' cheann labhairt. Feumar a chuimh-neachadh nach robh na fir ud an oil-thigh riamh airson foghlum. Cha bhiodh aca na b'fhearr na ealantas anns a' chainnt mhàtharail, maille ri deagh dhùrachd, is eòlas pearsanta air na puincean a bheireadh iad fa chomhair na cuideachda. Is fada bhios cuimhne aig an sgrìobhadair air latha ceiste o chionn seachd bliadhna air ais. Dh' éisd e ri da dhuine dheug an déidh a chéile; agus is ann air fhéin a chuireadh an dleasdanas a' cheist a chomhdhunadh, agus suim nan òraid a chur an eagar a chéile. Mar sin chan eil sinn gun aithne ann

ar latha féin air seann nòs a bha cho measail mùirneach aig ar n-aithrichean.

Chan ann a mhàin a thaobh cràbhaidh a tha latha na ceiste airidh air deagh iomradh. Anns an duilleig so tha e iomchuidh gu seallamaid air an dòigh anns an robh laimhseuchadh na ceiste a' nochdadh geur-chuis nam fear labhairt. Bha latha na ceiste 'n a dhearbhadh air modh-inntinn an t-sluaigh. Bha e a' nochdadh ciod e cho ullamh is a bha iad gu bhi ag àrdachadh an aire gu gnothuichean na h-inntinn. Ged a bha iad bochd 'n an crannchur, bha iad deas gu oidheirp a dheanamh a chum bhi beairteach an smuain. Chum an nòs ud am buadhan gun searg le cion cleachdaidh. Anns na h-òraidean follaiseach bha alt an ùr-labhraidh is pailteas nam briathran air an gleidheadh gu cùramach. Faodar a ràdh gu bheil éildearan na h-eaglais anns a' Ghaidhealtachd fada nas comasaiche airson labhairt anns an fhollais na tha éildearan air a' Ghalldachd. Le briathran gun easbhuidh; le reusanachadh gun chearb; le guth is giùlan cubhaidh do 'n uair is do'n àite, bha na foirfich Ghaidhealach a' taisbeanadh loinn inntinn a tha cliùtach dhaibh fhéin is do an cloinn. Is iomadh uair a chuir fìor chràbhadh e féin an céill le seallaidhean diamhair is le saorsachan iongantach; air chor is gu faodar a chantuinn mar an ceudna gu robh latha na ceiste air an dòigh so 'n a fhoillseachadh air buadhan spioradail.

----THE WORD OF A KERNASHEE.

By Campbell of Saddell, F.S.A. (Scot.), J.P., The Captain of Saddell Castle.

It was on a dark November night, when the wind was having its own way round the old inn at Dippen, laughing its wild laugh one moment then dying away in a long, drawn out wail the next, that a horseman rode up to the door, splashed from head to foot with mire, and without getting off his hard-breathing horse, shouted loudly for the landlord, who at the sound of that voice rose with an oath, lazy to leave the warm fire, and his cheery guests in his parlour. As he opened the door into the yard, the light behind him fell full on the horseman, a dark, low-browed, cleanshaven man, an old scar across his right cheek, as he sat his black, panting horse, like one that has been born in the saddle.

"Kernashee is dead," was all he said, and without another word, he turned and galloped into the darkness and storm.

"Well! Well! that beats all," remarked the landlord, heedless of the driving rain on his red, jovial face, as he stood in the doorway, peering into the darkness where the horseman had gone. "So Kernashee is dead, is he. A sudden call I reckon," he muttered, as he closed the door against the blast. His re-appearance into the parlour was greeted with renewed shouts of welcome and merriment; but as the night wore on, his guests noticed he had sunk into silence, not joining as he did earlier in the night in their songs or capping their tales with others, his silence began to affect the company, for as the night wore on, one by one of them grew silent; till at last no one spoke, but only sat looking into the fire, blowing blue wreaths of tobacco smoke. At last their host cleared his throat.

"Gentlemen," said he, "the Laird of Kernashee is dead, this very night I heard tell of it, two hours back of the clock yonder, but I was no wishing to spoil your night over the head of one that has gone The Long Jaunt, gentlemen," and at the same moment he was speaking, a wild gust of wind struck the old Inn, shaking it to its very foundations, that made the company start.

"Dhé!" said one of the company, "if there is such a place as hell, Kernashee is there for

a sure thing."

"True for you, Donald Clonaig," said the other, "for look at the carry on he has had for the last fifteen years and more, since Culloden, he and them strange friends of his that are aye coming and going when the Frenchmen are at the buying of the herring-Ave! Ave! Sunday or Saturday, it was aye the same to Kernashee and his grand company with the best lace of France at their throats and wrists. Cards and dice and toasting the devil till all hours."

"But who was telling you?" asked Donald Clonaig of the landlord.

"Just a man on horseback, did you no hear him shout?" answered the other.

"That I did not, but what was he like?"

"Well, what I could see of him through the rain," went on the landlord, "he was a broadshouldered chiel, dark with an old scar on his right cheek, and he on a real fine black horse, but he had over-ridden by the looks of it."

"God be about us," said a man who none of the company knew, who had the cut about him of one who has followed the drum, for his songs that night were of a roving nature, turning the colour of clay, as he went on, his pipe shaking in his hand, "oh righ! So he has kept his tryst. God save us."

"So you ken the horseman, do you?" asked the landlord.

"That I did, for I was present when he got the tow at the throat along with better men than himself in the Tolbooth, at Edinburgh, for I was sergeant of the guard that day. 'Sergeant,' says he to me, when the tow was round his throat, 'it is not the last of me you are seeing, or will be hearing about me, for by your tongue you are from Argyll. Hell and the grave will no keep me from Kernashee, for a tryst have I with my father that whoever went first was to come back from yonder, and make a last night of it at the cards and dice with the other that was on his last jaunt. Maybe yourself will see, we Kernashee folk are men of our word '-Well as I was about-" what else he was going to say was cut short by a loud knock at the door, that made the company start up.

"Come in." cried the landlord, in a hoarse voice, the door opened, and a more welcome sight never met that company's gaze, for the old parish minister entered, the rain pouring off him.

"Archie," said he to the landlord, "I have sad news to tell you. Kernashee has passed away two hours back. Struck down by the hand of the Almighty, and when they sent for me, I found him lying in a pool of wine on the floor, among dice and cards, and he still breathing-once he opened his eyes, and all I could catch of his thick words were- So, Colin, you limb of Satan, who have kept your word like a true Kernashee'-awful words which, gentlemen, for a man to enter the presence of his Maker," said the old minister, as he went on half aloud-" Be it at midnight or cockerow, but I say unto you, watch "and with that he passed out of the door with the landlord, after wishing them all a good-night.

COLAISDE NAM PAISDEAN IN EIRINN.

Tha an samhradh a' teannadh linn a rithist, no bu còir gum bitheadh, agus is iomdha sin Colaisde annseo a's annsiud in Eirinn a thoisicheas a thabhairt teagaisg ins a' Ghaodhalg do na daoini atha fasta suas, oidi sgoile agus eile. Chan 'eil fhios agam am bi mae-samhuil nan sgoilean seo agaibh in Mabiann i mbliadhna, ach bhi uair eigin, agus tuigthear an obair a bhitheas ga deanamh annta. Ach tha me a dhol cupla focal a radh fa sgoil eile nar chuala me gu bheil a leithid eile le fàghail in Albainn no in Eirinn—sin Colaisde na b-Pàisidi aige Cionn a' Chlochair,

làimh ri Drochad-Atha, i g-Conndae Lughbhaighe (Co. Louth)

Ins an àite aoibhinn bhòidheach seo air iomall na fairge chuir dream beag de Ghaodhail dhuthrachdaich an Colaisde seo air bun dòrnan de bhliadhnaichean o shoin. Tha taigh mòr briagh aca, aiteacha codail fairsing gu leòr do cheud pàisdi shuas an stuidhir, agus seomraichea le teagasg a thabhairt annta taobh shìos. Amuigh fa'n adhar is mò a bhitheas an teagasg air shiubhal ma bhitheas an aimsir freagarrach, agus cainnt a' s comhradh a réir Modha na Raidhti an dòigh theagaisg a bhitheas d'a saothrachadh. Cithre seachduini fad au teasisein agus dà sheisean gach a'n bhitadhain.

Théid gluaistean (carbad ola) chuige Drochad-Atha ceud latha an t-seisein a bhreith na b-pàisdi isteach saor, agus théid se ar ais a rithist leotha na naoi mìle sin nuair a bhitheas an seisean thairis.

An cheud choinfheasgar daibh ins a' Cholaisde bidh siad ga roinn in a dtri ranganna (earrannan) air na tri oidi. Air feadh ceithre uair ins a' latha bidh siad ag obair go dian duthrachdach a' foghluim a's a' cleachdadh na teangadh, araon cànain agus ceol. Eadar amanna bidh dannsa nan Gaodhal, camanachd, agus cluichi ceolmhara a's eile ga saothrachadh aca fa chùram nan oidi, agus nuair a bhitheas an làn-mara ann thig leotha folcadh agus snàmh a dheanamh (fa chùram muinntire a' Cholaisde a gcòmhnaidh) air an tràigh mhìn àluinn nach eil ach ceud slat air shiubhail 6 thaigh na sgoile. Faodtar siubhail fad mìlti air an ghaineamh agus e tràighte.

Roimh am-luidhe bidh ceilidh no cuirm ceoil ann, agus in éis (as déigh) an fhoghluim, an dannsa, agus na sporsa is cinnt go mbidh an suain-lios, no an seomar cadail, ciuin socair rith na h-oidhche.

Uair ins a' t-seisean bidh Aeridheacht no cuirm ceoil fa'n adhar aca, agus muinntir na dùthcha thart timcheall cruinn aig éisteachd leotha, agus latha eiginn eile bidh tuaras aca amuigh air a' chuan.

Taobh amuigh de na h-Oidi bidh Raighladair ann le h-aire a thabairt do na pàisdi nuair nach mbidh na ranganna ag obair, agus béirt bhan altrum air eagal go dtuiteadh tinneas air dhuine air bith aca.

Chan fhaodtar a thomhais i gceart an maith atha a leithid seo de sgoil a' dheanamh air son nan aos òg. Tha teagasg agus slàinte le faghail innte, agus faodtar athair no màthair a' phàisde a bhi cinnteach nach mbain (bean) droch-bhail leobha fhad is bhitheas siad annseo seachas mar bhitheadh siad aig an taigh. Is maith an t-oideachas daibh aithne a chur air a chèile as na cùig cùigidhi agus mairsinn in aon-toigheas air feadh mìosa. Is fhèarr am breith air an

t-saoghal d'a réir.

Ach tha me a' saoilsinn go bheil me a' cluinntinn duine eigin ga ràdh:—'Il s furusda daibh ins an t-Saor-Stàt a leitid de sgoil a hur air bun agus an Riaghaltas ac a ' cuideach-adh leis an teangaídh dhùtchasaich." Creid uaimsa e; bhi an sgoil seo air, bun sol ma cuireadh an Saor-Stàt air bun, agus chan fheil si a' fàghail' leith-pheighinne air bith o Riaghaltas air bith.

Tha na sgoileirí a tabairt ceithre ginl in aghaidh an t-seisein (ginl in aghaidh na seachduine) mar mhalairt air an oideachas, an biadh, a' s an loistean. An chuid is llonmhaire aca tha siad a' faghail an airgid aig an taigh; ach tha cuid aca a' fàghail sgoilearachda aige Féis no Féill (cosmhail leis na Mòdan dùthchail agaibh-se), no c thraobh (mheur) de Chonradh

na Gaedhilge in an dùthaich fhéin.

Is 'agaibh-se atha fios air seo; Feumaidh an òigridh an Teangaidh fhoghlaim, air-neo tha buaidhte orainn ins a' chath. Agus chan eil fhios agam go bheil bealach air bith nìos fhèarr ann leis an òigridh a chur a' labhaitr na teangadh, in éis a foghluma ins a' sgoil air feadh na bliadhna, nà a thabhairt mar dhuais daibh cuid d' a laethe saoire a chathadh i ggoil shamhraidh cosmhail le Colaisde na b-Pàisde, Ciom a' Chlochair.

Craig-eallachaidh.

BEN DORAIN.

THE SACRED MOUNTAIN OF THE HIGHLANDS.

Not many true Gaels, I think, could read the title of this article without a thrill Lowlanders, who have not given nights and days to the study of Gaelic speech and distrature, will have no idea of the significance of the name. But Ben Dorain is the one sacred mountain of Scotland—almost as sacred to the Gael, in a sense, as Fusi-Yama to the Jap—for it denotes the marvellously impressive mountain of East Argyllshire immortalised by Duncan Ban MacIntyre, the supreme Gaelic poet, the real Burns of the Gaelic people of the Highlands and the Isles.

A few months ago I examined the monument recreted in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh, to Duncan Ban MacIntyre by "a few admirers of his genius," and as I copied the inscription not to be found, strange to say, in any publication—I wondered if this were not, perhaps, about the most remarkable memorial among all the multitudes of curious and significant structures in that historic burial-place. Duncan Ban was a natural genius who sang but as the birds sing. Although he could neither read nor write he acquired a wonderful mastery over the intricacies of Gaelic versification, and in singing his Gaelic melodies he captivated the minds and hearts of his fellow-Celts as no other poet, Gaelic or English, ever did.

Ben Dorain (probably Doireann, meaning stormy, tempestuous) rises on the eastern verge of Argyllshire, near the head of Glenorchy, looking over the county march into West Perthshire. As Duncan Ban was born and brought up at Glenorchy he knew the great mountain intimately from his earliest days, and throughout his youth, as he tells us in his songs, he haunted its magnificent slopes and knolls and corries, now bare and grassy, but in his time wooded and covered with all manner of sweet herbs-St. John's wort, primrose, daises, and choice heatherfood for the young deer, whose nature he understood and sang so admirably. The mountain is unique in appearance in the mountain scenery of Scotland. Its immense mass rises in shapely, conical form to a height of 3523 feet, then falls away in a long slope backward towards the north-east till gradually lost to sight. You get a splendid view of Ben Dorain from the train at Tyndrum, passing on the Callander and Oban Railway-a more interesting view, perhaps, than on the West Highland Railway, which skirts Ben Dorain's base, for in the former case the sense of mystery is deepened as you look northward into the great opening towards Glenorchy and Loch Tulla, which lies about three miles beyond.

On the same journey westward you will presently see the monument—in the form of a small Greek temple—raised to the memory of Duncan Ban MacIntyre on Creagan-Chaorach, near Loch Awe, but that is far less of a monument to the poet than Ben Dorain is, and touches far less acutely the sympathetic interest of those who have been born to his poetry, or even of those who—like all English-speaking persons in Lowland Scotland and England—have studied his poetry in the Gaelic as in a foreign tongue.

It is told on Duncan Ban's tombstone in Greyfrians Churchyard that he was born on March 20, 1724. He had the misfortune to serve on the wrong side in the '45—not with his will, for his heart was with the Prince, but mainly because the royal warrant to the Duke of Argyll, as Lord Lieutenant of An t-Iuchar, 1925.

the county, to call out the militia and fencibles was not to be disregarded, and in a way unfortunate for himself Duncan Ban became a trooper. In his later years he resided in Edinburgh, one of the old City Guard, of which as Adam Black once observed, "he was the only member that left in imperishable verse some graphic record of the fact." It is strange to think that although he was living in Edinburgh at the same time as Burns and Scott neither of them seems ever to have heard of this man, a Scotsman like themselves, who was endowed with a natural and soaring genius hardly inferior to their own, and was singing his vernacular songs with a melody that made as instant appeal as their own immortal productions to the enraptured minds of his Gaelic fellow-countrymen.

It is not possible to give in English any adequate idea of the charm of Duncan Ban's Gaelic poetry. A few years ago Sir William Robertson Nicoll, in reviewing the new edition of Dugald Buchanan's spiritual poems, wrote that translations of Gaelic poems generally leave the Sassenach unmoved. It was a just remark. In some way the magic evaporates in translation, and it makes no difference how accomplished the translator may be in either the scholarship or technique of Gaelic verse. This is well seen in Duncan Ban's own case. Ten years ago an edition of his Gaelic songs was brought out, edited by Dr. George Calder, the accomplished Lecturer in Celtic in Glasgow University, with an English translation in verse by Dr. Calder on each opposite page. The result, while of the greatest value for students of Gaelic as a helpful literal translation, and, as confined to appropriate rhythm and English rhyme, an amazingly clever and sustained piece of versification, could only set English-speaking readers wondering that a man who might be supposed to speak such commonplace things could have been looked upon as a genius at all.

In his popular songs Duncan Ban sang of many aspects of humble life, civil and military, as well as of natural scenes and the chase. His own recital of his songs must have been delightful to listen to-indeed, the personal, human agent is really indispensable in Gaelic poetry if the melody is to please and satisfy, and the sentiment and language are to inspire. This is one of the lessons of Gaelic history. The genius of the Gael has usually expressed itself orally, not in literature, and with the passing of the living use of the Gaelic speechundoubtedly now in progress-much of what is most characteristic and most valuable in

the Celtic character will suffer. To Duncan Ban the traditional living speech of his race was the joy of life, the supreme instrument of happy fellowship, and he toasted the Gaelic as the speech of Eden, as the language of the prophets, the softest for love, the warmest for friendliness, and the most cutting for dispraise of any language that was ever devised.

Of his lighter pieces one might cite as an example of Duncan Ban's more charming work his song to "Mairi Bhan Og" (Fair Young Mary), his newly wedded wife. It is a long piece of 17 double stanzas, but length is no defect in Gaelic poetry, and this production had sincerity as well as music to commend it to the listeners. Again, let it be said that a translation conveys nothing but more or less commonplace and dull sentiment, whereas with the singer-particularly with the author as singer- the subtle turns of versification, the the little conceits, above all the melody and life that run through the whole work, would make an evening passed in the company of company of such a man unforgettable, and would make his fame widespread throughout the Gaelic region.

Then there is nis "Coire a' Cheathaich" (Corrie of Mist), 18 double stanzas of melodious natural description, epithet on epithet, telling of the rich grass and lovely flowers and fruits in the "Misty Corrie of the Vagrant Hinds," of the life of the deer that sought the slopes of that kindly hillside, of the gleaming, whitebellied salmon in the corrie, the insect life, the mountain birds, and, ultimately, the human fellowship that, after all, was the crown of joy in every scene of natural beauty.

But it is on his "Moladh Beinn-Dorain" (Praise of Ben Dorain) that the fame of Duncan Ban MacIntyre as a great Gaelic poet chiefly rests. Into it went his very life, for he must have lived that long poem, carry;ng it all in his memory, and there must have been many variations in the text of the poem before the now well-known version was finally committed to manuscript.

Honour over every mountain

Be to Ben Dorain;

Of all that I have seen beneath the sun It is the most beautiful.

Thus he opens his list of priceless qualities pertaining to the wonderful mountain-its clear, sloping outlines, its branching groves, the herds of deer in full chase, the wily and skilful hunters and their equipment, the companions that were so friendly with him in the drives on the mountain; then, in more detail, a particular hind is described, dainty in seent, light in step, and swift in motion, or her lover, the wild-headed deer, noisy in roaring—"He dwells in Ben Dorain." It is all full of the open life of the chase, with insight into the ways of wild life that could come only of deep affection and sympathy, animated by an intense love of the open-air life, particularly about this mountain, which itself assumes almost a personality, and will be associated with the poet's name as long as Duncan Ban's name and work are known.

A feature of this remarkable poem-of engaging interest to Lowlanders, if they could be induced to study the Gaelic text-is the large proportion of expressions used in it that have found their way into our Lowland Scots dialect speech. As a rule, our Scots people have no idea of the real sources of their dialect speech and they would be surprised to know that somewhere about a score of our expressive "Doric" words are borrowed directly from the Gaelic. In "Ben Dorain," for example, Duncan Ban speaks of a "ceard" (kyard), our "Doric" expression for a tinker, or a person of no character. Our poet, however, uses it in its original and proper sense of a craftsman (early Irish, "cerd"), for it was only after we took it from the Gaelic into our dialect speech in the Lowlands that it became debased to mean a person of low character, as it is used still. Then we Scots folk speak sometimes of a complaining person as one accustomed to "girn," and we find the expression in "Ben Dorain," used in its proper form, "gearan," a complaint; as also our grandmother's expression, to "mask" (infuse) a pot of tea, from the Gaelic "masg," to mix, infuse, whence our forbears borrowed it. The poem, being to a large extent a nature poem, speaks also of a "cnoc," a hillock (Sc., "cnock") the same thing; "glac," a valley (Sc., "glack"); "sobhrach," a primrose (Sc., "soorack"), and so on. An expression still heard by Scots medical men-especially those in city dispensary practice-is the description of a festering sore as a "beeling," or "bealing," a most curious expression that must often have aroused the interest of thoughtful persons. In the original Gaelic it is "beul," a mouth, and in "Ben Doran" it is used by Duncan Ban to describe the healthy deer-"bu tirme bheileannaich," very dry-mouthed-that used to be hunted on the slopes and corries of his beloved mountain.

It must be said that Duncan Ban Mac-Intyre is in some danger of becoming a traditional classic, even among Gaelic people —seated apart in the heights, that is, not familiarly quoted, or even intimately known. In official and popular collections of Gaelic songs, for example, you do not find Duncan Ban represented except by a stanza or two, perhaps, of the lyrical "Corrie of Mist," or his "Song to a gun named Cosham's Daughter." In Gaelic anthologies his work is more widely represented, as they are more of a literary character, but I do not recall that any popular collection of Gaelic lyrics contains anything of "Ben Dorain," his principal composition. Yet "Ben Dorain" is a tuneful work, with a haunting, melodious rhythm, intended to be sung. I have no doubt Duncan Ban often sang it himself. It is full of his characteristic turns of speech and thought-his epithetical exhuberance, his joy in recalling the excitement of the chase, his intimate, loving knowledge of the great mountain that inspired his song. Ben Dorain may be said to have largely filled his life, for in a particular sense he was a poet of early memories, and Ben Dorain itself is now enshrouded in an atmosphere of poetic fancy by reason of Duncan Ban's work that endears it to a whole race, and confers upon it a distinction singularly well suited to its majestic isolation and repose.

G. M. Fraser.

A HEBRIDEAN IN TOWN.

When the bells of the city church ring out With their clash and their silver din,

Calling the people up from the streets
With the promise of pardoned sin,
Though I'm one of the folk that kneel to pray

In the storied aisle and rare, There's a thought in my mind that's far away From the church in the city square.

It's the thought of a lonely, grey-walled kirk, In the sea-girt Hebrides,

Where the aisle is full of the sound of surf, And the whisper of God's seas

Comes in like a laugh at the open door
Where the shepherds' collies lie,
While the long slow usalm goes up to G

While the long slow psalm goes up to God With the sea-wind in its cry.

When the organ sounds in the city church, When the parson reads the Word From the gilded lectern with its Book Outspread on the wings of a bird,

I wish that the eagle's gift were mine,
That with wings I could rise and soar
To worship God in the old grey kirk
With the collies at the door.

ISOBEL HUTCHISON, Kirkliston,

COMHRADH EADAR SEUMAS MOR AGUS AILEAN SGOILEAR MU'N CUAIRT AIR AN "ELECTRIC."

By Joan Cameron, High School, Tobermory, A Prize-winner at last year's Mod.

Allean—"Cia mar a tha thu'n diùgh a Sheumais, 's fhada o nach fhaca mi thu. Feumaidh gu'n d'fhuair thu dòigh ùr air d'ùine a chur seachad 'nuair nach eil thu ri fhaicinn idir air an rathad so.''

SEUMAS—''Cha d'fhuair, gu dearbh, ach an d'fhairich sibh, le'r cead, ciod e tha na facail 'temspstetuous' agus 'surveyor' a ciallachadh?''

Allean—"Tha an t-eagal orm, a Sheumais a laochain, gu'n do chuir thu car beag anns a' chiad fhacal, ach ciod e an sgoilearachd a th'air d'aire an dràsda?"

SEUMAS-"Cha'n eil sgoilearachd 'sam bith, ach thachair dà sheòrsa de dhuin' uasal orm shuas aig an drochaid, agus air dhomh am facal 'atrocious' a chluinntinn aig a' mhinisteir anns an t-searmoin ghléidh mi cuimhne air, agus thubhairt mi riu gu'n robh sìde "atrocious" ann. Thubhairt iad gu'n robh "tempestuous" 's cha robh dhòmhsa ach mo bheul a dhùnadh. Ach co dhiubh chuir mi romham gu'n deanainn a mach co bh'annta mu'n falbhadh iad, 's dh'fhoighnich mi dhaibh an robh iad eòlach air an fhear a bha sios an rathad air thoiseach orra? An àite innseadh, rinn iad gàire, 's thubhairt iad gu'n robh gu leòir de phaipearan anns na bùithean. Cha'ne nach robh fhios agamsa air a sin roimhe, ach feumaidh gu'n robh barail glé bhochd aig na creutairean orm. Cha do chum mi cuimhne air gearradh tuilleadh de na thubhairt iad ach rud eiginn mu'n cuairt air 'surveyor.' "

Allean—"Ubh! a Sheumais, tha'n t-eagal orm gu'n robh iad a tabhairt an car asad, 'se sin muinntir an 'electric'''

SEUMAS—" 'Electric!' nar leig am fortan gu'm beil am breathanas sin a' tighinn air an dùthaich so."

ALLEAN—" 'S ann tha 'h-uile rud ach breathanas ann 'nuair nach eil dhuit ach bruthadh a thoirt do'n phutan air son solus fhaotainn."

SEUMAS—"Ubh! faodaidh a bhith gu'm hheil an solus briagha gu leòir, Ailean, ach cha d'fhairich thu na dh'fhairich mìse le lòinidh, 's tha mi'g ràdh ruit ged bu dona an lòinidh gu'm bu sheachd mhiosad an leigheas." ALEAN—"Faodaidh sin a bhith, ach ciod e an comas a th'aig an 'electric' air a sin?"

SEUMAS—"Tha direach gur ann leis a' dheuch daoine aon uair ris an lòinidh a chur dhiomsa, ach an àite an lòinidh a chur air falbh 'sann a chuir e a leithid de ghaoir romham 's gu'n do shaoil leum gu'n robh mi marbh."

Allean—"Ach ciod e rinn iad riut an dràsda?"

SEUMAS—"Rinn, gu'n do chuir iad rud iaruinn anns gach làmh ag ràdh rium gu'm falbhadh an lòinidh. Bha mise nam bhurraidh truagh a' feitheamh gus am falbhadh i 'sam bithinn òg a rithis, ach an àite sin 'sann a chaidh mi air chrith, agus as a sud cha'n fhaighinn 's mi as déidh mo lùthas a chall."

AILEAN—"Tha mi tuigsinn—'se 'electric shock' a bha'n sin."

SEUMAS—" 'Se fior 'shock' a bh'ann 's nam faighinnse té eile dhiubh chuireadh i crìoch le h-onoir orm có dhiubh."

AILEAN—"Tha mi creidsinn sin, ach 'se deifer 'electric' tha'n so 's cha chosg thu 'paraffin,' no coinnlean no ni."

SEUMAS—''Faodaidh tusa bhi bruidhinn, Aignean, ach 's mìse dh'fhairich e, 's cha'n i ain ane hrathad goirid gu crìoch a chur air beatha dhaoine. 'S bha iad fada na b'fheàrr ruair nach robh aca ach an cruisgean. Cha'n eil ni a dol ach a mealladh an Fhreasdail 's a gabhail brath air obair nàduir.''

Allean—"Cha robh ann an thmeannan c'chruisgean ach thmeannan boehda, a Sheumais, agus creid thusa mise, gu'm beil na h-atharraichean so a' deanamh feum mór air feadh an t-saoghail; and all these inventions, such as electric light, wireless dispatching, aeroplanes, submarines, etc., are for the benefit of the nation."

SEUMAS—"Theara! Fheara! ciod e tha'n so, mu'n d'thubhairt Ciorsdaidh e as déidh tighinn a mach as an eaglais a cheud Sàbaid as déidh dhith tighinn dhachaidh a Glaschu: 'B'e sud an terrific flow of eloquence.' Cha'n iongantach gu dearbh ged a thug a' ghealach leum aiste, 'sa chaidh i eadar sinn 'sa ghrian, mara rinn i o chionn beagan sheachduinean an so, cha b'urrain domh chreidsinn nach robh rud-eiginn 'na beachd. Tha an t-àm agamsa bhi falib air neo bithidh mì faotainn 'electric dispatch' thar a' cheidhe mhòr air son a bhi fada gun dol dhachaidh.

A GAELIC GLOSSARY.

By Ronald Burn, Humanity Department, University, Glasgow.

- aibid ('n): the alphabet: Braemore, Matheson, n.: cf. àbusaidh, àbasaidh. Abbreviation of aibidil?
- aibhin: 'death trap' (see amhainn below):
 Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n., and others:
 N. Uist, A. MacDonald, n.
- aidhean: plant with very big leaf, grows in big clumps; not indigenous to Tiree, but found at many cottage-fronts as a gardenflower: Tiree, Mrs. MacLeod, n.
- ailleas: diversion, fun, sport, play: L. Broom: K. MacKenzie, n. Used of saying a thing without meaning it. Comes in song quoted under clam-'ic-Ruairidh, and cf. under ailleasach. Cf. ealag.
- àllleasach: dainty about food, finicky: Moidart, Miss M. MacIntyre, n.: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n.: Tiree, Mrs. Mac-Leod, n.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: Coll, Hector MacDougall, n.: Barra, Miss MacIntyre, from native: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: cf. tàirleasach, tormas(ach), tàrlasach, tàrmasach, nòibiseach. MacEachen' is better than Dw. here, and this word seems dial. for àighlhere, and this word seems dial. for àighl-

àilleasach: dainty, graceful: Braemore, Matheson, n.: Kilmuir, MacDonald, n.: a fragmentary port-á-bial says:—

Dhannsainn fhin gu h-ài Air lobht-làir le bòtain àrd', Dhainnsainn fhin gu h-ài.

Coll gives as last line:—

Air lobht-làir le bòtain.

Rare in Waternish in this last meaning.

- aimisgil: see amaisteal: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: is this connected with aimsgith?
- aimisgil: young boy always up to some mischief and fun, a boys-will-be-boys boy: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: cf. sgumaiceach, rosad, etc.
- aininn: diverging point in straight alignment of stack of corn, i.e., any outside, reflex, elbow-like angle formed by stacks going up so far straight and then tapering to top by heading off its straight perpendicularity: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n.: Coll, MacDougall, n.: Islay, Duncan Johnston, n.: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: cf. anainn

aininn: any diverging point at which upper part throws off rain—of mullainn, cruaich fheòir, tigh, etc.: Kilmuir, MacDonald, n.: Islay, Johnston, n.: Coll, MacDougall, n.: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n.: of. logaidh.

aininn: same as ainnir (q.v.): Islay, Duncan Johnston, n.: Kilmuir, Angus Mac-

Donald, n.

aininn: same as Gl. Garry anainn (see note on ainnir): Islay, J., n.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n. The first meaning is very common in Islay. Dial. for anainn in Dw., and cf. p. 923;

this is the Lewis word.

ainnir: top of wall inside roof of house, i.e. that on to which roof slopes; whose surface looks to the roof-top, not to the other side of the house; not top of wall's side, but upper free inside top surface of wall; "inside eave"; the crap o' the wa', the wa' heid: Coll, Neil MacDougull, n. Lorne, Neil MacLean, n.: whereas in G! Garry (Inv.) the anainn is the outside part at the top of the wall's side (the outside crap o' the wa', including also the part under the thatch eaves)—see Dw. p. 923. Cf. sininn.

ainnlean: kitchie, 'kitchen,' όψω, a relish or addition to plain fare, condiment to make dry piecie go down better: Islay, Duncan Johnston, n. See verses under arcus below. Cf. ceapaire. Dial. for annl-, the Waternish, Braemore, etc., form.

althinn: popular catchword: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n. ? ath-thighinn=ath-ighinn =aithighinn, so MacL. Cf. athan. Athainne in Kilmuir and Waternish is burning peat used as light for going out in

dark, or burning coal.

alnnisd: nickname: Kinlochewe, Duncan Matheson: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: Braemore, Miss Matheson, n. 'S e na h-innisdean gheabh na h-annaisdean is known as saying. ? Connected with aithnisg. Cf. innisd, innisg below. Farainm in Harris, Barra, S. Uist, Coll, etc.

aithnean: blubber of fish, fat parts, e.g. liver, etc.; found e.g. on seal or whale: Jura, Neil Mac-Lean, n.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: Islay, Duncan Johnston, n.: 2 aidhnean—spelling uncertain. Cf. sùileag, uille, cnaimhseag, áthaichean. Míonach in Kilmuir, saill in Waternish.

(Ri leantainn.)

EACHDRAIDH A MHIC A B' OIGE.

Bho choinn móran bhliadhnaichean air ais mu'n deachaidh na daoine sithe agus na h-ùruisgean, agus daoine càirdeal treun fhuadachadh as a Ghaidhealtachd, bha triùir bhràithrean ann a dh' fhabh a dh' airraidh an fhortain, agus ghabh gach fear dhuibh a rathad féin.

Cha deachaidh am bràthair a b' òige ro fhad air a thurus 'n uair thachair e air duineachan beag liath a chuir fàilte air, agus a dh' fheòraich dheth aobhar a thuruis. Phreagair an t-òganach "Is fhada on chuala sinn nach bi duine 'na fhàidh na dhùthaich féin, agus cha till mi air mo cheum gus an cruinnich mi fortan mòr, no gus an deann mi duine ainmeil dhiom féin air chor-eigin."

Fhreagair an duinneachan, "Ro mhath, an gabh thu mìse maille ruit?" Thubhairt an gille òg ris, "Ach c'ainm a th' ort?" Ciod e an ni as fearr 's urrainn duit a dheanamh?"

"Is e m'ainm Saor MacSabhaidh, agus tha mì comasach air bata farsuinn diongmhalta a dheanamh de leud do bhoise de dharach" arsa an seann duine. "Thig maille rium, bithidh tu feumail," fhreagair an t-òganach.

Chaidh an dithis air an aghaidh ach cha b'fhada 'nuair choinnich iad fear aile a thubhairt ris an òganach "Càit am bheil thu dol, agus an gabh thu mise maille ruit?"

"Fhuair e a fhreagairt." A dheanamh an fhortain, ach c'ainm a th'ortaa agus ciod an ni 's fearr 's urrainn duit a dheanamh! ?"
"Is mise Cluss ri Caisdeachd agus cluinnidh mi an cagair as lugha 'theid a dheanamh aig ceann thall an t-saoghail." Thubhairt an t-oganach, "Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn."

Beagan uine an deigh sin thachair an treas fear ris agus thubhairt e "Càit a bheil thu dol agus an gabh thu mise maille ruit?" "Dheanamh an fhortain" arsa an t-oganachs "Ach c'ainm th'ortsaagus ciod 's fearr " urrainn duit a dheanamh?"

"Is mise Poof-mór agus is urrainn dhomh bàta a sheideadh air aghaidh an talamh tioram." An t-oganach, "Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn."

Goirid an deigh sin thachair an ceathramh fear air a thubhairt ris, "Càit am bheil thu do?" agus an gabh thu mise maille ruit?"

"Dheanamh an fhortain, ach c'ainm 'th'ortsa, agus ciod is fearr is urrainn duit a dheanamh " Fhreagair am fear "Is mise Treun-mor-mac Treise agus is urrainn dhomh na craobhan as treise agus as freumhaichte a spionadh as an talamh." Ars' an t-òganach, Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn."

Bha cuideachd an òganaich a sìor mheudachadh air an dòigh so agus bha spìorad an oganaich a sìor ćirigh. Mar a bha iad a gabhail an rathaid gu sunndach chuir fear eile impidh air an òganach mar a rinn càch, "Câit a bheil thu dol agus an gabh thu mìse maille ruit?" An t-òganach, "Dheanamh an fhortain ach c'ainm 'th'ortaa agus ciod is fearr is urrainn duit a dheanamh?" "Is mìse Luirgeann Luath, agus is urrainn dhomh ruith gu fuaran ceann an t-saoghail agus air ais ann an cuig mionaidean." An t-òganach, "Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn."

Glé ghoirrid an déigh sin sheas fear eile compa a dh' fheoirich, "Càit am bheil thu dol, agus an gabh thu mise maille ruit?" An t-òganach, "Dheanamh an fhortain, ach c'ainm 'th' ortsa?" agus ciod 's fearr 's urrainn duit a dheanamh?" Am fear, "Is mise Sealladh-fad-air-astar, agus is urrainn dhomh sealltuinn seach fuaran ceann an t-saoghail." "Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn."

Bha nis seathnar dhaoine foghainteach aige agus bha nithe a' soirbheachadh gu math leis. Bha vuaidhean aig na daoine a bha 'ga leantuinn a bha neo-chumanta, agus cha robh móran nithe 'bhiodh feumail dha nach b'urrainn dhoibh a dheanamh air a shon. Nis smuaintich e "Nam biodh fear na dithis eile agam cha b' eagal dol car sam bith."

Air togail a shùilean chunnaic e an seachdamh fear a thuirt ris "Câit a bheil thu dol agus an gabh thu mìse maille ruit?" Thàinig an t-seann fhreagairt, "Dh-iarraidh an fhortain, ach c'ainm a th'ortsa?" agus ciod is fearr is urrainn duit a dheanamh?" "Is ise Dorn-cruaidh agus is urrainn dhomh creag a sgotadh le aon bhuile de mo dhorn." An t-òiganach, "Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn." Mar sin chaidh e leo, agus bha iad gru sunndach air an t-sliicha

Ach co e an duine geur—shuileach tha feòrachadh de'n cheannard, "Câit am bheil dhu dol, agus an gabh thu mise maille ruit?" Bha an fhreagairt mar a b'abhaist," Dhiarraidh an fhortain, ach cainm a th'ortsa agus ciod is fearr is urrainn duit a dheanamh? "I smise Cuspair-mac Cuimsiche, agus is urrainn dhomh leud rionieig a chuimseachadh." "Bithidh tu feumail," arsa an t-òganach, "thig maille ruinn."

(Ri leantainn.)

TUIREADH NAM FIANN A THUIT 'SA CHOGADH MHOR.

KEY Eb. Slow and sustained.

 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{d.r.} \mid \mathbf{m}: -: \mathbf{r.m.} \mid \mathbf{s}: -: -\mid \mathbf{m.r}: \mathbf{d}: -\mid -: - \right\} \\ \text{Och nan Och! Tha mi tinn is fo leòn,} \end{array} \right.$

{ : d.r | m:− : r.m | s;−:− | m.r:d:− | −:− A'tuireadh nam Fiann tha fo'n fhòd—

 $\begin{cases} : \mathbf{s}.\mathbf{s} \mid \mathbf{s} : - : \mathbf{m}.\mathbf{s} \mid \widehat{\mathbf{d}} : - : \mathbf{f}.\mathbf{f} \mid \mathbf{f} : - : \mathbf{s}.\mathbf{1} \mid \mathbf{s} : - \end{cases} \\ \text{A'tuireadh nam Fiann, chaidh àrach 'sna glinn,}$

} : d.r | m:-:rm | s:-:- | m.r:d:-|-:- | 'S a chuireadh an Cìll na Roinn-Eòrp.

Dh'éirich cogadh bha gàbhaidh 'san Ear, Bha Gog agus Magog air mhir', 'Sam Pruisseanach borb an dùthaich nam Bolg, A' togar le colg air gu lear.

Mar nios bha'n Crann-tara gu luath, Toirt fios dha na Gaidheil mu thuath; 'S piobmhór air dheagh ghleus a' dùsgadh nan

'Sa stùradh an ceuma' gu buaidh.

Air cluinntinn ard-chaismeachd nam buadh, Dh'fhàg iasgair a lion anns a' chuan, Dh' fhàg buachaill an spréidh air rathad gu féill, 'S dh'fhàg sealgair na féidh anns an ruaig.

An t-aodhair bha 'g aoradh le shluagh, Ghrad leum e chuir faobhar air tuagh; 'S an leighiche gràidh, bha leigheas o'n bhàs, Gun dh'fhàg e am bàs a' toirt buaidh.

Na fir a bha sabaid 'sa chùirt, 'S na fir a bha tagair an cùis, Gun thìlg iad air làr an cùisean le tàir Is dh'fhalbh iad a theàrnadh na dùthch'.

Am fear a bha mìreadh 's a spòrs, Rì leannan, an ionns a bhi pòsd, Gun tharruing e leum, do charraid nan treun, Gun fantuinn ri deuraibh no pòg.

Mar aon duine dh'éirich na suinn, Gu mór-chridheach, mór-chruthach grinn, Le shuaicheantas fhéin, air ceannard gach treubh, Is Bratach na Féinn os an cinn.

Bha cuid dhiubh bho àros Mhicleoid, Is cuid bho Chinnt-sàile nam bò, Bho Chatobh mu thuath, 's Earraghaidheal nam buar, Is cuid dhiubh bho fhuar-thonnaibh Leodh's.

Bha Camshronaich ann bho Lochial, Is Gòrdanaich móralach, fial, Is Sìthphortaich threun, fo chabair an fhéidh, Le breacan an fheilidh mun cliabh.

Bho'n Ear, bho'n Iar, 's bho gach còrs, Bha uasal is iosal 's gach seòrs'— Bho Shealtainn a' chuain, gu bailtean a' Chluaidh, Leum gaisgich mo luaidh sa air bòrd. "'S neo-lionmhor, glan òigridh nam beann, Tìr choigreach a' togail fo'n ceann;" Ach le "Alba gu bràth," leum na laoich ann 'sa

bhlàr, 'S theich a dhaoine 's an dràgon 'nan deann.

Bho'n dubh-aigean shios leig e ceò, Bha mùchadh 's a riasladh mo sheòid;

'S a' nàmhaid cho dian, le amhuiltean fiar, Gus nach fhàgadh e Fianntaidh dhiubh beo.

Bha dhealan a' lasadh nan speur, 'S a tharrunn a' crathadh na cé,

'S na cnuic, air an cruas, dha'n sadadh mu'n cuairt, Is bailtean mar luath air an fheur. Fras nimheil de theine 's de luaidh,

ras nimheil de theine 's de luaidh, A' sireadh 's a milleadh an t-sluaigh, Is beithir 'na leum, a' tolladh an t-sléibh, 'Sa pronnadh na ceudan dha'n uaigh.

Bha mìltean air mhìltean gun tàmh, Dha'n iobradh mu dhigean a' bhàis; 'Sa muigh air an raon, bha closaichean dhaoin', Mar bhrùchd ann 'san Fhaoilteach air tràigh.

Ach ge boil leis an dràgon 'sa shluagh, Thug clannaibh nan Gaidheil a' bhuaidh, 'S chaidh a cheangal gu bràth, an ionad a' bhàis, Fo gheimhlichibh pràis agus cruaidh.

O! Silidh, O! sillidh mo dheòir, A'tuireadh nam Fiann tha fo'n fhòd— A thuit ann 'san t-sreup, airson firinn no beus, Cha b'ann airson féin agus glòir.

Thuit leann-dubh air dùthaich mo luaidh, Air clunntinn na h-uirsgeulan cruaidh; 'S bha dreuga' nan speur, ag aithris gu'n dh'eug, Chuid mhór dheth na tréin a chaidh bhuainn.

Tha donnal nan con ann 'sa ghleann, A' togail an tannasgan fann; 'S aig baile, ma's fior, gu'n cluinnear an triall Le acain, cuir fiamh air na th'ann.

'S iomadh dachaidh tha falamh is fuar, Is achadh 'ga fhrasadh gun bhuain; 'S tha mìltean de spréidh, air seacharan sléibh, 'S de luingeas nach éirich air cuan.

'S iomadh athair is mathair tha brùit', A cuimhneachadh àilleagan glùin', 'S Malmhina ghlan òg tha sileadh nan deoir

'S a h-Oscar gun deò anns an ùr.
'S iomadh banntrach, 'no dilleachdan truagh,

Tha tuireadh nan cuiridh sa luath—
'S an ceatharnach treun, na chonablach breun,
A brachadh measg cheudan san uaigh.

Ach, eirigh na suinn ud fadheoidh, S na glinn troimh na linnte bhios beo, A chluinneas mu'n cliu, 's a leanas gu dlùth, 'S a chumas an t-sith leis a choir.

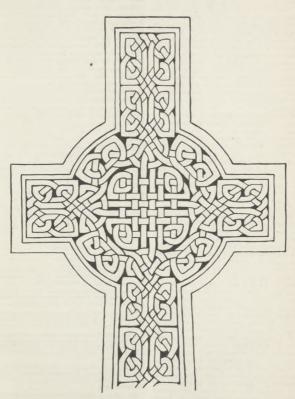
O! séidibh, O! séidibh a phìob, Is sgaoilibh an sgeula ro bhinn— Nach bi cogadh no gò, san t-saoghal na's mò. Ach caoimhneas, 'no ceòl, agus sìth.

Ach sillidh, O! sillidh mo dheòirs'. A tuireadh nam Fiann tha fo'n fhòd— A tuireadh nam Fiann, chaidh àrach 'sna glinn, 'S a chàradh an cill na Roinn-Eorp'.

radh an cill na Roinn-Eorp'.
''Selma.''

[Is e so aon de na dàin a bha an co-fharpais 29 aig Mòd, 1924]

COMPETITION IN CELTIC DESIGN.



The above is a much reduced reproduction of Mr R. E. Turnbull's prize drawing of the plate which appeared in the April number.

SECOND LEWIS PROVINCIAL MOD.

Let me begin with confession and plead guilty to great curiosity about the condition of vocal music in Lewis. Mr. Shaw had the advantage over me, in this respect, for he could make comparison with last year's Mod. I myself had little data on which to hazard an expectation, nothing more than a dim recollection of the singing of Stornoway Gaelic Choir many years ago, and the tales of hard encounters between that choir and the "G.G." Neither source was, perhaps, very reliable for forming a judgment upon, but as the event proved they were useless, for in this connection I had my great, almost my only disappointment, the entire absence of seniors from the competitions.

I feel bound to characterise this state of affairs as disastrous. Grown up people who heard the singing of the juniors must have had their spirits quickened and their hearts refreshed. We learned much from the children, but the children had a right to look to us grown-ups for a lead and an example, and if they looked it was in vain. And so the Mod lost that added variety and that briskening that would have come from the impact of the arts of the old singers and the young. I do not forget that there were some senior entrants, but I wish they had not withdrawn. There is little glory to be gained in a competition with only one or two entrants. I concede also the sneer that may have to be endured for being first with no possible second. But surely one entrant is better that no competition.

I trust the seniors of Lewis will recognise that there is a position to be retrieved, and will retrieve it, whether by few or by many, no later than next Mod.

But if the Mod was doomed to be a onesided affair-junior or senior-I much prefer that it should be junior, and for obvious reasons, and as the youngsters were forward in good numbers and excellent fettle, if it wasn't the best possible Mod it was by no means the worst. The material was of very high quality and very high standards were reached. The heights attained varied, as do our bens, and we found them both "ard" and "'ard," but taking the competitions as a whole, one finds a gratifying average of attainment, the fruition of great and sustained endeavour. I speak as one who has often gone through the work that must precede the kind of performance we have had. Lewis and the whole Gaelic movement stand indebted to those teachers and other workers by whose

devoted labours the results attained were made possible.

And now that it is over, the attitude of those workers, among whom I include the children, must change. The Mod has been to them, no doubt, a definite aim, but now it will appear to be merely the end of a stage, what a milestone is to the whole journey. There is no standing still. The equipment should be better now than it was a year ago. I have tried to help in this matter, but apart from that the mger coming together and being pitted against one another are bound to be beneficial. The Mod will have a life-long effect on the children who took part, and the keeness and interest of all have been stimulated, and these things matter more than mere ability.

The concert in the evening revealed even greater powers in the prize-winners than they had shown in the competitions. The climax of the night was no doubt the singing of the massed choirs in "Tir Nam Beam Ard," but perhaps my most cherished recollections of the Mod were two—the charming rhythmic, pulsating waulking songs of the Laxdale infants, and the crisp patter of a choir from somewhere, as they rattled away home in their car, overtaking their adjudicators on the road and treating them to "Cairistiona Chaimbeul." I don't know how they had fared in the adjudicators' hands, but they bore them no grudge. Their song lingers in our hearts.

J. N. M'C.

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PRIZE LIST.

LITERATURE,

Gaelic Essay—Nicolson Institute—1, Effie Maclean; 2, Jane Macleod. Other Schools—1, Cath. Mackinnon, Sandwick; 2, Don. R. Mackenzie, Back.

Dictation—Nicolson Institute—1, Christy A. Maciver; 2, Kathleen Macleod. Other Schools—1, Don. J. Matheson, Valtos; 2, Cath. Murray, Bayble.

Reproduction of Story—Nicolson Institute—1, Christy
A. Maciver; 2, Kathleen Macleod. Other Schools—
1, Cath. Murray, Bayble; 2, Don. R. Mackenzie, Back.

Gaelic-English Translation—Nicolson Institute—1, Effic Maclean; 2, Jane Macleod. Other Schools— I, Matilda Macdonald, Sandwick; 2 (equal), Donald Macleod, Back; Cath. Mackinnon, Sandwick; Don. J. Matheson, Valtos.

English-Gaelic Translation—Nicolson Institute—1, Christy A. Maciver; 2, Kathleen Macleod. Other Schools—1, Cath. Murray, Bayble; 2, Don. R. Mackenzie, Back.

Translation of Gaelic Idioms—Nicolson Institute— I, Jane Macleod; 2, Effie Maclean. Other Schools— I, Orsova E. Macleod, Laxdale; 2 (equal), Mary A. Macdonald, Laxdale; Donald Macleod, Back.

ORAL DELIVERY. Reading-Nicolson Institute-1, Hector M. Maciver ; 2 (equal), Ranald A. Macmillan; Kathleen Macleod. Other Schools-1, Duncan Maciver, Back; 2 (equal), Annie Graham, Back; Johanna Martin, Back; Cath. Mackinnon, Sandwick

Reading (Learners)-1, Callum M. Mackenzie, Back :

2, Margaret Macgregor, Back.

2. Margarete makeregor, Back. Recitation—Nicolson Institute—1, Effie Maclean; 2, Hector Maciver. Other Schools—1 (equal), Bella Smith, Back; Johanna Martin, Back; 2 (equal), Mary Macleod, Back; Annie Graham, Back; Bella Maciver, Back: Duncan Maciver, Back.

Traditional Story—Nicolson Institute—1, Ranald A. Macmillan. Other Schools—1, Don. R. Mackenzie, Back; 2, Donald Macleod, Back.

Acted Dialogue—1, Hector M. Maciver and Ranald A. Macmillan, Nicolson Institute.

CHOIRS

Part Songs-1, Laxdale P. School; 2, Bayble P. School; 3, Sandwick P. School Unison-1, Back P. School; 2, Bayble P. School;

3, Laxdale P. School. Waulking Songs-1, Laxdale Infants; 2, Laxdale

Seniors; 3, Knock P. School.

Boys (Set Songs)-1, John R. Maclean, Laxdale ; 2, Francis Mackay, Laxdale.

Girls (Set Songs)—1, Jessie Campbell, Laxdale; 2, Murdina M. Munro, Knock; 3 (equal), Isabella Smith, Knock; Nellie Stewart, Laxdale.

Boys (Own Choice)-1, David Macdonald, Sandwick; 2, Roderick Macdonald, Sandwick

Girls (Own Choice)—1, Cath. Macsween, Sandwick; 2, Christina Mackay, Laxdale; 3, Jessie Campbell,

Local Traditional Song-1, Catherine Macsween, Sandwick; 2, Nellie Stewart, Laxdale.

DUETS. Set Song-1, John A. Smith, Laxdale, and

Christina Macleod, Laxdale; 2, Angus Smith, Laxdale, and Jessie Campbell, Laxdale. INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC. Bag-pipes—1, Peter Finlayson, Stornoway; 2, Alick Maciver, Melbost; 3, Murdo Mackenzie, Stornoway.

Prize by Royal Celtic Society for Traditional Story 1, Alice Maclennan, Sandwick; 2, Hector M. Maciver, Nicolson Institute.

Prize (value £5) by Lewis and Harris Society of New York and Vicinity for best Gaelic Singer—Catherine Macsween, Sandwick.

Shield for Choral Singing (Part Songs), presented by Provost Mackenzie, Stornoway—Laxdale Public School (Conductor—Mr. John Maciver).

GAELIC POEM AND A FREE TRANSLATION.

Gaelic Poem and a free translation taken from "Scots Magazine," 1741. Page 119. (Contributed by Rev. WILLIAM A. GILLIES, B.D.,

" Nam biodh agam biadh 's aodach, Iomhaidh dhaoine is cairdeas Dhe, Cuim nach bithin air bheagan ni, Cho aigeantach 's an Righ fein ? Cuim a bhithin mo chroman loan Tional oir a preasamh dris? Cuim nach caitheamhin an saoghal, Is gun caitheamh an saoghal mis?" TRANSLATION.

"Were food and clothes indulged me from above, My Maker's favour and my neighbour's love, Why should I be less gay with little store,

Than George whose sway surrounds the

British shore ?

Why like an earth worm rake with thorny care, To hoard up wealth beyond my needful share ? No. Let me use the gifts of heaven aright, Nor clog my passage to the realms of light.

THE ISLAY MOD.

By Miss Jenny Given, A.R.C.M.

It was with feelings of keenest anticipation that I went to Islay to adjudicate the music at the Mod on 17th and 18th June, and I may say right away that I was not disappointed. Enthusiasm prevailed. The competitors were enthusiastic-the audiences very enthusiastic, and last, but not least, the adjudicators were enthusiastic.

We were all in sympathy-competitors, audiences, adjudicators-and this inspired the speakers and singers to give us of their best. All the competitors were keen, and few were nervous, because all were interested, and the entire proceedings seemed more like a very prolonged concert than a competitive festival. Mr. Robertson and Mr. MacLeod found the Gaelic most excellent, and, of course, the singing, as singing, was often far from perfect, the one essential for the true rendering of Gaelic song was never far away, for the feeling was constantly being conveyed to us that there was great tradition behind the rendering of the songs. In some cases the spirit of their forefathers seemed with the singers as they stood and sang. The voices and the singing have improved vastly since last year, but the old traditions are not being forgotten in Islay.

The choirs turned out in full force, and all with parts complete, and the improvement in one short year delighted me greatly. As I said before, it was far from perfect, but the Islay folks only want to hold together, work together, and they will bring the work at their

Mod to a very high standard.

The singing of the combined choirs in front of the church was a happy thought, and, having once experienced the joy of singing in a large choir (160 strong in this case), competitors and listeners would gladly have gone on for an hour or more, but thoughts of the evening concert made us break up with the singing of "Suas Leis a' Ghàidhlig," and then turned our faces homewards or hotel-wards, Our verdict was :- " A fine Mod, and fully deserving the perfect weather which favoured it."

ISLAY PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Second Provincial Islay Mod was held at Bowmore on 17th and 18th June and like the first Mod was highly successful. The day proceedings and concerts were largely attended. Miss Campbell of Inverneill presided at the Junior concert and Capt. Campbell of Succoth presided at the Senior concert.

Mr Ian MacTaggart and his Committee made splendid arrangements and everything went smoothly. The Judges were-Rev. Kenneth MacLeod, Gigha; Rev. D. J. Robertson, Jura; and Miss Jennie Given, A.R.C.M., Glasgow.

PRIZE LIST.

JUNIOR (ORAL DELIVERY).

Reading with expression a Piece of Poetry-1, Dugald M'Indeor, Caol Ila; 2, Flora Campbell, Caol Ila; 3, Neil M'Gillivray, Portnahaven.

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Piece-1, George Campbell (Mr. Christie's Medal), Portcharlotte;

2, Colin Logan, Bowmore. Reciting from Memory "Mairi Bhan Og "—1, Dugald M'Indeor, Caol Ila; 2, Dugald Gillies, Portcharlotte; 3, Malcolm M'Leod, Portcharlotte.

For Excellence in Gaelic Conversation-1, Dugald M'Indeor, Caol Ila; 2, Donald Smith, Keils; 3, Janet

Shaw, Bowmore. Solo Singing (Girls)—1, Betty M'Gilvray, Port Ellen; 2, Patricia Cameron, Bowmore; 3, Jessie

M'Lellan, Coulabus. Solo Singing (Boys)—1, Colin Logan, Bowmore; Malcolm M'Leod, Portcharlotte; 3, Alastair

Hay, Portnahaven Solo Singing (Girls and Boys)-1, Mary M'Lean (Dr. Macintyre's Prize), Portcharlotte; 2, Agnes M'Farlane, Bowmore; 3, Malcolm M'Leod, Port-

charlotte. Canntaireachd (Solo Singing of "Puirt a Beul"-1, Alastair Hay, Portnahaven; 2, Neil M'Gillivray,

Portnahaven. Choral Singing of a Song in Two-part Harmony-

1, Kilchoman School Choir; 2, Bowmore Junior Choir; 3, Portnahaven Junior Choir.

Unison Singing of a Song-1, Kilchoman School Choir; 2, Bowmore Junior Choir; 3, Portcharlotte Junior Choir. INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Pianoforte—1, Islay M'Eachern, Port Ellen; 2, Jean M'Kinnon, Portnahaven; 3, Mary M'Gilvray, Port Ellen.

SENIOR (ORAL DELIVERY).

Recitation of a Piece of Poetry—1, Archd. M'Calman, Lenanbuie; 2, Flora M'Dougall, Keils; 3 (equal), Gilbert M'Phail, Ballygrant, and Nora Unkles, Caol Ila; Recitation of an Original Piece of Poetry (Composed by competitor)—1, Duncan M'Niven (Mr. Wilson's Medal), Rockside.

Sgeulachd-1, Archd. Campbell, Ardnave; 2, Archd. M'Calman, Lenanbuie.

Royal Celtic Society's Competition (narrating historical or traditional story of Islay)—1, Archd. M'Calman, Lenanbuie; 2, Archd. Campbell, Ardnave. Miss M'Tavish's Competition (Reciting from Memory a Piece of Prose)—1, Archd. M'Calman, Lenanbuie.

Mr. M'Phail's Competition (Best Gaelic Letter)-1, Miss M'Lean, Eallabus.

SENIOR VOCAL MUSIC

Solo Singing of a Song (Female Voices)-1, Cath. M'Indeor, Portcharlotte; 2, Mrs. Jessie M'Donald, Aoradh; 3, Mrs. Lily M'Millan, Torrabus.

Solo Singing of a Song (Male Voices)—l, Gilbert M'Phail, Ballygrant; 2, Malcolm M'Dowall, Portcharlotte; 3 (equal), Murdoch Campbell, Gruinart, and Alastair M'Indeor, Portcharlotte.

Solo Singing of a Song (Male or Female Voices)—1, Charles M'Nivon (Dr. Macintyre's Prize), Rockside; 2 (equal), Mrs. Lily M'Millan, Torrabus, and Gilbert M'Phail, Ballygrant.

Duet Singing of a Song—l, Cathie Byron and Bessie Aird, Bridgend; 2, Jean M'Gilvray and Morag M'Eachern, Port Ellen; 3, Mary A. Weir and Grace M'Pherson, Bowmore.

Choral Singing in Four-part Harmony—1, Port-charlotte Choir; 2, Bowmore Choir; 3, Port Ellen Choir. Choral Singing in Three-part Harmony (Female Voices)—1, Bridgend Choir; 2, Bowmore Choir; 3, Port Ellen Choir.

INSTRUMENTAL SECTION.

Violin—1, David M'Kinnon, Coull; 2, John Gordon, Port Ellen; 3, Dugald Grant, Kilnave.

Piano-1, Jessie Lightbody, Bowmore; 2, Mary M'Dougall, Bowmore.

LORN, MULL AND MORVEN PROVINCIAL MOD.

The third Provincial Mod of the districts of Lorn, Mull and Morven, was held in the Argyllshire Gathering Hall, Oban, on Friday, 12th June. The gathering was under the auspices of the office-bearers of Comunn Gaidhealach an Obain, and a representative committee. Mr. D. MacGregor Whyte, President of the local Branch, was Convener of the Mod Committee; Major MacDougall, treasurer, and the duties of secretary were very efficiently performed by Mr. R. Johnston Macdonald, 4 Victoria Place.

The judges were as follows-Mr. Norman Macleod, M.A.; Mr. Arch. Maclean, M.A.; Rev. G. Mackenzie, B.D.; Rev. William Macphail, Rev. John Macinnes, Rev. Gillespie Campbell, Mrs. Christison, Mr. Neil Shaw, Mr. A. M. Henderson, and Rev. Alex. Mackenzie.

There were competitions in literature, oral delivery, and vocal and instrumental music, the competitors being divided into senior and junior sections. It is a matter for congratulation that the quality of the work at the third Mod has shown steady improvement. Not only have the entries increased, but a definite advance has also been made on the literary and conversational side as well as in musical culture. In connection with the literary and oral competitions much credit is due to Miss M'Queen, Oban High School, who for years has done yeoman service in the teaching of Gaelic to the pupils at Oban High School, who are drawn from a wide area of the West Highlands.

While the visitors to the Mod took an interest in all the competitions, the vocal performances made as usual the strongest appeal, and throughout the day these competitions were followed with the greatest interest by a large andience. The solo singing produced a number of very creditable performances.

LITERATURE.

Letter not to exceed in length one sheet of foolscap paper, on any subject, appertaining to the districts in which competitors reside-1, Grace Macgilp, Oban ; Dugald Carmichael, Tobermory (equal); 2, Catherine Rankin, Oban; 3, William Kemp, Oban.

(a) Translation of a simple piece of Gaelic Prose into English; (b) Translation of a simple piece of English Prose into Gaelic—1, John Macdougall, Oban; 2, Grace Macgilp; 3, Christina M'Sween, Oban.

ORAL

Reading a Piece of Prose (200 to 250 words) chosen by competitors. Non-native Gaelic speakers only— 1, Jack Hughes, Tobermory; 2, John Whyte, Oban; 3, Sarah M'Innes, Ballachulish.

Reading a Piece of Prose (200 to 250 words) chosen competitors. Native Gaelic speakers only-1, Shenac Cameron, Tobermory; 2, Christina M'Sween; 3, Margt. Vance, Ballachulish, and Wm. Kemp, Oban

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose, chosen by Judges. Open to all—1, Catherine Rankin; 2, Christina Macpherson, Oban; 3, William Kemp.

Recitation of a Piece of Poetry (16 to 24 lines) chosen by competitor—1, Susan Brown, Luing; 2, Lachlan Maclean, Tobermory; 3, Catherine Rankin

Narrative based on some local incident, tradition or legend, to be followed by a conversation between Judge and Competitor—I, Shenac Cameron; 2, Christina Macpherson; 3 (equal), Donald Dunn, Ballachulish, and Alastair Macdonald, Tobermory.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing of a song, chosen by competitors (Girls) -1, Mary Smith, Oban; 2, Lily Macphail, Luing; 3 (equal), Morag MacArthur, Luing, and Annie Gillespie, Oban.

Solo Singing of a Song, chosen by competitor (Boys), Hugh M. Gillies, Taynuilt; 2, John Smith,

Tobermory; 3, Donald Dunn Solo Singing of a Song (Boys or Girls)-1, John Smith; 2, Shenac Cameron; 3, (equal) Joan Boaton,

Tobermory, and Donald Dunn

Duet Singing of a Song (Two Boys, Two Girls, or Boy and Girl)-1, Margt. Ferguson and Mary Smith, Oban; 2, Morag MacArthur and Jessie Galbraith,

Choral Singing of a Song in Two-part Harmony-1, Oban High School; 2, Tobermory School.

Unison Singing of a Song-1, Ballachulish; 2, Oban High School.

SENIOR (ORAL DELIVERY).

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose chosen by the Judges—1, John Cameron, Tobermory; 2, Donald Jackson, Oban; 3, John Campbell, Easdale. Recitation of a Piece of Poetry chosen by competitor—1, Sarah Kennedy, Oban; 2, Joan Cameron, Tobermory; 3, Annie Macmillan, Tobermory.

Sgeulachd-1, Joan Cameron; 2, John Cameron 3, Donald Jackson.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing of a Song chosen by competitor (Female Voices)—1, Miss Janet Macphail, Cullipool; 2, Miss L. B. MacLeod, Kilinver; 3, Miss Flora Maclean, Tobermory

Solo Singing of a Song chosen by competitor (Male

cour ouiging or a Song enosen by competitor (Made Voices)—I, Archd. Smith, Dalmally; 2, Lachlan Cameron, Glencoe; 3, H. Macinnes, Duror. Solo Singing (Male or #emale Voices)—I, Miss T. Macmillan, Dervaig; 2, Miss B. Robertson, Dalmally; 3 (equal), Miss Chrisise Campbell, Easdalc, and Archibald Campbell, Easdalc, and Archibald Campbell, Easdalc, Duret Simirus—Songs to be suitably sensored to

Duet Singing—Songs to be suitably arranged for two voices—(Two Male, Two female, or Male and Female Voices); song chosen by competitors—I, Ewen Mackenzie and Miss Ella Black, Ballachulish; 2, Lachlan Cameron and Dan. Macdonald, Glencoe. Choral Singing (Male Voices)-1, Connel Male Voice

Choral Singing (Female Voices)-1, Connel Female

Voice Choir. Choral Singing in Four-part Harmony-1, Glenorchy

Choir; 2, Connel Choir. Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey and Reel on the Pianoforte—1, Annie B. Kerr, Creagan; 2, Jessie Mackinnon, Tobermory.

The concert in the evening was largely attended, and Mr. D. MacGregor Whyte, Convener, presided. The programme was sustained entirely by the prize-winners, and formed a fitting close to a highly successful gathering.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The final edition of the Mod Syllabus is now issued and may be had post free from the office. It contains three additional Solo Competitions promoted and sponsored by three of our affiliated Societies, and I hope a large number will enter. Entries must be in not later than 8th August.

A copy of a recent issue of a new Gaelic periodical, "Teachdaire nan Gaidheal," published in Sydney, N.S., has come into my hands. It is written in Gaelic from start to finish, and in very good Gaelic at that. The contents are varied and interesting, and there is a high tone preserved throughout. We congratulate the promoter of this patriotic enterprise, and we wish this modest magazine a long and prosperous career. The Publisher is James MacNeill, P.O., Box 116, Sydney, Nova Scotia.

HONOUR TO MR. JOHN MACFADYEN.

On the evening of Tuesday, 16th June, a meeting was held in the Central Halls, Glasgow, under the auspices of the Mull and Iona Association to recognise the work and worth of Mr. John MacFadyen. Mr. MacFadyen was the recipient of the Bard's Chaplet at last Mod. Mr. Charles Campbell presided, and the presentation was made by Mr. Alex. Mac-Phail, who spoke appreciatively of Mr. Mac-Fadyen's contributions to Gaelic song and to Gaelic poem literature. The presentation consisted of a suitably inscribed silver quaich and a wallet of one hundred Treasury Notes subscribed by Highland Associations in Glasgow and individual friends. Representatives of various Highland Associations spoke of the esteem in which the bard was held for his own sake and for his works sake, testifying to the valuable assistance which he had always been willing to render them. Mr. MacFadyen replied in a characteristically modest fashion and thanked those who had spoken and those who had thought of honouring him in this fashion. An excellent musical programme was rendered during the course of the evening, and the usual vote of thanks terminated a very happy meeting.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Domhnullan: Dàn an Ceithir Earrannan; leis an Urr. Domhnull Mac Chalum, Ministear Aosda Sgir nan Loch an Leodhas. XIV. + 60 pp. Price, 1/6 net: Published by A. Maclaren & Sons, Glasgow.

The Reverend Donald Mac Callum has produced a sustained power extending to nearly sixty pages of print, probably the longest literary effort in verse within recent times. The work is in four parts, and every part is subdivided into short pieces varying in title and in metre. This plan is an excellent one, making the reader pass on from stage to stage without any sense of monotony. The theme is the experience of a young Gael who goes through the Great War. A love story is intervoven. The romance of the narrative is marked by several dramatic toucher which the author knows well how to introduce. There is nothing heavy or cumbersome in this delightful book, even though it is the longest single Gaelle poear of the present century. It is not the traditional form of a story in verse. The poem is an epic; but, strange to say, the epic effect is produced by a series of short lyrical pieces skiffully arranged. That is the novelty. It is a distinct addition to the literary manner of the Gaelic poetry of this generation. The printing [and paper are very creditable to the publishers. The work deserves a wide circulation.

Para Piobaire agus Sgeulachdan eile le Iain Ban Og: Peter the Piper and other Humorous Gaelic Readings, by John Whyte. 40 pp. Price, 1/-, Alexander Maclaren & Sons, Glasgow.

This lith book is a cereful reprint of popular Gaslinreadings by the late M. John Whyte. As is well known to those who was as the late of the in its former shape. Mr. Whyte wrote beautiful Gaelle correct, simple and elegant. The readings, in addition to their fine language, have also that rare quality, the light touch of genuine humour, so desirable in readings which are mainly intended for entertainment. Here we meet with such an old favourite as Alascian Spokela, Tailear Lag-an-Droighinn. Manually and the harder of the late of the late of the late of the harder of the late of the late of the late of the by the oddness of this refreshing narrative. And there are other pieces equally worthy of mention pieces which are marked by fine descriptions and invely dislogue. The publishers are to be highly commended for reproducing in a cheap and readable form, some of the best of Gaelic proses given to the work of Gaelic literature.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

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An Lunusdal, 1925.

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AN CEANN AG ITHE NA MARAIG.

Uair de robh an saoghal bha sud ann ceistear fileanta, aig a robh sruth bhriathran a bha anabarrach. Cha robh neach a dh'éisdeadh ris nach biodh làn iongantais ciamar a b'urrainn e leantainn gun tàmh fad uair an uaireadair is còrr. Mur tugadh an luchd-éisdeachd deagh aire do na theireadh e cha bhiodh an ceistear ach diombach; agus cha cheileadh e idir a dhiomb, oir dh'innseadh e dhaibh an làrach nam bonn ciod e bha e a' saoilsinn dhiubh. Cha chualas riamh searmon cho annasach: oir dheanadh e iomradh le aon rot air gach nì bha tachairt o cheann gu ceann de'n dùthaich. Is iomadh cuspair air am buaileadh e mun sguireadh e. Cha robh fhios ciod an gnothuch air an toireadh e tarruinn leis an ath anail; agus mar sin bha déidh aig móran air a bhí ag éisdeachd ris a' cheistear, co dhiubh bha iad dùrachdach mu'n aobhar no nach robh.

Thànig an duine comasach so gu gleann araidh far an robh e gu coinneamh a chunail air an fheasgar. Chuireadh sanas a mach an deagh am, agus rinn gach creutair inbheach oidheirp air dol do'n éisdeachd. Bha bean anns an àite aig a robh teaghlach de bhrogaich bheaga a' dol do'n sgoil. Dh'fhàg a' bhean chôir poit eanraich air teine, air chùram Dhòmhnuill bhig. Ciod a bha anns a' phoit ach ceann is casan caorach, agus marag mhór anns a robh toirt is taisealadh. Bu mhinic a chuir a leithid sin de bhiadh feòil èg mu chnaimh do ar n-aithrichean. Tha òigridh an latha an diugh a' tighinn beò air biadhannan air nach robh ar sinnsir eòlach. Bha uair ann

agus bha toradh nàdurrach na dùthcha a' cumail lòin ris an t-sluagh; agus an uair sin bha iad pailt cho fallain, cho sona, cho saibhir agus cho lìonmhor is a tha iad a nis. Ach co dhiubh fhuair Dòmhnull beag òrdugh teann, cho luath is a ghoileadh a phoit, gun tugadh e faothachadh do'n mharaig, le bhi a' stobadh bir caol cruadhach innte an dràsda is a rithist air eagal mu spreadhadh i leis an teas. Bha teine mònadh air ùr fhadadh. Cha tug an teine fada air gabhail gu sunndach, agus chuir sud a' phoit air ghoil. Thòisich a' mharag is an ceann air ruith a chéile. Cho luath is a thigeadh an ceann an uachdar air an dala taobh, rachadh a' mharag an lochdar air an taobh eile.

Cha ruigear a leas a bhi ag ràdh gu robh so'n a aobhar gàire do'n chloinn. Thòisich iadsan air leumraich agus air glaodhaich mu thimchioll na cagailte-fear a' tabhairt misneach is moladh do'n cheann, agus fear eile a' sìor bhrosnuchadh na maraig. B'e Dòmhnull beag bu righ air a' chluich. Ach cuairt a bha sud cha tàinig an ceann no a' mharag an sealladh car greise. Is ann a dhearmaid Dòmhnull an earail a chaidh fhàgail aige, bir a chur anns a' mharaig gus an toit theith a leigeil mu sgaoil. Gu mifhortunach le dian theas an teine spreadh a' mharag air grunnd na poite. Dh'fhuirich an ceann gu h-losal car tiota; ach mu dheireadh thàinig e nìos is làn a bheòil aige de'n mharaig. Bha na balaich bheaga an dùil gur ann le fuath a rinn an ceann gnìomh cho dona. Ghabh iad a nis fearg ris a' cheann; agus chan fhaca Dòmhnull beairt a b'fhearr no ruith mar a bheatha far a robh a mhàthair anns an tigh leughaidh. Is minic a bheachdaich sinn an uair a tha

àireamh sluaigh an suidheachadh sòlumta gur beag an nì neònach a thogas an aire gu sùil a thabhairt air an dorus. Tha so fìor gu sònruichte ma tha fear labhairt ann cho mór as fhéin ris a' cheistear. Bha an duine sin cho goirid anns an nàdur is nach seasadh e drabadh sam bith; agus faodar a bhi cinnteach nach b'i an fhàilte a b'fheàrr a thug e do Dhòmhnull beag aig an am. Cha robh Dòmhnull fada a' ruigheachd an àite anns a robh an ceistear; agus ged a bha an cainntear deas bhriathrach sin cho àrd labhrach ri beul uisge air aonach cas, cha do chuir sud eagal no tilleadh air Dòmhnull. Is ann a ghabh mo laochan a steach am meadhon a choimhthionail ag éigheach le guth àrd cabhagach, "A mhathair, a mhathair, thigibh dhachaidh gu luath. Tha an ceann ag ithe na maraig-thigibh dhachaidh gun dàil ar neo cha bhi greim air fhàgail de'n mharaig-tha'n ceann ag ithe na maraig."

Leis an ùpraid is an othail a bha ann chaidh an coimhthional gu aighir is miriaghailt. Cha robh comas aig a' cheistear, a dh'aindeoin a chuid càinidh, air rian a ghleidheadh ni b'fhaide. Bha buaidh an latha gu tur aig Dòmhnull beag; oir bha dùrachd is dànachd air leth anns a' ghuth àrd ghlan leis an do ghlaodh e a rithist agus a rithist-"tha an ceann ag ithe na maraig,

tha an ceann ag ithe na maraig.'

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The extraordinary meeting of the Executive Council was held in the Royal British Hotel, Perth, on Saturday, 11th July. The president, Mr. Angus Robertson, was in the chair, and the following members were present:-Mrs. W. J. Watson, Edinburgh, and Rev. T. S. Mac-Pherson, Glasgow, vice-presidents; Mrs. John R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Mrs. Mac-Donald of Dunach; The Lady Helen Tod, Dunkeld; John R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Captain Campbell, Yr., of Succoth; Colonel Gilbert Gunn, Edinburgh; Donald Mac-Donald, Inverness; T. D. MacDonald, Oban; Rev. G. W. MacKay, Killin; Duncan Mac-Intyre, Kenmore; Ian MacLeod, Glasgow; Rev. M. N. Munro, Taynuilt; Lord James Stewart Murray, Blair Atholl; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; Robert Macfarlane, treasurer, and Neil Shaw, secretary.

The Chairman, in apologising for his long absence from the meeting, said he had been successful in instituting a new society in

America, which would be known as the American Iona Society. Its objects were to preserve, encourage, and promote Celtic culture, more especially the culture of the Scots Gaelic as embodied in language, literature, music, arts, and crafts, by their teaching and uses, study and expression. It was their duty to officially recognise the very generous steps that these people in America were taking in that ideal of theirs, and he would say, parenthetically, most of them looked upon the perpetuity of the old Gaelic idea and its associations as even more important for world peace and for the extension of human brotherhood than even the League of Nations. The President then moved that An Comunn place on record an expression of their sense of sincere gratitude to those kind friends in the United States of America who had undertaken so much on behalf of the cause of Gaelic culture. This was agreed to unanimously.

The Chairman expressed the pleasure of the meeting at seeing the Rev. M. N. Munro among them again. He also extended a welcome to Colonel Gilbert Gunn, representing the Edinburgh Sutherland Association.

A minute of meeting of Finance Committee was read, and adopted on the motion of Captain Campbell of Succoth.

Moving the adoption of the Education Report, Mrs. Watson, Edinburgh, remarked that the teaching of Gaelic in Perthshire and Sutherlandshire was still disappointing. Gaelic was not taught officially in the schools in Perthshire, although several teachers taught the scholars before or after school hours, and she thought teachers who did that deserved great credit and their grateful appreciation. She thought they could bring a little more pressure to bear upon Education Authorities to have Gaelic taught as a school subject. It was really very disappointing to see the apathy not only of some of the Education Authorities, but also of parents in that matter.

The Chairman said Mrs. Watson had touched upon a very crucial phase of the movement. Gaelic was certainly sprouting, but not so virile as they would wish in their own parts. Gaelic-speaking was growing in Canada. In that country there was now a paper printed exclusively in Gaelic, which showed, he thought, that there was something in the voice of their people when they found such a publication as that arising among descendants of those who had left these shores many years ago. Efforts had been made to kill the Gaelic tongue for 3000 years, but it was pretty well alive still.

Mr. John R. Bannerman, in moving the adoption of the Mod and Music Committee's minute, gave a resumé of the Committee's work.

The draft syllabus for the 1926 Mod was approved. The Committee's reply to Mr. Calum MacPharlain's protest against the award in the Children's Play Competition in this year's literary section, as embodied in the minutes, was approved.

The Committee reported a request on behalf of the Joint Dundee Highland Associations, asking that the Executive might receive a deputation in support of their claim for a revision of the clause affecting the composition of senior choirs in the chief choral competition at the Mod. It had been suggested to the Secretary at Dundee to have the deputation in readiness on the assumption that the Executive might be willing to hear them. No representatives being present, the Committee's recommendation that the rule be not altered was unanimously adopted.

A letter from Mr. Neil Orr, on behalf of the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, offering two prizes of £2 and £1 for male voice quartette competition, was read. The letter had been received too late for consideration by the Committee, and it was remitted to them to see whether sufficient intimation could be made to likely competitors.

A discussion took place on the definition of "learners of Gaelic" as applied to competitors at Provincial Mods. Several members expressed their views, and it was remitted to the Mod and Music Committee to consider and report.

A question was raised as to whether it should be permissible for first-prize winners at the National Mod to compete at Provincial Mods. It was considered that such should be debarred from competing in their respective classes.

Mr. Neil Orr pointed out several discrepancies between the staff and sol-fa music of the choral pieces for this year's Mod, and the Mod and Music Committee were asked to consider the points raised. Mr. Orr made several suggestions with regard to arrangements for choral competitions, and these were noted for consideration.

Mr. Robert Macfarlane, treasurer, submitted the Finance Report, which showed that there was a deficiency on the year's working of £200 1s 9d. In consequence, the general reserve fund from last year,

£151 5s 3d, had been wiped out. In these circumstances, it was hoped that the campaign in aid of An Comunn funds, which had been launched, would meet with great success, so that the revenue from the capital sum raised would enable An Comunn to meet ordinary expenditure from year to year and to extend its operations. General donations had dropped from £113 16s 6d last year to £3 18s this year.

Nominations were received for offices of president, one vice-president, and ten members of elected Executive Council. Mr. Angus Robertson was renominated to the presidentship for another term without opposition. Mr. Robertson thanked the members for their confidence and support.

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Captain Campbell of Succoth reported on
his visit to the Islay Mod. The gathering
was eminently successful, and he suggested
that more music teachers should be
employed to carry on the work in the various
districts.

The Rev. G. W. MacKay, Killin, gave notice of the following motion for the annual business meeting: "That ordinary meetings of the Executive Council, other than the preliminary meeting, be held at Stilling."

The meeting terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, on the motion of Mr. T. D. MacDonald.

EACHDRAIDH A MHIC A B' OIGE.

Cha robh móran dh' easbhuidh air an òganach a nis chum gach ni a dheanamh gu ro mhath. Thachair orra fear aotrom, sùileach, deas lamhach a bha leigeil a chasan cho ciùin air an talamh ri cat 'nuair a bhithèas e air chuairt an deigh luchaidh. Bha 'n t-òganach aig ceann na cuideachd, agus thionndaidh am fear so a ghuth ris, "Cait am bheil thu dol, agus an gabh thu mise maille riut?" Thug an t-òganach sealladh air agus fhreagair e, "Tha mi a dol a dheanamh m'fhortain, ach c'ainm 'th'ortsa, agus ciod is fearr is urrainn duit a dheanamh." 'S mise Goidear-mac Goid, agus 's urrainn dhomh na h-iolairean òg a ghoid agus da shùil na h-iolair ag amharc orm." "Bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn," chaidh a ràdh ris.

An ùine glé ghoirid an déigh sin chuir fear subailt, gramail, fàilte air an òganach le, "Càit a bheil thu dol, agus am gabh thu mise maille ruit?" Fhreagair e le "Dh'iarraidh an fhortain, ach c'ainm th'ortsa agus ciod 's urrainn duit a dheanamh?' Bha am fear deas le fhreagairt. "S mise Streapair-mac-Straonaich, agus is urrainn dhomh streap ri creag ged a bhitheas i cho dìreach ri balla tighe, agus cho sleamhuinn ri eigh," "Ro mhath" arsa an t-òganach, "bithidh tu feumail, thig maille ruinn."

Mar so ghabh iad rompa gus an d'thàinig iad gu loch mór a chuir bacadh orra cat ramull. An sin thubhairt an t-òganach, "Gheibh sinn nis feum air roinn de na buaidhean agaibh. Sealladh-fad-air-astar rach gu mullach a chnoic mhóir sin, agus gabh sealladh mu'n cuairt, agus Cluas-ri Claisdeachd cum do chluas ris an talamh dh' fheuchainn an cluinn thu ni sam bith a dh' fhaodas a bhi buanachail dhuinn."

Rinn Sealladh-fad-air-astar mar chaidh iarraidh air agus fhreagair e "Chi mi dùthaich bhriagh air taobh thall an locha, agus buidhean mhór de dhaoine nan seasamh mun cuairt air feadhain a tha 'g oidhirpeachadh gu cruaidh ri bàta chur air seòl air talamh tioram." "Ciod as ciall do sin? Am bheil thusa a' cluinntian ni sam bith, Cluais-ri-Claisdeachd, a chuireas solus air an rud sin?" "Tha mi cluinntinn Righ na dùthcha gealltainn aon nighean do fhear sam bith a bheir air a bhàta seoladh air talamh tioram." "'S ole nach robh sinn an sin," arsa Poof-mor agus bàta againn." "Faighibh dhomhsa leud mo bhoise de dharach, agus cha bhi sibh fada gun bhàta," thubhairt Saor-Mac Sabhaidh. "Am faic thu sgolb de dharach, Sealladh-fad-air-astar."

"The an ni a tha dhith oirbh mu nhìle astair uainn aig bun oreige far an deachaidh bàta long a bhriseadh." Càit a bheil Luirgeanluath! Rach air tòir an daraich." Ann an inie ni's gearr na tha mise ag innseadh an naigheachd bha Luirgean-Luath air ais leis an sgoìb dharaich. Chaidh Saor-Mac-Sabhaidh na tharruing, agus ann am beagan tìm bha bàta farsuinn deas airson an toirt thar an locha. "Leumaibh a steach innte," thubhairt Poof-mór, "agus che ghabh sìbh fadal gus am bi sìbh air taobh eile an locha."

Leum iad anns a bhàta, sheid esan le séideadh cumhachdach agus 'n uair a bha am bàta 'gluasad leum e comhla riu. Ann am prìobadh na sùl bha am bàta air taobh thàll an locha. An sin chunnaic iad uile bàta mór air tr le a shiùil sgaoilte, ach a gluasad cha robhii."

Chaidh an t-òganach dh' ionnsaidh na cuideachd a bha ag amharc agus dh' fheòirich e ciod a bu chiall do'n ni a bha e faicinn. Thubhairt iadsan, "Tha an Rìgh air gealltainn a nighean do fhear sam bith a bheir air bàta seòladh thar talamh tioram." "Air na cumhnanta sin" arsa esan "feuchaidh mise," ri nighean an Righ a chosnadh.

Dh' amhaire daoine na dùthcha le sùilean amhrusach, gu cinnteach shaoil iad gu'n robh e gun chiall 'n uair smuaineachadh e air leithid de ni. Fhuair an Righ iomradh air briathran an òganaich, agus thàinig e agus a chùirt a dh' fhaicinn an oidhirp. Leum na laoich 'sa bhàta, shéid Poof-mór le anail. Sgeann an sluagh le uamhas 'nuair chunnaic iad bàta seòladh gu réidh, gun chrith gun luasgadh thar an talamh thioram. Chunnaic an Rìgh an ni a rinneadh, ach bha e na dhuine carach, agus cha robh iarrtus sam bith aige air fhocal a chiomhlionadh do'n òganach.

An àite sin a dheanamh 'sann chuir e ard mhaor-righ a mach uaith a thoirt fios do gach neach an guth ard nach faigheadh fear sam bithnighean an Rìgh mur bitheadh aige duine a ruitheadh reis ri nighean cailleach ruadh nan cearc gu fuaran ceann an t-saoghail agus air ais. Cha luaitheadh bha an t-ard mhaor-righ troimhe le bhi toirt seachad òrdugh an Rìgh na thuirt an t-òganach "Theid fear do mo ghilleansa chur reis ri nighean cailleach ruadh nan cearc."

Bha a chaile caol, luath, iosgaideach, agus dh-fheum Luireagan Luath dol ris an réis le uile neart; is gann bha e air fuaran ceann an t-saoighail roimhe. Ghabh esan deoch a fuaran ceann an t-saoghail, ach chuir a chaile boinean cadail 'san fhuaran. Is ann le comhairle na seann chailleich ruaidh a rin i sin. "Sealladh-fad-air-astar, am faic thu ciamar tha an réis a dol?" thuirt an t-òganach. "Tha gu h-ole," fhreagair Sealladh-fad-air-astar "tha Luireagain-Luath na chadal aig fuaran ceann an t-saoghail. Agus tha a chaile tighinn ir ais cho luath ris a ghaoith earraich." " coof-mór, a bhalaich feuch ciod is urrainn duitsa a dheanamh." Tharruing Poof-mór a stigh anail, an sin bhrùchd e a mach i le spionnadh namhasach. Shéid e a chaile air ais seach fuaran ce nn an t-saoghail agus dhùisg an t-srann a bh' aice dol seachad Luireagan-Luath a chadal, agus bhuidhinn e an réis gun dragh sam bith. Cha robh nighean an Righ ri faotainn fathast oir cha do ghléidh an Righ fhacal mu timchioll. Bha dòigh eile aige air deuchainn a chur air tapachd dhaoine mu'n dealaicheadh e ri nighean.

Is urrainn Righ breug a dheanamh cho

Bha fuamhair gabhail còmhnuidh air mullach ard creige ard shleamhuinn agus bha aon leanabh aige. Nis bha déidh aig an Righ air an leanabh a ghoid o'n Fhnamhair ach cha do shaoil e gu'n robh e comsach do dhuine geal sin a dheanamh. Air an aobhar sin thug e fios do'n bhuidhean nach faigheadh neach sam bith a nighean mur goideadh e leanabh an fhuamhair as a chaisteal bha air mullach na creige. Thuirt an t-òganach ri Streapair mac Straonaich agus ri Goidear mac Goid. "Tha dòigh agaibhse nis air bhur treubhachd agus bhur tapachd fheuchainn do'n t-saoghal."

Ann an tiota bha Streapair mac Straonaich agus Goidear mac Goid aig bun na creige móire air an robh Caisteal an Fhuamhaire. Chaidh Goidear mac Goid air muin Streapair mac Stronaich agus streap esan ris a chreig coltach ri feòraig dol an craoibh ghiubhais. Dh-fhuirich Streapair mac Straonaich ann an toll aig mullach na creige cho fada sa bha Goidear mac Goid air tòir an leinibh.

Fhuair e an leanabh anns a chaisteal agus am Furmhair 'ga dhannsa air a ghlìn. Gu sàmhach, sgiobalta thug e leis an leanabh o ghlìn an Fhuamhair agus bha Streapair mac Straonaich agus Goidear mac Goid air ais aig a choimhthionail leis an leanabh ann an uine ghearr.

Ach cha robh an Righ fhathast aig ceann nan cuilbheartan aige, 'se nach robh. Cha 'n fhaigheadh duine sam bith a nighean-sa mur marbhadh e am Fuamhair. Is ann air Treun mór mac Treise agus air Cuspair mac Cuimse thainig dol a chur blàr ris an Fhuamhair, agus bha esan am beile fiadhaich airson mar chaidh an leannabh a ghoid uaithe. Bha spàirnn chruaidh eadar Treun mór Mac Treise agus am Fuamhair agus car ùine fhada cha b' urrainn do Chuspair mac Cuimse còmhnadh a dheanadh ri chompanach. An déidh strì agus gleachd dian chuir Treun mór mac Treise am Fuamhair air a leth ghlùn. Thàinig cothrom Chuspair mhic Cuimse agus cha robh e mall gu ghabhail. Bha leud bonn sgillinn do shàil am Fhuaimhair ri fhaicinn car prìobadh nan sùl ach bu leòir e. Chum Cuspair mac Cuimse rithe agus chuir e saighead gu bun innte. An deigh sin bu ni farasda do Threun mór mac Treise am Fuamhair a cheannsachadh agus a mharbhadh.

Cha bu leòir sin leis an droch dhuine an Rìgh, dh' fheumadh e deuchainn eile a chur air an òganach agus air a luchd cuidichidh. Ma bha duine sam bith aig an robh deidh air nighean an Rìgh feuchadh e a ghaol dhith anns an doigh as taitniche do an Rìgh. Deanadh e pronnan de'n chreig air an robh Caisteal an Fhuamhair agus tilgeadh e sa chuan i. Chaidh Dòrn Cruaidh na tharruinn an àite an òganaich agus le buille na dithis de dhòrn sgoilt e a chreag agus rinn e mln luaithre dhith, air chor is nach robh dad aig Poof-mór ri dheanamh ach tothadh de anail leigeil rithe agus sguab e do'n chuan i.

An déidh na h-uile deuchainn troimh an deachaidh an t-òganach agus an déidh na fearta miorbhuileach a rinneadh leis na daoine aige cha robh e ach iomchuidh agus cargu'm posadh e nighean an Righ agus gu'm bitheadh gach neach aoibhneach, ait aig an am shona sin

SEUMAS MAC DHIARMAID, Comruidh.

H.M. INSPECTORS' REPORTS ON GAELIC.

The following is the reference to the subject of Gaelic in the report of Dr. Wattie, H.M. Chief Inspector for the Western Division:—

"The statement in last year's report on this subject showed that reasonably complete provision had been made by the Argyll Authority for the teaching of Gaelic in Gaelic-speaking areas as required by Section 6 of the 1918 Act; and there is not much to add this year under this head. A small addition has been made to the number of schools where instruction in Gaelic is given, and the total is now over 70. At the Oban High School the instruction is carried to the Leaving Certificate level, and last year two candidates were successfully presented in Higher Gaelic. The work done at the Glasgow Training College, where a Gaelic Class was instituted in 1923, should help to remove the difficulty of maintaining a supply of qualified teachers which is accentuated by the large proportion of one teacher schools in the county. In his contribution to Mr. Fraser's report, Mr. A. L. MacDonald notes with satisfaction an improvement in the singing that has followed the introduction of Gaelic, and what is still more gratifying, the beneficial effects on vocabulary and fluency in English resulting from the exercises in translation from Gaelic."

In Dr. Thomson's report on the Northern and Highland Division he states that "A very interesting excursus on Gaelic Bilingual Instruction is contributed by Mr. D. J. MacLeod. It is too long for inclusion here, but the important questions it raises are being carefully considered."

A GAELIC GLOSSARY.

By Ronald Burn, Humanity Department, University, Glasgow

alachag: block for splitting wood on, hackingblock, chopping-stock: Braemore, Matheson, n.: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: cf. cipean. Ealag in Coll and Lochaber.

alla-ghrabadh: a sudden upset, a disconcerting crisis sudden but by no means necessarily ending disastrously (though it might so end); a serious emergency and unexpected catastrophe that may turn out all right or may have a fatal issue but whose suddenness is the main point: Coll, MacDougall, n.

amadan: jester, "King's fool," one who plays the fool rather than is a complete one, merryandrew: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: Coll, MacDougall, n.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: cf. oinisd, amaistear, cul-bhuirt. S.U. says: -'S fheairrde cuideachd ballbùirte amadain. (Bùirte sounds as though spelt bumhst.) The following S.U. story illustrates the usual kind of amadan or Gothamite: -Two lairds, each with his own jester, resolved to test which had the silliest. So they were sent to gather mussels on the rocks whereon a gold piece had been laid. One came across it and told the other noodle, who replied: 'Nuair bhios sinn ri maorach bithich sinn a' maorach, 's nuair a' bhios sinn aig òrach bidh sinn aig òrach. Fag an sin e. Which the finder (instead of having quietly pocketed it on discovering the coin) did. So on their return without the gold the lairds found each was equally silly (cf. amaisteal).

amaisteal: man who puts his foot into it (accidentally) by some senseless deed; one who by e.g. barging about creates a diversion in a crowd, a silly lubber, a harmless ass: N. Uist, MacDonald, n.: Barre, Fr. MacMillan, n.: cf. (bladag, sglämhach, etc.) oinisd, amadan, aimisgil, buamastalt

amaistear: a half-wit, a half-dottled body: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n.: Braemore, Matheson, n.: cf. innisd, oinisd, eabaistear (buamastair), blabhdaire. Amadan in Kilmuir, etc.

amar: mill-lead: Creag an Amair, the cairned 1750 contour hill N.N.E. of Corrour Lodge (O.S. name not quite right); map also gives Amar Srath Oisein near by (have not verified this name nor its meaning): Cameron, gardener at Lodge: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: Islay, Duncan Johnston, n. Given by M'B. but not Dw. Cf. abhainn, ligeadh (draghann, sgial, moidhle), lonan.—Channel in Islay as well. Lochaber and Kilmuir have eileach for the mill-race (cf. MacBain), and a W. Lochaber native did not know amar, nor does Kilmuir.

amhach: in phrase ge b'oil le t' amhaich, in spite o' yer neck, as Tomintoul (etc.). Scotch says, i.e. willy-nilly, whether you will or no, in spite of your teeth: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: Coll, MacDougall, n.: Braemore, Matheson, n.: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n.: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n.: Tiree, Mrs. MacL., n.; Skye, Angus MacDonald, n.: cf. casa-beaga, buille-trot, bean Draighnidh. Also ge b'oil le chorp, co-theireadh e, in Coll. Or any member of body may be so used in Barra, etc. S. Uist, Islay, and Waternish also say: dhain-dheoin t'amhaich, or: dh. do mhuineal. Islay uses amhach usually only of animals.

amhain: death by choking, misadventure resulting in strangling (of man or beast): Islay, Duncan Johnston, n.: also of sheep lying helpless on back. Cf. amhuinn. Pronounced ef-an, but Johnston will not allow me to spell it eafan or eifean because he is convinced that it is from the same root as Coll amhainn below.

amhainn: dry hollow into which beast falls (especially if weak), and one deep enough to make it hard for the animal to get out if once caught, a (possible) 'death trap,' a (potentially) 'dangerous place' (fem.): Coll, MacDougall, n.: Moidart, Miss M. MacIntyre, n. Cf. athan, athainn, féithe, aibhin, dìg, and (Dw.'s) amhain. The word is relative in that it applies to a hollow only as long as the beast is in it; once out, or if no beast fall in, the pit is no longer an amhainn. So too a quarry into which on a dark night a man had fallen would be a death-trap as long as he was there, but once extricated it would merely be called a quarry again. Pronounced aow-heeny'.

(Ri leantainn.)

MO THRUAIGH LEIR THU 'ILLE BHUIDHE.

From Mr. John MacCallum's Mod Collection.

Gleu E.

{ , m | s : r., d | m.m : s.m | Mo thruaigh léir thu 'ille bhuidhe

 $\left\{ \begin{array}{c|cccc} m.m. : & s.,1 & s. : m.s & 1.,t : d^l.,m & m : r \end{array} \right\}$ Chuir sinn croinn 'sa bhàta, Da là mu'n d'fhàg sinn Eirinn.

Thog sinn a cuid acraichean Ann am Belfast an Eirinn.

Chuir sinn na croinn ùr innte, 'S gu'n d'fhuair sinn smùid 'na déidh leinn.

Thug sinn an Cùan Siar dhi Mu'n d'rinn a' ghrian ach éirigh.

Cutteran is gàidsearan, 'G ar sàrachadh le chéile.

Fùdar's luaidhe Shasunnach, 'Toirt farum air a déile.

Seachad Maol Chinntìre Bha sìbean geal ag éirigh.

'Nuair a dh'at an fhairge 'S i'n ''Earbag'' a bha treubhach. 'S i 'ga ruith cho dìonach Ri botal fìona 's céir air.

Seachad Maol na h-Odha Gu'n d'òl sinn air a chéile.

Dh'òl sinn slàinte 'n sgiobair Nach robh idir anns an éisdeachd.

Thàin' iad oirnn cho cabhagach 'S gu'n d'fhàg sinn ás ar déidh e.

Dh'òl sinn buaidh do'n bhàta Thug sàbhailt' sinn á Eirinn.

Seachad Caisteal Dhubhaird Gu'n robh sruth is turus réidh leinn.

Bha sinn an Loch Aluinn Mu'n d'rinn ach pàirt dhiubh éirigh.

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Cha teid m'oran laithean seachad a nis gus am bi fos againn an aireamh luchd-farpais a bhios aig Mòd Ghrianaig. Tha m'oran forthais mu a dheidhinn agus tha e coltach gu leoir nach bi e, co-dhiu, a bheag air dheireadh air na chaidh roimhe. Tha bith agus beatha ar chaini an earbas ris an oigridh. Ma ni sinn greinn ora-san chan eagal nach toir na h-inbhich an aire dhoibh fhein, ged a dh'fhaodas neach a radh gu'm bheil mòran diubhsan am feum brosnach-aidh is bruididh a chumail an dleasnas sin 'nan cuimhne.

Arrangements at Greenock are well forward, and a large number of entries is anticipated. The Earl of Cassillis is to preside at the grand concert on Friday evening. His Lordship's interest in the work of An Comunn is well known, as also that of the Countess of Cassillis. A committee of local ladies has charge of housing accommodation for the children, of whom a larger number than usual is expected.

In the Treasurer's report submitted at the last meeting of Executive, one gratifying fact emerges which is worthy of special emphasis. The increase from members' subscriptions exceeds that of last year by £80. Cordial thanks are due to those members who so actively exerted themselves during the year to obtain new members, and it is hoped that during the ensuing year the same success will attend the efforts of those who in this very effective way are exhibiting their interest in the Association's welfare and in the extension of its influence.

A list of subscriptions to the Greenock Mod Prize Fund is published in the magazine each month. It is hoped that members and friends who may have overlooked the appeal will send their usual contribution to the Treasurer of An Comunn at this office, or to Mr. John H. Fraser, Local Treasurer, 38 Catheart Street, Greenock. The Committee will gladly welcome the smallest contributions.

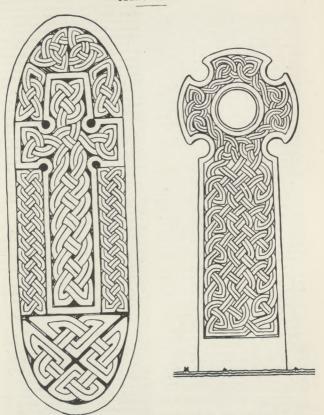
Members would read with interest and pleasure of the success which attended all the Provincial Mods this year. Each year the number of these increases, and their influence for good is already very noticeable, especially on children attending rural schools. Their reading and singing has improved greatly, and one may expect improvement in subjects outwith the scope of Mods. Parents also have a deeper and keener interest in the mother tongue than was the case a decade ago.

Mr. Hugh MacLean is now in the county of Sutherland, and teaching at Bettyhill. His session at Tongue was quite successful, although it must be admitted that summertime is not the time for evening classes. Early this month he goes on to Durness and Kinlochbervie. The Mod takes place at Tongue on Wednesday, 9th September. Mr. Robert MacLeod, Mus. Bac., Edinburgh, and Mr. Roderick MacLeod, Inverness, have kindly agreed to adjudicate. Several prominent members of An Comunn are expected to attend.

This is a quiet time in Highland circles in the cities, but secretaries have put in a lot of work preparing for the winter's session. Chairmen and artistes for the principal gatherings are already booked, and lectures arranged for the ceilidh syllabuses. One wonders how many people who go and lectures give a single thought to the amount of work entailed in catering for their pleasure. Hon, secretaries deserve a meed of praise for their painstaking efforts on behalf of Highland associations.

At the World Conference of Educationists, held in Edinburgh, Sir Donald MacAlister, Principal of Glasgow University, in associating himself with the welcome accorded the delegates, said this land of ours, however, had older capitals, such as Scone and Perth and Dunfermline, and had older universities, such as St. Andrews, Glasgow, and Aberdeen, and there was indeed an older Scotland than the Saxon Lothians wherein this beautiful city of Edinburgh was placed. There was that Celtic Scotland in the Highlands and Islands of the West and North, whence, from Iona, Christian civilisation and learning came to Great Britain, before Augustine touched the shores of Kent. He was associated with these ancient Scottish capitals and religious foundations and romantic regions by close personal bonds, and he therefore deemed himself entitled to be asked to supplement the greetings they had received by voicing the welcome, the multitudinous welcome, the ciad mile failte of older Scotland and its older universities outside the present capital.

CELTIC DESIGN.



[The prizes for completing designs Nos. 3 and 4 have been awarded to Mr. R. E. Turnbull, Edinburgh. The above are the prize drawings.]

THE CELTIC CONGRESS.

This annual conference of representatives of the different Celtic lands was held in Dublin from the 30th of June to the 8th of July. As usual, many writers and public men of international celebrity were present, including Mr. E. T. John, President of the Congress; Dr. Douglas Hyde, Dr. Denis Coppey, Prof. Eoin MacNeill, Prof. F. W. O'Connell, Dr. Osborn Bergin, Lord Ashbourne, Prof. R. A. S. Macalister and Miss O'Farrelly from Ireland ; Dr. Harlwell Jones, Sir John Morris Jones, Prof. J. Lloyd Jones, Prof. W. J. Gruffydd, Prof. Ernest Rhys, Dr. Vaughan Thomas, and Mr. Saunders Lewis from Wales; Prof. Jaffrennon and Mr. Hamon from Brittany; Miss Mona Douglas from the Isle of Man; Mr. Jenner from Cornwall; and Mrs. Burnley Campbell, Dr. MacLean Watt, Rev. George MacKay, Mr. Lachlan MacBean, Dr. Calder, and Mr. Neil MacLean from Scotland.

On the opening day, after the visiting delegates had been officially welcomed by representatives of the local committee, National Universities and Free State Government, the President, Mr. John, delivered his address. He reviewed the scope and aims of the annual Congress, and referred to this one as unique, in that it was for the first time held in the New Ireland under the wing of a government with definite Celtic sympathies. He trusted that the young Irish Parliament, in its solution of modern problems, would vindicate the racial instinct

for government.

In the afternoon Dr. MacLean Watt delivered an address on "The Highlands and Islands of Scotland." Treating chiefly the language problem, he illustrated by statistics the tragic effects of enigration, showing that an enormous proportion of the best manhood was being lost to the Gaelic Highlands, but that Gaelic was definitely spreading in some industrial areas.

Prof. F. W. O'Connell delivered a paper on "The Irish Language" which aroused keen discussion. Some criticism has been levelled against the recent compulsory teaching of Irish in all national schools as over-hasty, but inspectors of schools were able to testify that the new methods, particularly the teaching of other subjects through the medium of Irish, had resulted in better progress.

A reception was given in the evening by the Irish Committee.

On Wednesday forenoon, Sir John Morris Jones, the leader of the Welsh literary revival, lectured on "Welsh Poetry," and Mr. Eamn O'Toole read a paper on "The Poetry of

Glasdroman." Two papers of general interest were read during the afternoon, when Mr. Ernest Rhys, the well-known literary critic, dealt with "The Celt in Modern Times," and Dr. Mary Williams read a paper on "The Celt in Internationalism." In the evening a company of Irish players presented three Irish plays in the Abbey Theatre, the picturesque national theatre founded through the efforts of Lady Gregory, W. B. Yeats, J. M. Synge and others. Next morning Mr. Saunders Lewis expressed the general feelings of the audience, when, during his address on "The Drama in Wales" he paid high tribute to the Irish producers. Mr. Lewis gave a brilliant sketch of the attempts at drama in Wales, the distorted religious attitude which obstructed it, and the rise of a younger school of dramatists that were antagonistic to this shallow puritanism. The two Welsh plays produced on the following Tuesday illustrated his remarks, and clearly showed the vigour of the Welsh dramatists and the talent of their native actors. Ard-Bhreitheamh and Mrs. O'Kennedy gave a garden party in the afternoon, and most of the delegates attended. In the evening a banquet was given in honour of the delegates by the National University authorities, and there was some very impressive speaking.

Thursday was devoted to discussion on the language question. Mrs. Burnley Campbell presided at the Scottish Gaelic meeting, where many points were discussed in a practical and informal manner, and visitors got an opportunity of hearing the peculiarities of the problem in Scotland as distinct from Wales or Ireland. Remedial resolutions were discussed and adopted at the joint meeting in the afternoon. In the case of Scotland, these resolutions mainly urged a fuller exercise of the educational measures already secured, and the setting up of a Chair of Celtic at Glasgow

University.

The excursions were, in spite of much personal eloquence on the part of the lecturers enumerated, quite the most instructive part of the Congress for the visitor. On Saturday a large party visited Tara—the site of the ancient halls and forts of the Kings of All Ireland and the most interesting archælogical field in Europe. From there the journey was continued to the Boyne Valley, and the remarkable pre-Christian burial mound at Newgrange. This and the other excursion to the ecclesiastical remains of St. Kevin's group of churches at Glendalough was under the guidance of Prof. R. A. S. MacAlister, who has done so much for Celtic Archelogy, and

from whom much more is anticipated. He was most lucid and vivid in his details.

The papers on Tuesday and Wednesday were by Dr. Vaughan Thomas (on "Nationalism in Music "), Dr. J. E. Lloyd (on "Wales in the Middle Ages"), Prof. Jaffrennon (on "The Movement in Brittany") Mr. Robin Flower (on "The Future of Welsh Studies") and by Mr. Edward Groyn (on "Edward Lloyd"). Dr. Thomas in a comprehensive essay showed that a development of the native idiom was the best way of arriving at truth of expression in music, and Mr. Flower in a a finely-balanced effort drew attention to the necessity for a wider range of study for the future and for state, assistance for research workers. The discussions on all the papers were lively, and among the speakers were eminent critics, like Mr. A. Perceval Graves and public men like Eamon de Valera.

The closing event was a garden party given by President and Mrs. Cosgrove at their private residence, where in addition to Congress visitors there were many prominent men in Irish life.

The two concerts were artistically a great success, although the fine summer weather interfered with the attendance. Miss Leila Megaee, the Welsh Prima Donna, was accorded a fine reception, and Neil MacLean, with his popular Gaelic songs, was a great favourite.

The dominating impression was that alike in enthusiasm and achievement Scotland was behind. Although appearances in Dublin may flatter, there can be no doubt that remarkable progress has recently been made in the use and teaching of Irish, Welsh seems to be safe at present-at least among the intellectuals —and Brittany has great numerical strength. Yet from the quality and educational advantages of the comparatively few Gaelic speakers, it seems unlikely that the Highlands will be behind.

Delegates owe a debt of gratitude to the Free State Government for their assistance, to the Hospitality Committee, to all the Congress officials, and especially to the hard-working secretary, Miss O'Farrelly, of the National University.

GAELIC IN THE SCHOOLS.

The Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach discussed at their last meeting the position of Gaelic in schools. Mrs. W. J. Watson, Edinburgh, in moving the adoption of the report on education, paid a tribute to the work done by teachers in spreading knowledge of the language. She said it was really very disappointing to see the apathy not only of Education Authorities, but also of parents, and thought they could bring a little more pressure upon Education Authorities to have Gaelic taught as a school subject. We have a high regard for Mrs. Watson's opinions on this difficult subject. No one who knows her can doubt her intense enthusiasm. In this matter, however, we fear she is misplacing the emphasis. The fundamental factor it seems to us, is the parent, not the Authority. Authorities can do a great deal, but, after all, they cannot, because they dare not, go further than their rulers (the parents) permit. It is, of course, much easier to bring pressure to bear on Authorities than on parents, but there is no question that the more tedious and difficult process will produce eventually much better and more abundant results. We know that An Comunn, by its system of local Mods, is slowly and surely educating public opinion, and there are encouraging signs of a definite raising of standards of ability. It is, we believe, by greater effort along that line that the hopes of those Gaels who are faithful to their traditions will be realised.—Scottish Educational Journal.

GREENOCK MOD DONAT	IONS		
Previously acknowledged	£122	17	0
Received at Head Office-			
Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale		0	0
Malcolm MacLeod, Esq., Ibrox	1	1	0
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"TRI SEOID A' CHUAIN."

£142 3 0

An uair a tha an cuan cho mór agus cho iongantach de fhein agus le na beò-chreutairean móra agus iongantach a tha ann, is neònach an ni e gur iad triùr cho so-fhaicsinneach agus air a bheil sinn cho eòlach ris a' ghiomach, ris a' rionnach, agus ris a' ròn, seòid a' chuain. Bu e sin barail nan seann daoine. "An giomach, an runach, an ròn, tri seòid a' chuain." Agus, gun amharus, is triùir thapaidh an dearbh chuideachd, mar a bha deagh fhios aig Domhnullaich nan Eilean.

Is iomadh iasg as docha leam fhein na an rionnach, ach tha cuid eile againn agus chuireadh iad air thoiseach air a' bhradan e airson lon-maidne. Chan fhaca mi fhein iasg riamh a chuirinn air thoiseach air a' bhradan airson lòn air bith, agus chan e sin a mhàin ach tha 172

e cho sgèimheach na iasg agus a tha e taitneach na bhiadh. Tha an sgadan e fhein, air ùr-chrathadh as na lìn, na iasg maiseach, ach, loinneal agus mar a tha esan agus iomadh seòrsa eile, tha am bradan ag toirt bàrr air na h-uile. Tha am bradan leis an loch uisge, leis an linne, agus leis an abhainn, cho maith ri bhi leis a' chuain, mur bu e sin bhithinn air mo cho-éigneachadh gu bhi ag ràdhan giomach, am bradan, an ròn, seòid, a' chuain. Ach is ann air an rionnach fhein a tha coltas an t-seòid agus is iad an cuan, an doimhneachd sàile, agus an sruth mara, na h-ionadan ion-mhianaichte aige fhein. Iasg glas stiallach, geur roimhe, cruinn timchioll, caol cuimir gu bun an earbuill, agus an t-earbull farsuinn, caol, làidir; tha an gille glas so air fhior uidheamachadh airson na réis mara. An robh sibh riamh ga iasgach le na slatan? Ma bha, tha fios agaibh gu bheil neart agus sgoinn ann a tha dol fada thar a mheud. Leumaidh e air an dubhan anns an t-sruth, agus an uair a leumas bheir e grad ionnsuigh fodha; agus mur eil an acfhuinn foghuinnteach, agus gu h-àraidh ma tha caraid no dha aig an rionnach, tha dubhan is ite gu bhi dhìth na h-àireamh. Bheir an rionnach fead air an driamlaich an uair a bheir e a cheann fodha. Agus, ged nach blaisinn air an iasg ged a bheireadh eòlaich an leth-hubhag air, cha di-chuimhnich mi idir treòir is tapachd an runaich. Agus tha iasgach nan runach ag toirtlaithean geal m' oige nam chuimhne: mise agus na fir a bu teòma agus a bu fhearr an eithear air feasgar brèagha, a' ghrian air dol fodha agus faiteal beag air tighinn air a' ghaoith, blàths an latha agus fionarachd an an-moich ag comhlachadh a chéile, fàileadh na mara cho conbhallach agus cùbhraidh, agus, ar leat, fàileadh an éisg anns an fhaiteal gaoithe; am muir ag dorchadh, ach fhathasd trom usine thar na gaineamh, agus dearg thar a chladaich, an caolas beag, bòidheach, an Innse-Gall.

Is e iasg neònach na chumadh agus na dhreach a tha anns a' ghiomach. Tha sinn uile eòlach air, beò no marbh, dubh ghorm breac beò, agus dearg agus e air a bhruith. Chuala mi gun do chuir dath a' ghiomaich dithis roimhe fada fada a mach air a chéile. Cha chreid mi gum bu Ghàidheil iad, co dhiù, cha bu chòir gum buineadh iad do'n oirir, ach an déidh sin có aige tha fios nach do thachair a' cheart ni anns a' Ghaidhealtachd, gu tric, ged nach bu ghiomach an cuspair. An latha roimhe bha mi ag leughadh bàs a' chocaire airson a' ghiomaich—gu cur as da, dòirt uisge

goileach air. Nis, mur biodh an giomach cho ruighinn ris a' chat cha bhiodh e beò ann air beulaibh bean-tighe airson bàs cho gàbhaidh. Oir is e is dòcha gu robh am bròn na chuis-chianalais agus na chulaidh-thruais, latha an deidh latha, anns a' chrò gun iochd anns an do chàirich na h-iasgairean esan agus a dhaimhean co luath agus a chaidh a ghlacadh. Is ann air cladach creagach, agus timchioll air sgeirean dubha, a thatar ag iasgach nan giomach. Bithear gan iasgach an diugh le cleibh-ghiomach: bhatar gan iasgach aon uair le na sgùilean. Is iad na seanairean aig a bheil eadhoin cuimhne air bhi ri na soùilean. Bha an sgùile na lìon a bha air a sgaoileadh thar cearcal, agus mar sin, le biadhadh air meadhon an lìn, air a leigeil sìos comhnard chun a' ghrunna. Co aige tha fios nach fhaicte an giomach, air fior latha feathach soilleir, ag cur aghaidh air a bhiadhadh; ach theagamh gur ann air thuairmeas a bhithte ag togail mar bu trice, agus nach e brod na foighidin a thigeadh air an iasgach sin? Chan aithne dhomh gu bheilear an diugh ag bogadh sgùile air cladach an Albainn. Agus mun chliabhghiomach, tha mi de an bheachd gur iad na h-Arcaich, agus muinntir na h-Airde n-ear, a thug eólas nan cliabh-ghiomach do iasgairean nan Eilean Siar. Tha an cliabh glé innleachdach.

Tha an toiseach ùrlar air a dheanamh de fhiodh, bùird bheaga, chaola, agus iad ìre bheag o cheile; tha an sin trì cearcail, no leth chearcail, air an togail air a' chlàr so, fear air gach ceann agus aon anns a' mheadhon : an sin tha clach, cho cudthromach agus gun toir i fodha an cliabh agus gun cum i gun charachadh fo shàl e, ach cho aotrom agus nach sgaoil a cudthrom as a cheile e, air a caradh air màs a' chléibh; tha an sin lìon moglach air a sgaoileadh thar nan cearcal. agus air a cheangal ris a' chlàr, agus tha dà dhorus air an toirt air a' chliabh, anns an lion, agus tha na dorsan sin cruinn agus togota suas an taobh a stigh dean chliabh; tha am biadhadh air a cheangal a stigh, eadar an druim is an t-ùrlar. Théid an giomach a steach air an dorus, leumaidh e sios chun an ùrlar, agus tha e an gainntear. Mar is trice is i laimh an iasgair a bheir a mach e.

Tha àiotean ann agus tha na ròin pailt annta: agus tha àitean eile ann far nach faicear ròn eadar da cheann na bliadhna. Ach, tric no tearc gam faicear e, is e beathach gun lochd gun mhi-thlachd a tha ann. Cha chuir e dragh air duine, ach chan eil guth aig an duine air sin, oir chan eil teagamh nach robhas a deanamh droch dhiol gun seadh air na ròin. Tha an ola aca feumail, agus tha prìs air na béin. A thaobh nan eilean tha eadar dhealachadh daimh eadar cuid is cuid agus na ròin. Tha cuid de na h-Eileanaich agus bu leasg leotha riamh fuil a chur air ròn; tha cuid eile aca agus chan iarradh iad a cheòl-gàire ach a bhi slacadh nan ròn. De an t-aobhar? Chan eil mi ag ràdh nach eil a' cheisd sin cho cruaidh ri, carson a tha leithid de dheoinbhaigh aig Gaidheil Eireann ris na mucan agus cho beag aig Gaidheil Albann mu na creutairean ceudna? Ach bha so ann. Bha cuid de na seana Ghaidheil, agus co dhiu is ann rathad nan Eieannach no rathad nan Lochlannach a thàinig an t-amharus, bha amharus aca gu robh ni eigin mi nàdurra anns an ròn. Ar leotha gu robh daonachd anns a' ròn, agus nan robh a' chòir air a cumail gur ann nan seòid air tìr a bhiodh na ròin. Mar sin chanadh iad gur ann a bha an ana cneasdachd anns an duine a chuireadh barrachd sgiomaidh orra air na bheireadh an dubh-éigin air, agus cha bu e an deagh mhanadh a chuireadh iad air luchd casgraidh nan ròn. Bhuineadh na fir ud don t-seann saoghal a bha fo sgleò. Ach na fir eile bhuineadh iad do shaoghal sealladh nan sùl agus claisneachd nan cluas : agus tha iad an diugh air àireamh " bi ag toirt rud domh." Agus chan e sin uile e, ach tha breisleach an luib marbhadh nan ròn a thàinig air cuid de na h-Eileanaich, agus a tha gu tric air iomadh seòrsa sealgair, a bhi a leagail air ghaol a' spadaidh agus chan ann air los feuma. Cha do thog mi fhein musg ri ròn riamh agus chan aithreach leam nach do thog. Agus tha iomadh cuimhne agam air na ròin, an t-side mhaith agus an droch shìde. Anns an t-samhradh tha iad glan; agus cordaidh ceol-beòil riubha. Ach nam faiceadh sibh-se an ròn air ratha gaillion, ri droch cladach, ag dol troimh chaol cumhann an sùil na gaoithe is an aghaidh srutha, chitheadh sibh neart is gaisge an ròin agus chuireadh an sealladh sin dhuibh-sa an ròn, gun amharus, air àireamh nan gaisgeach.

Gum bi fada buan an triùir air cladach garbh Innse-Gall, "trì seòid a chuain, an giomach, an rionnach, an ròn.!"

PETIT BLANC.

THE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Provincial Mod is only provincial in the sense that, like Ben Cruachan, or even the Coolins of Skye, it can only cover a certain amount of ground. In its material and its work, it is as national as the big Mod itself. It brings together a gathering such as no other movement could attract. There are no lairds there, nor crofters, nor fishermen, nor tacksmen, nor ministers, nor elders; only Gaels, and each of them as gentle and as simple and, best of all, as vulgarly earnest as the other. If the Provincial Mod goes on leaping into manhood, as it is doing just now, long may Gaelic continue to die, for its dying seems to be the life of it. If only the venerable Parliament of Great Britain would now help us by passing a law forbidding the use of Gaelic without a special licence from the gauger!

In June last, the writer had the privilege of acting as Gaelic judge at Isla and Lochgilphead, and he would like to tell his fellow-Gaels something of what he saw and heard. But first let him pay his tribute to the business-like methods of the local committees, and especially the secretaries. Why should it be thought that the Gael cannot organise? At Isla and Lochgilphead the various arrangements were carried out as quietly and as effectively as the water spider builds its submarine.

THE ISLA MOD.

The Mod dominated Isla publicly for two days, but, judging by results, the thought of it must have dominated Isla privately for several months before. During those two days the schools were closed, business was at a standstill, and if one saw a motor car going anywhere else than to the Mod, one knew that it contained some crestfallen commercial traveller, who would afterwards report to his firm in Paisley or Manchester that "there was nothing doing in Isla this time, all the people being stark mad about a something or other called a mode.' Altogether, the Queen of the Hebrides acted in a queenly manner towards her own language.

In passing, and merely in passing, let it be said that both the singing and the oral work at the Isla Mod were of a high order, and bore witness not only to fine talent and hard work, but also to a genuine Gaelie spirit behind the talent and the work. But what interests the writer most is this question: Is Isla safe for Gaelic? would have answered yes, even supposing he had not been at its Mod at all, but, having been there, he is more certain than ever that Isla is one of the elect provinces. As far as inflection and idiom are concerned. one could probably hear more perfect Gaelic, say, in Uist or Tirec, but the fact remains

that the Isla people are as much at home in the language as any other people in Gaeldom; and so easily and happily do they express themselves that there is no reason why they should ever be reduced to the use of English either at home or on the King's highway. And, besides, there is an Isla pride which is wholly admirable—the pride which will not allow the Saxon to dictate to a race which had an exquisite culture of its own long before a word of English was heard anywhere in Britain. Between their good Gaelic and their equally good pride, the Isla Gaels are going to count more and more in Gaeldom.

THE DALRIADA MOD.

"What can the man do that cometh after the King?"-or, in this case, after the queen. No harder test could be applied to the Mod which met at Lochgilphead than to judge it immediately after the Isla one, and no greater compliment could be paid to it than to say that in its measure it stood the test. The Isla people would be the first to admit that theirs is the easier task, and that the greater credit should be given to such as have to face the greater difficulties. In Isla the Gael rules; in the district of which Lochgilphead is the centre. the Gael has to fight for his life. The writer was able to compare the Dalriada of 1925 with the Dalriada of 1924, and he could see genuine signs of progress. For instance, the appointment of a special Gaelic master to the Lochgilphead school in 1924 showed its worth in the greatly improved Gaelic of the children in 1925, a result which will doubtless make the headmaster and his Gaelic colleague keener even than before on the success of the venture. Also, some of the senior competitors were so good this year, from a Gaelic point of view, that they are bound to incite, or even provoke, the weaker brethren to still greater efforts to reach the same high standard. And here let it be said, that every other Mod might very well follow the example of Isla in giving the oral work quite as prominent a place as is given to the vocal competitions. The Lochgilphead leaders have probably decided already that next year the Gaelic dialogues, which were so striking a feature at the recent Mod, will be given in the big hall, and before the big audience, even though some of the less important vocal competitions should have to be relegated to the more obscure hall.

On his way home from the Lochgilphead Mod, the writer, being less of a judge than

of a Gael, asked himself this question again. and again: What has this gathering actually done? The answer is, that the work it has done would, even on the surface, be well worth doing. It mobilised the Gaelic forces of a large and influential district; it proved to the doubters that the reek comes from a fire; it set young Gaels singing the songs and telling the tales of the mother-tongue; and it whispered into many an ear that our race can and shall be saved, though scarcely by the heart of a hen. But the greater part of the work done is probably hidden in the depths, and will come to the surface in due time. At any rate, a suggestion has a curious knack of sticking to one. A Gael of a sort comes to the Mod just as he might come to a market or a political meeting; while there, he is made to feel that this movement takes itself seriously, and is taken seriously by the public; behind everything there is the suggestion of a race which one may feel proud to belong to, and of a cause which a Gael must needs fight for. As likely as not, then, our Gael of a sort becomes unconsciously what the Mod suggests he should be. K. M.

MID ARGYLL MOD.

The fourth annual Provincial Mod for the district of Mid Argyll, and now popularly known as Mod Dhailriada, was held at Lochgilphead on 23rd and 24th June. The Mod was a success in every department, and decided progress has been made since the gathering was instituted.

The arrangements for the Mod were in the capable hands of Dr. Ross (secretary) and Captain George I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth (convener), and they were ably supported by a strong band of local ladies and gentlemen. At different stages of the proceedings Mrs. Brown, Lochgilphead; the Rev. J. H. C. Macfarlane-Barrow, Inveraray; Colonel Campbell of Dudhope; Rev. Dr. Robertson, Rev. J. Cameron, Kilmichael; and Miss Olive Campbell of Inverneill, presided over the various competitions.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Rev. Kenneth Macleod, Gigha; Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Glasgow, and Mr. Neil Shaw. Music—Mr. Hugh S. Roberton, Glasgow Orpheus Choir. Dancing and Pjing—Major W. D. Allan, Chief Constable of Argyll, and Mr. J. Graham Campbell, Yr., of Shirvan.

THE PRIZE-LIST.

JUNIORS.

Literary.—Letter-writing (confined to learners)—
I. Christina Ferguson, Lochgilphead; 2, Mary
Wilkinson, Lochgilphead; 3, Mary Crawford, Lochgilphead, Dictation—I, James Crawford, Minard;
2 John Urquhart, Minard; 3, Maisie Beaton,
Minard.

Minard.
Oval.—Reading Prose (confined to learners)—1,
II. Crawford MacAlpine, Ardrishaig; 2, Mary
Crawford, Lochgilphead; 3, Christina Ferguson,
Lochgilphead, 3, Christina Ferguson,
Lochgilphead, Reading Poetry (confined to learners)
—1, James Mirtyre, Lochgilphead; 2, Christina
Ferguson, Lochgilphead, Reading Poetry (open)—

1, Annie Murno, Minard; 2, Christina MacEwan,
Lochgair; 3, Anne Cumming, Lochgilphead,
Reciting Poetry (open)—1, Anne Murno, Minard;
2, Christina MacEwan, Lochgair; 3, Jean MacVicax,
L. H. Crawford MacAlpine, Ardrishaig; 2, Massie
Beaton, Minard; 3, May Wilkinson, Lochgilphead,
Sgeulachd—1, Jean M'Vicar, Lochgair; 2, Christina
MacEwan, Lochgair; 3, Maisie Beaton, Minard,
Acted Dialogue—1, Christina MacEwan and Jean
M'Vicar, Lochgair; 2, James Crawford and John
Urquhart, Minard.

Vocal.—Solo (girls)—1, Marion T. MacAllister,
Lochigiphead; 2, Margerel Scott, Lochgair; 3, May
Stiller, M.Lochgair, 3, May
Stiller, M.Lochgair, 3, May
Stiller, M.Lochgair, 1, Mary
M. Guinnes, Tayvallich;
3, Alexander Munro, Lochgair, Solo, Test Song
(boys and girls)—1, Henry M.Guinnes, Tayvallich;
2, Alexander Munro, Lochgair; 3, Mina G. Greenshields, Lochgiphead, 1 Sett Song (boys and girls,
under 12 years)—1, Colin Munro, Lochgair; 2, Mary
(rawford, Lochgiphead, 3, Margaret Macmillan,
Lochgiphead. "Puirt à Beul"—1, H. Crawford
M. Alpine, Ardrishaig; 2, Margaret Macmillan,
Minard; 3, Ian MacNab and Colin Munro (equal),
Duet.—1, Enry M. Guinnes and Law MacReilland,
Minard; 3, Golin Munro and Alexander Munro,
Lochgair, Choral Harmony—1, Lochgiphead Choir; 2,
Minard Choir, 3, Ford Choir, Choral Unison—
Lochgair, Choral Harmony—1, Lochgiphead Choir; 3,
Minard Choir
Dancing.—Highland Fling.—1, Henry M'Guinnes.

Dancing.—Highland Fling—1, Henry M'Guinnes, Tayvallich; 2, Marion T. MacAllister, Lochgilplead; 3, Mary L. MacAllister, Lochgilphead. Sword Dance—1, Henry M'Guinnes, Tayvallich; 2, Marion T. MacAllister; 3, Mary L. MacAllister, Lochvilbhed;

SENIORS.

Letter Writing-Miss Iseabal MacGilp, Lochgilphead.

Oral. — Reading — Miss I. MacGilp. Poetry (recitation)—1, Miss I. MacGilp; 2, Mr. Robert Shaw, Silvercraigs; 3, Miss C. M'Tavish, Lochgilphead. Sgeulachd—1, Miss Isseabal MacGilp; 2, Mr. R. Shaw; 3, Miss C. M'Tavish, Lochgair (equal.) Dialogue—1, Miss C. M'Tavish and Mr. R. Shaw; 2. Miss C. Bessie Campbell and Miss Margaret M'Kellar, Lochgair (equal.) Miss Campbell and Miss Margaret M'Kellar, Lochgair (equal.)

Vocal.—Solo (ladies)—1, Miss Grace Johnstone, Lochgilphead; 2, Miss Nan Greenshields, Lochgilphead; 3, Miss Janet A. M'Arthur, Kilmartin. Solo (gentlemen)—1, Mr. Donald Martin, Lochgilphead; 2, Mr. John Carruthers, Lochgilphead; 3, Mr. Thomas Tyson, Adrishaig. Test Songs (fadies and gentlemen)—1, Mr. Donald Martin; 2, Mr. John Carruthers; 3, Miss Grace Johnstone, Lochgilphead, and Miss Mary G. Leitch, Furnace (equal). Puirt à Beul-1, Miss M. G. Leitch; 2, Miss B. Campbell, Leitch, S. Miss M. C. Leitch, S. Miss M. G. Leitch, S. Miss M. G. Leitch, S. Miss Miss Carrier, Leitch, Leitch, S. Miss Miss Greenshields and Miss Annie M'Nair (equal). Oran Mor-Mr. Robert Shaw. Duet-1, Miss Annie M'Nair and Mr. A. F. M. Lennan, Lochgilphead; 2, Misses A. M'Brayne and C. Mitchell, Ardrishing; 3, Miss Nan Greenshields and Mr. John Carruthers. Quartette-1, Misses A. M Brayne and C. Mitchell, and Messrs. D. M'Gallum and D. Tyson, Ardrishadg S. Misses D. M'Gallum and D. Tyson, Ardrishadg S. Misses Messrs. J. Garruthers and A. F. M'Lennan, Lochgilphead. Choirs—1, Lochgilphead Choir (conductor, Miss M. C. Brown, Lochgilphead); 2, Ardrishaig Choir (conductor, Mr. C. R. Malcolm, Lochgilphead); 2, Ardrishaig Choir (conductor, Mr. C. R. Malcolm, Lochgilphead); 2

Piping-1, Mr. Ernest Turner, Minard; 2, Mr. Archd. M'Allister, Lochgilphead.

CONCERTS.

The principal prize-winners sustained concert programmes and delighted their audiences. They were assisted by Miss Jenny M. B. Currie, Cuilfail; Mr. A. F. MacLennan, Lochgilphead; Mr. James Livingstone, Lochgilphead; Mr. Neil Shaw, and Piper C.Q.M.S. Neil M'Lellan, A. & S.H. On Tuesday evening Sheriff Guy presided, and delivered an interesting speech, mainly on the origin of Gaelic and its spread over this country; and Mrs. Guy presented the prizes to successful competi-tors during the day. The Lady Elspeth Campbell occupied the chair, and handed over the awards to the successful seniors at the Wednesday concert. Her Ladyship (who was cordially received) said she was greatly impressed by the high standard of the singing, and delighted at the interest shown in as well as the excellent results arising from the "Puirt à Beul" competition; while she greatly enjoyed the unpublished folk songs. This year's Mod showed one outstanding improvement over last year-in no song did she hear that operatic skirl, that upward finishing note instead of a downward one.

PERTHSHIRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The second Provincial Mod for the County of Perth was held in the Town Hall, Aberfeldy, on 26th June. There are nine branches of An Comunn in Perthshire,

and eight sent forward representatives to take part in the Mod.

The standard was a high one as regards the musical competitions, vocal and instrumental. A very pleasing feature of the proceedings was the very correct way in which all the competitors in the oral competitions read and recited. The distinct enunciation of the competitors in both the senior and junior sections was highly creditable to them, and one could understand every word that was spoken and sung by the junior prize-winners. This is a gratifying sign that Gaelic is not so decadent in the Big County as was at one time thought.

Mr. R. M'Leod, Edinburgh, one of the adjudicators, said a distinct feature was the fine vocal material. In the senior class solo voices a few hints would suffice to make many of the soloists first-class vocalists. All that was wanting was an understanding of the elementary laws of rhythm as applied to folk-song. Many of the competitors would stand a very favourable contrast with competitors at our leading festivals. It was very gratifying to find so many entries in the duet class. The mixed voice choirs had excellent vocal material.

Mr. Roderick MacLeod, Inverness, said that Perthshire children had beautifully sweet and fresh voices, and gave a very good interpretation of the songs.

A concert was given by the prize-winners in the Town Hall in the evening before a large audience. Lord James Stewart Murray presided, and the prizes were presented by Lady Helen Tod. Lord James said he understood that the Mod that day had been in every way much better than the last one held in Perthshire. No county in Scotland had done more for the Gaelic movement than the county of Perth. He appealed to them to do all they could to preserve the fine old spirit of the Highlands, and to maintain the best in Highland life and character.

Very satisfactory arrangements for the Mod were made by the office-bearers and members of the Mod Local Committee.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Miss Morag MacDonald, M.A., Edinburgh; Mrs. W. J. Watson, Edinburgh; Rev. T. S. MacPherson, Glasgow. Vocal Music—Mr. Robert MacLeod, Mus. Bac., Edinburgh, and Mr. Roderick MacLeod, Inverness, Instrumental—Mr. Ian Menzies, Edinburgh, and Pipe Major D. MacDougall, Glasgow.

PRIZE-WINNERS.

JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral Delivery.—Reading with Expression a Piece of Poetry (confined to learners of Gaelic)—I, Janet Yung, School; 2, Cathie Taylor, Struan School; 3, Tom M Lauchlan, Struan School. Struan School; 3, Tom M-Lauchlan, Struan School, Reading a Piece of Prose (onfined to Gaelic learners)—1, Janet Young, Struan School; 2, Hamish Stewart, Bruar; 5 and 4 (equal), Alice Dryden and T. M'Lauchlan. Reading Any Piece Selected (open to all)—Alasdaric Catter, Ballinluig, Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Piece—1, Alasdari Carter; 2, Robert Irvine, Ballinluig, Receiting from Memory "Tir nan Og"—1, Alasdari Carter; 2, Robert Irvine, 5, Jessie M'Dougall, Killin. Narrative based on some local Incident, Tradition, or Legend, followed by simple Conversation between the Judge and Competitors—Jessie M'Dougall, Killin.

Conversation below, or Legend, intowed by simple Conversation belowen the Judge and Competitors—
Excellence S. Gaelic Conversation—J. Robert Livine, Ballibuig; 2, Jesse M'Dougall, Killin. Repetition, Prose, Psalm 103 or 1st Corimbians, chapter 15 (open to all)—J. Robert Ivrine; 2. Alasdair Carter. Vocal Music.—Solo Singing, Girls—I, Ews Brydon, Kemmore; 2, Mary Leslie, Aberfeldy; 3, Jean M'Dougall, Aberfeldy; Solo Singing, Boys—I, Norman Keay, Aberfeldy; 2, George Coull, Kemnore. Solo Singing, Girls or Boys—I, Mary Leslie; 2, Eva Brydon; 3, Reua Robertson, Pitlochry; Choral Singing—I, Elizabeth Cameron and Jean Cameron; 2, Jean Pernie and Rena Robertson, Pitlochry; 5, George Coull and Coull, Kemnore. Union Singing—I, Aberfeldy Junior Gaelic Choir; 2, Killin Junior Gaelic Choir; 3, Pitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir; 3, Fitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir; 3, Fitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir. 3, Pitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir.

SENIOR SECTION.

Oral Delivery.—Reading at Sight (open to all)—1, Catherine Campbell, Killin; 2, C. M'Callum, Fortingall. Reading Passages aslected by Judge (confined to Gasile learners)—1, J. Joseph (confined to Gasile learners)—1, J. W. Ford, Glenlyon House; 2, Agnes Paterson, Kenmore; 3 and 4 (equal), Margaret Macgregor, Dull, and C. M'Callum. Sgulaclid, marrating an old Gasile Tals in the Tradition Mannes—1, J. W. Ford; 2, J Fraser, Fortingall.

J Fraser, Fortingali.
Solo Singing, Female Voices—1 and 2 (equal),
Mary Robertson, Pithochry, and C. J. Fraser,
Fortingali. Solo Singing, Male Voices—1, Lachlan
Malloch, Ardtalnaig; 2, J. J. Coull; 3, John
M'Dougali, Fortingali. Solo Singing, Male or
Female Voices—1, M. J. M. Robertson, Almondbank; 2 and 3 (equal), K. E. Fisher, Fortingali,
and John M'Dougali. Solo Singing of an Unpublished Perthshire Song—John M'Dougali.

lished Perthshire Song.—John M'Dougall.
Instrumental Section (confined to amateurs).—
Bagpipes, playing of a March, Strathspey, and
Reel (confined to lads under 19 years of age)—1,
Peter M'Diarmid, Perth; 2, Alastair M'Rae.
Acting Dialogue—1, Catherine Campbell and
John Stewart, Killin; 2, Mrs. MacIntyre and
M. Robertson, Kenmove. Duet Singing—1, J.
M. Robertson, Almondbank Krail.

M. Robertson, Almondbank Krail.

Kenmove.
Lizzie Ross, Struan. Choral Singing—1, Central
District School, Perth; 2, High School, Pitcherly.
Choral Singing in Harmony—1, Killin Gaelic Choir;
2, Kenmore Gaelic Choir.

2, Kenmore Gaelic Choir.



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Leabhar XX.]

An t. Sultuiu, 1925.

Earrann 12

A' CUIMHNEACHADH 'S AG IONNDRAIN.

Is fior an sean fhacal a their gu bheil Oran nan aingeal agus fuaim an sgiath Timchioll air creithil bhig an ionracain, 'S an uair a chì e sealladh air an gnùis Gun dealraich fiamh a' ghàir' air aodann féin. Is mar a dh'éireas faoileagan a' chuain Na miltean comhla suas o chreagan Hiort An uair a chluinnear fuaim a' ghunna mhóir, Sin mar a dh'éireas trioblaidean nan smuain O chridh' an duine mar a laidheas trom An cadal air a shùil. Is e mo phuing Iarratus dùrachdach tha anns gach neach Air nithibh nuadha nochdas dhuinn a ghnàth Aillidheachd ùr anns am bi againn sealbli Is tlachd is taitneas agus riarachadh. Oir ged nach gabh an cuspair cur an cainnt. Is ged nach urrainn neach a mhìneachadh, Gidheadh 's e fiosrachadh gach dùil maraon Gu bheil gun dìobhradh ann ar crìdhe stigh Iomhaighean sona riamh nach faca sùil-Iomhaighean aoibhneach a tha leinn gun

Nas oirdheirce no snuadh nan liosan cùbhr' Gu 'n treòraich triall na cubhaig, cian mu

Nach iomadh uair a mhothaich thu 'n a

Ionndrain nach b'urrainn duit a chur an céill, An uair a chithte fiamh is dath an òir

'S an fheasgar chiùin air mullaichean nam

Ri cuimhneachadh nan làithean grinn a bhà Thig snuadh an t-Samhraidh gu ar cuimhne air ais.

Oran na h-uiseig agus ceòl nan ian. Fàileadh nan ròs tha 'fàs air bruaich nan

Le astar stàtail ghluais rìgh mór nan speur Troimh gheatachan an fheasgair anns an Iar. Bha sinn ag ionndrain gun do thraoigh a

Mar shiùbhlas dathan grinn a' bhogha frois A theicheas anns an iarmailt o ar sùil. Cha luaithe sud no dh'éireas ionndrain ùr, Oir shìn an oidhche slat a suaicheantais Thairis air rìoghachd mhór a' chruinne-cé. Mar dhealt an am na tiormachd air an fhonn, Mar ola shèimh 'g a dòrtadh ann an creuchd Tha sochairean a' chadail milis, ciùin Dhaibhsan tha air leòn le mulad trom. Dùinidh an ròs a dhuilleagan mu seach. Paisgidh an neònan geal a phleatan dlùth; Cruinnichidh an t-sòbhrach bhàn a curachd

Is caidlidh an t-ian beag 's a cheann fo 'sgéith :

Caidlidh an iolair ann an còs nan creag Le 'h-àlach òg a dh'itheas feòil na creich; Caidlidh am fiadh 's a' bheinn am blaths an

fhraoich Air grunnd a' choire ghuirm 's an snàmh an

Ach ged a laidheas tàmh is fois mar so Air sùil gach creutair ann am marbh na h-oidhch'

Gidheadh tha'n duine làn de dh'ionndrainean Is iarratuis nach gabh an cur an cainnt. Is anns an oidhche théid a smuaintean ard Ri faicinn seallaidh air na h-iongnaidhean A bha am foluch o ar sùil gu tur

Le solus glan na gréin'. Tha'n ionndrainn

Nas sonraicht' anns an oidhch' no ré an là; Oir feadh an là chan fhaic sinn air gach

Ach beanntan agus cuan an t-saoghail so, Ach bheir an oidhche taisbeanadh ro-phailt Air mórachd agus glòir a' chruinne-cé. Chan eil 's t-saoghal fhéin ach cùileag chilon An coimeas ris na grianntan lainnireach, Saoghail gun àireamh, agus feachd nan reul, A' triall troimh 'n fharsuingeachd fo ùghd-

arras Nan reachd 's nan òrdugh a tha os an cionn. An uair a chì mi gath na gealaich ùir

Thig cuimhneachadh is ionndrain gu mo

Mar loinn an airgid thig na gathan sèimh Air oidhche reodhta gheamhraidh, geal le sneachd.

Oir ged is caomh leam blàth na coill 's a' Mhàgh

Is àillidh leam an nì so mar an ceudn— Solus na gealaich air an t-sneachda gheal Gu fìorghlan fuar air meanglanan nan craobh. Co chunnaic riamh a' ghealach air a' chuan 'S a gathan air na tonnaibh luaineach ard, No air na h-uisgeachan 's iad féathach ciùin, Nach d'fhairich ionndrain thiamhaidh ann a chom.

Chunnacas solus sèimh air bhàrr nan tonn, Is long nan trì chrann ard fo iomadh seòl, Mar eala ghlan nan lón a' ruith romh 'n ghaoith.

Tha suspainn anns gach dealbh a ghlacas

Air buaidh mac-meannna dhaoine cumanta. Tha sud a' dùsgadh suas na diomhaireachd Anns a bheil smuain na maise 'gabhail tàmh. Gach ni tha maiseach bheir e aoibhneas buan Ach mar an ceudna bheir e ionndrain gheur. Sud mar a shaoil ar sinnsir féin o shean Gu fac' iad sluagh na sth' air iomadh uair, Cinneach gun bhròn, gun mhulad, is gun sois,

Gu fac' iad sluagh na sith' air iomadh uair, Cinneach gun bhròn, gun mhulad, is gun aois, Fo speuran gorm an comhnuidh ann an tir Far nach eil geamhradh geur no idir dragh, No bàs no tinneas no aon an-shocair, Ach samhradh sona saibhir, bliadhna mhór

Làn brìgh is toraidh air na cluaintean àigh 'S na h-aibhnichean a' triall troimh iomadh gleann.

THE GARB OF OLD GAUL.

[Copy of article contributed to the New Liskeard Speaker, Northern Ontario, Canada, and forwarded to the Editor of An Gaidheal with the author's compliments.]

Sir,—Your correspondent, writing on the shortcomings of the Highland costume,

seems to my mind to have adopted fallacies of argument that were exploded in Europe over fifty years ago. This may be a case of sleeping sickness, a prevalent mental malady in the land of Rip Van Winkle; but perhaps his misinformation on main points results from the circumstance that the Celtic languages and literature are closed fields of knowledge to the peoples of Canada and America. A brief statement of some established views on the subject among Celtic men of letters may be of some interest, and is not intended to start a "graun controvairsy" on points established or disestablished.

The kilt has really nothing to do with nationalism, which is a very modern institution associated with patriotism and big business. Those who believe it used to be the national costume of Scotland or Ireland like to live in a world of delusion. which is at variance with Gaelic history and tradition from the ninth to the fourteenth centuries, when a Gaelic nation never existed. In fact, patriotism, in the modern sense, was out of touch with Gaelic ideals of democratic liberty, which were founded on patriarchal, and also matriarchal institutions of hoary antiquity-or even older than the first sky-scraper, known as the Tower of Babel, whose acoustics were very faulty, although, happily, the development of Gaelic speech suffered nothing from that cause.

The very title of a Stewart as "King of Scots," or "Mary, Queen of Scots," embodies a Gaelic conception of popular government, which is removed a whole world apart from anything like what is suggested by czar, kaiser, or king of England, for in the Gaelic polity the first lady or gentleman in the state is a toiseach, or leader, while the people do the ruling. Consequently, the hand of many a military adventurer has been stayed from subjecting a free people to serve his personal ambitions, no matter what number of their leaders he may have hanged and quartered. In Gaeldom the tuath, or people, have ever been the dominant factor, and this has too often worked to their disadvantage when their enemies were organised only for war and plunder, as modern nations are forced to be through the conditions they themselves create by "preparing for the peace" of death. Thus, the long centuries of conflict between Gael and Gall, which must continue indefinitely for good or ill, cannot be attributed by any historian to some inherent

rebellious or obstinate trait of character in the former, who are in any ease ignorant of the problems of statecraft and military or naval strategy, which lead to wars on a grand scale, according to the nature of the policy to be enforced on resistant peoples. Rather have they resulted from a war of ideas between civilisations and cultures that have never been blended, and cannot do so now, even though the Gacl become wholly English-speaking.

On the one side there are ideals at stake which were formed by ancient democracies of southern and western Europe, when all Nordic races, including Teutonic and Celtic, lived in the Stone Age of culture. They are so deeply rooted in time, that many war cabinets have had a bad fall in trying to pull them up. On the other side are ranged the organised powers of autocracy, which carve peoples into centres of man-power for the furtherance of Stone-Age schemes, camouflaged by philanthropic propaganda, which nover lightens the "white man's burden. All this is modern history, but fundamentally alien to Gaelic ideals of liberty, justice, and equality; so there are good reasons of state for discouraging all things Gaelic, and suppressing, by penal laws or other means, the wearing of a custume which is indissolubly linked to their ancient civilisation, and always reminds a forgetful world of that vitality of the Gaelic spirit which is as undaunted as Conan among the demons, and has never yielded to the forces whose name is legion.

Now a strange fact about the kilt is that, although it is properly styled the dress of the Gael, the Celts of history wore trousers like the Teutons and other Nordic races. The Celtic family of speech we know. Whether the Gaelic people and their distinctive culture and civilisation were of Celtic or indigenous origin is quite another problem. The Celtic invaders of Gaul and Spain were relatively so few compared with the settled population, that the extinction of Celtic speech on the Continent was a foregone conclusion. History teaches that both in Gaul and Britain they wore braccae, which were trousers woven of divers colours, resembling, says Diodorus, a garment "sprinkled with flowers." The word is related to Gaelic breac (speckled, parti-coloured) and breacan (tartan), and was probably more suited to describe French fashions and styles in tailoring and dressmaking than the clan tartans of the ancient Gacl, which indicated the clan or tribe of their wearers, not only by a special arrangement of stripes and squares, but also by dominant colours in the pattern or design, which may have had a totemic connection.

That this difference was well understood is suggested by the fact that the costume of the Gael was given a special name, the kilt being called feile (whence feile mor and feile beag). It was a one-piece suit, and when warriors were overheated with exercise they commonly dispensed with what was really an Indian blanket, and then had to fight in their shirts, as was done on the day of Blàr na Léine. Its name has puzzleď every philologist who sought its derivation in Celtic speech. My own opinion is that féile was an aboriginal word, whose almost similar form in modern Basque, in the sense of "blanket" or "woven" stuff, points to its pre-Celtic source of origin. To suppose that it came from Latin velum is an amateur explanation which overlooks its pronunciation as eibhileadh in the Islav dialect.

If the French love of artistry and the beautiful had so extended to their men's fashions and ladies' styles as to attract the esteem of others, the Roman soldiery regarded the Gauls as effeminate in their taste for floral designs, while the Greeks classed them among savage races because they wore breeks. In those days, when the centres of civilisation were located in the Mediterranean area, the kilt passed unnoticed among travellers from the Orient. because, along with the chiton and toga, it was considered the common garb of citizenship. And so it remained until the age when Rome, Athens, and Stamboul succumbed to waves of barbarism, from which Europe has never since emerged. Pythagoras could not keep from laughing at the idea of druids, or English philosophers, dressed in the pants of savagery, while they expounded abstruse doctrines like cultured Greeks and Romans.

Perhaps they thought them insular in their ways, or were easily discomfited by the "stoney British stare"—the kind that got on Cesar's nerves when he tumbled overboard and reluctantly ate dirt before his men. Others who ventured beyond the Tweed had been reduced to destitution by the perfervidum ingeniorum Scotorum, and may have returned sadder but wiser for the experience they gained by travail. Strange to say, their attention was never attracted by the kilt in Caledonia, although its

Few foreigners seemed to like the British.

antiquity is proved from samples of Roman sculpture depicting bare-limbed natives in various attitudes of masterful repose. One recent archæological find, discovered near the old Roman Wall in Northumberland, represents a kilted native with a set of primitive bagpipes—a musical instrument of the Gael which was supposed to have been introduced into the Highlands along with spuds and tobacco reek. Their silence about the costume of the Gael, therefore, suggests that they were too familiar with its varied styles in southern Europe; hence, it was the braccae which made them get busy with the pen, because the breeks had a whiff of romance about them like those of an Eskimo or wild Mohican.

Time was, not so very long ago, when cranks could argue to any length on the comparatively recent origin of the kilt, and hold their own while breath was spared them. But scientific opinion to-day has veered round to an opposite extreme, owing to the nature of archæological discoveries in the ancient territories of the Basques in France and Spain, where have been obtained, among the antiquities of Palæolithic and Neolithic man dating from the Early Reindeer period of about twenty thousand years ago, crude but expressive figurines, which show that the aborigines of western Europe wore pleated garments like a kilt, marked with criss-cross designs. The native head-dress or coiffure shows a similar style in the arrangement of the plaits; hence there can be no doubt that the making and designing of clan tartans is of great antiquity, but cannot be traced to any floral ornamentations which Gauls and Teutons used to paint on their bodies or pants.

To this day, the kilted costume of the Gaelic people has remained the distinctive garb of Neolithic man throughout the great goocentric zone of civilisation between Scotland, Ireland, Spain, the Aegean, and Indo-China; and the re-awakening of the East has yet to prove that it is the symbol of an ancient civilisation, which, like the Flom of Gaelic tradition, is asleep on its elbow, awaiting the trumpet-blast of the Ruler of Armageddon, who is to lead democracy into new fields of conquest.

These brief remarks may serve to Scottish sentiment which the kilt never fails to draw in peace-time, and which in war-time backs the "Tron Regiments" of Scotland that are her permanent bulwark against the encroachments of foes to her liberty.

Dr. W. J. Edmondston Scott, M.A., D.Litt.,

New Liskeard, North Ontario, Canada.

IOMRADH.

[Is e so sgrùdadh air an Sgeul Ghàidhealach a sgrìobh Iain MacAlasdair Moffatt-Pender agus a chaidh a sgaoileadh air feadh sgoilean na Gàidhealtachd.]

Chuireadh cóig ceud, dà fhichead ainm agus a seachd a steach.

Thàinig a Siorramachd Inbhir Nis ... 252
Thàinig a Siorramachd Rois 140
Thàinig a Siorramachd Earraghaidheal 130

Thàinig a Peairt, Bòd, Cataibh agus Gallaibh 1

547

Is iad-san a leanas a fhuair na duaisean:—

INBHIR NIS—1 (£2), Cairistiona Nic Neacaill (aois 12), Penefeiler, Port Righ ("Piobaire an aon Phuirt"); 2 (£2), Môr Nic Neacaill (aois 13), Brogaig, Staffan, An t-Eilean Sgitheanach ("Ruigidh Each Mall Muileam")

B'e an t-Ollamh Urramach Lachunn Mac Gilleathain Watt, D.D., am breitheamh

airson na Siorramachd so.

Ros—1 (£2), Alasdairina Nic Ghilleathain (aois 13), Meallan Udrigle, An Leathad ("Dudaire Naast"); 2 (10/-), Cailean Fionnlagh Mac Neacaill (aois 11), 31 Pabull Iosal, Leòdhas ("Fionnghal, na Faorlieagan agus an Seòladair Og"); 3 (10/- eatorra,) Maretta Urchardainn (aois 12), Poll Iùbh ("Duais na Dilseachd"), agus Alasdair Mac Rath (aois 13), Tigh Cinn Tìre, Bad a' Chròtha ("Mealladh an dà Shealladh").

B'e am Mor-uasal Seumas Iain Mac a' Phearsoin, K.C., M.P., am breitheamh

airson na Siorramachd so.

EARRAGHADHEAL—1 (£2), Mórag Nic Shithich (aois 15), Dìtra ("Aodainn anns an Teine"); 2 (10/-), Fionnghal Nic a Phi (aois 14), Tobar Mhoire ("Dilseachd gun Choimeas"); 3 (5/-), Donaldina Nic a Phi (aois 11), Baile Mhartain, Tiriodh ("Gheibh Poighidinn Furtachd");

B'e an t-Ollamh Niall Mac an Rothaich, LL.D., am breitheamh airson na Siorramachd so. Peairt, Bòd, Cataibh agus Gallaibh— 1 (£2), Raoghnaid Nie Fhearghuis (aois 11), Raineach, Peairt ("Fionnghal Bana-charaid nan Faoileannan").

B'e an t-Urramach Calum Mac Gilleathain, M.A., am breitheamh airson nan Siorramachdan sin.

Thug an t-Ollamh Urramach Lachunn Mac Gilleathain Watt am breitheanas so seachad do thaobh ainmean Inbhir Nis:—

Bha dà cheud, dà fhichead ainm agus a dhà dheug air an cur a steach. Gabhaidh neach iongantas ris a h-uibhir leis am bu roghnaiche an smaoin cheudna. b'ann bho an aon àite a mhàin a thàinig iad chuireadh duine an amharus gu robh còrdadh uaigneach air bhith eatorra! thug feadhainn anns an Eilean Sgitheanach, an Eigg, anns na h-Earadh agus an àiteachan eile an t-aon ainm (no ainm nach mór nach robh co-ionnan) air, agus, uime sin, chan fhaod fàth amharuis a bhith ann. Thug mheud agus a naoi ar fhichead "Fionnghal Bana-charaid nam Faoileannan'' air an sgeul, agus eadhon nam b'e sin an t-ainm a b'fhearr—air an aobhar sin cha toirte còir air seach ainmean eile.

Bha móran ann nach do thaisbean macmeanmna air bith, ach a thug a mhàin ainmean an dithist phrìomh-urra air—agus cha deachaidh feadhainn eile seachad air "Gaol an t-Seòladair."

Bha a' chùis duilich gu leòir dhomh, oir b'e mo mhiann a bhi a' dèanamh ceartais. Bhn mi de an bheachd gur e ainm a dh'fhoillsicheadh dhuinn spiorad no seadh an sgeòil—agus aig an aon am a chuireadh an céill beagan tùralachd-inntinn—a bha a dhlth oiran.

Mar sin, air dhomh a h-uile nì a thoirt fainear, is i mo bhreith gur e "Piobaire an aon Phuirt" as feàrr agus "Ruigidh Each Mall Muileann" an dara ainm as feàrr a chaidh a thoirt air an sgeul.

Is ann a tha e neònach gur iad dithist de Chlann Neacaill as an Eilean Sgitheanach a chuir an dà ainm sin a steach. Chuir so na h-uiread iongantais orm agus gun do dh'ainar mi air mo charaid, an t-Urramach Dòmhnull Lamont, sealltuinn orra—agus bha esan air an aon bharail rium-sa

Bha mo bhreitheanas gun leth-bhreith.

Sgrìobh an t-Ollamh Niall Mac an Rothaich mu thimchioll ainmean Earraghoidheal mar a leanas:—

A réir mo bheachd-sa tha triùir os cionn a' chorra—

- 1. Aodainn anns an Teine.
- Dìlseachd gun Choimeas.
 Gheibh Foighidinn Furtachd.

Ach tha eagal orm nach 'eil aodainn uile gu léir ceart; nach bu chòir a' chaileag aodann a' sgrìobhadh'? Theagamh gur e aodainn their iad anns na h-eileanan: gu dearbh is ann mar sin their sinn am faeal am Baile Inbhir Aora.

Roinninn an duais eadar "Aodann anns an Teine" agus "Dilseachd gun Choimeas."

Chan 'eil ''Gheibh Foighidinn Furtachd'' dona idir, ach tha e tuille 's seòlta, a' lethciallachadh gu robh Fionnghal anns an sgeul a mach fad na h-ùine air an aon nì— Ruiseart a phòsadh!

Sgrìobh an t-Urramach Calum Mac Gilleathain:—

Is maith gu dearbh a rinn Inbhir Nis agus Ros agus Earraghaidheal: Cha robh dùil agam gum bìodh a leth ann. Airson chàich —13 na bochdainn! Gun teagamh tha Cataibh 'na chulaidh-thruais: Agus dh'fhàg sin mise gun chiar-chodail!

A thaobh mo chuid-sa chan 'eil móran ri griobhadh. Is i Fionnghal a rinn greim air na big so. Tha mi duilich gu bheil ainm cho freagarrach agus a tha ann anns a' Bheurla, "True Highland Love and Courage"—(is i Bessie Mackay, Strathy, Cataibh, a chuir so a steach). Nan robh sin againn mar "Fior Ghaol Gàidhealach agus Tapachd," no mar sin, bha ainm againn o chrìdhe na cùise. Thug mo chrìdhe leum an uair a leugh mì sud anns a' Bheurla fhéin. Ach is e so an t-ainm a thaghas mìse cò dhiùbh: "Fionnghal Bana-charaid nam Faoil-cannan."

Ach tha mi cho toilichte gun d'fhuaras clann na Gùidhealtachd cho dìcheallach. Gum bu sona dhoibh! Chan 'eil a dhìth orra ach Cothrom na Féinne.

An Comh-dhùnadh:-

Gu robh maith mór aig na Maighistirean-sgoile agus aig na Bana-Mhaighistirean-sgoile a chuidich le an cuid cloinne (agus a chuidich leinn mar an ceudna) agus a thug cothrom agus misneach do an chloinn a bhith a' feuchainn ris na duaisean. Ach a bharrachd air sin, is e so prìomh-aobhar ar buidheachais—gun do rinn iad cobhair air a' chloinn a bhith a' leughadh an cànain féin.

Is iad-san a leanas na Maighistirean-sgoile agus na Bana-Mhaighistirean-sgoile a thug air an uibhir bu mhó de bhalaich agus de chaileagan ainmean a chur a steach;

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Mgr. Aonghas Mac Dhòmhnuill, Féidigearraidh, Leòdhas ...

Mgr. Tormod Mac Asgaill, Stoc Innis, Na h-Earadh

Mn. Màiri Nic Amhlaidh, M.A., Pabull, Uibhist a Tuath

Mgr. Calum Mac a Phl, Torlum, Beinn a' Bhaoghla Mn. Màiri C. Nic Chaluim, Tobar

Mhoire, Muile

Mgr. Iain Mac Mhuirich, M.A., An t-Ath Leathann, An t-Eilean Sgitheanach

Mgr. Daidh Mac an Tòisich, Ardbhasar, An t-Eilean Sgitheanaich

Mn. Caitriona Nic a Phì, Iochdar, Uibhist a Deas 10 Mn. Cairistiona Nic a Phì, Tòth Mór,

Uibhist a Deas Mn. Primrose Copeland, M.A., Liurbost,

Leòdhas Mn. Màiri Nic Rath, Cis-orn, Loch Carrann

Mn. Fionnghal Nic Lachlainn, Tiriodh Mn. Caitriona Wilson, Baile Mhartain,

Tiriodh Mgr. Dòmhnull Mac Mhathain, M.A., Carsiadar, Leòdhas

Mn. Cairistiona Gill-Iosa, Digg, Staffan, An t-Eilean Sgitheanaich

DONALD OF THE GOATS.

By CAMPBELL OF SADDELL, F.S.A. (Scot.), J.P., The Captain of Saddell Castle.

"The Back End" it was, that glorious strong time, when the winds are at their sword play, and the whistle of the steel round their heads is in the air, as they hew the tough limbs off the trees, and the tall pines bend beneath their swordsmen's

Up among the ruins of that dead world of peat haggs and bare rain-washed rocks, on the silent land between Saddell and Colluska, a man crouched from the driving wind and rain, for the day, that was his, was in a bitter mood. "Dhe," said he, "here's a poor ending to the grand spree that I was at, at Tonisdale last night. Oh, righ, Big Colin's daughter, what a lassie, what a lassie, and the heart of her so easy won."

"Aye! aye!" came a mocking, laughing voice from behind the peat hagg that was breaking the wind and rain a little off him as it went on. "True for you, true for you, Donald of the Goats, Big Kate's son.'

"God, look at us," said the man, the blood leaving his face as his hand went where his dirk should have been. "A black curse on it," said he; "have I no' now left it in the peat stack behind the barn, when I went wenching the lassie!"

"Aye! aye! Donald of the Goats, it is the foolish brains of your mother that is in you, made you leave your steel. Aye! aye! truly as the skilly wife said of you, when you took life's road a wee bit thing among the heather: 'The bairn has a big head, and if he has the brains of his mother, there will be room in it for the bats to roost.' As sure as death, that was her saying,' answered that laughing, mocking voice. At that, with a wild cry of hate, the man cleared the peat hagg, only to sink up to the hips in the black mud, while from the next peat hagg in front of him came that mocking, laughing voice. "Bravely done, Donald of the Goats; jumped as clean as your father did off the hangman's ladder at Inneraora.''

"Black one, and son of the Mull witch woman, before this day is white in the head the heart will be out of you," roared the man as he charged like a stag at the mating time at the peat hagg, as with a bound he tried to clear it, but his bagues caught on a tuft of heather, and he fell, cutting his face most cruelly on a sharp stone.

"Donald of the Goats, my hero, my hero," came that mocking, laughing voice, "you would be at the breaking of more lassies' hearts if they were now at the seeing of

you, looking that real bonnie and gallant."
"By the holy steel," hissed the man, between his clenched teeth, "I will have the tongue out of you!" at the same time leaping on the peat hagg, and as he did so, something long and shining darted out like an adder's tongue, and took him full on the chest. With a gurgling cry his arms shot up as he swayed on his feet, then lurched drunkenly forward, falling face downwards into a bog-hole of black slimy water, as that mocking, laughing voice fell distant on his ears

"Donald of the Goats, we are quits now!" At the sound of that voice the man raised his head, and through eyes now growing fast dim he beheld Big Colin slowly wiping the blade of his broadsword with a tuft of grass, as a reaper does his hook, before he puts the stone on it.

"Aye! aye!" went on Big Colin's mocking voice, but now it fell on dead ears, "quits we are as far as this world goes, you black dog, the red ruin of a father's pride last night. Aye! aye! your soft tongue and your way with the lassies is finished now, me hero." And with that, Big Colin slowly sheathed his basket hilt, then pulling his bonnet tight over his brow, bent his head to the wind and rain as he breasted the slope of the North Hill, his shoulders stooping a little.

TURUS BHO LOCH A' LAGAIN GU BRAIGHE RUAIDH.

By John Macpherson, Divinity Student.

Air Di-màirt so chaidh seachad an t-aonamh latha deug de'n cheud mhios de'n Fhoghar fhuair ni cuireadh bho charaid gu dhol maille ris gu Bràighe Ruaidh. Thaitinn sin riumsa ro-mhath oir bheireadh an turus sc cothrom dhomhsa air iomadh sealladh fhaicinn mu'n do leugh mi glé thric, ach air nach do dhearc mo shùil riamh roimhe. Nuair a thàinig esan le charbad oladh bha mise deas air son mo thuruis a ghabhail maille ris. Dh'aontaich mo charaid nach deanadh e barrachd air deich mlle 'san uair agus gun toireadh sin cothrom dhomh-sa air an duthaich àluinn so fhaichinn.

Anns a cheud àite thàinig sinn gu Abaràrdur, àite a bha aon uair na thuantas, beartach an spréidh agus an toradh na talmhuinn, ach an diugh chan eil ni ann a thogas aire duine ach an tigh comhnuidh. Os a chionn so tha Coireardur agus glé thric tha cleòca mór de cheò air. Chan eil reusan dhomh-sa an còrr a ràdh an so oir chuir an t-Ollamh Sinton nach maireann cliù an àite so an ceill o chionn fada. B'e miann dùthaich Lochabar fhaicinn a ghluais mise o'n tigh, agus ged nach robh fhios aig mo charaide air ainmean nan aitean gu leir troimh an robh sinn a dol bha fios fìor mhath aige far an robh Loch Tréig. Co nach cuala anns na laithean so iomradh air Loch Tréig? Nuair a ràinig sinn mu choinneamh an locha so sheall e dhomh an t-àite far an robh e ach chan eil e comasach do dhuine fhaicinn far an rathaid oir tha cnocan arda 'ga chumail á sealladh. Gu h-iosal anns a' ghleann tha abhainn Spian a' ruith agus an aon àite an aodan stalla mhór os cionn bruaich na h-aibhne chunnaic mi toll mór a chuireadh ioghnadh air coigreach sam bith, sud agad mata beul an rathaid fo thalamh

a tha ri tim gu Loch Tréig a ruighinn. Air uairean chluinneadh tu fuaim mór mar thàirneanach agus bha an talamh a dol air chrith. Be an t-aobhar air a sin gun robh daoine a' spealgadh nan clachan le fùdar agus a' deanamh rathaid dhaibh fein fo'n talamh.

Cha b'ann air obraichean an uisge a bha mise a smuaineachadh aig an àm ud idir ach air an dàn "Comhachag Bhochd na Sròine." Ciod mata a theireadh i an diugh ach i a thighinn air chuairt gu Loch Tréig, nuair a chitheadh i an t-àite làn de choigrich, agus càmpaichean an sud agus an so. Cha bhiodh a chreag Uanach na h-ionad tearuinte dhith nis mo. Chan fheud mi gun a bhi smuaineachadh gum biodh i glé dhuilich a' faicinn an t-atharrachd mór a ta iad a' deanamh air an tìr far an d'fhuair i greis de h-àrach; agus mar an ceudna bhiodh aon dà reug de rinn aice, ris an dàn a' deanamh di-mholadh air an dream ata deanamh di-mhilleadh air an tìr a dh'àraich iomadh laoch o'shean.

Nuair a ràinig sinn Drochaid Ruaidh thionndaidh sinn a dh'ionnsaidh na laimhe deise oir b'e sin an rathad gu Braigh Ruaidh. Tha am meur so de'n rathad anabarrach sean oir is ann ri inn Seanailear Wade a chaidh a dheanamh. Mar as faide a theid thu air t'aghaidh 's ann as cuinge a ta e fàs.

Mun ruig thu Braigh Ruaidh chi thu air do laimh chll beinn ard chreagach agus dà sgrìob dhomhain bhàn o a mullach gu 'bonn. Tha an da sgrìob so coltach ri cheile, agus tha iad cha mhór an aon astar bho cheile. Sud agad Roidean co-ionnan Bhraighe Ruaidh. Chan eil duine beò a bheir cunntas air ciamar a thàinig iad gu bhi an sud, ach gu bheil cuid a smuaineachadh gur e meall môr de dheigh a thàinig aon uair leis a bheinn agus uigh air n-uigh gun do rinn e rathad dha fein gus an do bhuail e an abhainn Ruaidh anns a' ghleann gu h-iosal.

Chunnaic mi iomadh peathair-seilge agus e na fhallus ri feur. Shaoil mise gu robh so gle thràth gu bhi a' cur an fheoir gu leir fo dhion, ach ghrad chuimhnich mi an sin gum be am maireach an dara latha deug agus nach biodh am fear ud saor tuilleadh gus am biodh crìoch air an t-sealg.

An déidh beagan thm a chaitheamh am Braighe Ruaidh chuir sinn ar n-aghaidh an taobh a thàinig sinn, glè thaingeil air son ar turuis, mise co-dhlubh air son gum faca mì le mo shuilean dùthaich "Comhachaig bhochd na Sroine."

SECRETARY'S PAGE.

Cha bhi smùid gun lasair agus mar a thuirt mi ruibh air a' mhìos so chaidh tha cruinneachadh mòr gu bhi againn an Grianaig; cruinneachadh as modha a bha aig a' Chomunn riamh. Chan 'eil a dhith a nis ach buill a' Chomuinn gu léir a dheanamh an dleasnais le uibhir cuideach-aidh a thoirt dhuinn ré làithean a' Mhòid agus is comasach dhoibh. Tha dòigh nodha air sin a dheanamh mar a dh'innseas sinn gu toileach dhoibhsan a dh'fhoighnichdeas. * * *

A very encouraging feature is the number of juniors and seniors who have entered for competitions in the oral sections. Only once previously has there been more seniors forward for oral work. The number of papers received in the literary section is above the average. The essay on any subject is proving very popular. Ten papers were received in this competition, and an equal number for the chaplet.

The following senior choirs will compete:—Ballachulish, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock (2), Inverness, London, Oban, and Perth. The London Gaelic Choir is making its first effort for honours at the Mod, and their appearance gives added interest to the chief choral competition. The Greenock Gaelic Choir has been resuscitated, and the Gaelic Parish Church Choir is also entered in the various competitions. This church is also represented by three junior choirs.

The booking arrangements for the grand concert on the Friday evening have been entrusted to Mr. Oswald Butler, music-seller, 26 West Blackhall Street, Greenock. The prices for admission have been fixed as follows:—Reserved Seats, 3/6; Area and Back Gallery, 2/4; Side Galleries, 1/6 (all including tax). Orders for admission tickets should include postage.

The programme of proceedings will be very much on the lines of former Mods, but owing to the large number of entries an evening session has been arranged. On Thursday evening, in the large hall, the puirt á beul and final gold medal competitions will take place. The Gaelic plays will open the junior concert on Tuesday evening, and the remaining part of the programme will be sustained by the principal prizewinners and choirs.

I would remind our members that many of the duplicate vouchers which were issued for the introduction of new members have not been returned to the office. This medium worked satisfactorily last year, but I fear a large percentage of our people are still untouched. There is still time before our annual meeting this month to improve on the present membership, and I earnestly make this appeal to members to make full use of the coupons still in their possession.

The name of Miss Donalda Robertson was inadvertently omitted from the report of the Celtic Congress at Dublin which appeared last month. Miss Robertson took part, as one of the Scottish delegates, in many of the functions, and her sweet singing of Gaelic songs was greatly admired and appreciated. Other well-known workers in the cause of Gaelic in the city were also present at some of the meetings in Dublin, viz., Mrs. Barron and Miss Jessie Ferguson.

Periodical reports reach us from New York, giving promising accounts of the activities of The American Iona Society. The latest marks the adoption of constitution and rules, while several committees with separate functions are likewise formed. Each committee is under the chairmanship of outstanding citizens. Of course, there can be little or no direct activities during the summer weather in America, for many of the most influential will be away from business till the "Fall." It is tremendously complimentary to the far-reaching and educative influence of An Comunn that a response so encouraging should come from such responsible sponsors. This, however, is as it should be, for its objects and ideals belong to the world of art. We may thus congratulate ourselves that we are privileged to see in our day a movement being galvanised that will preserve the Gaelic NIALL spirit in its natural setting.

FHLEASGAICH UIR, LEANAIN THU.

A LOCHABER SONG AND MELODY.

Key F Moderato.

> Air bhonnaibh mo chasan, Ged bhiodh clachan 'gu stròiceadh.

Ged bhiodh reothadh ro chruaidh ann, 'S sneachd fuar air a' mhòintich.

Fhir nan camagan donna, Rinn mi coinneamh glé òg rint.

Fhir nan calpa geal, gasda, Tharruinn d'astair troimh 'n maòintich.

Fuil a' bhriác air do léine, 'S fuil an fhéidh air do chòta.

Fuil an laoigh bhric, bhallaich, Mar bhannaibh mu d' dhòrnaibh.

'S mi gu'n siubhladh Gleann Rao'ill leat, Agus da thaobh Loch-Lòchaidh.

Dh'fhalbhainn air muir no air tìr leat, Gu ruig crìoch na Roinn-Eòrpa.

Ged nach mò leat mi'm bliadhna, 'Stric a dh'iarr, thu mo phòg orm.

Cha bhi mi ga d'chàineadh Gar an dàn dhomh do phòsadh.

Ach guidheam gu slàn thu Gach là fhad 's is beò mi.

A GAELIC GLOSSARY.

By Ronald Burn, Humanity Department, University, Glasgow

amhainne: same, but especially of place where beast gets hemmed in and pressed and has no room to move or fend for itself and so needs help to haul it out; particularly of marshy holes and quagmires (not of disused quarry): Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n. Pronounced soweenvil.

amhuinn: on its back, coped, off its feet in any way, and in fact in general: the state of helplessness of horse, etc., lying on its back and unable to rise: Lewis (N. Tolsta), Miss Mary Murray, n.: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n.: N. Uist, MacDonald, n.: S. Uist, MacDachen, n.: tha an caora ann an amhuinn; tha e as amh. Cf. copaigeadh, amhainn, aonaigrich. Comparing this with D. Shaw's derivation of basdair (q.v.) one may suspect that it and amhainn originally meant watery deathtrap, and then any trap, and lastly by further metonymy came to be used for any trapped helpless state. Sounded af-ovn ind.

ampull1: spirt receiver of still on hills: Braemore, Matheson, n.: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n. One of Coinneach Og's songs says:—Ged a dh' olainn làn na h-ampull1. Evidently a direct loan from Latin ampulla. Cf. ciad-tarruing, bothandubh.

aobraid: ankle: Braemore, Matheson, n. aobrainne: same: Kilmuir, Angus Mac-Donald, n. Cf. fòirnean, muthairle, aoinean, luidhean-beag, craoidhein. Col has aobram for the protuberances of tibia and fibula at ankle, so Lewis, Tiree, Lochaber, Waternish.

aodraman: unreliable, "fluffy," undependable (adjective): Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.

aodroman: same: Kilmuir, Angus Mac-Donald, n.: Waternish, MacAskill, n. Dial. for aot-, q.v. Cf. breisleach. Lazy pronunciation, but undoubtedly what they say. So also aodrom (also not in Dwelly) with same meaning in Coll and Skye. In Skye there used to be a great character called Gilleasbuig Aodrom, of whom many stories are told.

aoineagraich: act of dog or horse rolling on back: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: cf. aonaigrich, etc. A word of many small dialectal ramifications. aoinean: ankle: Braemore, Miss Matheson, n.: cf. aobraid, fòirnean, muthairle, luidhean-, craoidhein.

aoinean: anvil: Braemore, Miss Matheson, n.: Skye, A. MacDonald, n.: dial. for innean (or ui-nnean)? Cf. oinnean.

aoinean: protuberance made by big toe joining foot, base of big toe: Kilmuir: A. MacDonald, n. (Cf. aobraid).

aoinean: big corn, bunion on foot: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: Waternish, MacAskill, n. No word in Coll, Tiree, Lewis. (Cf. fothalan.)

aolar: thresome, out of one hole and into the other, all up and down (to interpret B. "Alder"): L. Ericht: someone living in the district. Most, however, pronounce it Beinn "Yowlar," i.e. Æallar as given in Dwelly's place-name section, or perhaps rather eabhlar since blabhd sounds blowdt. Clarke (once keeper at L.E. Lodge) said hill so named because alder roots found in mosses on east side. His successor, MacCook, denies this; also, that they were found when Sir Rob. Jardine had shooting paths made.

aold: hammer (masc.): Druim an Aoild, ridge between Pattack and Mashie E. No. N. of Gallovie: keeper at Luibliath, near S.W. end of Loch Laggan: So Aoldain (plural), knobby hillocks above W. source of A. Phoineis (Gl. Truim): Ormiston, late keeper at Gaick. Word unknown to most districts apparently.

aonachadh: act of horse or dog rolling on its back, or hen: Lochaber, Mrs. Spence, n.: cf. aonaigrich, etc.

aona-chasach: yellow flat tangle that does not float in sea: N. Uist, a native living near Gruline (Mull): cf. feamainn, buileagach, etc.

aonagraich: act of horse dog or hen rolling on back: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: cf. aonaigrich, etc.

aonagrich; etc of rolling on back, of horse wallowing on ground, or of dog or hen; Harris, Ferguson (Salen, Mull), n.: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n.: Braemore, Matheson, n. Tha e ga a. Aonagail in Mull and Lochaber, aonagan in Braemore. Cf. aonragaich, aoragan, aonachadh, aoineagraich, boltraich, aonragadh, aonragan, aonagraich, aondragaich, amhuim, luidearaigeadh, pogan, gearranach, lòird, galar a'-chim, etc.

aondragaich: see aonragaich, aonaigrich, etc.: Barra, Fr. MacMillan, n.: S. Uist, MacEachen, n.: aornagan in Argyll and also aornagail.

aon-glas: mixture of milk and water:
Lochaber (East); Donald MacDonald, n.:
chan eil ann ach aonglas: of children of
mixed marriage (cf. mial-bhlath). From
aon—one and glas= water? (cf. glaiseadh,
glaisean). This word would thus—one pant
water. This seems as plausible as
MacBain's derivation under eanghlais,
unless aon can never—leth. Cf. eanglas.

aonragaich: verbal noun describing horse rolling on its back, legs in air: Coll, Mac-Dougall, n.: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n.: L. Boisdale, Miss MacIntyre, n.: aonagail in Lochaber q.v. in MacBain, adding aonragadh (as a metathesis of aoirneagan?) and cf. Armstrong s.v. wallow and MacAlpine and H.S.D. (Cf. boltraich).

aonragadh: same as aonragaich: Lewis, Norman MacLeod, n.

aonragan: same as aonragaich: Islay, Duncan Johnston, n.; Tiree, Mrs. Norman MacLeod, n.

aoragan: same as aonragaich: Jura, Neil Shaw, n.

aosaith: hussif, series of pockets one under another containing needles, thread, etc.: S. Uist, Mr. and Mrs. MacEachen, n.: cf. siùsaidh, buarbag. Seems unknown to Barra and Islay.

aotraman: unreliable, 'fluffy,' undependable (adj.): L. Carron: Rev. R. MacLeod, from natives: cf. sglogaid, aodraman, sgliùrach, balganta.

aran: a kidney, pl. airnein: S. Uist, Mac-Eachen, n.: not plural, nor sounded aran. Welsh has aren, but the "a" should be long (see MacBain). Ara has no singular and is used in plural only in Coll and Tiree. Airne is singular in Lochaber and Kilmuir with plural airnein; airnean in Moidart (where no singular).

arcus: hunger: Braemore, Miss Matheson, n.: metathesis for acras (Lochaber, Skye, etc.). Story is connected with word. A hunter in Lochaber lost in mist came down to bothy, then untenanted by the herd, who had, however, left some meal, but no dish at all. So the hungry fellow put the meal into the heel of his boot (cf. fuarag), adding water from the burn, and said:

'S math an t-annlan an t-arcuis
'S meireig a chuireag tarcuis air biadh
Fuarag eòrna a sàil mo bhròige
Biadh a b'fheàrr a bhuair mi riamh.

Coll variant adds that there was no water to be had, and so he was forced to make and use his own:

'S math gach fliuch air a' phathadh 'S mairg ni tarcuis air a' bhiadh Fuarag eòrna 'n sàil mo bhròige

Biadh a b'fheàrr a fhuair mi riamh.

In S. Uist words are ascribed to Prince
Charlie when hiding there—in the Braemore form except that, of course, acrais is
used for arcuis. Also attributed to Robert
the Bruce, e.g. in Waternish. Islay
version is:

'S math an t-ainnlean an t-acras
'S meireig a dheanadh tarcuis air a'
bhiadh.

Another one in Kilgour "Lochaber in War and Peace" (ascribing words to Earl of Mar). Cf. cul, etc.

arralach: of a child: crying from foolish pride, crying through being scolded (however kindly and mildly) in front of one whom child wishes should think well of it: Mcdart, Mss M. MacIntyre, n.: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: bendarach of child that is pampered and at the same time cries for nothing, in Moidart. Cf. tarmasach, ranaich, boganach, digheachd.

atal: name of a certain rare bush, English name unknown: Gl. Etive, Coir' Atail, on S.W. end of Beinn Mac (not Mhie) Chasgaig: MacLaren, when at Allt a' Chaorruinn (also named Ruigh Abhainn). Prof. Watson thinks the juniper is meant, and that the plant is rare in the glen. Dwelly gives atieal as juniper, but my word is certainly atal, not atieal. Ginch gives Cara Allt an Ataleil at head of the Gairn, S. of Allt an Eas Bhig (Braemar) and it spells this corrie's name as Co. Aiteil. Does Gl. Etive dialect make no difference in sound when "t's is preceded (and followed) by a thin vowel? If so, 6-inch and Watson will be right.

ath: place where community's corn is taken to dry, generally part of or near the mill (it is dried on iron plates): Coll, MacDougall, n.: Kilmuir, Angus MacDonald, n.: Waternish, MacAskill, n.: of. sabhal, adag, meildearach, etc. No mills in Waternish now, and so word dying.

(Ri leantainn.)

AR G-CANMHUINN MHIN MHILIS, MHATHARDHA.

'San ùimhir dheireannaich de'n Ghàidheal bha againn r'a leughadh cunntas maith air sgoil éiginn fuidh choimne na b-pàisde a chunnaic Creag Eallachaidh agus e anns an Oilean Uaithne; ach is éiginn domh a ràdh gur ann ris an dòigh air an robh an cunntas sgrìobhte a tà mé fhéin air mo thoileachadh.

Aontaichidh gach duine againn gur deasbhriathrach binn, blasda an teanga Chamhuinn na n-Gàidheal—ee b'e àit anns a m-bidh si air a cluinntinn—ma bhitheas si air a labhairt go nàdthura agus go ceart; ach tà daoine ann a tà ag amharc air an ràite seo a leanas mar ràdh as a bh-fheudamuid móran gliocais a tharruing:

"Tà ceart agus blas aig an g-Connachdach; Tà blas gan ceart aig an Mùmhannach; Tà ceart gan blas aig an Ultach—

Nì'l ceart nà blas aig an Laigheannach! "

Ceart go leòr, bìdh a pùince maithe féin aig Gàidhlig an àite seo agus Gàidhlig an ionaid dd eile fuidh leith; ach is eagal leam go m-beil teanga na n-Gàidheal a nis flor-chosmhuil ri bhith 'ua frith-chainnt do'n Bheurla a n-gach àit aca go bràch. An aitibh a bhlodh uair 'na n-dìdeanaibh làidire anns a bh-faigheadh ar n-deagh chàmmhuinn mhàtharamhuil fasgadh farsuing, cuimseach tà an òigridh a nis a' labhairt a g-cainnt air nach bu chòir dhuinn a thrachdadh idir ach mar Ghàidhlig bhriste, no, is fèidir, mar Bheurla bhriste.

Gidheadh, tà 'Ghàidhlig a' faigheil lèigheis air chòr o na Gàidheil maithe tà llonadh na g-crannog, agus mar a' g-ceudna o na Sgrìobtuirbh Gàidhealacha tà nis air a g-crabh-sgaoileadh mach air feadh Albann—cuid mhaith aca-san a nasgaidh no air leith-luach; agus da'n rachanuid go h-Dirinn is eòl dhomh go bh-faicemuid an Rlaghaltas an sin—maille ri daonibh eile aige m-bei chmhachd èiginn—a' cabhradh go saor ris an dream thall leis a m-bu mhaith staid na n-Gàidheal a chur a bh-feabhas.

Is truagh go m-beil móran diubh ann nach 'cil a' cuimhneachadh go m-bu cheart dhòibh an t-Sàbaid a naomhachadh; ach a thaobh an oidhirpe a g-còir càmmhna a bhèidheadh coitcheann do'n dà dùthaich, Eire agus Alba, 'se mo dhòthchas go soirbhich go maith leòsan uile agus go n-èiridh gach sonas leis a' chuid is fòghluimte aca thaobh an oibre. Go deimhinn, tà cuid ag ràdh gur rò-leathann a' bheàrna tà mìs eadar an dà chainnt, ach

bu chòir dhoibh chuimhneachadh nach robh dealachadh eatortha air a bh-feudamuid iomradh thabhairt roimh linn an àth-leasachaidh. Maille ri sin blodh a fhios aca, gur minic a bhios Gàidhlig na h-Eireann mar a tà si air a labhairt a g-Connachdaibh agus, air uairibh, eadhon a g-ceàrnaibh àraidhe a g-Cuige Mhùmhann móran n's dhùithe do Ghàidhlig na h-Albann na saoil-eadh leughadoir cumanta aig nach robh eòlas idir air Gàidhlig Eireann ach a mhàin mar chànmhuinn chlò-bhuailte no sgrìobhte.

Bha an Comunn Gàidhealach a' sgrùdadh go dian dheioliach air son chabhrach air chòir air bith chum Oil-thaigh Gàidhealach do shuidheachadh an I-Cholm-Chille a bhéidheadh air a tairgeadh dhò; agus ge nach 'eil sinn uile faigheil naigheachd air nithibh Gàidhealach cho tric agus a bu mhlann leinn nìor chualas go n-d'fhairtlich air a' Chomunn, agus is ait leam bhith 'ga ràdh sin, oir tà mé cinnteach go n-do leugh cuid mhaith d'ar leuchd-leughaidh an leabhair tù a bha air a dhèanamh suas cho snasmhor leis an Ollamh Tormoid Mac Leòid, eadhon 'Leabhar ann Cnoc,' agus ann-san tà an diadhair ainmeil a' tabhairt iomraidh air sean lòinneog a ruitheas mar a leanns:

"I mo chrìdhe, I mo ghràidh, An àite guth Manaich béidh géum bà; Ach mu'n tig an saoghal gu crìch Béidh I mar a bhà."

Agus 'si seo a bharamhuil phongamhuil nirthi sin 'na bhriathraibh deas-chainnteach fhéin: 'Thàinig a' cheud chuid do'n fhàidhcadaireachd gu h-eagnaidh mu'n cuairt, ach co dhiùbh a bhìos I gn bráth co urramaichte is a bha i, tha e deacair a ràdh.''

Is soilleir o'n fhòghlum a tà nis againn nach 'eil a h-uile cheart aig a' Chonnachdach no an Ultach seach an Sglathanach no an Leòdhasach agus air an aobhar sin bu cheart do mhuinntir na sgoile nuaidhe-nuair a bhéitheas i air a stéidheachadh cuireadh do chur a dh-ionnsaigh na n-daoine tà saoithreachadh air son leas na cànamhna teachd o gach iomall an domhain Ghàidhealach a chum agus go d-téid iad air aghaidh a n-guaillibh a chéile leis an deagh-obair agus i do chrìochnachadh cho luath agus ab' fhéidir leò. Gun amharus idir bu shodhèanta an obair i sin da'n rachadh cuid mhaith do na h-oidibh ionnsaichte agus daoine seòlta eile tà againn anns an lìnn fhòghluimte seo air an sgoil-ach nì bheil baoghal ann go bh-fuilingeadh comhairle na sgoile do dhaoinibh air bheag eòlais teachd.

Tàim a n-dòthchas go d-tionndaidh iad ris an Bhiobuill, mar a' g-ceudna, agus go n-gabh iad na briathra seo mar bhonnteagaisg-iùil na sgoile:

"Is é eagla an Tighearna toiseach an eòlais."

"FEAR SIUBHAIL."

Cramlington, July, 1925.

SILVER MEDAL CASE.

Decision in Favour of An Comunn.

A doubt about a decision in a singing competition at the Mod held at Perth a year ago resulted in a civil action, proof in which was led before Sheriff Thomson in Glasgow County Buldings on 31st July. The pursuer was John MacLeed (14), son of Donald MacLeed, hotelkeeper, Royal Hotel, Greenock, and the defenders were An Comunn Gaidhealach, 114 West Campbell Street, Glasgow; Angus Robertson, Dunholme, Hamilton Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow, the president; Rev. Thomas Smith MacPherson, minister of St. Vincent Parish Church, Glasgow, one of the vice-presidents; and Neil Shaw, secretary of the Association.

Pursuer craved the Court to declare that he was the winner, and was awarded the first prize in the boys' solo singing competition held at the Mod at Perth on September 30 last, and to grant decree against the defenders for £40.

The evidence for pursuer was to the effect that, along with five other boys, he took part in the boys' solo singing competition at the Gaelic Mod held at Perth last year. The prize was a silver medal and £1. Pursuer's name appeared fourth on the programme, although his number was five, and he was the fourth boy to sing. When the results were announced it was stated that "the fourth boy to sing was the winner." Pursuer was congratulated by his friends, but shortly afterwards it was stated that a boy named William M'Donald was the winner. At a concert held in the evening pursuer sang, and was referred to as the winner of the silver medal, and, in fact, was presented with the medal. Shortly afterwards he received a letter from the secretary of the Society informing him that the award of the medal had been withdrawn.

On behalf of An Comunn, evidence was given by the Rev. Alexander MacLean, who adjudicated the Gaelic, and by Mr. Hugh S. Roberton, who judged the singing. The Rev. Mr. MacLean stated that although the numbers were not in numerical sequence on the programme they were correct on the sheet which he used. Mr. Roberton stated that he did not pay attention to the names of the competitors, but was guided by the numbers on the indicating board. Despite the mix-up in the numbers on the programme, he made it perfectly clear at the conclusion of the competition who was the winning boy. It was stated by Mr. Neil Shaw, sccretary of An Comunn, that when he received a letter from the father of the boy M'Donald he informed the President and the Convener of the Mod and Music Committee. They looked over the sheets used by the judges, and concluded from the figures that a mistake had been made in awarding the medal to John MacLeod. The figures made it apparent that William J. M'Donald was the winner.

The Sheriff, in finding for defenders, with expenses, said he sympathised with both families. The mistake was due to a printer's error in the programme.

Mr. John Cameron, LL.B., solicitor, Glasgow, acted on behalf of An Comunn, and Mr. William Bell, solicitor, Glasgow, appeared for Mr. John MacLeod.

SOP AS GACH SEID.

What are the contributions which the old Gaelic culture could make to modern life?

We may state at once our belief that the mental heritage of our fathers will make but a faint appeal to the modern world except through the faculty of imagination. To-day, as ever, men are most easily influenced when their fancy is interested. As a case in point, just ask yourself a single question: Why have the kilt, the sword dance, the tartan, and the pipes retained their hold on popularity? It is because they appeal to the imagination. There is about them a picturesque charm which captivates the eye and the ear. And because they have touched the faculty of fancy they will not be allowed to die. They will be popular through the ages to come wherever Scotsmen gather.

But why should it be held that these two or three items of dress and music should alone possess this perennial charm? Are these the only things that are to be preserved from oblivion of all that our race has created! I have referred to external conditions, to environment. What about the household furniture of our homes? What about the form and design of the houses themselves in which we live? Is this carrying the principle too far? If the tartan and noble tunes of my "barbarian!" ancestors are good enough for the best of us in our highest hours of enthusiastic patriotism, why should a Saxon sideboard, wallpaper, and window be good for me all the days and nights of my mortal life in this world? The illustrations of Celtic design which have been published in recent numbers of this magazine are sufficient to prove that the appreciation and the secret of ancient Celtic art are still alive in our midst. Where are our enterprising artisans, and patriotic tradesmen, who will apply the beautiful forms and figures of Celtic design to articles of furniture in our homes? The mental habits are influenced by the things that meet our eyes late and early in our houses. There is surely nothing strange or mean in the idea that a chair or table or cabinet. made according to a Celtic shape, and embellished with Celtic ornament, would be a proper environment in the home of a true Gael. We have yet to learn that the noble lines of our ancestral art are inferior to those of any modern race at their best. And in addition to the matter of elegance and comfort, there is also the question of the market. There can be no doubt but a wide market could be found for furniture which truly follows the genuine Celtic form. From the commercial and material side, such a suggestion about new designs in domestic furniture has much to commend it. Let us have designs distinctive of our people. There is something ludicrous in a Gaelie minister or farmer, who has no trace of the Englishman about him, going into raptures over a Georgian chair or a Queen Anne table. It were far better if, as a real Gael, he could have the chance of admiring such a thing as a table of Tara or a sideboard of Selma.

AN CHEIST.

"Cuin a thig thu! Is mise an so leam féin, Ag éisdeachd srann na gaoith'; Tha osag mhìn ag éiridh suas 'Cur gluasad anns gach cré; A' ghrian le a h-àilleachd 's beatha nuadh Le plosgadh suas 's gach àit, Is ceist nan ceist 'nam chrìdhe buan— 'Feuch! cuin a thig mo ghràdh?'

"Cuin a thig thu!

Is mise an so leam féin
Air gleannan séimh nan sonn,
Ag éisdeachd comhraidh ghrinn nan crann
Gun ghreann, le aiteas binn;
Ag aithris dhomhs' mu'n gheamhradh
fhuar
Chuir ruagadh air gach càil;
Is ceist nan ceist 'nan chridhe buan—
'Feuch! Cuin a thig mo ghràdh?'

"Cuin a thig thu!

Is mise an so leam féin
Alg tòrman séimh nan allt,
Is cióisir bhinn na mlle beul
Lan suilt, 's an t-eug air chall
Ag aithris dhomhs' mar thug iad buaidh,
'S mar bhris' iad suain a' bhàis;
Is ceist nan ceist 'nam chridhe buan—
'Feuch! cuin a thig mo ghràdh?'

"Cuin a thig thu!
Is mise an so leam féin,
Air tolman beag de fhraoch;
Cannach nin-geal fàs ri m'chléith
Mar shamhladh air do ghnúis;
Tha elachag òr-bhuidh anns an allt
Tha ruith gu fann gun tàmh;
Is ceist nan ceist 'nam chridhe buan—
'Feuch! cuin a thig mo ghràdh?'

"Cuin a thig thu!

Is mise an so leam féin
Air machair dosrach dlùth,
Am bàrd ag gleusadh ceòl 'ga chéil',
Is is a 'leum le sùrd;
Mise an gleachd ri aiteal tlà—
Do chruth a dheibh mo phrành
Is ceist nan ceist 'nam chridhe buan—
'Feuch! cuin a thig mo ghràdh?'

"Cuin a thig thu!
Is mise an so leam féin
Fa chomhair Dhe nan Dùl,
A' coistrig' m'anama as ùr do'n àit
Chuir fonn is àilb 'nam gnuis;
Ma bhrist thu 'comhcheangal gu bràth,
'S nach fuic mi ghràidh thu an tùs,
Bithith Ceist nan ceist air uchdan Ràth,
Is mise a' tàmh fo'n ùir."

JAMES MACLEOD.

THE CROWNING OF THE BARD.

By THE EDITOR.

The purely cultural movement carried on by An Comunn Gaidhealach has to a large extent taken a firm hold on the Gaelic race and on those who claim blood connection with it. The preservation of an interesting language and music by a race whose best traditions are bound up with the old tongue is surely a thing to be commended. At this time of day it is idle to speak of a utilitarian motive in this movement. Every intelligent Gacl must admit that Gaelic, in its present weakened condition, has less commercial value than some other languages. But it has educational value; and though its literature is small in bulk, it is rare in quality. We love the old tongue with a dcep love; and such sentiment, in the words of Burke, "is stronger than links of iron." If the Gael can keep his heritage of speech and song, he also keeps his individuality; and a bilingual person is all the better equipped to be an efficient citizen of the British Empire.

Amid all the proceedings of the annual Mod, there is no incident so impressive as the crowning of the bard. The ceremony of the crowning is marked by a singular action on the part of the audience. The whole company rise spontaneously to their feet while the President of An Comunn places the bardic crown or chaplet on the head of the premier bard of the year. It is sometimes not very easy to account for what is known as "crowd psychology." But during the ceremony, intelligent spectators have felt a peculiar thrill, as if some mystic voice from a far past spoke to them through the act of the crowning. It has happened that some Celts have traced the commencement of their interest in the preservation of the language to the inspiration which they derived from the mere ceremony. Here perhaps is the mystical touch, the Celtic imagination; but if the vision and the thrill can lead to practical endeavour on the part of those who experience them, all we can say is that both vision and thrill are fully justified.

The bardic order, or, as it is called in the Gaelic, "An Dàmh," is an unbroken succession which can claim a hoary antiquity. We can trace it backwards from our own time to the Mac Vurichs, who were the hereditary bards to the house of Clan Ranald. As professional bards, they long

enjoyed the patronage and protection of the Lords of the Isles. But just as these aristocrats had their origin among the Scots of Dalriada, so their bards were descended from Murchadh, the great laureate of the Scots, who was himself a Gael of Ireland. The bards of Gaelic Scotland passed through the feudal stage; but the order itself was far more ancient even than the feudal system in these islands. In the sixth century of our era, when Columba was invited from Iona to the Assembly of Drumcett in Ireland, the question to be settled at that Assembly was the case of the bards. It is recorded in several places in the ancient Gaelic literature that in the year 570 A.D. there were twelve hundred bards in Ireland. The pretensions of the order had become intolerable to the chieftains and heads of noble houses, and Columba was appointed to act as umpire in the bardic dispute. His decision was somewhat unfavourable to the bards; and it was on the dissolution of their larger bands in Ireland that they swarmed into the Scottish Dalriada. They brought with them into Scotland the traditions of ancient Gaelic culture. The art of poetry was carried to an advanced state of development. There were seven grades of bards from the Ollamh, or doctor, downward. And every grade was confined to the use of its own peculiar metres in poetic composition. Rudolf Thurneysen of Berlin, in the third volume of the Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie, illustrates and enumerates by name no less than three hundred and sixty metres which were employed in ancient times by the Gaelic bards. It is a long and dignified tradition, therefore, that is signified in our own day by the crowning of the bard. It has behind it the glow, the fire, the accumulated force of many centuries of literary art.

A parallel may be found in the case of the bards of Wales. At the national Eisteddtod the corresponding rite is an outstanding feature. Although the records of the Cymric tongues are not quite so ancient as those of the Gaelic race, yet the Weish can trace the institution of their bards to a very remote time. The crowned poets of Wales belong to the same order as Hoel and Calwallen, and Talicesen "of the radiant brow." It was on the ancient order of bards that Edward I. of England wreaked vengeance when he caused them to be flung over a cliff. He knew that it would be easier to subdue the inhabitants of Cambria if the bards

were removed. And the Welsh are fully awake to the mystic power of symbolism. To-day their druids are dressed in white robes, and the "ovates," or secular bards, in green

That the literary activities of An Comunn should be expressed in a symbolic act like the crowning of the bard is quite in keeping with the prevalence of symbolism in modern life. The laureation is no vain or empty show, but signifies a desire to carry on a venerable tradition. We know how in civic life the national flag must suffer no insult, and that men will even lay down their lives to guard the honour of a symbol-a symbol which enshrines the civic ideals of a patriot. In the academic world no man regards as vain or empty show the robes and hoods and ceremonies of graduation which signify the different degrees and faculties of learning. And the Gaelic bard is the direct heir of an institution which is older than any University in Europe. The movement makes for no material ends, no mercenary gain. It is a movement of the spirit, and in the realm of the spirit. It is fitting that the inheritors of an ancient culture should not neglect the language of symbols which appeal, now as always, to the poetic imagination. In these days of many problems our nation requires all the inspiration it can possibly assimilate; and if a crowned bard can lead our thoughts to the heroism and endurance of our fathers in the past, he must surely help to allay our fears and strengthen our hope.

THE FEILL.

The arrangements for the Feill are proceeding apace. Miss C. M. Gordon of Drimnin has taken on the work of organiser, and is already to be found in the office of An Comunn. We are not yet in a position to say definitely in which hall the gathering will take place, for although the contractors are willing to guarantee to have a new building ready within six months of starting, the Glasgow Corporation have not yet given the word "go," but have called, instead, for fresh estimates for a hall on a larger scale than that originally planned. The larger scheme would, of course, suit An Comunn better, as if we are to have the Feill in the St. Andrew's Halls some of our proposed displays will be crowded out. But in any event there will be seen stalls,

laden with Dominion and American produce. whose very presence will speak eloquently of the energy and initiative of Gaels overseas. Highlanders in London are co-operating in another stall, under the convenership of Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), and also one which will unite those resident in different parts of England. Home industries will provide a stall, showing the work done in the homes of our own people, and there will be a vivid representation of a clachan, with spinners, weavers, and corn grinders actually at work. This exhibit is in the able hands of Mr. Colin Sinclair. But the chief interest of the Feill lies in the opportunities it will give for intercourse between Scots residing here and those from overseas, and for deepening the feelings of clan and kin, so characteristic of Highlanders the world over.

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