

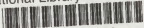
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An Deo-Grèine :

The Monthly Magazine of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Volume VII.

Oct., 1911, to Sept., 1912, inclusive.



AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH,

108 HOPE STREET, GLASGOW.

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AN DEO-GRÉINE

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AM MOD, 1911.

Thainig 'us dh'fhalbh Mòd na bliadhna so. Air na trì làithean mu dheireadh ach a' h-aon de 'n mhios a chaidh seachad, ghleidheadh ficheadamh Mòd a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach ann an Talla mór Ghlascho ris an abrar Naomh Andreas. Bha ceud latha a' Mhòid, Di-ciadain, an seachdamh-la-fichead de 'n mhios, air a chur air leth airson coimh-shreip nan oigridh, agus air maduinn an là sin bha ciadan de dh-oigridh na Gaidhealtachd, fo chùram phàrantan 'us chàirdean, a' gluasad gu sunndach, inntinneach, troimh shràidean a' bhaile-mhòir gu ceann-uidhe a' Mhòid. B' eireachdail a' chuideachd iad nuair a bha iad uile cruinnichte, ullamh gu dol an sàs chum am buadhan a dhearbhadh. Bha dreach 'us fallaineachd nan beann air an gruaidhean, agus bha iad cho modhail, deagh-bheusach 's a bha iad dreachmhor-gu dearbh, ann am modalachd, beusalachd, agus dreachalachd, tha iad gu mór os ceann oigridh a' bhaile-mhòir. Tha iad nadurra agus uasal 'nan gluasad 's 'nan giùlan, cha d' thainig iad

an taice fasain faoine nam bailtean móra, agus cha 'n 'eil iad air an truailladh leotha. Tha e 'na aobhar gairdeachais agus misneachaidh do 'n Chomuinn Ghaidhealach agus do chàirdean na Gaidhealtachd, gu'm bheil na h-oidheirpean a thatar a cleachdadh chum an oigridh Ghaidhealach oileineachadh ann an cànan 's an litreachas an dùthcha, a' giùlan toraidh, agus gu'm bheil àireamh nan oigridh a tha' gabhail tlachd agus pàirt anna sin, a' dol am meud bliadhna an dèigh bliadhna.

Aig deich uairean, mata, air maduinn Dhi-ciadain, thòisich obair an latha. Tha Talla mór a' chruinneachaidh gu sònraichte freagarrach airson obair de 'n t-seorsa so. An taobh a staigh a bhallachan gheibhear seomraichean móra 'us beaga, agus cha robh dith ullachaidh airson obair a' Mhòid a ghiùlan air a h-aghaidh gu goireasach. Chuireadh crìoch air comh-fharpuisean nan oigridh mu choig uairean 's an fheasgar, agus aig leth-nair an dèigh seachd bha cuirm-chiùil air a gleidheadh. B' e ceann-suidhe na cuirme Tormaid Mac Laomhain, Cnoc-dubh, Earraghaidheal, agus bha cuid-eachd mhór a lathair. Thug an ceann-suidhe òraid bhrosnachail, fhoghlumte seachad, agus thug a phiuthar na duaisean do 'n luchd-buidhne. Chaidh oidhehe shunndach, thaitneach a chuir seachad an cuideachd nan oigridh, agus nochd a' chuideachd an toil-inntinn gu sìalaidh ann a bhi 'g éisdeachd ri na h-òrain bhinn o bhilean na cloinne.

Air Diardaoin, darra là a' Mhòid, thòisich coimh-shreip nan inbheach, agus bu mhor an sluagh a bha cruinn, gu sònraichte 's an fheasgar nuair a bha 'n luchd coimh-shreip

a strì airson buinn-òir a' Chomuinn.

Aig meadhon-là, anns an talla mhór, dh-fhosgladh am Mòd, a réir riaghailt, leis a' cheann - suidhe, Uilleam Mac Aoidh. Bruidhinn e an Gàidhlig 's am Beurla gu fìleanta, reachdmhor. Bha àireamh mhór a lathair, agus 'nam measg bha teachdairean à Eirinn 's à Cuimri, a lathair gu deas-bhriathrach mu aobhar an càinain anns na cèarnan sin. An dèigh na coinneimh sin ann a h-aon de sheomraichean mòra an talla bha coinneamh-flurain air a gleidheadh, agus thug an Ceann-suidhe Mac Aoidh agus Ban-tighearn Ormadail furmait chridheil do 'n chuideachd. Anns an t-seomar-aoidh-eachd bha ceòl 'us lòn am pailteas, agus bha 'n deagh chothrom aig a' chuideachd a bhi ri conaltradh coitcheinn am measg a' cheile.

Air Di-h-aoine, an treas là agus an là mu dheireadh de 'n Mhòd, bha earrann nan inbheach air a leantuinn. An dèigh mheadhon-là 'nuair bha na Coisirean a' comh-shreip, bha nrlar-ìochdrach an talla mhóir làn gus na dorsan, agus bha 'n sluagh gu minig a nochdadh an toil-inntinn gu farumach leis an t-seinn bhinn a chuala iad. Chuireadh crìoch air obair a Mhòid aig an àm so le cuirm-chiùil anns an talla mhór. Bha Lochial anns a' chathair, agus thug e òraid sgairteil seachad. Bha a bhean an cuideachd ris, agus mu mheadhon na cuirme, shin ise na duaisean òir us airgid dhaibhsan a bhuidhinn iad. Bha an talla cho làn 's a chumadh e, agus bha am mòr-shluagh làn thoilichte leis na chuala iad an oidhche sin, agus le uile chùisean a' Mhòid. Bho thoiseach gu deireadh ré nan trì lathèan, chaidh gach ni air aghaidh gu rèidh, neo-bhrìsteach, agus is airidh iadsan air an robh curam-stùiridh a' Mhòid air eilù airson na doigh ionlain anns an do ghiùlanadh an obair air a h-aghaidh. Tha obair a' Mhòid mòr agus eudthromach, agus rinn Rùnaire a' Chomuinn, Iain Macilleathan; Cléireach a' Mhòid, Domhnall Mac Mhuirich; agus R. Mac Phàrlain, Ionmhasair a' Chomuinn, ullachadh sònraichte math gu'm biodh gach cùis co-cheangailte ris a Mhòd air an giùlan air an aghaidh gu h-òrdail, rèidh; agus fhuair iad cuideachadh luachmhor bho 'n Rùnaire a bha, T. D. Domhnallach, agus bho mhuinntir eile a thug an àine 's an saothar a nasgaidh. Tha aobhar gairdeachais againn, gu 'm bheil obair a' Chomuinn a soir-bheachadh, agus gu 'm bheil na Gaidheil a' tuisginn luach na h-obaire sin mar tha

na bliadhnachan a' dol seachad. Theid obair a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach air a h-aghaidh, agus soirbhichidh aobhar na Gàidhlig fo chumhachd, fo riaghladh 's fo stiùireadh a' Chomuinn.

—:O:—

Twentieth Annual Mod

OF

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

After an interval of four years the annual Mòd of An Comunn Gaidhealach was again held in the St. Andrews Halls, Glasgow, on the 27th, 28th, and 29th ultimo. This is the fourth Mòd which has been held in Glasgow, and the principal reason for having selected this Highland city as the *habitat* of this year's Mòd was on account of the Scottish National Exhibition being held there. The former Mòds in Glasgow were held in 1895, 1904, and 1907. Since the inception of An Comunn Gaidhealach in 1891, an Annual Mòd has been held. The first three were held in Oban, but it was deemed advisable to hold future Mòds in a different centre each year. The Mòd was held in Oban 5 times, in Glasgow 4, in Perth 2, in Edinburgh 2, in Inverness 2, in Dundee 1, in Greenock 1, in Dingwall 1, Rothesay 1, Stirling 1. During the course of these years the influence and work of An Comunn have greatly extended. As an indication of the vast progress made during that time, the competitive entries at the first Mòd were 40, while this year there is a total of 752 entries, exclusive of the entries in the Art and Industry Section, the Competitions in which were held this year in "An Clachan," and in this Section also the entries show a large increase over former years.

There is also a large increase in the Mòd fund, the sum of £260 having been received in donations. For the last six years especially, the Mòd has made steady progress, and this year shows a large increase in entries over the Glasgow Mòd of 1904. It is gratifying to note that in the Junior Section—the hope of the Gaelic cause—there is a great advance. The total entries in 1904 were 318, as compared with 469 this year, being an increase of about 47 per cent. It is also an encouraging feature that the Gaelic-speaking areas supply the greatest number of competitors.

All the arrangements for the efficient

carrying on of the work of the Mòd, which by the way is an arduous undertaking, have been in the hands of Mr. John Maclean, General Secretary, Mr. Donald Currie, local Mòd Secretary, and Mr. Robert Macfarlane, Treasurer, assisted by the late Secretary, Mr. T. D. Macdonald. The great success of the Mòd was in a large measure due to the untiring efforts of a large and enthusiastic Local Committee.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

(WEDNESDAY)

THE JUNIOR COMPETITIONS.

The Mòd opened at 10 o'clock under somewhat depressing weather conditions, rain falling for the greater part of the day. Soon after the opening hour the various halls where the competitions were being held were well filled. The oral competitions were held simultaneously in the Kent Hall and No. 1 Hall, where two sets of judges were required, and the vocal music competitions in the Berkeley Hall.

The first of the oral delivery competitions, which took place in the Kent Hall, was the reading of a piece of poetry by native speakers of Gaelic, and this brought out an entry of 26, of which number 11 were from Poolewe, four from Tiree and Drimnin respectively, three from Morven, two from Lochaber, one from Glenlyon, and one from Glasgow. The reading of a piece of prose attracted 24 competitors, and for reciting from memory the large entry of 33 was received. The prose reading brought forward the same number of competitors from Poolewe, Tiree, Drimnin, and Morven as in the previous competition, Lochaber and Glasgow each providing one competitor. Again Poolewe, Tiree, Drimnin, and Morven were represented in exactly the same proportions in the recitations, but Glasgow and Clydebank were each represented by three competitors, Rothesay having two entries, and Garve one.

In No. 1 Hall the first item was the reading of Gaelic prose at sight, and for this 14 entries were received. The narrative competition with conversation attracted 17 competitors, and for excellence in Gaelic conversation the entries numbered 15. As in the oral competitions in the other hall, there was an almost entire absence of competitors from the cities. For reading at sight Poolewe was represented by five competitors,

Tiree by four, and Drimnin by three, Glasgow and Lochaber having each one entrant. In the reading of Gaelic prose Glasgow and Lochaber had also each one representative, Poolewe, Tiree, and Drimnin being represented in turn by five, four and three competitors. In the narrative, Poolewe had nine entrants, Drimnin four, and Morven three, the remaining competitor being from Lochaber. The entries for excellence in Gaelic filled up in the proportion of six from Poolewe, four each from Tiree and Drimnin, and one entry from Lochaber.

Proceedings in the Berkeley Hall opened with the singing of an unpublished Mull or Iona song—a competition which is restricted to speakers of Gaelic. Of the five entrants Glasgow claimed four and Govan had one competitor. The next three competitions, namely, the solo singing of a song by girls and boys respectively, and the singing of duets were confined to learners of Gaelic. In addition to money prizes, gold pendants were presented to the first boy and girl soloists. Eighteen girls entered for the solo competition, but in the corresponding competition for boys there were only 10 entrants. In these competitions the country districts were practically non-existent. Of the girls competing, Clydebank had seven representatives, Glasgow six, Rothesay two, and Inverness and Lochaber one each. Eight of the ten boy competitors were from Glasgow, Inverness and Rothesay completing the total with one entrant each. Ten singers came forward for the duets for learners of Gaelic, and Rothesay furnished a couple of duettists, Glasgow and Clydebank being each represented in one duet. The same number competed in the duets for native speakers, Glasgow having four singers and Poolewe and Drimnin two singers each.

All the items enumerated above were disposed of in the forenoon, and the afternoon was devoted to such important musical events as the choral competition for "The Oban Times" Challenge Trophy, and the solo competition to decide the winners of the silver medals presented by the Communi to the best boy and girl soloist. As "The Oban Times" Trophy is the leading honour for junior choirs, and the silver medals are the principal prizes for junior soloists, these competitions created the greatest interest amongst the parents and friends of the young people, and were all carried through before a large audience. Sixteen girls entered for the silver medal presented for solo work. Of that

number six were Glasgow competitors; there were four from Drimnin and three from Poolewe, while Paisley, Oban and Glenlyon were each represented by one entrant. Four of the seven boy competitors were from Glasgow, two being from Poolewe and one from Islay. Two choirs entered for "The Oban Times" Trophy, viz., the Glasgow Junior Choir, whose Conductor is Mr. A. B. Ferguson, and the Poolewe Choir, led by Mr. Wm. Cameron. By the conditions governing the competitions for the Trophy, three-fourths of the members of each competing choir must be able to converse in Gaelic. There was also on the programme a choral competition for learners of Gaelic. The Lochaber Junior Gaelic Choir, under the Leadership of Mr. Donald Macmillan, Fort William, and the Clydebank Choir, who sang under the direction of Mr. Donald Gilmour, competed. Good competition was ensured in the unison singing for junior choirs, the Lochaber, Poolewe and Glasgow Choirs all taking part. The concluding competition on Wednesday consisted of the traditional singing of a Gaelic song without any instrumental accompaniment. This proved a popular item, there being 20 entries of which 12 were from Glasgow, two from Rothesay, and two from Drimnin; Oban, Glenlyon, Paisley and Poolewe each being represented by one competitor.

The winners of the Mòd silver medals for solo singing were Joan Macdonald, Glasgow, and Iain Stewart, Glasgow. After several attempts the Poolewe Choir succeeded in obtaining "The Oban Times" Trophy, and they added to that distinction by getting first place in the unison singing. The Lochaber Choir, who secured the first prize for choral singing in the class for learners, were a good second to Poolewe in the unison competition.

THE JUNIOR CONCERT.

The junior concert was held in the Berkeley Hall on Wednesday evening, and there was a large attendance. Mr. Norman Lamont, yr., of Knockdow, presided, and he was accompanied to the platform by Miss Lamont and Mr. Wm. Mackay, Inverness, the President of An Comunn.

After a selection had been played on the bagpipes by three pipers of the Glasgow Highland Club Pipe Band, Mr. Mackay the President, introduced Mr. Lamont and Miss Lamont to the gathering.

Mr. Lamont said this was the 20th year of the Mòd, and next year it would attain its majority. They all rejoiced that it was increasing in popularity, and that it was doing such excellent work, because the Mòd was the type and the embodiment of so much that was admirable, and that was worth being preserved in our national life. He was very much struck on Saturday last by a remark made by one of the French speakers at the Conference held in connection with the Franco-Scottish meeting in the Exhibition. This remark was to the effect that no country could be truly great which was false in any degree to its own history or its own traditions. That was one of the reasons why he (Mr. Lamont) was a supporter of the Gaelic movement associated with An Comunn.

In the matter of Education in Scotland excellent progress was being made, and An Comunn Gaidhealach was doing good work in this direction. Under the modern system of education, much more attention was now being given towards practical and technical work, and that was all to the good. But they must never allow the practical and technical side of education to shade the artistic and intellectual. If, as he believed, they must attach value to the continuity and maintenance of our historic traditions, they must never allow the material and practical side of education to submerge those things of the heart and soul that lay hidden in the Highland music, in the Highland tongue, and in the Highland blood.

The programme, which contained selections by the choirs and by several of the prize soloists, was then proceeded with.

Midway in the programme, Miss Lamont handed over the leading prizes to the successful competitors.

At the close of the concert Mr. Lamont and Miss Lamont received a hearty vote of thanks on the call of Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Ibrox.

The proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem in Gaelic.

Throughout the evening Mr. Charles R. Bappte, Glasgow, played the pianoforte accompaniments, and Mr. Whitehead, Glasgow, accompanied on the organ.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

(THURSDAY).

OPENING CEREMONY.

The formal opening of the Mòd took place in the Grand Hall at mid-day, when an official welcome was given on behalf of the

Glasgow Corporation, by Bailie Archibald Campbell, in the absence of the Lord Provost. Mr. William Mackay, President of An Comunn, gave an opening address in English and Gaelic. The President, who was accompanied to the platform by a large and representative body of Highland ladies and gentlemen, and by the Irish and Welsh Delegates, received a very cordial welcome, and spoke as follows:—

In the speech which I had the honour of making at the opening ceremony of last year's Mod in Edinburgh, I referred to the main objects for which An Comunn Gaidhealach was instituted twenty years ago—namely, the cultivation of the language of the Gael and its literature, and his music in the wider sense which comprehends his songs and the airs to which they are sung, his marches, his laments, his pibrochs and his dance music. To these objects have recently been added the encouragement of art, crafts and home industries. I claimed that the efforts of the Comunn had so far met with success, and, as showing the progress made, I compared the Mod held in Edinburgh in 1899 with that of last year, from which comparison it appeared that, whereas in 1899 the number of competitors in all subjects was about 130, in 1910 they numbered over 700; that while in the former year 5 Gaelic Choirs entered the lists, in the latter there were about 20; and that in 1899 one day was sufficient for the competitions, whereas last year, as on the present occasion, three days were necessary. I also pointed out that the membership of the Association, including those branches scattered over the country, numbered about 2000. The report for the past year, which is in your hands, shows that the progress has continued, and that there are now associated together in promoting the objects of the Association 2945 men and women. Again, exclusive of the art and industry entries, we have at the present Mod 752 competitors. These figures are satisfactory, but, as pointed out by the Propaganda Committee, the progress of our movement is not to be exclusively measured by them. The extent to which the Comunn and its objects are now known, understood and appreciated, is felt within the Gaelic area more than the figures indicate. During the year, the Association has been brought more in touch with the inhabitants of the remoter districts of the Highlands than it ever was before, through the speakers who visited those districts in connection with the

School Board Elections last Spring. An increased interest in the movement has thus been awakened, and certain misconceptions regarding the aims and objects of the Association have been removed. New branches have been established, and meetings and concerts and local Mòds have been held. The progress made by the association which was last year started in the extensive County of Sutherland is especially satisfactory. In last year's address I briefly reviewed the progress of the Gaelic movement during the preceding ten years. I should like on this occasion to take a wider sweep. It happens that the Gaelic Society of Inverness was inaugurated on the 28th day of September, 1871, exactly forty years ago to-day; and, as it is a child of my own, and I have during those forty years served it in one capacity or another, I may perhaps be excused for glancing for a few moments at the progress made by the Gaelic cause during that period. The Society has done much for Highland music. Since its inception a great gathering is held annually in July, at which songs are sung and music discoursed. The first Gaelic choir ever seen in the Highlands appeared on the Society's platform in 1872. But perhaps the Society's most important work is the part it has taken in rescuing from oblivion Gaelic poetry, legends, and traditions, and in elucidating Highland history. It is fortunate in having been able to draw to its ranks the most eminent Gaelic scholars and collectors who have appeared during those years, and it has permanently recorded the results of their labours in the twenty-six volumes of Transactions which have up till now appeared. The work of gathering and publishing is still going on. These volumes, which form a valuable Celtic library in themselves, are a great and rich storehouse of poetry, legend, tradition, and history, which, were it not for the Society, would have died with the men and women from whom they were taken down. They also contain numerous papers of great learning, which would never have been written if the Society had not existed. The Society has exercised a beneficial influence in connection with the position of Gaelic in schools, and it was at an early meeting of the Society that Professor Blackie opened the campaign which ended in the establishment of a Celtic Chair in Edinburgh University. Let me contrast the year 1871 with the present year of grace. In 1871 there was no recognition of the Gaelic tongue in our schools; now it has an

honoured place in our schools and universities. Then there was in Scotland no Celtic or Gaelic Chair or Lectureship, although Dr. MacLauchlan, in Edinburgh, and Dr. Cameron, in Glasgow, conducted Gaelic classes once a week during the winter months for the benefit of divinity students who were likely to be called upon to labour in the Highlands; now we have a Celtic Chair in Edinburgh, and a Celtic Lectureship in Glasgow University. Then there was not a Gaelic choir in the Highlands, and unless there was one in connection with your own St. Columba Church in Glasgow, there was no such choir in Scotland; now we have Gaelic choirs where Highlanders are to be found, in any number—the credit for this being entirely due to An Comunn Gàidhealach. Then, with the exception of *Sàr obair nam Bàrd*, which, owing to its high price was beyond the reach of many, there was no general collection of any value of Gaelic songs and poetry; now we have so many valuable collections that, through want of time, I am unable to name them. Then there were only one or two collections of Gaelic airs, and these were expensive; now, thanks mainly to the labours of Mr. Henry Whyte, Mr. Malcolm Macfarlane, and Mr. Colin Brown, we have many inexpensive collections in both notations, and numerous airs have been noted down and harmonised, which otherwise would have perished. In addition to all this, many volumes have during those years, appeared of tales and songs and other folklore, as well as many historical works in connection with the Highlands and the Highland clans. Of all these, in my view, the most valuable is the magnificent collection of ancient hymns and incantations made by Dr. Alexander Carmichael, who, happily, is still with us. In a sense, my retrospect is saddening, for most of the scholars who laboured during the period under review have passed beyond the veil, and of the twenty-four men who on the 28th day of September, 1871, constituted themselves into the Gaelic Society, only four, including myself, survive. But apart from these losses which we have in the course of nature suffered, the retrospect is satisfactory and encouraging, and it is especially gratifying to those who are getting old in the work to know that young men have arisen and are arising who are and will be highly qualified to carry it on in the future. I have much pleasure in declaring the present Mod open.

GAELIC ADDRESS.

Aig a' choinneimh mhóir a bha againn ann an Duneideann mu'n àm so an uiridh, bhruidhinn mi air a' bhuaidh a th' aig a' bhaile-mhór air bàrdachd nan Gaidheal, agus dh' ainmich mi òranan ainneil air àilleachd na Gaidhealtachd nach deachaidh riamh a chur an altaibh a chèile mur bhi gu'n d' fhàg na daoine a rinn iad na glinn 's an do rugadh iad, 's gun robh iad air an sàrachadh 's air am bodhradh le strìth is gleadhraich nan sraidean. Bu toil leam an diugh faclal no dha a radh ribh air puing eile—air a' bhuaidh a tha aig cuimhneachadh laithean ar n-òige agus clùis is cleachdaidhean nan daoine o'n d' thainig sinn air ar beatha agus air ar giùlan ann am measg uspairneachd agus buaireasachd a' bhaile-mhóir. Gun teagamh 'sam bith bu chòir do 'n bhuaidh sin a bhi fallain agus feumail. An uair a tha am buaireadair aig dorus do chridhe cha'n aithne dhomhsa sgrìath is buadh-mhoire, an deigh a' Bhiobuill fhéin, na cuimhne na seann dachaidh le a dleasdanasan, agus an t-seann t-sluaigh le 'n cleachdaidhean neo-lochdach; agus, gu cinnteach, 'nuair a tha thu sgìth agus fann 'na do bhodhaig no 'na d' inntinn, cha'n 'eil ni eile a thogas an t-eallach dheth do dhruim no a ni do chridhe no do cheann bochd slàn a rithist, coltach ri faclal òran no sgeula a chual thu 'sna laithean sona a dh' fhalbh. Air mo shon fhéin, is urrainn dhomh a radh le fìrinn gur mòr an neart 's an toil-inntinn a fhuair mi ré mo laithean o sgeulachdan is òranan modhutecha. Ghabh mi—gu h-àraidh an àm a' chluith-foghair—o cheann gu ceann de Ghleann-Urchudainn—o'n Tulaich gus an Teampull—gu oran no sgeula a chluinntinn agus a sgrìobhadh 's an leabhraan bheag a bha 'nam phocaid. Bha mi' athair 's mo mhathair gle thoilichte le m' obair, ach bha daoine glie mu'n cuairt a theireadh rium gu'm b' obair amaideach i, agus, mur toirinn an aire, nach deanainn fhéin ach glé bheag feum. Ach, feum no dolaidh, ghabh mi mo shlighe féin; agus a nise, 'nuair a "tha mo cheann air liathadh 's mo chiahbagan air tanachadh," is ann le toileachas tha mi 'g innse dhuibh gur mòr am feum a rinn iad dhomh ann an iomadh doigh. Lean iadsa rium-sa mar a lean mise riu-san. Mar is fhaide o'n dachaidh mi 's ann is mò a bhruchdas iad orm, agus faodaidh mi 'radh nach mòr gum beil ceàrnaidh de 'n Roinn-Eorpa o taobh-tuath Lochlainn gu taobh-deas na Gréige nach cuala

guth na Gaidhlig o m' ribheid bhochd. Chualas, cuideachd, mo ranntachd fhann ann an Tir na h-Eiphit; agus, ann an Iudea, 'nuair a smuainich mi air na h-Iudhaich a shuidh o shean laimh ri aiumhnichibh Bhabiloin agus ghuil 'nuair a chuimhnich iad air a cheart bheinn air an robh mi a'm' sheasamh, grad leum Donnachadh Bàn a stigh a'm' chridhe le 'ghlaodh dealasach—"An t-urram thar gach beinn aig Beinn-Dòrain!" Agus la no dha an deigh sin bhuail Niall MacLeod a stigh orm air bruach Iordain 'nuair a bha mi a' sealltain air a' ghleann mhór fhàsail tre 'm beil an abhainn bheannaichte sin a' ruith, agus ann am priobadh na sùla sguab e mi do 'n Eilean Sgiathanach far an d' fhuair mi mi-fhèin ann an tiota a' seinn "An gleann 's an robh mi òg!" Sin agaibh a' bhuaidh a th' aig sgeulachdan is oranan Tir nam Beann orm fhéin, agus, ged is eildeadar mi ann an Eaglais na h-Alba, cha 'n 'eil sgàth no athadh orm a bhi a' labhairt mar so. Mar is fhearr a chumas sibh na nithean so ann bhuir cuimhne 's ann bhuir beatha, 's ann is fallaine agus is glaine a bhitheas sibh 'n ur n-intinn 's n' ur bodhaig. Le sin, guidheam oirbh an cumail air n-hair-eann. Gleidheibh iad agus cumaibh iad, agus bheir iadsan dhuibhsé iomadh sochair agus sòlas nach faigh sibh gu bràth o na leabh-raichean faoine leibideach sin a tha a' brùchdadh oirnn mar thuil 's an linn d'heir-eannaich so. Beannachd leibh! Gun bu slàn a bhitheas sibh uile!

At the close of his address, Mr. Mackay intimated that delegates from Ireland and Wales were present. The representatives from Ireland were Revd. T. S. M'Elhenny, Dean of Residence and Lecturer in Philosophy, University College, Galway, and Mr. J. J. Doyle, Londonderry; and from Wales Mr. and the Misses Williams. The delegates received a very hearty welcome.

Mr. Doyle and Mr. Williams briefly conveyed the greetings from the Celts of Ireland and Wales.

Mr. Doyle spoke as follows in Gaelic and English:—

A Uachtarain agus a Chlann na n-Gaedheal. Tàim-se annso mar theachtarn ó Ghaedhealaibh na h-Eireann chun a chur i n-ùil daoibh-se an gaol agus an caradas ata eadrúinn. Deir an sean fhocal gur báidheamhail (báidheil) iad lucht éin-chine. Clann éin-chine iseadh sinne air dá thaobh de Shruth

na maoile, agus ó is mar sin atá an sgeul ba cheart go mbéadhl báidh agus earthanas eadrúinn. Ba cheart bród agus lúthgharr a bheith air gach treibh againn nuair a bhionn an t-adh air an d-treibh eile.

Do b' fhada sinn fé bhraca na h-aindeise; Do b' fhada sinn fé chois: Do b' fhada sinn ag seinim na bport uaigneach; ach feasta, le congnamh Dé, beidh a mhalairt de phort againn, port an áthais agus an bhuaidh, ach amhain misneach a bheith againn, agus sinn a bheith dilis do dhualgas na n-Gaedéal, agus dilis dá chéile.

Fellow Gaels,—It is now four years ago since I was here as an Irish delegate to the Mòd. What have we done in that time in Ireland?

In the National University, consisting of three affiliated Colleges—Dublin, Cork, and Galway—we have made Irish an essential subject for matriculation from next year forward, and those who now enter without a competent knowledge of Irish cannot obtain a degree without passing in Irish. In the Dublin College we have three Irish Chairs and an Irish Lectureship. In Cork and in Galway we have a Chair and a Lectureship, and even in Belfast University College we have a Lectureship in Celtic, which we hope soon to raise to a Chair.

You and we have a precious heirloom which we hope to hand down to our successors. But to do this needs work, very uphill work indeed.

How can you do it, each in his own place? Learn the language, use it in conversation, teach it. If you are too old or too lazy to learn it, you can at least give a little contribution to the funds of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and you can say a good word for it. This, at least, is the least that can be expected of you. Do it, and your children's children will bless your memory.

Mr. Williams said the Celts of Wales rejoiced in An Comunn's determination to press forward with high courage and undaunted hearts until the goal was reached and Gaelic had come to its own again in bonnie Scotland.

The delegates were thanked for their addresses, and after the Earl of Stair had proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

SENIOR SECTION. THE VOCAL COMPETITIONS AND ORAL DELIVERY.

As on the first day, the proceedings attracted large audiences, who took a keen interest in the various competitions. The contests in the literary and vocal-musical sections for seniors were decided, and in the evening the competitions took place for the two gold medals—one for male and the other for female soloists—which are much coveted as the hall-mark of excellence in Gaelic singing. No fewer than 24 ladies and 22 gentlemen entered. Glasgow was well represented among the number, and Robert M. Macdonald secured the medal. The honour in the female section went to Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway. Other places which sent competitors for the blue ribbon of An Comunn were Poolewe, Drimnin, Oban, Blair-Atholl, Islay, Bridge of Orchy, Edinburgh, Greenock, Kilm, Inverness, Rothesay, Skelmorlie and Perth. The singing was of a high order, and was an object-lesson in the improvement that has been brought about in the rendering of Gaelic music through the fostering care of An Comunn Gaidhealach. In the competition for recitation of a piece of poetry there were 19 competitors; for reading a prose piece, 11; for ancient folk-tale, 8; and for the best prepared Gaelic speech on any subject, 6.

In the afternoon a RECEPTION was held in the Berkeley Hall. The President, along with Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, received the guests, of whom there was a large number.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

(FRIDAY).

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL COMPETITIONS.

Several interesting contests were decided on Friday, the concluding day of the Mòd. The audiences were even larger than on the preceding two days, and interest in the various competitions was very keen. The programme included some outstanding features. The principal were the choral competition for the Lovat-Tullibardine Challenge Shield, and the competition for Ladies' Choirs. The area of the Grand Hall was filled during those contests. Four Choirs entered in the section for ladies' choirs. All sang the pieces in a highly artistic manner. Inverness choir were adjudged the winners, Edinburgh being placed second. Greenock Ladies' Choir,

which were unique in being under a lady conductor, were strong favourites for second place, their performance being a fine one, though it suffered through lack of numbers. In the contest for the Lovat-Tullibardine Shield, which is for singing in four-part harmony by mixed choirs, there were six entries. The performances were all of a high order, both in point of tone production and expression. Inverness Gaelic Choir were successful, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association and Edinburgh Gaelic Musical Association being awarded second and third prizes respectively. An attractive feature in the forenoon was the competition in instrumental music—the playing of Highland air selections and of the strathspeys and reels on the piano and violin. Glasgow competitors carried off the majority of the honours. The competition in port-a-beul, or vocal dance tunes aroused much interest. Port-a-beul plays a prominent part in the social life of the Highlanders. In the oran mór competition there were 24 competitors, while 10 entered for the Gaelic folk-songs. For the solo singing of a song open only to former Mòd Gold Medallists and first-prize winners (female voices), there were 5 entrants, and 7 in the male voice competition. The final competitions were for the best rendering of a song from "Songs of the Hebrides." In the female voice competition there were 13 competitors, and 8 in the male voice competition.

THE CLOSING CONCERT.

The Mòd was brought to a close on Friday night, when the great annual Gaelic concert was held in the Grand Hall, which was filled in all parts, the audience including many representatives of old Highland families. Cameron of Lochiel, who was accompanied by the Lady Hermione Cameron, presided. The concert was opened with selections on the bagpipes by members of the Glasgow Highland Club Pipe Band, and the singing of the rallying song of An Comunn, "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig."

The Chairman, introduced by Mr. William Mackay, the president, addressed the meeting. He said they were all highly gratified at the success the Mòd had achieved. He referred to what An Comunn Gaidhealach and the Gaelic Society of Inverness had done to foster the Gaelic language and to preserve old legends and traditions. There had been diversions in the Highlands in

the past which had proved lamentable for the Highlanders. If they read the clan histories they would find that for centuries the Highlands were torn with feuds and dissensions, and the clansmen were made the cat's-paw of many a strong nobleman, who used the Highland clans to satisfy his own personal ambition. Happily that was no longer the case, and they in the Highlands were more united than ever. That which united them was the sentiment engendered by their songs, music, traditions, and literature. Let them remember that as individuals they were mere specks on the earth, but as Highlanders they were members of the finest race that existed on the earth. They ought to do everything they could to foster their language and literature and music. Once let their sentiment of race go, and they would become merged in that mongrel conglomeration known as the Anglo-Saxon race. He urged them to teach their children Gaelic, as he intended to do.

The programme was sustained by prize winners, and by the following outstanding Gaelic vocalists, viz., Miss Margrat Duncan, and Miss Jessie M. McLennan, Glasgow; Mr. Roderick MacLeod, Inverness; and Mr. Robert Morrison, Glasgow. The Lady Hermione Cameron presented the principal prizes, and the programme concluded with an impressive rendering by the massed choirs of an old Psalm tune, "Elgin."

The chairman was thanked, and cheers given for him and the Lady Hermione on the call of Mr. Norman Lamont, younger, of Knockdow.

The proceedings terminated with the singing in Gaelic of the National Anthem.

Mr. Charles R. Baptie played the piano-forte accompaniments, and Mr. Whitehead, Glasgow, accompanied on the organ.

Thus was brought to a close the most successful Mòd promoted by An Comunn Gaidhealach.

PRIZE LIST.

JUNIOR SECTION.

I.—LITERATURE.

Adjudicators—No. 1. Rev. M. MacLeod, M.A., Broadford; 2. Macphie, F.E.I.S., Cumbernauld. Nos. 2 and 3, Norman MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Rev. D. M. Cameron, Ledaig; No. 4, Rev. T. S. MacPherson, M.A., Yoker; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

1. Letter, not exceeding 2 pages of large post quarto paper, supplied by the Comunn on application to the Secretary, 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—1st, 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 3s 6d; 5th, 2s 6d; 6th, a Book. Money Prizes presented by Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, of Ormisdale.

- 1, Mary Campbell, Easdale.
- 2 and 3, (Joan Macpherson, Broadford,
- 3, Joseph Dewar, Easdale, equal.
- 4, Jeanie Campbell, Easdale.
- 5, Neil Macinnes, Broadford.
- 6, Neil Macleod, Broadford.

2. Writing from Dictation of an unfamiliar Piece of Prose, slowly read by the teacher or other competent person. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as No. 1, above. Prizes—1st, 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th, a Book. Money Prizes presented by Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, of Ormisdale.

- 1, Mary Urquhart, Poolewe.
- 2, Isabella Maclean, Poolewe.
- 3, Joseph Dewar, Easdale.
- 4, John Macintyre, Arnisdale.
- 5, Joan Macpherson, Broadford.
- 6, Duncan Cameron, Ballachulish.

3. Reproduction in Writing of an unfamiliar Piece of Prose, to be read three times in the hearing of the competitors. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as No. 1 above. Prizes—1st, 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th, a Book. Money Prizes presented by Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, of Ormisdale.

- 1, Duncan Cameron, Ballachulish.
- 2, Joseph Dewar, Easdale.
- 3, Mary Urquhart, Poolewe.
- 4, Mary MacLennan, Poolewe.
- 5, Isabella Maclean, Poolewe.

4. Translation, from Gaelic into English, of 20 verses from II. Samuel, chapters 1 and 14-24; and from English into Gaelic of 10 verses from Acts, chapters 14-28. The verses to be translated will be intimated in a letter sent under sealed cover by the Secretary, which must not be opened until places have been taken for the Competition. The Translations are to be written in the presence of the Schoolmaster or Teacher, and the Local Examiner, both of whom will endorse each paper as a guarantee that the conditions have been complied with. The time to be taken is not to exceed 2 hours. A special examination will be arranged for Catholic Schools, should application be made by such schools. Former first-prize winners in this Competition are not eligible. Prizes—1st, £1, and "Caraid nan Gaidheal"; 2nd, 10s, and "Caraid nan Gaidheal." Money Prize presented by Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, of Ormisdale.

- 1, Jessie Campbell, Easdale.
- 2, Duncan Cameron, Ballachulish.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS.—The best pupils who have not participated in the aggregate Prize List.

Public School, Staffin.—Competition No. 1—1, John Mackenzie; 2, Jonathan Mackay. No. 2—1, John Mackenzie. No. 3—1, Jonathan Mackay. No. 4—1, Donald Gordon.

Public School, Easdale.—Competition No. 1—1, Daisy Livingstone; 2, Jessie Campbell. No. 2—1, Mary Campbell; 2, Jessie Campbell. No. 3—1, James Livingstone. No. 4—1, Daisy Campbell.

Public School, Scairinish, Tiree.—Competition No. 2—1, Mary Mackinnon; 2, Catherine M. Macdonald. No. 4—1, Catherine M. Macdonald; 2, Sheena C. Macdonald.

Public School, Dornie, Kintail.—Competition No. 1—1, Bessie Campbell; 2, Eliza MacRae. No. 2—1, Ina MacRae; 2, Mary MacRae. No. 4—1, Ina MacRae; 2, Bella C. MacLennan.

Public School, Arnisdale, Glenelg.—Competition No. 1—1, K. A. MacGillivray; 2, Mary MacCuaig. No. 2—1, Mary MacCuaig; 2, Helen Macleod. No. 3—1, Mary MacCuaig; 2, Helen Macleod. No. 4—1, John Macintyre; 2, K. A. MacGillivray.

Public School, Broadford, Skye.—Competition No. 1—1, Alexander Mackinnon; 2, Donald Mackinnon. No. 2—1, Alexr. Mackinnon; 2, Neil Macleod. No. 3—1, Alexr. Mackinnon; 2, Charles Maclean.

Kilmodan Gaelic Class.—Competitions Nos. 1, 2, 3—1, Malcolm Macdonald.

Public School, Ballachulish.—Competition No. 1—1, Maggie Gemmill; 2, Lucy Maclean. No. 2—1, Donald Cameron; 2, Mary MacColl. No. 3—1, Donald Cameron. No. 4—1, Lucy Maclean.

Public School, Poolewe.—Competition No. 1—1, Mary Urquhart; 2, Duncan Urquhart. No. 2—1, Christina Mackenzie; 2, Duncan Urquhart. No. 3—1, Duncan Urquhart; 2, Grizel Mackenzie. No. 4—1, Margt. MacLennan; 2, Alexr. Urquhart.

Public School, Kyle of Lochalsh.—Competition No. 1—1, Katie MacRae; 2, Isabella MacRae. No. 2—1, Katie MacRae; 2, Annie Stewart. No. 3—1, Katie MacRae; 2, Alister Urquhart. No. 4—1, Katie MacRae; 2, Lizzie Macleod.

Public School, Giusachan.—Competition No. 1—1, Margaret Maitland. No. 2—1, Catherine U. Macphail. No. 3—1, Margaret Maitland.

SPECIAL—A First and Second Prize of £3 and £2 respectively, will be given to the Teachers whose pupils win the highest average of marks in the foregoing Competitions Nos. 1 to 4. Prizes presented by James Coats, jun., Esq., Paisley.

1, Donald Macdonald, M.A., Easdale Pub. Sch.
2, Arch. MacCallum, Ballachulish Pub. Sch.

II.—ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—D. MacDonald, M.A. Rev. Wm. MacPhail, B.D.

5. Reading with expression a Piece of Poetry, by Native Speakers. Competitors are to prepare the three following pieces from "Dain Thaghte," published by Eneas Mackay, Stirling, price 3d, viz.:—"An t-Eilean Sgìthanach," "Gur moch rinn mi dùsgadh," and "Bas Màiri." They will be asked to read any one of the three the Judges may select. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th, a Book. Prizes presented by Paisley Highlanders' Association.

1 and 2, f Catriona M. Macdonald, Tiree
Hector Maclean, Glasgow—equal.

3 and 4, f Joan Macdonald, Drimmin,
Katie Cameron, Drimmin—equal.

6. Reading a Piece of Prose. Competitors are to submit two pieces, either of which they may be asked to read. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th, a Book. Open to all. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes presented by Mrs. Stockwell, Calder Glen.

1, Jessie Chisholm, Lochaber.

2, Hector Maclean, Glasgow.

3, Catriona M. Macdonald, Tiree.

4, Mollie Miller, Drimmin.

5, Jessie C. Maclean, Tiree.

8. Reciting from Memory "Oran na ti" and "Caol-Muile," to be found in the "Lon-Dubh," part first. Prizes—1st, 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th, a Book. Open to all. 1st, 2nd and 4th Prizes presented by A. C. MacLaren, Esq., Crianlarich.

1, Donald Grant, Garve.

2, Jessie C. Maclean, Tiree.

3, Mary Cameron, Drimmin.

4 and f Louisa Macpherson, Lochaber.

5, f Hector Maclean, Glasgow—equal.

II.—ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—Rev. T. S. MacPherson, M.A., Yoker. Rev. D. Lamont, Blair-Atholl.

Yoker. Rev. D. Macfarlane, Kingussie.

7. Reading at Sight an unfamiliar Prose Piece, chosen by the Judges. Prizes—1st, 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 5s; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th a Book. Open to all. 1st, 2nd and 4th Prizes presented by Mrs. Reyburn, Stirling.

1, Mary Cameron, Drimmin.

2, Maggie Urquhart, Poolewe.

3, Sheena C. Macdonald, Tiree.

4, Catriona Macdonald, Tiree.

5, John Macdonald, Drimmin.

9. 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—1st, 10s; 2nd, 5s; 3rd, 2s 6d. Open to all. Prizes presented by the Very Rev. J. C. Russell, D.D., Edinburgh.

1, Mary Cameron, Drimmin.

2, Louisa Macpherson, Lochaber.

3, Joan Macdonald, Drimmin.

10. For Excellence in Gaelic Conversation, confined to Girls. Prizes—1st, 12s 6d; 2nd, 7s 6d. Prizes presented by Y. Foneddigesan Williams, Llanarthney, Wales.

1, Maggie Urquhart, Poolewe.

2, Joan Macdonald, Drimmin.

III.—VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic: John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Rev. M. N. Munro, M.A., Tayside. Music: R. L. Reid, Glasgow; John Tannahill, Glasgow. Official Accompanist: C. R. Baptie.

Note.—Solo, Duet, and Choral Competitions, 11, 12, 13, 14, are confined to those who are able to converse fluently in the Gaelic language.

11. Solo Singing of an unpublished Mull or Iona Song. The words and music must be sent to the Secretary when entering. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 15s. Prizes presented by the Mull and Iona Association.

1, Kate Maclean, Glasgow.

2, Iain Stewart, Glasgow.

Note.—Solo, Duet, and Choral Competitions, 17, 18, 19 and 20, are confined to learners of Gaelic, i.e., those who are acquiring the language, as distinct from native, or fluent, speakers.

17. Solo Singing of a Song. Girls. Prizes—1st, 10s and a Gold Pendant; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. 1st and 2nd Money Prizes presented by Rev. J. Fraser Grahame, B.D., Glasgow.

- 1, Gertie MacLennan, Inverness.
- 2 and f Jeanie Robertson, Rothesay,
- 3, { Jeanie Mackintosh, Rothesay—equal

18. Solo Singing of a Song. Boys. Prizes—1st, 10s and a Gold Pendant; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. 1st and 2nd money Prizes presented by Osgood H. Mackenzie, Esq., of Inverewe.

- 1, George Macgregor, Inverness.
- 2, Francis Maclean, Glasgow.
- 3, { John M. Colquhoun, Glasgow,
- { Andrew J. Colquhoun, Glasgow—equal.

19. Duet Singing of a Song. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s.

- 1, { George Macgregor, Inverness,
- { Gertie MacLennan, Inverness.
- 2, { Jeanie Robertson, Rothesay,
- { Jeanie Mackintosh, Rothesay.

14. Duet Singing of a Song. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s. 1st Prize presented by James R. Reid, Esq., Glasgow; 2nd Prize by Miss F. Tolmie, Edinburgh.

- 1, { Kate Maclean, Glasgow,
- { Flora Maclean, Glasgow.
- 2, { Mary Mackenzie, Glasgow,
- { John Lawson, Glasgow.

12. Solo Singing of a Song. Girls. Prizes—1st, £1 and the Silver Medal of the Comunn; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. £1 presented by the Clan Mackay Society.

- 1, Joan Macdonald, Glasgow.
- 2, Bella Maclean, Poolewe.
- 3, Kate Maclean, Glasgow.

13. Solo Singing of a Song. Boys. Prizes—1st, £1 and the Silver Medal of the Comunn; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. £1 presented by the Clan Mackay Society; 2nd Prize by Finlay M. Ross, Esq., Glasgow.

- 1, Iain Stewart, Glasgow.
- 2, Kenneth Cameron, Poolewe.
- 3, John Maclean, Glasgow.

15. Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in two-part harmony. The prescribed songs are "Mac Griogair o Ruadh-Shruth," and "Theid mi g'ad amharc." in the "Smeòrach." At least three-fourths of the members must be able to converse in the Gaelic language. Prizes—1st, £5, retention for a year of the "Oban Times" Challenge Trophy, and a Baton to the Conductor; 2nd, £3. £5 Prize presented by the Earl of Stair; 2nd Prize by William Mackay, Esq., Inverness.

- 1, Poolewe Junior Gaelic Choir.
- 2, Glasgow Junior Gaelic Choir.

20. Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in two-part harmony. Prizes—1st, £5 and a Baton to the Conductor; 2nd, £3. The songs prescribed are the same as those for Competition 15. Confined to learners of Gaelic. 1st Prize presented by the Corporation of the City of Glasgow; 2nd Prize by the Marchioness of Bute.

- 1, Lochaber Junior Gaelic Choir.
- 2, Clydebank Junior Gaelic Choir.

21. Unison Singing Competition for Junior Choirs. The Songs prescribed are "Oran Chloinn Lachlainn" and "Gur trom, trom a tà mi," from the "Smeòrach," published by Eneas Mackay, Stirling, price 2d. The Songs to be sung in the traditional manner, i.e., the verse to be rendered as a solo part. Prizes—1st, £3; 2nd, £2. 1st Prize presented by the Clan Mackay Society; 2nd Prize by Dr. Quintin MacLennan, Glasgow.

- 1, Poolewe Junior Gaelic Choir.
- 2, Lochaber Junior Gaelic Choir.

16. Traditional Singing of a Gaelic Song. No instrumental accompaniment. Prizes—1st, 10s; 2nd, 6s; 3rd, 4s. Prizes presented by Y. Foneddigan Williams, Llanarthney, Wales.

- 1, Flora Maclean, Glasgow.
- 2, Bella Maclean, Poolewe.
- 3, Cathie Macdougall, Oban.

SENIOR SECTION.

I.—LITERATURE.

Adjudicators—Nos. 22, 23, and 25, Rev. Adam Gunn, Durness; Rev. D. Lamont, Blair-Atholl; Rev. Neil Ross, B.D., Aberdeen. Nos. 24, 26, and 27, Professor Henderson, Glasgow; A. MacDonald, Inverness; Rev. M. N. Munro, M.A., Taynult.

22. Poem, not exceeding 200 lines, on "The Mòd." Prizes—1st, £3; 2nd, Copy of MacDonald's Illustrated Gaelic Dictionary. Money Prize presented by the Celtic Society of Glasgow.

- 1, Neil Shaw, Rothesay.
- 2, Alexr. Cameron, Poolewe.

23. Essay on "Highland Shieling Customs." Prizes—1st, £3; 2nd, £2. Prizes presented by the Corporation of the City of Glasgow.

- 1, Alexr. Stewart, Glenlyon.
- 2, Roderick Morrison, Valtos, Lewis.

24. Original Humorous Gaelic Song, set to a lively Gaelic air. Prizes—1st, £3; 2nd, £2. A Second Prize will not be given if there are less than five competitors. Prizes presented by the Highland Society of London.

- 1, D. Johnston, Druin-an-torran, Islay.
- 2, John MacFadyen, Glasgow.

25. Short Gaelic Story, extending to 2000 words or more. Fictitious characters may be introduced, but the tale should be based on actual historical incidents or local legends. Prizes—1st, £5; 2nd, £3. 1st Prize presented by Hugh Morrison, Esq., of Islay; 2nd Prize by The Skelmorlie Ceilidh.

- 1, John MacCormac, Glasgow.
- 2, Hector Macdougall, Glasgow.

26. The Best Rendering into Scottish Gaelic of the three Irish Gaelic Songs, "Dan Mòlach na Gaedhilge," "Eibhlín, a Ruin," and "Paistin Fionn." (Joyce's "Irish Music and Song.") Gill & Son, Dublin. Prize—Copy of Mac Donald's Illustrated Gaelic Dictionary.

- 1, Hector Macdougall, Glasgow.

27. For the Best Translation into Gaelic Verse of Schubert's "The Serenade," and "The Wanderer." See Boosey's "Diamond Music Book," No. 25, or apply to the Secretary for the words. Prize—Copy of Mac Donald's Illustrated Gaelic Dictionary.

- 1, John MacNab, Speanbridge.

28. A Short Gaelic Play—subject, "The Gael who pretends to have lost his Gaelic." MSS. to be sent in by May 1st, 1911. (If the Play placed first by the Adjudicators is of sufficient merit, it may be acted at one of the Mod Concerts.) Time to occupy half-an-hour. Prize—£3, presented by the Glasgow Highland Club.

John M'Cormae, Glasgow.

SPECIAL PRIZE—Gold Pendant, presented by the Gaelic Society of New Zealand, for the competitor receiving most honours in the foregoing Senior Literary Competitions.

John M'Cormae, Glasgow.

V.—MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS AND COMPILATIONS.

Adjudicators—Music, F. W. Whitehead, Glasgow; and W. H. Murray, L.T.S.C. Gaelic: Rev. M. N. Munro, M.A., Taynuilt.

49. Composition of Melodies only, which must not have been previously published, for the songs "Mo Ghràdh geal's mo Rùn," by Mary Mac Kellar; and "Crònan Brathann," from the "Duanair." Prize—£2. Prize presented by the Clan Cameron Society and Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart., of Succoth.

John Cameron, Paisley.

50. Compilation of unpublished Gaelic Vocal Music. The sources from which the melodies are got must be clearly stated, otherwise competitors will be disqualified. The names, and as many verses as possible, of the songs to which the airs are sung, should be given along with the music. The music may be written in sol-fa or staff notation. Melodies composed within the last thirty years are excluded. Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, MacDonald's Illustrated Gaelic Dictionary. 1st Prize presented by the Glasgow High School Gaelic Class Ceilidh.

1, Miss Annetta C. Whyte, Glasgow.

51. For the Best Arrangement in Four-Part Harmony of the Melodies of "Monaltraidh" ("Am Brù-Dhearg"); and "Mì'm shuidhe am ònar" (see the "Deo-Greine" for May, 1910, or apply to the Secretary). Open to Professionals. Prize, £2. Prize presented by the Clan MacRae Association and the Caledonian Catholic Association.

John Bell, Mus. Bac., Glasgow.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—D. MacDonald, M.A., Easdale; J. R. Bannerman, Glasgow.

29. Recitation of a Piece of Poetry. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s. Open to all. 1st Prize presented by Alexander Gracie, Esq., M.V.O.; 2nd Prize by J. R. Bannerman, Esq., Glasgow.

John MacNab, Speanbridge, and John MacFadyen, Glasgow—equal.

30. Reading a Prose Piece. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s. Open to all. 1st Prize presented by Alexander Gracie, Esq., M.V.O.; 2nd Prize by Mrs. MacKinnon, of Ronachan.

1, Miss Margaret Maachran, "An Clachan," Glasgow.

2, Neil Shaw, Rothesay.

31. Ancient Folk Tale, preferably unpublished—narrated in the traditional style. Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, £1. 1st Prize presented by Mrs. Hay Wilson, Glasgow; 2nd Prize by Angus Blue, Esq., Glasgow.

1, Donald Macdonald, "An Clachan," Glasgow.
2, John N. Macleod, Dornie.

32. For the best prepared Gaelic Speech on any subject, not to exceed 10 minutes in delivery. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s. 1st Prize presented by Miss Buchanan Turner, of Kilchamaig; 2nd Prize by Sir Hector C. Cameron, Glasgow.

1, John MacNab, Speanbridge.
2, Donald Macdonald, "An Clachan," Glasgow.

III.—VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Music: R. L. Reid and John Tannahill, Glasgow. Gaelic: K. MacLeod, M.A., Crianlarich; Rev. Wm. MacPhail, B.D., Kilbrandon.

38. Solo Singing of a Song. Female voices. Confined to members of the Comunn Gaidhealach, its branches and affiliated societies. Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, £1. Former gold medalists and first-prize winners for singing excluded. Members of branches and affiliated societies must give evidence of membership when entering. 1st Prize presented by Lord Colum O'richton Stuart; 2nd Prize by Rev. L. Maclean Watt, Edinburgh.

1, Miss May L. Smyllie, Oban.
2, { Miss Peigi Tyrell, Dundee, and
Miss Mary M. Lamont, Glasgow—equal.

39. Solo Singing of a song. Male Voices. Confined to members of the Comunn Gaidhealach, its branches, and affiliated societies. Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, £1. Former gold medalists and first-prize winners for singing excluded. Members of branches and affiliated societies must give evidence of membership when entering. 1st Prize presented by Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland; 2nd Prize by John Neill, Esq., of Keills.

1, Neil Matheson, Dundee.
2, Alexr. Cameron, Oban.

55. For the Best Rendering of an Atholl and Breadalbane Unpublished Folk Song Air. Copies of the music (with words), for verification as an unpublished air, must be sent to the Secretary one month before the date of the Mod. Prize, presented by the Glasgow Atholl and Breadalbane Association, £1 1s.

Miss Nettie Stewart, Glasgow.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Music: R. L. Reid, Glasgow; John Tannahill, Glasgow. Gaelic: Kenneth MacLeod, Crianlarich; Rev. Wm. MacPhail, B.D., Kilbrandon.

33. Solo Singing of a Song. Female Voices. Prizes—1st, £1 and the Gold Medal of the Comunn; 2nd, £2; 3rd, £1. 2nd Money Prize presented by the Arran Society of Glasgow; 3rd presented by E. E. Macdonald, Esq., Glasgow.

1, Alice Henderson, Stornoway.
2, { Nettie Stewart, Glasgow, and
Mary M. Lamont, Glasgow—equal.

34. Solo Singing of a Song. Male Voices. Prizes—1st, £1 and the Gold Medal of the Comunn; 2nd, £2; 3rd, £1. 2nd Prize presented by the Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association; 3rd Prize by Thomas H. Garvie, Esq., Glasgow.

1, Robert M. Macdonald, Glasgow.

2, Kenneth J. MacRae, Inverness.

3, Peter M. Maclean, Glasgow.

40. Duet Singing of a Song. Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, £1. 1st Prize presented by the President, Pipe Band, 93rd Highlanders; 2nd Prize by the Edinburgh Gaelic Musical Association.

1, { Kenneth J. MacRae, Inverness.

{ Miss Jessie MacRae, Inverness.

2, { Miss A. C. Whyte, Glasgow.

{ Miss May Smyllie, Oban.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic; Rev. D. Macfarlane, Kingussie; D. MacPhie, F.E.I.S., Cumbernauld. Music: W. H. Murray, Glasgow; John Bell, Mus. Bac., Glasgow.

56. For the Best Rendering of an Uist or Barra Song, open to competitors irrespective of locality. Prize, £2; presented by the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association.

Miss May Smyllie, Oban.

52. For the Best Rendering of Two Clan Maclean Songs, one of which must be "Gaoir nam Ban Muileach," see the "Deo-Greine" for March, 1911; the other (preferably unpublished) to be chosen by the competitor. The words and music of the second song must be sent to the Secretary at entry. Prizes, presented by Miss Sarah Maclean, Morlea, Glenurquhart,—1st, £2 12s 6d; 2nd, £1 12s 6d; 3rd, £1.

1, Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway.

2, Duncan S. Currie, Glasgow.

3, Robert Morrison, Glasgow.

35. Solo Singing of an Oran-mór selected by the competitor from the following list—"Garabh agus na Mnanan," from "Binneas nam Bàrd" (E. Mackay, Stirling); "Oran-mór Mhic-Leoid," from "Coisir a' Mhoide"; and "Tir nam Beann ard," by Colonel Macgregor, ("Modern Gaelic Bards," E. Mackay, Stirling). Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, £1. 1st Prize presented by Bute Branch; 2nd Prize by W. H. Murray, Esq., Giffnock.

1, Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway.

2, Robert M. Macdonald, Glasgow.

45. Gaelic Folk-Songs—For the Best Rendering of two unpublished Gaelic Folk-Song Airs. The words need not necessarily be unpublished. Copies of the Music (with words), for verification as unpublished airs, must reach the Secretary at least one month before the date of the Mòd. The sources from which the melodies are got should be clearly stated. Prizes—1st, £1 10s; 2nd, 10s. 1st Prize presented by Lady Helen Stewart Murray and Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Yoker; 2nd Prize by W. Burn Murdoch, Esq., Edinburgh.

1, Miss May Smyllie, Oban.

2, Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway.

44. A Competition for Seniors in Solo Singing of "Puir à-Beul." The words and music to be sung must be submitted to the Secretary

on entry, for approval. Competitors should select sets of tunes that are adapted to vocal rendering, and words that are unobjectionable from the point of view of good taste. Two tunes to be professed by each Competitor, one of which must be unpublished. For published tunes see Dr. K. N. Mac Donald's collection of *Puir à-Beul*. Prizes—1st, £1 10s; 2nd, 15s; 3rd, 10s. 1st Prize presented by Miss Astley, Arisaig and Mrs. MacKinnon, Ronachan; 2nd Prize by Captain J. MacArthur, Shanghai; 3rd Prize by Sheriff MacLennan, K.C., Edinburgh.

1, John Cameron, Paisley.

2, { Kenneth J. MacRae, Inverness, and

{ Alex. MacQueen, Islay—equal.

36. Solo Singing of a Song. Female Voices. Open only to former Mòd Gold Medallists, and first-prize winners for singing. Prize, £3, presented by the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association.

Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway.

37. Solo Singing of a Song. Male Voices. Open only to former Mòd Gold Medallists, and first-prize winners for singing. Prize, £3, presented by Ceilidh nan Gaidheal, Glasgow.

Duncan S. Currie, Glasgow.

53. For the Best Rendering of a Song from "Songs of the Hebrides." Female voices. Competitors must prepare two songs from the following list—"In Hebride Seas," "Kishmul's Galley," "Hebridean Sea Rievers," "The Mull Fisher," "The Scagull of the Land-under-Waves," and "A Hebridean Mother's Song." The names of the two songs prepared must be handed in for the Judges, and they may call upon the competitor to sing either of them. Prizes presented by Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser and Miss Margaret Kennedy, A.R.A.M., 1st, £1 1s. and "Songs of the Hebrides"; 2nd, "Songs of the Hebrides."

1, Miss Russell, Stornoway.

2, { Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway,

{ Miss Phemie Marquis, Glasgow—equal.

54. For the Best Rendering of a Song from "Songs of the Hebrides." Male Voices. Competitors must prepare two songs from the following list—"In Hebride Seas," "Kishmul's Galley," "Hebridean Sea Rievers," "The Mull Fisher," "The Scagull of the Land-under-Waves," and "A Hebridean Mother's Song." The names of the two songs prepared must be handed in for the Judges, and they may call upon the competitor to sing either of them. Prizes presented by Mr. Archd. Stuart, Straloch, and Mr. Kenneth MacLeod, M.A., Crianlarich, 1st, £1 1s and "Songs of the Hebrides"; 2nd, "Songs of the Hebrides."

1, Neil Matheson, Dundee.

2, { Robert M. Macdonald, Glasgow

{ Alastair C. MacLaren, Crianlarich—equal.

41. Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in three-part harmony. Female voices only. Prize, £5; a second prize will be given if three or more choirs compete. Prize presented by the Glasgow Highland Society.

1, Inverness Ladies' Choir.

2, Edinburgh Gaelic Musical Association's Ladies' Choir.

42. Choral Singing of a Song, with or without chorus, in four-part harmony. Prizes—1st, £15, retention for one year of the Lovat and Tullibardine Trophy, and a Baton to the Choir Conductor; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5. £15 Prize presented by Duncan MacKinnon, Esq., London; 2nd money Prize by the Corporation of Glasgow; 3rd money Prize by Wm. Currie, Esq., Greenlaw.

- 1, Inverness Gaelic Choir.
- 2, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association.
- 3, Edinburgh Gaelic Musical Association.

A GOLD PENDANT, presented by the Gaelic Society of New Zealand, will be given to the Lady Vocal Soloist receiving most honours (music and Gaelic marks combined).

Miss Alice Henderson, Stornoway.

GOLD PENDANT, presented by Roderick Mackenzie, Esq., Chief of the Gaelic Society of New Zealand, to the Gentleman Vocal Soloist with the most honours (music and Gaelic marks combined).

- { Robert M. Macdonald, Glasgow, and
Kenneth J. MacRae, Inverness—equal.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Mrs. Macdonald, of Dunach; F. N. Whitehead, Glasgow; Major Menzies, Edinburgh.

46. Playing of Strathspeys and Reels on the Pianoforte. Competitors to submit the names of 5 Strathspeys and 3 Reels, any two of which the Judges may call on the competitors to play thrice over. Prizes—1st, £2 10s; 2nd, £1 10s; 3rd, £1. This competition is confined strictly to amateurs. 1st Prize presented by Provost MacFarlan, Dumbarnton, and John Stewart, Esq., Scotstounhill; 2nd Prize by Rev. J. MacLachlan, Govan, and D. Robertson, Esq., Glasgow; 3rd Prize by Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B.

- 1, Miss Mary Munn, Oban.
- 2, Miss Cathie M. Henderson, Ibrox.
- 3, Miss Margt. Fraser, Gollanfield.

48. Playing on the Pianoforte an arrangement of three Gaelic Song Airs, two Reels, and two Strathspeys. The melodies of the songs should be distinctly preserved. Competitors are not to use a disconnected series of tunes in unrelated keys. Copies of the arrangements must be handed to the Judges. Prizes—1st, £2; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s. 1st and 2nd Prizes presented by the Glasgow Tired Association; 3rd Prize by Dr. J. F. Macdonald, Hamilton.

Miss A. C. Whyte, Glasgow.

Adjudicators—Andrew MacIntosh, Inverness; Major Menzies, Edinburgh; F. W. Whitehead, Glasgow.

47. Playing of Gaelic Song Air, Strathspey and Reel on the Violin. Competitors to submit the names of 3 Song Airs, 3 Strathspeys, and 3 Reels. The Song Air to be played twice, and the Reel and Strathspey airs thrice each, or otherwise as the Judges may direct, with or without variations. Prizes—1st, £2 10s; 2nd, £1 10s; 3rd, £1. 1st Prize presented by N. S. Livingstone, Esq., Minnesota; 2nd Prize by Clan Grant Society; 3rd Prize by Right Hon. C. Scott Dickson, K.C., M.P.

- 1, Arch. Macdonald, Glasgow.
- 2, Tom Gilmour, Glasgow.
- 3, Miss Y. A. Reyburn, Stirling.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, Glasgow, on the 30th ultimo. Mr. William Mackay, President, occupied the chair. The minutes of last annual meeting were adopted. The results of the election of office-bearers and of members of the Executive Council were announced, and are as follows:—President, Mr. William Mackay, Inverness, re-elected; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Kenneth Campbell, Oban, and Dr. W. J. Watson, Edinburgh, re-elected. The members elected to the Executive Council are—Miss Kate Fraser, Inverness; Rev. M. N. Munro, Taynult; Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, Ormisdale; Alasdair C. MacLaren, Crianlarich; Donald Macphie, Cumbernauld; Rev. Wm. Macphail, Kilbrandon; Rev. Coll A. Macdonald, Arrochar; Rev. G. W. Mackay, Killin; John S. Mackay, Stirling; Wm. Cameron, Poolewe; Miss Lettice Macnaghten, Balquhider; Duncan Reid, Glasgow; Kenneth MacLeod, Crianlarich; Lieut.-Colonel J. Macinnes, Dunoon; Malcolm C. MacLeod, Dundee; Arch. Menzies, Edinburgh; James Grant, Glasgow; Sheriff Macmaster Campbell, Campbeltown; Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Yoker; Malcolm MacLeod, Ibrox; P. MacDougall Pullar, Glasgow; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; John N. MacLeod, Dornie; Roderick MacLeod, Inverness; D. MacGregor Whyte, Oban; Donald Currie, Glasgow; Arch. Stewart, Cambuslang; Principal Sir Donald MacAlister, The University, Glasgow; Provost Macfarlan, Dumbarnton; Rev. Malcolm MacLennan, Edinburgh. All the above were members of last year's Executive with the exception of the Rev. Coll A. Macdonald and Mr. Kenneth MacLeod, who are new members. The reports of the various committees for the year 1910-11 were adopted. These had previously been sent out to the members in printed form.

A new constitution and rules were submitted to the meeting, and after some additions and alterations, were adopted. Mr. Donald Currie presided at the afternoon sederunt, and on behalf of the sub-committee which had been appointed to draw up a new Constitution, intimated that the By-laws which are in preparation would be put before the first meeting of Executive.

Mr. Alexander Murray, C.A., was appointed Auditor for the ensuing year.

The meeting unanimously resolved to hold next year's Mòd in Inverness.

[We regret that we are unable, for want of space, to give a detailed account of the business of the meeting in this issue.—Ed.]

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of Executive was held immediately after the Annual Meeting. Mr. Donald Currie, in the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, occupied the chair.

The principal business was the appointment of the various committees, which are as follows:—

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Education Committee—Malcolm Macleod (convener), Rev. Wm. MacPhail, Donald Macphie, Dr. W. J. Watson, Miss Kate Fraser, J. Abrach Mackay, Duncan Reid, Miss L. Macnaghten, the President *ex officio*.

Publication Committee—Rev. T. S. MacPherson (convener), W. J. M'Alister, Dr. W. J. Watson, Rev. Malcolm MacLennan, Norman MacLeod, Arch. Stewart, Rev. G. W. Mackay, Donald Currie, the President *ex officio*.

Propaganda Committee—Mrs. Burnley-Campbell (convener), Rev. G. W. Mackay, Rev. Wm. MacPhail, John N. MacLeod, Rev. T. S. MacPherson, James Grant, Wm. Cameron, Kenneth MacLeod, the President *ex officio*.

Finance Committee—P. MacDougall Fullar (convener), Provost MacFarlan, Alexr. Fraser, John S. Mackay, Malcolm MacLeod, Alexr. M'Alister, A. B. Ferguson, John S. Bannatyne, the President *ex officio*.

Mod and Music Committee—Rev. M. N. Munro (convener), Donald MacPhie, Arch. Menzies, Miss Kate Fraser, Rev. Coll A. Macdonald, Mrs. Christison, Alexr. Fraser, Kenneth MacLeod, the President *ex officio*.

Art and Industry Committee—Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, Miss Murray MacGregor of MacGregor, D. MacGregor Whyte, John S. Mackay, Lieut.-Colonel J. Macinnes, Andrew Stewart, Malcolm C. MacLeod, Duncan MacFarlane, the President *ex officio*.

This concluded the business.

—:O:—

While seeing much to admire and praise at the Mod, Mr. J. J. Doyle, the eloquent delegate from the Gaels of Ireland, suggests that An Comunn seems to be moving away from what, in his opinion, is the only true style of Gaelic singing, the traditional. His complaint is that while competitors may occasionally be found with the true traditional note, if the voice shows any promise the competitor is taken in hand by trainers in "voice production," and very soon the soft traditional note is "trained" out of the voice, and we get instead the metallic, unemotional sound of the trained platform singer.

MOD JUNIOR LITERARY COMPETITIONS.

LETTERS.

The work of the 96 candidates showed considerable inequality of merit. While some schools did very well, others were far behind, and two in particular were not entitled to more than 15 per cent. of the total marks available. The spelling, grammar and idiom were poor, and one formed the impression that the children were struggling with a foreign language. The work of those who scored high marks, and who are in the prize list or nearly, was in every respect very good. The writing was excellent, and a number of the papers had a neat appearance, but this, though attractive in itself, is not supposed to carry additional marks. I gave my marks for Gaelic composition only, so that the bad writers were not in that respect handicapped.

Candidates should understand that they cannot hope to gain marks by writing irrelevant stuff, and wandering away from the subject. Those who were guilty of this, however, would have been out of the prize list in any case for bad spelling and grammar. I do not know at the moment what marks were awarded by the other adjudicator—the Rev. Mr. M'Leod of Broadford—but on looking up my notes I am reminded of the superior work done by the following candidates:—"Eilean Iubh"—far ahead of others in the same school; "Caomhag," "Una," "Donnachadh Bàn," "Muireall," "Eoghain Brocair," "Niall Fioabaire," "Cluaran," and others. Perhaps it may be useful to future competitors to note the following blunders made in this year's letters:—"Taobh na teine," "mhur" (mhuir), "air an sealladh briagh," "thoig" (thog), "togail a bh-moine," "innsedh," "nirrean" (truth), "mu dh-inn" (about or concerning), "Cho chin la no da," "gu'm beil thu thighinn a shealluin orme," "ainsir gle math," "dhearaidh" (last), "fhaidich" (stormy), "bhi's e an conomh stormeil," "chonardoch" (dangerous), "gle tric bhathaicinn" (boats), "gle briagh," "thallas" (went away), "tha na daoine air a cleachadh airgid" (money), "cha ne droch shioda agus beagan iasgaich a tha'n t-iasgair a deanamh," "dol a mach ann am bhata, nuair a tha iad a g'iasgaidh,"

"a mach trath sa maduinn," "a sgatan gle gann," "se obair gle cruaidh," "theid iad a bhada-ch" (drowned), "an cloinn bheag," "chaidh mi hinn agus charaid a d' hiosgaich" (to fish), "a bhi na doine laidir" (strong man), "smuidhe" (smuid), "gle trom," "a mach air am muir," "leòn" (net), "tha iad a dol gu muir air son botach ruadh," "gle teth agus cha dean sin moran aobhair leis a bha e cho teth," "chunnaic mi eoin gle beag dean nead," "chunnaic mi eoin leis biodh as a beal gus an eoin beag," "tha an iasgairean gle faglach" (frightened), "thigh a ciobair" (shepherd's house).

These examples do not exhaust the list by any means, for in some instances the Gaelic was "fearfully and wonderfully made." And yet with all this bad Gaelic, there was in some instances evidence of intelligence and thinking power.

Among the competitors from one school, one took nine lines to write about some one who was ill, four lines quoted from a poem in praise of the local river, and four lines on the subject of the letter, viz., a storm. Another took twenty-three lines before getting to the point, and quoted the lines in praise of the river. It is obvious that padding of this kind cannot gain marks. Many described the effects of a storm rather than the storm itself.

It is perhaps right for me to state that no candidate lost marks on account of localisms; and every allowance was given for slight differences in spelling. It was only in cases where the spelling was clearly wrong that marks were lost. One who, like myself, has had long experience with the efforts of children in school work, can understand the difficulty they have in doing justice to themselves under the stress of examination, and I am bound to say that, with all the faults indicated above, they acquitted themselves in this competition well on the whole. It is one thing in the case of children to know as much of colloquial Gaelic as serves ordinary purposes; it is another matter to write their thoughts grammatically and with some degree of sequence. I have no doubt that some who are not in the prize list this time will find their way into it next year. A little more practice in writing it, and reading good extracts is all that is necessary. I have to note finally that I was astonished how few of the candidates dated their letters in Gaelic.

DONALD MACPHIE.

COMPETITION 4.—TRANSLATION.

There were about fifty papers for Competition 4, which consisted of translations of passages from prescribed chapters of the Gaelic and English Bibles. Ten schools were represented more or less fully from districts as wide apart as Skye and Strathglass. It is gratifying to be able to report a widening of area and an increase in the number of schools, as compared with last year's work. The quality of the papers differed widely at the various centres. One can understand the difficulties in some schools, but one would expect better results from one or two schools where the Gaelic atmosphere can hardly have become so rarified.

It is hoped that our young friends have not only learned more Gaelic, but also felt the wonder and beauty of Biblical narrative, in their study of the stories given for translation from Gaelic into English—"Shimei's cursing" and "David's yearning for the well of Bethlehem." The competitor who rendered "Feuch, mo mhac, a thàinig a mach à m' inribh, ag iarraidh m'anama," as "Behold, my son, who came down from Heaven, is asking mara," must have thought the story rather strange, or, more likely, he did not think at all. Sense is one good guide in translation.

Most groups showed care and neatness, but a few treated the spelling and writing of English as matters of small importance—a very undesirable result of Gaelic study. One wonders how the long hours were spent by some who attempted only fragments of the pieces set.

The following criticisms apply to really good papers. Many used far too much Bible language, which might be acquired quite mechanically, without any valuable linguistic result. A simple literal translation into easy, correct, living English should be the aim. A minute or two of philology on the words "leomhanta" and "leomhan," in close proximity as they were, would have saved pupils from confusing "leomhanta" with "leonta" (wounded), or "fuileachdach" with "fulangach." There is no theory of Biblical inspiration that requires of a pupil to render "air shìos an t-sleibh làimh ris," as "on the hillside over against him," or "leig iad an anail an sin" as "they refreshed themselves there." The translating of the various pronouns is a prevalent source of serious error—*oirre, orra; ar, 'ur*, etc., in their different combinations with prepositions

The passage from St. Paul's voyages, for translation from English into Gaelic, was difficult, and, perhaps, rightly so, as a decisive test. It contained a number of obscure nautical phrases in which the sea-born youth might have an advantage over the young "landlubber." But the Gaelic Bible was again followed too closely. The passage set before the competitors says, "running under a certain island," no reference to size—and the Gaelic Bible says, "ruith a stigh fuidh eilean *beag* araidh," and so said many of the competitors. "Loosing thence," is rendered in the Gaelic Bible as "ag togail an seòl dhoibh," but further on "loosing from Crete" is given as "a' fuasgladh o Chrete," showing that some of the phrases could quite correctly have been translated literally, and would have been better so for our purpose, the Gaelic Bible renderings being learned explanatory circumlocutions rather than simple translations. The translation from English into Gaelic was generally much weaker. At some centres it was attempted in local "patois" fashion, showing that Gaelic must be used to some little extent conversationally, but there was crudeness and impossible spelling. The proper study of the prescribed work should have made the pupils feel, if only for once, that Gaelic was worthy of being used by the "bards sublime," and that orators still use it. Our young friends within a day's journey of Clachnacudinn should get over using "cha lamh mi" for "I cannot," although one's heart warmed to read it.

On the whole, the papers were interesting to the examiner, and promising for the work of the Comunn.

JOHN MACDONALD.

SENIOR LITERARY COMPETITIONS.

COMPETITION 22—ORIGINAL POETRY.

The quality of the verses submitted in this competition is not of a high order, but that is partly the fault of the Executive in setting to competitors such a subject as the *Mòd*, which led candidates to make rhymed patriotic speeches rather than poetry. All the candidates have considerable gifts of rhyming, but they make far too much use of stock phrases and conventional thoughts. The first prize poem is rather monotonous and diffuse, but the lines run smoothly and the diction has some dignity, and for these reasons, as well as on the ground of ortho-

graphical correctness, it has obtained the first place. The second prize poem is forceful and lively, and it contains many good phrases and happy turns of expression, but it bears evidence of haste and carelessness and has been presented in rather an unfinished condition. Some of the other poems submitted read smoothly, but they are unequal and slight.

COMPETITION 23—SHIELING CUSTOMS.

The general level of this Competition is only fair. As in Competitions 22 and 25, the work of "Spiorad na h-aoise" is interesting but it appears to have been done with haste and is thrown together in rather a disorderly fashion. I have placed "Fear Cuairt" first, although his paper is not well written and would require careful revision and editing before it could be published. It has literary faults, but at the same time it is a more serious piece of work than any of the others and contains more material. Its matter, in my opinion, entitles it to the first prize in spite of its faulty literary style. There is not much to choose between the other papers.

COMPETITION 25—SHORT STORY.

This competition has produced some very good work and the general level is much higher than in the other competitions. Four papers were so well written that it was rather difficult to place them in order of merit, but the first place has been given to "Craobhag" for the reason that his work fulfils the idea of a "short story" better than the others. From the point of view of Gaelic diction, "Craobhag's" work is not better than that of the other three candidates who are placed in the front rank, and I consider his habit of a too abundant use of adjectives to be a literary fault, but he can construct a tale with good plot and tell it in such a way as to sustain interest. The second prize winner has a gift of writing dramatic narrative in an excellent Gaelic style.

ONE OF THE JUDGES.

—:O:—

GLASGOW ROSS AND CROMARTY BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.—The syllabus of this Society for the winter session has just been issued. For 10th inst. Mr. W. R. Yule, the President, has arranged a musical evening. Intending new members are asked to note the address of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. N. Mackay, 95 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

THE LAND OF THOUGHT.

There lies a land behind the misty bens that put their arms around bonnie Glen Sallach like a lover—a land where few folks travel—a land of brown heather and black peat where only the lone cry of the curlew breaks the stillness, and where, like ghosts, the white hares race among the black peat hags. Up here in this land of mist and dreams the eye can travel from the blue hills of Arran that ever keep a sleepless watch over Kilbrannan Sound, right across this brown moorland sea to where Islay smiles to Jura, and Lorn looks on like a jealous lover, and bonnie wee Carra nestles into Gigha like a frightened bairn, and Erir just peeps through the blue haze. Up here when Summer walks the land in her golden brogues, and covers the bens and the glens with her golden mantle, one can lie on his back in the heather and look up at the racing clouds, while from far below in the green straths the lowing of the cattle is borne to one on the light summer breeze, and the peaceful stillness that reigns over the land fills one with the sad heart-longings of the Gael, till that restless longing creeps over one like the good Serapion of old to go out and find that "Earthly Paradise" beyond the setting sun, where the heart's longing shall be satisfied and the restless spirit of the Gael shall find its rest.

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* * * Our Gaelic and other matter unavoidably held over, owing to our space being wholly taken up with the Mod Report.

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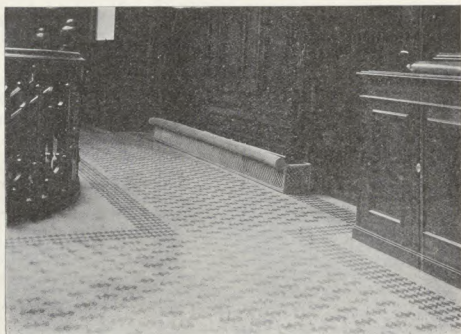
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AN DEO-GRÉINE

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Ceud Mios a' Gheamhraidh, 1911.

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SEALLADH MOR ALBANNACH GHLASCHO 1911.

Tha aonta an t-Seallaidh Mhóir so air ruith a mach. Air a' cheathramh là de 'n mhios so bithidh na geataichean air an dùnadh air an t-sluagh airson na h-uair ynu dheireadh; agus goirid an déigh sin bithidh na togailean air an leagail gu làr, air an roinn 'nan earrannan, agus air an reic. B'anabarrach an àireamh sluagh a thainig as gach cearna de 'n t-saoghal a choimhead air an t-Sealladh Mhór so bho'n a dh-fhoghladh na geataichean aig toiseach Mhaigh gus a nis. Tha e air àireamh gu'n deachaidh còrr us 9 muillion pearsa a steach troimh na dorsan ré na h-uine sin, gun a bhi gabhail a staigh àireamh luchd-seilbh nam bùth agus an luchd-frith-ealaidh. Bha mòran nithean de iomadh seòrsa ri'm faicinn a bha fòghlumach, buannachdail agus àbhachdach. Bha Talla Mór na h-Eachdraidh gu ro shònraichte 'na àite fiachail; an so bha comh-chruinneachadh de sheann nithean Albannach cho mòr 's cho luachmhor 's a fhuair

riamh fàrdach fo'n aon dhruim-taighe—seann leabhraichean, seann sgrìobhaidhean, seann dealbhan, seann innealan-cogaidh us tuathanachais, seann innealan-ciùil, seann innealan-ceàirde 'us caldhain de gach seòrsa.

'S e rùn Comhairle an t-Seallaidh Mhóir gu'm bi an còrr airgid a bhios thairis air a chur air leth a chum Cathair a stéidheachadh an Ard-thaigh-foghlum Ghlascho airson teagasg Eachdraidh na h-Alba, agus tha sinn ag amharc air aghaidh le déidh ris an àm anns am bi an rùn ionmholta sin air a choimhlionadh. Maille ris a' chòrr bi'

AN CLACHAN

air àireamh le na nithean a bha, ach ged a theid a chur bun os ceann, mairidh cuimhne a' Chlachain beò ré iomadh latha ann an cridheachan nan Gaidheal a bha o àm gu h-àm a' gabhail tlachd ann a bhi coinneachadh an sin. Is iomadh oidhehe shunndach, bhuannachdail a chuir iad seachad air chèilidh ann an Clachan na Caoil-Abhainne, agus is iomadh h-aon a bhitheas ag ionndrainn nan coinneamhan caidreach, baigheil, carthannach a bha aca anns an ionad sin bho chionn leth-bhladhna. Cha robh àit' eile an taobh a staigh nam ballachan a bha cho àillidh, 's cho sìtheil, foisneach ris a' Chlachan; agus cha robh àit' eile far am faigheadh am fear-tadhail fàilte 'us furan cho blàth 's cho cridheil. Ann a bhi fàgail beannachd le luchd-àiteachaidh a' Chlachain, tha sinn an dòchas gu'm bi sinn a tighinn an taice riu a nis agus a rithist, agus gu'n ruig iad an dachaidhean fhéin gu tearuinte, agus gu'n soirbhich leò cia b' àit' am bi iad.

THE HIGHLAND COUSIN.

By KENNETH MACLEOD, CRIANLARICH.

What apologies do we, the clan of Highland Cousins, not owe to the Lowland Cousin who takes us under his wing during our occasional week-end visits to the city! He is so kind, so thoughtful; he guides us by the arm through the dangerous crossing; he shows us the popular sights of the hour; he gives us expert advice as to the correct shape and shade and height and depth of hats, collars, and neckties; and he tries hard, in the course of our rambles, to startle us into exclamations of surprise and admiration—and never succeeds. Poor Highland Cousin, one can hear our mentor or tormentor say, he is by no means a bad sort, but was there ever such a provoking creature! Gratitude, if not politeness, might shake a little appreciation out of him—but no—out of sheer Highland pride he will look at the finest sight in the city as if he had been used to it all his life. I fear we must plead guilty to the charge, and, pleading guilty, smile inwardly. In the good old days he was no gentleman who could be taken by surprise. The aristocracy of the eighteenth and the early nineteenth century books listened to an earthquake at least as placidly as to a sermon; they slept under the sermon, they pretended to sleep over the earthquake. "Oh! my lord, th-th-the c-c-castle is on fire." "Haw, do you tell me so!—by-the-way, will you kindly tell Rodgers that I will be round presently to see the new pup." In these degenerate days, however, the marble has become like putty. His Lordship can even look angry now. Politics, taxes, tenants, grouse, and, above all, the other fellows—one and all can startle him into exclamations. In the twentieth century the Highland Cousin stands alone as the man who is never surprised; though sometimes, out of politeness, he pretends to be, just as the nurse, playing hide-and-seek with the babies, pretends to be greatly startled when little Alister finds her crouching behind a very obvious chair.

In a gay city restaurant the first onslaught is made on our aristocratic indifference. There is genius in the choice of place. The contrast between the gay city restaurant and the humble "black house" among the rocks might well raise the eyebrows even of a Mid-Victorian aristocrat. And the Highland Cousin is sensitive enough in his way. He notes the contrast (even down to the charge

made for hospitality extended) and is quietly interested in the scene before him: the crowd of dress-hats, the army of uniformed waiters, the clinking of glasses, the ringing of bells, the plate, the china, the linen, the flowers, the savoury dishes, the German band. Doubtless we ought to feel as if we were standing on our head, and yet (oh, the perversity of us) we feel no such thing, we have often been more excited in the boat or in the fank. Do not be surprised, my dear Lowland Cousin (though surprises come easily to you)—we, of the Highland Cousin clan, have dined oftener than we can remember in a better place and in better company, even in the halls of Erin and of Lochlin, with kings and princes carving roasts of elk for us, and queens and princesses flinging merry toasts across the board at us. "And the feast of a day and a year was there. Food was put in the eating place, drink in the drinking place, music in the listening place. There were chairs of gold for every man that was better than another, and chairs of silver for every man that wasn't. And the meat and the drink thou canst think of were there, and the meat and the drink thou canst never think of. And the heroes were plying the feast and the toast and the company, with gladness and pleasure of mind, until that feast was kept up for a day and a year, and if the end was no better than the beginning, it was at any rate no worse." How very shabby a city restaurant can look!

From the restaurant to the taxi-cab. The transition is natural, perhaps slightly suggestive; at any rate, the simple Highland Cousin can never have the hardihood to pretend that he travels quicker on his native heath. And, without doubt, the taxi-cab is somewhat speedier than the old peat-cart at home, but it is also somewhat slower than our venerable friend Caoilte, who, in spite of his weight of years, "overtakes the swift March wind that goes before him, and outruns the swift March wind that comes behind." Some of us, in our idle moments, watch the passing motor-cars to see how many heads the chaffeur can brag of when running at top-speed, but we can never deceive ourselves into seeing more than one; slightly blurred perhaps, but still undeniably one head. Caoilte at his best can brag of seven heads, and this before he has dined, or we have. Nor is he the only one of our folk who can run not so badly. In the winter nights, when the ceilidh gathers round the fire, and songs and stories ascend

with the sparks, we have a hurried visit now and again from a Slim Swarthy Champion who "moves easily as sea-heaps from sea-heaps, as playballs from playballs, as a furious winter wind, swiftly, sprucely, cheerily, through the glens and the high bens" of Gaeldom. How very slow a taxi-cab is, after all!

The Lowland Cousin is, however, a cunning guide. He leads us through byways and alleys, we know not whither, and then, dodging round a corner, he suddenly spreads out before us, in a panorama, the great Exhibition. There should be some fun now, and our cunning guide glances quickly round, so as to lose none of it. If we are human at all, our simple Highland features should now be a sight for gods and for Lowland Cousins; they should; by everything that is courteous and decent they should, and yet (I write the words with shame!) our simple Highland features remain exactly as they were, with the exception of a queer little smile which has come from nowhere, and which to the initiated means: "This little affair of yours is no' bad in its way, but—What saw the Son of the King of Alba but a snow-white palace, set in green. There was a door for every day in the year in it, and a window for every day in the year. And, sure, that was the place where the queer things were; the queer things that eye had never seen before, and the queer things that eye would never see again; and, och, och, if there wasn't the splendour there, and money in plenty for the taking, and dresses of each kind, hidden in gold and silver, each one better than the other!" Such of us as have been with the Son of the King of Alba in that great white palace of wonders find it difficult to get into ecstasies over sheds of stucco and painted deal. But what about the "brilliant electric illuminations" (we are quoting from the evening papers) "which are the joy and the admiration of the country cousin?" Brilliant, of course; in Gaelic phraseology, they they give taunt to the cruise, they put black shame on it. But those crazy old stories, how they keep ringing through one's head! "And Conall, the son of the King of Erin, had a white glaive of light with which he could see seven miles before and seven miles behind, and in that light he could see three miles away a boar's bristle in a man's heel, if a bristle there should be in it." And once in a generation there is seen speeding through the Western Sea a fire-ship, the flames of which make the eye of the

speckled little lizard in the far-away ben glisten like a diamond. Still, let it be admitted that the "illuminations which are the joy and the admiration of the country cousin" are no' bad at all—for mere electricity.

How our Lowland Cousin must long for Monday morning and the departure of the Highland train! He has to get through Sunday, however, and he may be depended on to do his duty to the end as manfully as any of the previous martyrs. Besides, the simple Highland Cousin is a man of moods and surprises, and it would be quite after his manner to become suddenly human on the Sabbath Day, just because he ought not to become human, suddenly or otherwise, on that day. With this possibility lying ahead, he is led to church; not to St. Mungo's, which is somewhat lacking in the niceties of modern taste, but to a huge building of red sandstone, crammed with galleries inside, and here, there and everywhere wide expanses of red plush, gilt and imitation marble, making violent efforts to mellow the worshipper's eye into restfulness, and his heart into reverence. Must we admit it at last? The Highland Cousin is genuinely surprised, though his face tells not the tale. The "rollickingando" of the choral singing surprises him; the bathetic elocution of the pulpit surprises him; the pathetic appreciation of the pew surprises him; the unholy coquetry of the red plush, the gilt, the imitation marble, surprises him. And long before the service is over, he closes his eyes, and forgets everything save a vision that has come from the West. A little harled chapel on a knoll by the sea, walls and pews mellow-tinted by the years in the passing; the music of the Gaelic psalms and the croon of the waves ascending together to Heaven; Geneva singing the tune, Iona chanting the line and artfully transfiguring her sister's air with native grace-notes and cadences; and in all and through all, the hazel-scent of an age that is almost gone, but is to come back again—at the sound of the Silver Whistle.

If only Monday morning would come, and the Highland train leave!

—:o:—

"Seasaidh an fhirinn
Gu dìreach, daingeann, réidh,
Cha'n ann air a' ghaineimh
Ach air creig mar stéidh."

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

MISS KATE FRASER, F.E.I.S., INVERNESS.

Among the leading workers in the Celtic held at the present time few are entitled to a higher place than the subject of our sketch—Miss Kate Fraser, Inverness. By nature a lady of ideal parts, principles, and

passed in the country. Born in beautiful Glen Urquhart and thereafter for some years an inhabitant of Glengarry, she was brought up in circumstances and surroundings which imbued her with that appreciation of the homeland characteristic of the true Highlander nursed at nature's breast. After a successful course of school education and the usual pupil-teacher's course, she proceeded



MISS KATE FRASER, F.E.I.S.

character, through much that she has already achieved she has carved out for herself a niche in the Celtic Temple of Fame at once distinguished and honourable.

Miss Fraser is the daughter of the late Mr. Hugh Fraser, for many years the popular precentor (English and Gaelic) in the Free North Church, Inverness, himself a lover and singer of Gaelic songs as well as a composer. Her childhood's days were

to Marischall College, Aberdeen. Eventually securing a position under the Inverness Burgh School Board, she has had steady promotion, and for years past she has served with conspicuous acceptance and success in the important capacity of Headmistress in the Farruline Park Institution. During her professional career she has been the recipient of numerous testimonials, presentations, and distinctions. Some years ago she was made

Convener of the Ladies' Committee of the local Educational Branch, and later her colleagues conferred on her the highest honour at their disposal by electing her unanimously President of the Inverness Branch of the Education Institute of Scotland. Her excellent qualifications for work and organisation in connection with matters of educational practice and policy were also recognised, when, some years back she was made a F.E.I.S.—being probably the first northern lady to receive the distinction.

While thus at the top of the tree in her profession, in Celtic circles Miss Fraser has now been for years in the public eye as a leading personage. She has a very high conception of the character and destinies of the Gael, and anything calculated to promote the national sentiment and language on proper lines always commanded her sympathy and support. It is not perhaps generally known that Miss Fraser was one of the first to sing the songs of the Gael to public audiences. At a time when there was little toleration of Gaelic singing,—inheriting a musical vein—and having had the advantage of an excellent training, and while enjoying a high reputation as leading contralto soloist in some of the best English Oratorios, such as "The Messiah," "Elijah," "St. Paul," in the days of the Inverness Select Choir, and Inverness Choral Union,—she stood bravely up, and, by her beautiful renderings of some of our classical Celtic melodies, notably "The MacKintosh's Lament," "MacCrimmon's Lament" (sung by Miss Fraser into Edison's first phonograph), "Isabeil Nic-Aoidh," "Braigh Rusgaich," and many others, commanded and received an appreciative hearing; and Gaelic singing began there and then to acquire a measure of the great popularity which is now being extended to it everywhere. In those days Miss Fraser sang in most of the principal centres in Scotland, in both English and Gaelic, and it will be remembered that the members of the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association and their friends—for services rendered gratuitously as solo-singer—presented her with a Clàrsach or Celtic harp, Professor Magnus MacLean making the presentation.

Possibly the most outstanding success of Miss Fraser's work in connection with Gaelic has been the Inverness Children's Mòd. Both as organiser and honorary secretary of the local branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach, she more than any other, has nursed this institution from its inception to the full

growth and vigour of an Association of exceptional popularity and usefulness. For this excellent and practical bit of work Miss Fraser was presented two years ago with valuable gifts by the members of the Branch and their friends—Mr. Wm. Mackay, President of the Comunn, making the presentation.

Miss Fraser is a useful member of An Comunn, being a member of both the Mòd and Music and Education Committees. She is also an Honorary Life Member of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow.

A. MACD.

SGEULACHD AIRSON OIGRIDH.

LE CAILEIN MAC-A-PHEARSOIN, GLASCHIO.

Fhuair an Sgeul so a' cheud duais aig
Mòd, 1910.

Nach bòidheach an sealladh Gleann-Shuardail air feasgar Samhraidh! 'N ad sheasamh air mullach an T-sithein, shìùhladh tu greis m'as fhaicheadh tu gleann cho fìor thaitneach. Beinn-na-Caillich agus a Bheinn-Dhearg a tilgeil sgàile thairis air o'n taobh tuath; Beinn-Shuardail 'na còmhach 's na balla-dìon o'n taobh 'deas. Tha an abhainn 'na lùban 's na caran ag iathadh troimh ùrlar a' ghlinne, agus air do laimh dheis tha Baile an Ath-leathain, na laidhe sàmhach, socrach ri taobh na mara. A mach, gu tosdach 'sa chuan, eadar thu agus beanntan gruamach na Conirich, chi thu eileanan, Phapai, Lóngai agus Rònai.

Ann an ceann shuas a' ghlinne tha seann chladh Chille-chrò, le tota na seann-eaglais fhathast 'na seasamh 'na mheadhoin, agus dìreach air a chùl tha an loch o'm bheil an abhainn, a dh'ainmich mi cheana, a' sruth-adh. Eadhon 'sa gheamhradh tha tomhas taitneis ri shealbhadhach le bhi gabhail an rathaid troimh 'n ghleann so; ach eia òillidh e ann am Beinn-na-Bealltuinn 'mair a chailleas a' "Chailleach" a curachd sneachda agus a tha drìnehd a' Chéitein ro-thaitneach le duine 's le ainmhidh; an' uair a "chluinnear caithreim nan eun aig beinn 's baile, agus a tha obair na cruith-eachd gu léir fo 'sholas."

Cha 'n'eil taigh ri fhaicinn an so, ach bothan beag ciobair a chi thu thall fo sgàile 'chuaic-ghuirm. Ach tha spréidh gu leòir

air na lóintean, agus cha ghan caoraich, thall 'sa bhos, air gach brúthach. Bhith-eadh samhchair an fheasgair iomlan mur bitheadh gu bheil an ciobar agus balach beag aige air laimh, a togail nan caorach ris a' mhonadh agus an dorus a' bhothain bhig, tha a bhean na seasamh, ag amharc orra, le fiamh ghàire. B' e Murchan an aon leanabh a bha aca agus bu mhúirneach, cùramach, iadsan uime. Bha e aig an àm mu sheachd bliadhna dh' aois—tlachd 'athar agus gradh a mhathar. Cha 'n' eil teagamh nach bu ghiullan boidheach e, agus bha iadsan ullamh gu nì sam bith a dheanamh air a shon. Bu chàraid cùramach, glie iad agus cha robh easbhuidh orra, oir bha am pailteas aca agus ri sheachnadh.

Chaidh bliadhnaichean seachd, gu réidh, toilichte agus bha am mac a' fas suas ann an aheart 'us eòlas,

Ach cha do lean so.

"Is ióngantach thu 'shaoghail,
'S neo-chaochlaideach do ghnùis,
Ach có 'bheireadh taobh dhuit?
'S ro chaochlaideach thu."

'Se bh'ann dh' fhas an ciobair tinn, agus a dh' aindecin aire 's cùram, an ceann beagan uine chaochail e. Chaidh Murchan 's a mhathair fhàgail leotha fhéin, agus cha leig mi leas a radh gu bu ghoirt cridhe na bhantraich aig an àm. Ach de thig air neach nach fheum e seasamh ris?

Bha e 'na chleachdadh urramach 'san dachaidh leth-oireach so, a bhi 'cumail àoraidh gach oidheche, agus ged a bha esan a b'abhaist a bhi togail an fhuinn ann am moladh do Dhia, sinte 'sa chladh ud thàll, cha d' rinn a bhantraich chòir di-chuimhne Air-san a gheall a bhi 'na charaid do 'n bhantraich agus 'na athair do 'n dilleachdan.

"Bi easbhuidh air na leomhainn òg',
'Us àcras orr' air leth,
Ach air an dream a dh' iarras Dia,
Cha cheilear aon nì math."

Dh' fhag an tuathanach am bothan aca, agus thug e dhoibh cead aon mhart 'us beagan chaorach a chumail mar an ceudna. Mar sin bha Murchan 's a mhathair gle dhòigheil dheth. Ach coma leat, bha 'n uime 'dol seachad, agus sguir Murchan do dhòl do 'n sgoil. B' fhallain, gealltanach, am balach e nis; bha e mu choig bliadhna-deug a dh' aois agus gu cinnteach cha robh dad dhe aois ann falach. Cha ro a nis mòran aige ri dheanamh. Ach 'se thachair gu 'n do fhastaidh an tuathanach còir e—caraid athar,

agus a bha cho math dha fhéin 's dha mhathair 'n am feum—airson faire nan caorach. Bha 'n duine coimhneil so ag amharc le tlachd ris an latha anns am bitheadh am mac comasach air àite athar a ghabhail.

Cha b'ann mar sin a bha. Cha robh Murchan ach mu dha bhliadhna 's an t-seirbheis, 'nuair a thainig e dhachaidh oidheche dhe na h-oidhechean, agus 'se a thubhairt e ri 'mhathair, gu feumadh esan falbh do Ghlascho. "Fhuair mi mo dhuaiss leth-bhliadhna an diugh, agus thubhairt mi ris an tuathanach nach robh mi dol a dh' fhuireach an so na b' fhaide. Cha 'n' eil 's an obair so, ach obair gun diù co-dhiù." "De 'n toileachadh 'th' ann a bhi fiuch, salach, 'fulang fuachd agus anraidh gach latha 's an àite so?"

"A Mhurchain, a Mhurchain," arsa 'mhathair, "nach tu a tha amaideach. Cha b'e eadhon do chomain guth dhe leithid a' radh ris an duine chòir; nach e caraid a b' fhearr a bha againn o'n dh' fhalbh d' athair, gun ghuth ormsa, do sheann-mhathair a bhi dol g'a fàgail an so gus a cridhe 'bhristeadh." "Cha dean e mùthadh sam bith a bhi bruidhinn" arsa esan, "tha mi falbh, tha mi seachd sgèth de bhi siubhal monaidh, a latha 's a dh' oidheche, a' trusadh chaorach 's a tional spréidhe. C' àit' an cosmhuil sin ri cosnadh anns a' Bhaile-mhór. Nach fhaic sibh gilleach agus nigheanan òga 'nuair a thig iad dhachaidh o' Ghalldachd gach samhradh, cho finealta, sgiobalta, grinn 's a tha iad. Tha na h-òighean riomhach le gach maise; tha gach òig-fhear deas agus dreachmhor, a h-uile fear le 'bhrogan buidhe agus le fàinne òir air a lùdaig. A bharrachd air sin, nach gann a sheallas aon de na h-òighean an rathad a tha mi, air dhoibh a bhi air Galldachd."

"A ghiullain bhochd" fhreagair a mhathair, "cha robh mi 'n dùil gu 'n robh thu cho gòrach. De a tha dhìth ort far a' bheil thu? Nach 'eil gach comhfhurtachd freagarrach agad; tha biadh 'us aodach agad ann am pailteas; tha fionnarachd agus saorsa nam beann agad, agus cha 'n' eil thu idir buailteach do gach rìbe a tha ri choinn-eachadh 'sa Bhaile-mhór. Cha 'n' eil teagamh nach math an gnothach an òigridh a bhi tighinn dhachaidh gach samhradh, mar a thubhairt thu, ach tha eagal orm gu' bheil thusa dhe 'n bheachd gu' bheil an t-òr ri' thogail 'na dhòrlaichean air sràidean nam bailtean móra. Is ioma rud buidhe nach òr, agus ioma rud boidheach bu chòir a sheachnadh; agus do 'n neach

aig nach 'eil caraid math 's a' bhaile-mhór, cha 'n eil an cosnadh cho furasd' fhaotainn. Agus mar a tha an seann-fhacal ag radh, 's fhearr aon eun an laimh na dha-dheug air iteig. An deigh na h-uile rud, cha 'n eil mi cho cinnteach am beil càradh nam muinntir òga sin mòran n'as fhearr na tha do chàradh-sa. Fhuair thu do thogail agus agus d' àrach cheart cho math ris a chuid mhór aca, agus na 'm b'e agus gu'm bith-eadh a h-uile neach a fàgail na dùthcha, cha b'fhada gus nach bithheadh aca, ach feidh 'us caoraich air an tigeadh iad a dh' amharc. Ma tha easbhuidh ort 'tha ri shealbhadh air gailleadh, 's ioma sochair a tha agad nach dh' fhuairadh agus nach fhaighear ann am baile-mór."

"Cha leig sibh a leas an còrr a' radh" ars' esan, "cha 'n eil e gu feum sam bith."

'S ann mar sin a bha, rinn Murchan suas' inntinn gu falbh agus cha robh e ri bhi air a chumail air ais. An ceann beagan laithean ghabh e bàta - na - smuide gu Glaschò; dh'fhàg e mhathair 's a' ghleann 'na h-aonar, agus bu tursach i as a dhéigh.

Rainig Murchan Glascho, agus cha robh e fada an sin gus an d'fhuar e obair ann am bùth uisge-bheatha. Bha dùil aige nach robh obair no dreuchd 'san t-saoghal gu léir na b'fhearr na so. Mar a bha e fàs na b'èolache, bha e sìor thigheinn air adhart ann an cleachdaidhean agus dòighean a' bhaile. Agus cha robh no laochan fada gus an robh na brogan buidhe suas—seadh, agus gach nì eile aige a bha e 'n dùil a bha gu duine fhàgail toilichte 'sa bheatha so. De 'n còrr a bha dhith airsan? Bu shuarach Gleann - Shuardail ann an coimeas ris an toileachas-inntin a bha ri fhaighinn 's a' bhaile so. An àite mèileich nan caorach agus geum nam bó, 'se bu trice 'chluinn-eadh e nis mionnan a' mhisgeir no cainnt' mi-thlachdmhor nam ban a chaidh air seacharan. Ach tha mi'm beachd gur suarach agus faoin an gnothach a bhi coimeas an dà sheol-beatha r'a cheile. Bha, tha, agus bithidh luach agus meas aigean a tha faighinn a theachd-an-tir o' bhi faire chaorach no 'bhi'g àiteachadh fearainn. Ach is eagal leam gu' bheil rud eigin nach 'eil uile gu léir thlachdmhór ann a bhli frith-ealadh, le deoch laidir, air fir agus mnathan a chail meas orra fhéin agus air a chinne-daonna, gu iomlan.

Coma co-dhiù, bha Murchan sona gu leòir 'nam measg fhathast. Agus cha b'e sin bu'mhiosa de 'n chuis. Leis mar a bha e air a lionadh le sólas faoin na beatha a bha

e nise cleachdadh, bha e fàs gach latha na bu di-chuimhniche air a mhathair agus air a dhachaidh. Bu bheag aige teagasg òige a nis. Se bh'ann, ghlacadh e cho mòr ann an ribeathan a' bhaile, agus nach cuireadh e do dhràgh air fhéin a bhi agriobhadh aon fhacal dhachaidh idir.

Bu ghoint sin le 'mhathair. Cha do dhi-chuimhnich ise esan. Is ioma deur a bha tuiteam o' suil agus bu thrìc a h-àrnuigh ri Dia airson a h-aon mbie.

Bha am boirionnach còir eadar briste-cridhe agus tinneas, a sìor fhàs lag agus bha e soilleir gu 'n robh a chrìoch ann fagus. Cha 'n e gu 'n robh dad a dhith oirre a a thaobh nithean aimsireil or bha beagan chairdean dileas aice nach do thréig i.

Ach madaunn àraidh air do Murchan an oidliche roimhe sin a chaitheamh, mar bu gnàth leis, gu sunndach toilichte, 'sann 'fhuair e fìos, ma bha e airson a mhathair fhaicinn beò, e thiginn dhachaidh gu 'n dàil. Cha 'n fhaodadh an naigheachd so gu 'n a chridhe a thaiseachadh. 'Se bh'ann dh'fheumadh e oirdhirp a dheanamh gu 'mhathair fhaicinn mu'm fàgadh i 'n saoghal. Thàinig e, mar gu'm b'eadh, gu' ionnsuidh fhéin. Sheall e air ais air a chaitheamh beatha o'n thàinig e do 'n bhaile, agus cha robh a bhi sìubhal nan gleann cho suarach a nis 'na shùilean. C'ait' an robh saorsa coltach ri saorsa nam beann? Agus b' ionnholta beatha an tuathanaich ann an coimeas ri 'bhi reic deoch laidir.

Rainig e 'dhachaidh air feasgar Earraich, agus bha eadar dhealachadh beachd aig air an t-saoghal 's a bha aige an latha a dh'fhàg e. Bha gach cnòc 'us allt gun atharrachadh, bha an abhainn a sìubhal troimh 'n ghleann mar a b' àbhaist, bha 'n spréidh 's na caoraich cho lionmhor 's a bha iad riamh; agus bha 'm bothan beag 'na sheasamh fhathast, fo sgàile nam beann.

Le cridhe trom ràinig e 'n dorus, ach bha ise a chuireadh fàilte chaoimhneil air 'na laidhe gu tinn air a leabaidh. Ach co-dhiù, chaidh e stigh. Cha robh comhla rithe ach aon bhana-charaid agus fada air ais 's mar a bha i, le fonn-molaidh air a bìlibh, 's le fiamh ghàire an aoibhneis air a gnùis, dhlùthaich i a h-aon mhac ri 'cridhe.

Chaidh beagan laithean seachad mu 'n do chaochail i; ach an àite tilleadh do Ghlaschò, 's ann a ghabh Murchan fasdadh aig a' sheana charaid, an tuathanach còir, agus chaith e 'chuid 'eile de' bheatha anns a' Ghleann gum dith, gum uireasbhuidh.

MOD GOLD MEDALLISTS, 1911.



MISS ALICE HENDERSON, STORNOWAY.



MR. ROBERT M. MACDONALD, GLASGOW.

AN SGÒIL BHEAG.

XI.

Maduinn mhlath dhuibh a Dhùghaill, cha'n fhaca mi sibh bho chionn còrr 'us seachd-uin. Mar sin duibh fhéin, Alasdair; nach ciatach a' mhaduinn so! Seadh, gu dearbh. An robh sibh aig Mòd na bliadhna so, a Dhùghaill? Tha mi duilich a ràdh nach robh. Cha b'e sin ur n-àbhaist, ciod a thainig oirbh? Gu dearbh, Alasdair, cha b'e; ach bha droch chnatan (fhuachd) agam, agus mar tha fhios agaibh, tha mi buailteach do chuing-analach ma tha 'n aimsir tais, agus air an aobhar sin cha d'fhàg mi an taigh rè seachduin a' Mhòid.

Is mi a tha duilich sin a chluinntinn a Dhùghaill, ach tha mi toilichte gu'm bheil sibh a nis air taobh an fheobhais.

An robh sibh fhéin aig a' Mhòd, Alasdair? Bha mi an sin fad na h-uine, agus gu cinnteach bu thaitneach an cruinneachadh e bho thoiseach gu deireadh. Cha do chaill mi nòran de na bha dol air aghaidh, agus fhuair mi an dà chuid toil-iuntinn 'us buannachd rè nan trì lathèan sin. Cha 'n'eil cruinneachadh eile de 'n t-seorsa bho thoiseach gu deireadh na bliadhna a bheir barrachd air a' Mhòd mar mheadhon-oilein-eachaidh. Tha mi leibh an sin, Alasdair, Beannachd leibh.

EADAR-THEANGACHADH.

Good morning to you Dugald, I have not seen you for over a week. The same to you Alexander, what a splendid morning this is! It is, indeed. Were you at this year's Mòd, Dugald? I regret to say I was not. That was not your custom, what came over you? Indeed, Alexander, it was not; but I had a bad cold, and as you know, I am subject to asthma (shortness of breath) if the weather is damp, and therefore (for that reason) I did not leave the house during the week of the Mòd.

It is I who am sorry to hear that, Dugald, but I am glad that you are now on the way of recovery (convalescent).

Were you at the Mòd yourself, Alexander? I was there the whole time, and truly it was a delightful gathering from beginning to end. I did not lose much of what was going on (the proceedings), and I got both pleasure and benefit during those three days. There is not another assembly of the kind from the beginning to the end of the year that will surpass the Mòd as an educative medium. I am with you there, Alexander, Good-bye.

LEASAIN GHAIIDLIG.

(1) A' PHRAIS NEONACH.

XI.

Bha bodach ann an sud a roimhe a' fuir-
each ann am bothan beag air cùl beinne.
Cha robh (2) *móran de mhaoin an t-saoghail*
aige, agus bha gach nì 'bha anns an taigh
glè aosda.

Latha de na làithean bha a bhean o'n
taigh agus b'fheudar do'n bhodach a
bhiadh fhéin a dheasachadh. Bha e glé mhi-
sgioibalta agus leis (3) a' *chlibisteachd* thuit
aon de na praiséan as a laimh agus bhris i.

Anns a' mhaduinn dh'fhalbh e chun a'
bhaile mhóir a cheannach té eile; fhuair
e sin agus (4) *thog e air* dhachaidh leatha
's i ceangailt' air a dhrum le sreing. Air
an t-slighe thachair caraid—Domhnall Mór—
ris air an robh e glé eòlach. Bha Domhnall
(5) *cho làn àbhachdais* 's tha'n t-ubh de
bhiadh, agus (6) *rinn e air son* feala-dha a
bhith aige air a' bhodach.

"Ach," ars' esan, 's e sealltuinn air druim
a' bhodaich, "de tha ceàrr air a' phrais
ùir agad?"

"De tha ceàrr oirre?" fhreagair am fear
eile le feing.

"Cha'n eil oirre ach trì chasan an aite
ceithir," arsa Domhnall.

(7) "*Nach b'e mac an fhir ud am fear a*
reic rium-s' i?" ars' am bodach, "'de ni mi?"

"Till leatha 'dhuine bho chd!" fhreagair
Domhnall.

"Sin dìreach," ars' esan, "ach ma gheibh
mise greim air mac—"

"Stad! stad! Dean air do shocair," arsa
Domhnall, "'de tha thu' dol a dh'iarraidh?"

"Tha dìreach," ars' esan, "prais le ceithir
chasan agus cha'n e té le trì nach (8) *seas*
còmhnaidh."

"Ceart," ars' am fear eile, (9) "*gabh*
romhad."

Rainig am bodach a' bhùth air ais agus
(10) *leisg e air* an fhear-reice,

"De so! a rinn thu orm-sa 'n diugh a'
chealgair!" ars' esan, "Prais le trì chasan
an aite ceithir; rud nach seas còmhnaidh air
an làr."

"Leig sìos chun an làr i," ars' am fear-
reice. Rinn e mar a dh'iarraidh air agus
(11) *sheas a dhà shùil 'n cheann* le iogh-
nadh; bha a' phrais cho chòmhnaidh ris
fhéin. Rinn am fear-reice glòc mòr gàire,
thog am bodach a' phrais air a mhuin agus
dh'fhalbh e.

A nuair a bha e 'dol am mach an doras

chual' am fear-reice e 'g radh (12) *air a*
shocair leis fhéin.

"Mac-an-Donais, Domhnall Mór! Cha
bhi aon chas fhéin ort-sa, ma gheibh mise
greim ort. A (13) *Mhic nan car!* Tri
chasan! ceithir chasan! Ha, ha! nach bu
mhise an "clown!" Ach! a Dhomhnall
Mhóir! Gheibh mise greim ort!"

AM BUACHAILL.

(1) The pot (cp. poit).

(2) Much of the wealth of the world; little possession.

(3) Awkwardness.

(4) Lit. he lifted on him; he set off.

(5) So full of merriment.

(6) Lit. he made for; determined on having, etc.

(7) Was he not?

(8) Lit. stand steady, i.e. (in reference to pot), sit
evenly.

(9) Lit. take forward, i.e., go ahead.

(10) Lit. he fired on him (i.e., with words), hence:
opened out on him.

(11) Lit. his two eyes stood in his head; he gazed
steadily.

(12) Lit. on his quiet with himself, i.e., gently to
himself.

(13) Lit. son of the tricks; you imp of mischief.

—:O:—

NOTES ON THE MOD.

BY ONE OF THE MUSIC JUDGES.

To those not fully aware of the work done
by An Comunn Gàidhealach, the Mòd in St.
Andrew's Halls, on Wednesday, Thursday,
and Friday, 27th, 28th, and 29th September
last must have been a revelation. The cor-
ridors bustling from morning till evening with
competitors from all parts of the country,
and the hall well filled with interested audi-
ences, listening patiently and attentively to
the several vocal, instrumental, and recital
competitions, amply testified to the enthu-
siasm of the Highlanders for the preservation
and cultivation of their music and language.
Moreover, the numerous company of repre-
sentative ladies and gentlemen, who as-
sembled on the platform at the formal
opening on Thursday forenoon, might well
be the envy of many who interest themselves
in the music of the Lowlands, but fail to
secure for their efforts such universal, whole-
hearted and distinguished patronage. Mighty
indeed seems to be the inspiring and uniting
effects of the Gaelic.

Of the language I know nothing, but to
the music, sung to the language, I could
listen for ever. My happiness perceptibly
increased as the time went on and I became
more and more familiar with, and influenced

by, the beautiful yet simple melodies, sung in the true Highland manner. There was soul in every one of them. The atmosphere they created was refreshing. If anything of the rapid music-hall type had been mixed with them, I should have felt it like something sacrilegious. Long may these songs of the Highlands and the Hebrides be heard amongst us.

At one of the competitions the air of "When the Kye comes Hame" was sung to a Gaelic song, and I felt it incongruous. The Gaelic words seemed to require a slow expression not in keeping with the gaiety of the air or the humour of the Scotch words and the effect was not satisfactory. It put me in mind of the reprehensible practice of some evangelistic bodies who sing secular tunes to their sacred hymns, and when you wish to be reverent and pious, you find the old secular songs, with their worldly associations, obtruding themselves into your religious thoughts, and making you feel as if your praise were being turned to blasphemy. If such an adaptation ever requires to be made, the sentiment and associations of the air and the old words must harmonize perfectly, and in no way jar, with the spirit and meaning of the new song.

At the concert on Friday evening I also heard a piece sung by the combined choirs which seemed to me to lack the Highland ring. It was a good enough composition in its way, but in company with the other numbers it had neither sentiment nor character, and did not seem worthy of the great occasion. When new music is being put to Gaelic words, its atmosphere and emotional character should receive more consideration than its intrinsic merits as a musicianly composition.

It was not our business, however, to judge the songs, but the Singers; and we had some difficulty in discharging the duty. It was no easy task to select the best where so many were good. But by comparing one with another, and constantly bringing back to our mind those we had previously heard, we gave every one the marks we thought right and proper, with the gratifying result, that in nearly every case of prize-taking, the Gaelic Judges and we were in agreement. Only once or twice during the three days, was a competitor raised to a place of honour by marks for Gaelic, while out of the running by marks for singing. Perhaps some plan could be adopted to avoid glaring instances of this kind—a minimum number of marks

might be required in each department from all prize takers. There is no great harm done by putting down a good singer for deficiency in Gaelic; but it is serious to put up a poor singer, for indifferent vocal ability at the top brings discredit on the movement and does not advance the cause.

A considerable number of the competitors, more particularly those not belonging to the large towns, had nice full, round, soft, sweet voices, but they often sang in a tame lackadaisical manner, as if, their vocal organs and disposition were similar in character. Others had grand, big voices, but in some cases they occasionally forced them out of tune. This is a common fault with inexperienced singers. Being much praised for their big voice, they come to regard this as their special excellence, and try to emphasise it as much as possible on every occasion, when they ought rather to be controlling it, and correcting defects that are often incident to such a gift. There were many, however, who showed a good deal of vocal culture; and we were sorry we could not put more at the top. If I were to point out a fault in this class, I should say that, especially amongst the ladies, there was a tendency to make the voice hard in order to make it more telling. It would be a pity if this practice were to become general; for the ideal voice is full tone, velvety quality, clear sweet resonance, and distinct articulation. Intelligence and emotional feeling do the rest.

I cannot bring these notes to a close without remarking on the beautiful singing of Miss Jessie M'Lennan and Miss Margaret S. Duncan at the Concert on Friday evening. Both, I understand, are former Medallists. Miss M'Lennan has greatly improved, and Miss Duncan's pure vocalization and reposeful manner place her very high on the vocal platform. To me her singing was charming.

Altogether the Mòd was excellent, and reflects much credit on all connected with it, from the distinguished patrons and the president and the Secretary down to the most unassuming competitor. They have reason to be satisfied with the results, and may well feel proud in remembering, as commanded by Lochiel in the closing words of his powerful address, that they belong to the Highland Race.

ARBROATH.—The Gaelic Class students at Arbroath have elected the following office-bearers:—President, Mr. A. M'Callum; vice-president, Mr. A. Ellis; hon. secretary, Mr. J. C. Hay, St. Vigean's Rd.; hon. treasurer, Mr. W. Malcolm.

STRAY THOUGHTS ON THE MOD.

The twentieth Mòd has come and gone, and we think we voice the sentiment of those who attended it, when we say that in all respects it was a great success. It was in many respects a record Mòd. In point of the average attendance at the various competitions, it certainly eclipsed all others; in the business manner in which it was organised, it could not be more desirable; and last but not least, in the frequent use of the 'language' of the Mòd, among the audience we saw a desire on every hand to aim at a great ideal—"Gaelic only at the Mòd." This is a great question, and at the same time a difficult one, but if every Gaelic speaker at the Mòd does his and her duty, as opportunity affords itself, the ideal is not far distant.

Wednesday, the children's day, is always bright and interesting, though the audience is not so large. We saw the same well-kent faces there. Poolewe was greatly in evidence, and we feel sure that the Highlands will rejoice at seeing the prime honour of the Mòd—the "Oban Times" Shield, gained by this wonderful little band, who with their picturesque conductor, come year after year, from the utmost corner of the land, to attend the annual feast of the Mòd. We should have liked to have seen more fresh recruits on that day, but it is extremely difficult for teachers in poor Highland schools to raise enough money to defray the expenses of taking their children on such long journeys. Perhaps if the Mòd were held in the middle of August when most Highland schools are closed, teachers from these quarters would have a better chance of attending, and drawing inspirations from the scenes around them. Should the officials not try this experiment soon, and perhaps give special inducements to teachers for the occasion? We feel sure it would do good, for the majority of our Highland teachers have never seen a Mòd, and therefore can have only a very hazy idea of the good work done during those days.

On Thursday we felt that interest in the proceedings was increasing, for the audiences in all the halls were good, and at this point we cannot help commenting upon the eager way in which every person endeavoured to get the full benefit of what was being recited and sung.

There was no jarring element in the whole of the proceedings, and the behaviour of

the large audiences which crowded the precincts of the St. Andrew's Halls during those days was admirable.

The singing was, as usual, very good. In fact the musical competitions on Thursday and especially on Friday were the finest we ever heard. Perhaps there may be a danger of An Comunn devoting too much consideration to the musical side of the language, to the detriment of the literary, but if the latent sympathies of the average Highlander are ever to be roused, it must necessarily be through the musical aspect. It is a great pity that we do not hear more new songs in the competitions. "Fear a' bhàta," "An t-eilean Muileach," "Hi horo 's na horo èile," "Thug mi gaol do'n fhear bhàn," etc., are continually sung. These are undoubtedly fine, but we think An Comunn should put some of these "on the shelf" for a year or two, and give others a chance. When there is such a very wide choice, and so many excellent text-books to choose from, we do not see any reason why fresh songs should not be brought forward at each successive Mòd. We think it is time An Comunn published a volume of the choicest of unpublished airs and songs in their possession, so that the outside world might derive benefits from their harvest of old airs.

The Grand Concert was, as usual, of a high order. The singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig" by the combined choirs with organ accompaniment could not fail to inspire the audience with a feeling of duty towards the language of our forefathers. The presence of those combined choirs with their grand singing is certainly the finest effect that the Mòd can produce, and one which is worthy of all encouragement.

SEONALD.

—:O:—
**"BREAC A LINNE, SLAT A COILLE, 'S FIADH A
 FIREACH—MEIRLE AS NACH DO GHABH
 GAIDHEAL RIAMH NAIRE."**

LE EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL, GLASCHO.

Fhuair am paipeir so a' cheud duais aig
 Mòd, 1910.

V.

Bha nis slighe an uisge blo'n mhuileann anabarrach cas's i' ruith eadar da stalla, le tuill dhomhain an sud's an so, agus ulpagan móra chlach thall's a bhos. Ach nuair a bha na muillearan a' gabhail do'n

bhradan leis na morghaibh, mothaichear do na maor-uisge 'g am folach fhéin rud beag fodhpa 's iad a' snágan uidh-air-n-uidh ni bu dluithe dhoibh—a réir coltais féuch an ainitheachd iad có bha ris an obair. Cha do ghabh na muillearan ni orra ach chuir iad fear air falbh air a shocair gu ruith a leigeil do'n uisge a rithist, 's nuair a chunnaic an còrr aca an t-àm freagarrach "thug iad an aire" d'an luchd-faire 's as a thug iad 's bha iad a stigh do'n mhuileann a thiota; thug na maor-uisge 'n an réis as an déidh suas eadar an da stalla ach mu'n deach iad fada thainig am beum-sleibhe ud 'n an còmh-dhail 's a sios a bha iad an taobh ceudna car-air-char leis an tuil. Cha b'e mhàin gu'n d' fhuair iad an deadh bhogadh ach cha robh ann ach gu'n d' fhuair iad as le'm beatha 's cha robh iad idir cho deas gu dragh a chur air na muill-earan 'na dhéidh sin.

Aon oidheche thog còignear ghillean à taobh Loch Eit orra (tha mi 'n duil gu'n robh am fear a dh'innis an naigheachd dhomh air a h-aon dhiubh ged nach do ghabh e air e), 's thug iad leo bàta gu deadh oidheche a thoirt air na féidh suas ri bràighe an Loch, ach cha do mharbhadh iad ach aon fhear nuair a chunnaas am maor-seilge a'deanadh orra. Cha robh iad fada bho'n chladach co dhù 's rinn iad air a bhàta leis an fhiadh, ach cha robh iad ach an déidh fhaotainn air bord 's iad a' putadh a' bhàta air falbh bho thir nuair a thainig am maor 'n a leum agus a mach air a' mhuir 'n an déidh a ghabh e 's ghreimich e air deireadh na sgòithe gu a cumail gus an tigeadh cuideachadh air, ach ghreimich na gillean annsan agus an uine ghoirid bha e fhéin cho math ris an fhiadh air bord 's thog na gillean a mach ri euan. Dh'innis iad an sin dha gu saor nach fhaicheadh e a chas fhéin air tìr ri 'bheò tuille; gu'n robh iad a' dol 'g a thilgeadh a mach air a' mhuir nuair a gheibheadh iad gu farsaingeachd, agus e 'g a dheanadh fhéin deas gu coinneamh a thoirt d' a Chruithear.

Bha an duine bochd sin aca mu dheireadh an staid thruagh, 's e air a ghlùinean air an t-sileadh ag urnuigh 's ag aslachadh orra aon chothrom eile a 'thoirt dha agus nach cuireadh e dragh orra ri' bheò ged a mharbhadh iad na h-uile fiadh anns na trì siorramachdan. Nuair a fhuair iad an leòir spòrs air mar sin chuir iad air tìr e air eilein beag taobh a' chladaich dlùth air an Oban, agus an uair a thainig solus latha cha b'urrainn do mhuinntir an àite

a thuigsinn de an taisgealach a bha 'spadadh a làmh 's a' glaochaich air mullach an eilein; 's nuair a chuir iad bàta a null g' a iarraidh, có bha 'n sud ach ard mhaor-seilge Fhìr—, agus cha robh fo 'n ghréin aig an robh 'chridhe fharraid dheth cia mar a fhuair e do 'n eilein.

Bha dithis Ghaidheal air an toir sin mar ainmean "Mac-an-t-Sealgair" agus "Mac-an-Iasgair" anabarrach gu saor-shealg. Bha iad ri am an òige anns an arm agus ge air bith ceàrn de 'n dùthaich anns an tachradh dhoibh a bhi, bhiodh iadsan ris an aon obair; agus nuair a dh'fhàg iad an t-Arm gu buileach 's a thuinich iad aig an dachaidhear fhéin an gleann àraidh an Siorramachd Pheairt cha do leig iad air chùl corra sgrìob a thoirt feadh a' mhonaidh mar a b'abhaist; bha e eadhon air a ràdh gu'n robh iad a' pàigheadh màil an cuid chroitean air seilg is iasgach. Bhiodh iad daonnan còmhla agus anns gach iomairt no iorghaill anns am faodadh iad a bhi bha facal-fairbheanachd aca gu rabhadh a thoirt do chàch a cheile nuair a bhiodh cumart dlùth laimh: b'e am facal a bh'aca—"Dean dhuit fhéin a bhalaich." Aon latha bha iad air a' mhonadh mar a b'abhaist 's iad astar beag bho chéile nuair a bha Mac-an-t-Sealgair air a chuairteachadh le grunnan shealgairan is ghillean mu'n do sheall e chuige no bluaithe, 's nuair a chunnaic e gu'n robh e an sàs co dhù 's cha do rinn e oidhirp air bith gu teicheadh ach lean e roimhe mar a bha e gu réidh socrach, mar nach biodh ni ceàrr. Ach ghreimich na daoine eile ann, 's dh'fheoraich iad dheth gu feargach de an turas a bh' aig a leithid-san air a' mhonadh.

"Cha 'n'eil agaibh ach sin fheoraich de m' mhaighistir," ars' esan, "ma tha mi 'cur dragha sam bith oirbh."

"Co e do mhaighistir?" ars' iadsan.

"Sud agaibh e air a' chnoc ud thall," ars' esan 's e 'còcadh a chorrage an rathad a bha Mac-an-Iasgair; thuig a nis Mac-an-Iasgair gu gasda mar a bha 'n gnothach 's shuidh e far an robh e agus rinn na sealgairean air, cha innò a ghluais Mac-an-t-Sealgair gus an robh na daoine dìreach leathach eatorra. "Dean dhuit fhéin a bhalaich!" ghlaodh e an sin àird a chinn; chuir e fhéin na buinn orra mar an ceudna, cha 'n'eil fhios có am fear dhiubh a bu luaithe bha 'toirt a chasan as, 's cha robh aig na sealgairean ach an gad air an robh an t-iasg.

Bha Mac-an-t-Sealgair gu sònraichte anabarrach luath agus rud gle neonach mar bu mhò ruitheadh e 's ann a bu luaithe a dh'fhàsadh e. Theab geimeir breith air aon mhadainn tràth, 's mu'n d'fhuair e as b'eigin dha an t-eallach seilge a bha air a mhuin a thilgeadh an dig agus toirt as dha gun ni ach a ghunna. Rinn an geimeir air tigh Mhic-an-t-Sealgair, oir cha mhòr nach robh e dìnteach gur h-esan a bh'ann, ach nuair a ràinig e bha an duine còir sin 's e leathach de ghlanadh a mach na bàth-aich agus coltas cho neo-chiontach air 's ged nach fhaicadh e ceare-fhraoich no maigheach riamh.

Bha sealgairan eile le'n cuid ghillean a mach air a' mhonadh aon latha 's rug iad air lapanach beag a bu choltaiche ri sìthiche na ri duine nàdurra 's e mar iad fhcin a' sealg nam fiadh.

"Co thusa?" ars' am fear do 'm buineadh an fhrih gu feargach am béurla chruaidh Shasunnaich.

"No-pody," ars' an truaghan eile gu fann.

"Gu de 'tha thu 'deanadh air mo mhonadh-sa?" ars' an t-uachdaran.

"No-pody," ars' an duineachan beag 's a shùil air an làr.

"Cia as a thàinig thu?" ars' an t-uachdaran.

"No-pody," ars' am fear eile a rithist.

"Togaibh leibh e," ars' an t-uachdaran ri dithis d'a ghillean 's tumaibh anns an loch e feuch an dean sinn "*somebody*" dheth, 's dh'fhalbh iadsan 's rinn iad air lochan beag a bh'aig bun a bhruthaich agus an lapanach beag eatorra; ach dìreach nuair a bha iad air a' bhruaich os ceann an uisge thug e-san an aon leum sin air ais 's rug e air chùl amhaich air na gillean, aon anns gach laimh, agus an comhair an cinn bha iad le chèile anns an lochan; thug e an sin as dha 's mu'n dh'fhuaras an dithis dhaoine as an lochan cha robh sealladh air. "Tha mi an dùil," ars' an t-uachdaran, nuair a fhuair e sealltainn chuire 's bhuaithe 's a chunnaic e nach do dh'èirich ni bu mhiosa do na gillean na deadh bhogadh fhaotainn, "gur e duine tapaidh "*Mr. Nobody*" an dèidh a' h-uile rud."

Is minic a bha geimeirean air an cur dhachaidh leth-ruisgte, agus a bha dithis dhiubh air an ceangal ri chèile anns a' mhonadh 's ma dh'fhaoidte air an ceangal ri craoibh fad oidhche le saor-shealgairan, agus iomad uair air an co-èigneachadh an t-sealg a ghiùlan, far am biodh àireamh de ghillean sgairteil còmhla, agus dh'fheum-

adh na geimeirean am facal a thoirt an àm an leigeil air falbh nach fosgladh iad am beoil mu dhol-air-aghaidh na h-oidhche sin.

B'ann fìor ainneamh a bha ni bu mhiosa na sin ag èirigh do luchd-faire seilge anns a' Ghàidhealtachd ni 's lugha na gu'm bith-eadh iad fhéin a' dol ro-fhada agus gu'm biodh iad ro-throm air an t-sluagh.

Tha iasgairean is sealgairan anabarrach gu creidsinn an gisreagan is an aneasda-achd eile, ach tha e furasda gu leòir a thugsinn cia mar a thàinig sin gu bhi co-cheangailte riu: tha iad daonnan aghaidh ri aghaidh ri oibrichean nàduir, air uairean tràth is anmoch, gun neach eile mar mhlitean dhaibh, agus cha'n 'eil teagamh nach fhàg sin an inntinn a's laidiriche fo bhuaires. Tha, a bharr air sin, tomhas mór cunnairt co-cheangailte ris an obair agus 'tha sin mar an ceadna a' cur na h-inntinn fo cheanglaichean troma.

Is iomadh driad-fhortan a dh'èirich do shealgairan agus is iomadh naigheachd a th'air a h-innseadh mu bhòcain is mu shith-ean a bhi ag amas orra a muigh air a' bheinn agus a' còmrhadh riu feadh oidhche.

Thachair an ni a tha bhuam innseadh an ceart uair an sgìreachd àraidh 's a Ghaidhealtachd àireamh bhliadhnachan air ais. Bha aon oidhche an t-athair 's am mac ri fireach air toir nam fiadh; dhealaich iad ri cheile car tiota 's mhothaich an sin am mac mar a shaoil leis fiadh eadar e 's leus agus dh'fhéuch e am peileir air, ach nuair a ràinig e far am fac e 'tuiteam e fhuair e an sud athair fhéin 'na shineadh marbh. Ghabh e a leithid de uamhas de'n ni a rinn e 's nach do chuir e gunna ri' shùil ri' bheò tuille.

Chaidh duine a mharbhadh an Gleann Eit air a' cheart doigh mòran bhliadhnachan air ais. Bha còig no sè de shealgairan a mach air a' mhonadh an àm na h-oidhche agus air do fhear dhiubh a dhà laimh a thogail a sheòladh chàich shaoil le fear dhiubh gur h-e bh'ann fadh, gu'm b'iad a chàbair a bha an lamhan an duine 's loisg e air. Chaidh am peileir troimh 'n chridhe aige 's bha e marbh gun sgìd. Air eagal an sin gu'm faighte mach gu'n robh iad a' sealg anns an àite so thig an còrr dhiubh an corp le creig 's chaidh an sgéul feadh na dùthcha gu'n do thuit e leatha 's gu'n deach e as an amhaich, ach dh'aicidh cuid dhiubh an dèigh sin an dòigh anns an do dh'èirich an gnothuch a mach.

Ri leantuin.

THE BODACH.

It was in the days of broken clans and broken men, when bairns got a cold welcome into the world, and folks were not pressed to stay when leaving it. Hard times were come to the glens, where only old folks and bairns were left to keep want from the doors, while the cream of the lads were away with the good Argyll at the old ploy of fighting with Montrose, the Black Dog, from Lorne to the Moil. Spring and summer had passed like sheep in a fank, and now winter had taken the road, and the north wind laughed his cruel cold laugh down the glens, and old folks and young crept nearer to the fire, and the deer sought the haunts of men.

In a cottage that nestled away into the heart of far away misty Colluska Glen, an old man sat alone by a red peat fire with his chin resting in his hands, dreaming of the forgotten days long since shrouded in mist like the tops of the bens which shut him in from the outside world. Now and again he would throw a peat on the fire and the red sparks would fly up the chimney like shooting stars in a frosty night. As the night wore on the fire burned lower and lower till at length only a red glow was left. The wind moaned round the gables and the burn roared through the glen, but still the old man sat on. The fire rallied like a dying man and cast long shadows on the walls. Then and then only did the old man look up with a far away look in his eyes and gazed over to the door. A pause had come in the blast, then with a scream the wind flung itself at the door and it opened. A wreath of curling snow came driving in, and the old man looked at it for a moment, and there stood Iain, his only son, who had died drawing sword for the good house of Argyll a three month back.

"Come in, ye are welcome lad," said the old man. "I aye keep a place for ye by the fire—the night is young yet." So here in that lonely cottage the living and dead held converse.

The night wore on, but they talked fast and loud. Then the pause came and dawn wrestled with the night, and the talking grew into a whisper. Then as the east grew grey the talking ceased and the old man was the first to rise—

"Lad it is time for ye to be taking the road again," said he, and a white wreath of snow passed out.

The morning saw the old man far on his way to join the good Argyll—and Inverlochy saw him and his son united.

JOHN MACLEOD CAMPBELL,
OF SADDLELL.

—:O:—

AN COMMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

FEILL TRUST.

A Meeting of the Trustees under the Feill Trust Deed was held in Glasgow on the 28th September. The Trustees present were—Mrs. Burnley-Campbell of Ormidale, Ex-Provost Mackay, Grangemouth; Major Menzies, Edinburgh; and Mr. William Mackay, Inverness; Mr. John MacKintosh, Solicitor, Inverness, factor and agent, attending. Ex-Provost Mackay presided.

The accounts of the Trust for the past year were submitted and approved of.

The total funds of the trust now amount to £6936 17s. 11d., and are invested as follows:—

On Heritable Securities, - - £5800 0 0

Railway Debenture and Guar-

anteed Stock, - - - - 1118 15 1

On Deposit Receipt in Bank, - 18 2 10

The Factor intimated that with the assistance of Major Menzies, he had recovered from the Inland Revenue the income tax deducted from the trust revenue for the past two years.

—:O:—

TIR NAN OG.

The mist hangs low on the moor,
Where the scream of the curlew is heard,
Here the wild wind's dismal wail
Sings of the longing heart of the Gael.

Up in the heights where the eagles soar,
Down where the foaming torrents roar,
Folks may change and the lads may fail,
Still that longing lies deep in the heart of the Gael.

Far away out in the golden West,
There the longing heart strives to reach its rest;

For there no heart with sorrow is wrung,
For there lies the "Land where all are young."

JOHN M. CAMPBELL,
OF SADDLELL.

MOULIN SCHOOL BOARD AND TEACHING OF GAELIC.

At a meeting of the Atholl branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach at Pitlochry on 24th ulto—Lady Helen Stewart Murray presiding—a letter was read from Moulin School Board intimating that the Board had resolved that they would not in future pay for any of the cost or expenses of evening continuation Gaelic classes, but would give the use of a class-room in the Public School if required. The executive, while readily acquiescing in the decision, instructed the Secretary to point out to the Board that the first year the classes had been held they cost the rate-payers nothing, the expense having been met by the Government grant, while for last year the estimated deficiency was £1 3s. 4d. It was also pointed out that a penny rate, yielding about £119, would pay the amount to be contributed by the rate-payers for more than a century. The Committee also thought that as the Government sanctioned the teaching of Gaelic as a continuation class subject, it was surely nowhere more important than in a distinctively Highland parish like Moulin.

—:O:—

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH DHUNBREATHUINN.

On the 19th ulto. a meeting of Gaels was held at Dumbarton for the purpose of forming a branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Over 40 members had enrolled, and it is expected that this number will be more than doubled when the Branch gets under way. The following office-bearers were appointed—Provost Macfarlan, Hon. President; Mr. John MacPhie, President; Mr. Lawson, ironmonger, Mr. Fraser, draper, Mr. W. Lamont, and Sergt. Mackay, Vice-Presidents; Mr. H. Cameron, St. James' Park, Dumbarton, Hon. Secretary. *Buaidh leò.*

—:O:—

COMING EVENTS.

Nov. 3—Edinburgh Gaelic Musical Association. Concert in Oak Hall, Edinburgh Cafe, Princes Street, 8 p.m.

Nov. 11—Glasgow High School Gaelic Class Ceilidh. Opening Concert, Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, 7.30 p.m.

Nov. 14—Glasgow Ross and Cromarty Association, Concert in Masonic Halls.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed to Mr. Duncan Reid, Editor An Deo-Greine, Central Chambers, 12 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, annual subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

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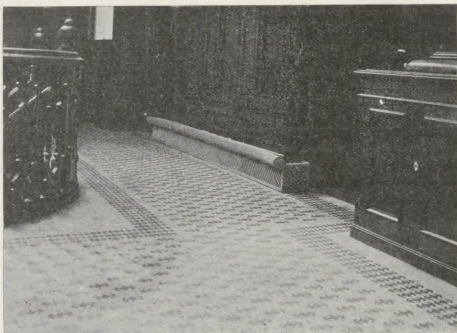
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AN DEO-GRÉINE

Leabhar VII.]

Darna Mìos a' Gheamhraidh, 1911.

[Earrann 4.

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OBÀIR A' CHOMUINN GHÀIDHEALACH.

Ma ghabhar beachd air an obair a rinn an Comunn Gaidhealach bho chionn fichead bliadhna ann a bhi 'cur air aghaidh agus a' cumail suas càinain, litreachas agus ceòl na Gaidhealtachd, faodar a ràdh le firinn, gu'n do chleachdadh oidheirpean dùrachdach a chum nan rùntan sin a choimhlionadh, bho'n chaidh an Comunn a chur air bonn gus a nis. Mar tha na bliadhnachan a' dol air an aghaidh, 's ann a's motha, a's farsuinge, agus a's cudthromaiche a tha obair a' Chomuinn a' fàs, agus mar sin tha feum air an tuilleadh cuideachaidh a chum na h-obaire sin a choimhlionadh. Bho chionn cuid bliadhnachan air ais tha an Comunn ni's saoihbhe na bha e anns na bliadhnachan roimhe sin, agus air an aobhar sin, ann an suidheachadh

a's fhearr an obair a chur air a h-aghaidh. Gu'm bheil saothar a' Chomuinn soirbheachail, agus a' giùlan toraidh a tha buannachdail do'n Gaidhealtachd, cha'n urrainnear àicheadh; ach ma bhuanaisich soirbheachadh a' Chomuinn feumar an tuilleadh cuideachaidh agus airgid fhaotainn a staigh, agus feumar an t-airgid a chur a mach anns an dòigh a's fheàrr a chum aobhar na Gaidhlig a chur air aghaidh. Feumar gach ceàrn agus oisinn de'n Gaidhealtachd a ruigheachd, far an cuirte air bonn meuran de'n Chomunn, sgoiltean Gaidhlig agus coisirean-ciùil; feumar teachdairean a chur a mach a thoirt fiosrachaidh agus soilleir-eachaidh do na Gaidheil mu rùntan a' Chomuinn, agus an dleasdanas a tha mar fhiachaibh orra an càinain, an litricheas agus an ceòl a chumail a suas; agus thar na h-uile ni feumar an oigridh a ghabhail as làimh agus an teagasg 'n an càinain fhein anns an dachaidh 's anns an sgoil. Gu cinnteach, cha'n urrainnear sin a chiomhlionadh gun airgid, 's gun chuideachadh. Cha robh ar luchd-dùthcha riaghailteach air dheidheachd ann an aobhar math sam bith, agus an e gu'm bi iad air dheidheachd ann a bhi 'cumail suas aobhar a tha laidhe cho dlùth riutha ri càinain an dùthcha? Cha bhi idir, oir, tuigeadh an Gaidheal a dhleasdanas gu ceart, agus cha'n 'eil cinneach eile air thalamh a choimhlionas an dleasdanas ni's dilse, ni's dùrachdaiche, 's ni's treibhdhiriche na Clanna nan Gaidheal.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE.

The Executive Council of An Comunn met at 108 Hope Street, Glasgow, on Saturday, 4th November. There was an excellent attendance of members notwithstanding the very unfavourable weather that prevailed. The President being detained in Inverness, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod was called to the chair.

The convener of the Finance Committee, Mr. P. MacDougall Pullar, reported that his committee had unanimously agreed to recommend to the Executive that an honorarium of £5 be granted to the Rev. M. N. Munro, convener of the Mòd and Music Committee, for his services in preparing and editing "Còisir a' Mhòid." The recommendation was heartily agreed to.

Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, convener of the Arts and Industries Committee, reported that the committee had agreed that it was inadvisable to hold the usual Exhibition and Sale of Work in this section at Inverness along with the Mòd in 1912, as it would be impossible to avoid clashing with similar sales which were held there annually. The convener also reported that the sale of Highland Home Industries in the Clachan at the Scottish National Exhibition in Glasgow had been very satisfactory, a sum of about £1030 having been drawn from the beginning of May till the end of October.

The Publication Committee report, which was submitted by the convener, Rev. T. S. Macpherson, stated that the committee in terms of Rule 21 of the New Constitution, had under consideration the question of publishing the Mòd prize papers and had decided to recommend that Mr. Duncan Reid be asked to make a selection of the prize papers of the 1911 Mòd and to obtain estimates of the cost of printing and publishing these. They also recommended that the prize papers of former Mòds should be handed over to Mr. Kenneth Macleod, M.A., Crianlarich, or to some other competent person, to make a selection for publication in one or more volumes. A proposal by the Publication Committee to issue a second edition of Reid's Elementary Course of Gaelic was adopted subject to the expenditure involved being sanctioned by the Finance Committee.

The report of the Propaganda Committee, submitted by the convener, Mrs. Burnley-

Campbell, shewed that An Comunn's work for Gaelic was making good progress in the Highlands. Appeals for information and assistance in forming classes for Gaelic teaching and Gaelic singing had been received from Skye, Kintyre, Arran, and elsewhere. The committee reported that they had under consideration a number of schemes for furthering the work of An Comunn in the Highlands, but as the possibility of working these schemes depended largely upon the amount of the surplus available from An Clachan fund, and upon how An Comunn would decide to utilise the money when it became available, it had been agreed to leave these over for future consideration.

The convener of the Mòd and Music Committee reported that the Syllabus had been carefully revised for the 1912 Mòd and that a detailed statement of the new proposals would be in the hands of members of the Executive before the next meeting. Considerable discussion having arisen over statements made that an undue proportion of the vocal music prizes was being won by competitors who had but a slight knowledge of Gaelic, the Council agreed to remit to the Mòd and Music Committee to consider what additional tests, if any, should be instituted to secure that the qualifications in Gaelic of competitors should be adequately ascertained.

Mr. Donald Currie, Local Secretary of the 1911 Mòd held in Glasgow, reported that the work of the Mòd had been carried to a successful issue. The entries for the competitions were a record, and this was particularly due to the large increase in the Junior entries. The entries in the Senior Section were slightly less, however, than last Mòd, and this caused a slight falling-off in the amount drawn from entry fees. The attendance at the competitions was probably larger than at any previous Mòd, and this was particularly seen on Wednesday at the Junior competitions, and on Thursday evening at the Senior medal competitions. It was possible, however, that the success of the Thursday night proceedings had adversely affected the attendance at the Grand Concert as it did not quite come up to expectations. The donations to the Mòd Fund had for the first time in the history of An Comunn reached the handsome sum of £260. It was estimated that the available surplus, after allowing for an honorarium of £35 to the Local Secretary, for his services

in connection with the Mòd, would be £70. The report of the Local Committee was cordially approved of. Miss Kate Fraser, on behalf of the president, Mr. Win. Mackay, conveyed to the Glasgow Local Committee his great satisfaction at the splendid work done by the committee and at the excellent results which had attended it.

The new bye-laws as drafted by the committee appointed for that purpose were then considered and adopted with some slight modifications. The hearty thanks of the Council were given to the Rules Revision Committee, and especially to Mr. Donald Currie, Convener, who had done the bulk of the work. It was agreed that Mr. Duncan Reid be appointed to translate the new Constitution and Bye-laws into Gaelic.

On the motion of Mrs. Burnley-Campbell it was agreed to recommend to those entrusted with the drawing-up of the programme of future Grand Concerts, that the winner of the Chief Poetry Prize should be asked to recite his successful poem at these concerts. A similar motion by Mr. Alastair C. MacLaren that a short Gaelic Address should be given at these concerts was also agreed to.

Miss Kate Fraser reported that a meeting had been held in Inverness for the purpose of forming a Local Committee to organise and carry on the work of next year's Mòd, and that the following office-bearers had been appointed, viz., convener, Mr. Alastair MacDonald, chief accountant, Highland Railway; secretary and treasurer, Mr. John MacKintosh, solicitor; assistant secretary, Mr. E. W. Taylor. Miss Fraser had also been appointed honorary secretary. The Executive Council expressed their satisfaction at the early start and approved of the appointments made.

The next meeting of Executive will be held in Edinburgh on Saturday, 13th January, 1912.

—:o:—

“LARACHS.”

Grey stones 'neath moss and nettles—
Grey stones wet with women's tears—
Grey stones on the hillside
Crying to Heaven,—
Nor unheeding He that hears.

ALASTAIR MACLABHRAINN,
INVERARDRAN, CRINANLACH.

“BREAC A LINNE, SLAT A COILLE, 'S FIADH A FIREACH—MEIRLE AS NACH DO GHABH GAIDHEAL RIAMH NAIRE.”

LE EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL, GLASCHO.

Fhuair am paipeir so a' cheud duais aig Mòd, 1910.

Bha duine ainneil an Uidhist bo chionn suas ri ciad gu leth bliadhna d'am b'ainm Calum Mac Ruairidh Bhàin. Bha e aon oidheche a' feitheamh ann bothan àiridh a mach ris a chladach an ear gus an éireadh. a' ghealach 's am faigheadh e falbh gu loch àraidh a shealg nan lach. Leig e 'n a shineadh air seorsa leapa a bha an taobh a' bhothain 's chaidil e, ach cha b'fhada gus an do dhùisgeadh e le guth mar gu'm biodh e 'san doras,—“Eirich 's an uair 'g a cumail riut.”

Leum e air a bhonnaibh 's chaidh e mach, ach cha robh ni ri fhaicinn, agus thubhairt e ris fhéin gu'm b'eigin gur h-ann a' bruidar a bha e 's leig e 'na shineadh a rithist.

Bha e air tuiteam 'na chadal nuair a chuala e an dara uair agus ni bu chruaidhe,—“Eirich a Chalum 's an uair 'g a cumail riut.” Leum e air a bhonnaibh a rithist 's chaidh e mach ach cha robh ni ri fhaicinn a muigh no a staigh. Smaointich e nach robh e ach a toirt air fhéin a chreidsinn gu'n cuala e rud 's chaidh e 'na shineadh a rithist. Ach cha robh e ach an déigh a shùilean a dhùnadh nuair a dh'fhairich e an gréim cruaidh sin 'g a dheanadh pàir is 'ga shlaodadh a null air an urlar 's chuala e mar gu'm biodh tairneach na chluasan,—“Nach eirich thu a Chalum Mhic Ruairidh 's an uair 'g a cumail riut.”

Leis a so bha e air a lionadh le uamhas agus chunnaic e nach robh e cneasda dha fuireach ni b'fhaide. Thog e an gunna leis 's dh'fhag e a mach ann bothan 's rinn e air an taigh. Ach nu'n deach e ach tuair-eam air leth mhile air aghaidh chuala e an aon sgreach a bu chruaidhe 's a b'oilteile a chuala duine riamh a' tighinn air thar a' mhonadh bho'n ionad anns an robh am bothan-àiridh; cho cruaidh 's gu'n robh e a' deanadh dheth na'm biodh daoine a muigh aig an àm gu'n cluinnt i bho cheann gu ceann Uidhist. Cha chuala 's cha'n fhac e ni tuille, agus gus an là'n diugh cha'n 'eil fhios ciod a bu chiall de'n ghnathach neonach so.

Bha saor-shealgair an Gàig bho shean

do'm bu cheud ainm Murchadh. Bha esan aon latha as déigh nam fiadh nuair a chunnaic e aireamh mhnathan-sithe a' bleoghann nan eilidean, agus direach nuair a bha e ag amharc orra thug té de na h-eilidean tamhadh air iarna de shnáth uaine a bh'air gualainn na mna-sithe a bha 'g a bleoghann's dh'ith i e. Thug a' bhean-shith breab dhi, 's ars' ise,—"Droch coinn-eamh ort a bhaobh, ach saighead á balg Mhurchaidh a dhol annad-sa mu'n tig an oidhche." Mharbh Murchadh eilid am feasgar sin fhéin 's nuair a ghrealach e i, fhuair e iarna de shnáth uaine 'na maodail.

Mharbh e eilid lá eile 's air dha suidhe sìos gu anail a leigeil rinn e norra beag cadail, agus nuair a dhuisc e bha boireannach mór an aodach uaine 'na seasamh laimh ris an eilid. "A Mhurchaidh, a Mhurchaidh!" ars' ise, "Mharbh thu an diugh an aon oigh bha anns an Dùn."

"Ma mharbh mise i ith thusa i," arsa Murchadh 's e a' tarruing ri bruthach.

Is iomad dòigh, cuid dhiubh glé innleachdach, a ghabhas an saor-shealgair is an saor-iasgair gu an cuid a thoirt a mach air monadh 's á uisge. Airson an fhéidh cha'n 'eil ní is fhearr na'm peileir, bho'n a dh'fhalbh luchd nam bogha agus an ealain còmhla riu, ged a bheirear air uairean orra am painntearan 's an tuill, ach sin dòigh nach biodh freagarrach do'n t-saor-shealgair; ach 's iomad dòigh is innleachd a th' aige gu a chuid fhéin a dheanadh de sheorsachan eile seilge agus de iasg. Chuala mi iomad uair cait a bh'air an ionnsachadh gu coineinean is maighich a shealg 's a thoirt dhachaidh, agus is tric leo breith air cearca-domain an àm foghair mu'm bheil na h-eoin ro làidir air an iteig; airson a choinn na h-eoin coimhlionta anns an obair sin. Bha duine an aon de na h-eileinean bliadhnachan air a'is aig an robh dòbhran mar pheata, 's cha bhiodh e latha, biodh an aimsir soirbh no doirbh, gun iasg ùr an dà chuid á uisge 's á saile. Tha an dòbhran glé ghaolach air a' bhradan agus cha'n 'eil teagamh 's am bith na'm beirte air 'na chuirein nach gabhadh e, le beagan dragha is uine, ionnsachadh gu iasgach gu leòir a dheanadh. Tha "dòbhran" eile is aithne dhuinn air fad a tha mar an ceudna 'na iasgair anabarrach math. Cha 'n 'eil féum aige-san air ionnsachadh sam bith, agus cha'n iarr e uiread agus euibhrionn de na bheireas e air dha fhéin mar an dòbhran donn. Tha mi a' ciallachadh na h-inneil neonaich ud a bha an toiseach ri

a factainn am measg nan Gàidheal a mhàin ach a tha an diugh ri a faicinn tric gu leòir aig saor-iasgairan iomad sluagh eile mar inneil coimhlionta, ach neo-laghail, gu iasgach bhreac anns na lochan.

Tha coin-uisge air uairean air an ionnsachadh gu breith air bric 's air bradain, agus chuala mi iomradh air muilleir aig an robh cù de'n t-seorsa sin ris an abrar an "New-foundland" a bha 'g a chumail an iasg ùr a h-uile latha 's a bhliadhna.

Bha na Ceàird ainmeil gu saor-shealg agus gu sònraichte saor-iasgach. Bha dòigh àraidh aca-san air a' bhradan a ghiollachd agus tha e coltach gu'm biodh e anabarrach blasda an déigh a chur air dòigh mar sin; ghleidh iad an innleachd sin mar iomad innleachd eile gu cùramach 'nan luib fhéin.

B'ann leis a' mhorghath a bu bhitheanta a bha iad-san ri iasgach agus aon de na dòighean a bh'aca:—chuireadh iad duilleag no dithis de dh'iarunn geal an iochdar glum-aige agus na'm biodh craobh a' fàs os ceann an uisge bhiodh e ni b' fhearr air fad. Dh'fholaicheadh iad an sin iad fhéin anns a' chraoibh no an dòigh sam bith eile a bhiodh freagarrach, 's cha robh bradan no iasg eile a b'fhiach an t-saothair a thigeadh eadar iad 's an t-iarunn geal nach fhaicheadh iad gu réidh, cho fada fodha 'g am bitheadh e, 's anns a' mhionaid bhiodh am morphath mar an tein'-athair an sàs ann, 's a thiota bhiodh e air bruaich an uillt.

Tha iomad dòigh eile a tha anabarrach innleachdach agus seòlta ach cha'n urrainn dhuinn feitheamh ri dol a stigh anna gu mionaideach an ceart uair.

Cha'n 'eil ach an aon dòigh air fiodh a thoirt á coille; 'se sin direach gabhail a dh'ionnsaidh na craoibhe air an do leag thu do shùil, na tha bhuait dhi a ghearradh le tuaigh no le sàbh agus a thoirt leud dhachaidh cho sàmhach 's a's urrainn dhuit. Ach cha'n e na h-uile àm no a h-uile fear a fhearras air a' so ni 's mo na iad an t-seilg, agus tha tomhas seoltachd is innleachd a cheart cho féumail mu'n gabh an gnothach so toirt gu bith agus a tha féumail gu sealg an fhéidh. Faodar gearradh murain gu tubhadh thaighean anns na h-Eileinean an Iar agus ri cois na mara, a chur air an aon bhonn ri gearradh coille air tìr mór; tha an t-aon tomhas dānachd is seoltachd féumail do'n fheadhainn a bhiodh ris, agus is iad na h-aon laghannan a tha a' gabhail gnothach riù le chéile.

Ach an robh na daoine sin a' cunntas aoin seach aon dhiubh mar mhéirle? Is fhada

mu'n robh. Is aithne dhomh iad a "ghoid-eadh" làn na sgoithe de mhuran gun an coguis a ràdh riu an uair gu'm b'òle, ach an àm togail nan lion nuair a thigeadh lin an coimhearsnaich a nuas 'nan luib, a leig-eadh a mach a rithist iad an taobh ceudna air dhoibh am faotainn rèidh agus iasg sam bith a thachradh a bhi orra air an ceangal riu gu dìomhmhalta! Saoil sibh an robh a' mhèirle 'san duine a dheanadh sin? Si nach robh.

Tha earannan de'n dùthaich anns nach eil a' bheag de bhacadh air a chur air daoine bochda bho bheagan fiodha a ghearradh fad 's nach dean iad milleadh, ach tha àitean eile agus ma sheallas duine air craoibh thar an rathaid-mhòir tha e 'na choire, agus tha e a' toiltinn dha fhéin diomb is mi-run an uachdarain agus fhir-ionaid, 's ma gheibhear e a' togail bior a dh'fhadadh a theine tha cho math dha a chuid 's a ghaid a thogail leis trath, oir cha bhi fhois buan ma tha e idir am meìn an uachdarain.

Cha'n eil teagamh sam bith nach eil e feumail coille a ghleidheadh agus cothrom fàs a thoirt dhi, mórán nì's fhéumail na sealg is iasgach, oir tha coille dùthcha sam bith 'n a beartas do'n rioghachd do'm buin i, agus bu mhaith do Albainn na'm biodh barrachd suin d'a cuid choilltean, agus am fiodh a tha an ceart uair air a thoirt a stigh á rioghachdan eile air a thogail 'nar dùthach fhéin an earannan freagarrach agus as nach gabhadh bàrr eile togail; sin cuspair a tha taobh a muigh na h-òraid so, ach an e sin a tha 'toirt air uachdarain na dùthcha so "bior a coille" a bhacadh do'n t-sluagh? Tha mi an dùil nach h-e. Cha'n eil iad air son duine idir faicinn a' dol do choille no do bheinn, oir nach ann a' chuireadh sin fuadach fo na cearcan-fraoich 's fo na féidh!

Leis a sin is e an t-aon aobhar a tha a' cumail "bior a coille" bhuainn, eadhon mullach ar beanntan àluinn agus lochain mhaiseach ar dùthcha bhuainn, agus a tha a' cumail an "fhéidh á fireach" agus na "briç á linne" bhuainn,—direach féin-spéis-ealachd a' bheagain do'm buin fearann na dùthcha so; an toil-inntinn fhéin an toiseach, biodh an còrr, an rioghachd gu léir eadhon, mar is fhearr a dh'fhaodas iad. A chur na cuise am beagan fhacal, tha gaol na seilge, agus na laghannan a th'air an togail mar bhalla-dion mu'n cuairt oirre, cha'n e mhàin an déigh a' Gàidhealtachd a chur fàs, ach tha an dùthaich air a bhacadh do'n bheagan a tha air am fàgail innte gu uiread agus amharc oirre ach bho dhruid a' chuain no

bho mheadhon nan rathaidean-móra, agus an uine ghoirid cha bhi ri'm faicinn 'n ar dùthaich ghaolach ach an corra fharbhalach a thig a nuas a Sasunn is thar na Gaidhachd no a nall á luchairtean móra America.

Is ceist so nach eil freagarrach dhomhsa beachdachadh oirre an ceart uair, ach cha'n 'eil sin a' ciallachadh nach i ceist chud-thromach a th' innte agus ceist do'm feumar freagradh a thoirt le ar luchd-riaghlaidh an ùine ghearr, ma tha iad am beachd an àite am measg chinneach na talmhainn so a sheasamh anns an àm ri teachd. Gun teagamh sam bith tha e 'na spòrs air leth do'n bheagan aig am bheil a' chòir air an taobh, a bhi 'toirt a nuas nan cearcan fraoich le cuilbheir dùbailte gun mheang, agus a bhi 'leagail nam fiadh le peileir á gunna nach diùlt, agus ged is spòrs bhorh a th' innte fad is nach eil i gu call do'n dùthaich, faodaidh nach eil i gu móran coire; ach nuair a tha sluagh dùthcha air an sgapadh feadh a' chòrr de'n t-saoghal, biodh an dùthaich sin am Breatann no an teismheadhon Africa, agus am fearann as an robh iad a' toirt am beo-shlaint air a leigeil fàs ri linn na spòrs sin, tha an t-àm stad a ghlaodhach ris gach cuspair a tha 'na cheann-aobhair air an t-suidheachadh so.

Cha'n eil mi a' faicinn gu'n ruigear a leas a' cheist fheoraich de an call sin a tha 'tighinn an long seilg is iasgaich a bhi air an gleidheadh 'nar là-ne le laghannan cruadha, ach ainmichidh mi beagan dhiubh cho goirid 's a's urrainn dhomh. Anns a cheud aite, tha e 'na bhuairleadh do'n t-sluagh fad 's a tha gillean ard-inntinneach ri'm faotainn 'nam measg a bhi 'faicinn an nì a tha iad a' deamadh dheth a bhuineas dhoibh gu dlìgheach a thaobh rian nàduir air a thoirmeasg dhoibh le laghannan neo-thruacanta mar na biodagan 's a th'air an éideadh 's air an cur 'nan uidheam fo lamhan an luchd-riaghlaidh. Tha e mar an ceudna 'n a aobhar air mórán de'n fhuath agus de'n pharmad, a tha eadar islean is uaislean fhadadh an còm an t'sluaigh.

Tha sinn a' ceannach na còir-bhreith so a bhuineas do ar n-uachdairean le litir an lagha gle dhaor, an da chuid le òr is le fuil na dùthcha.

Fad nan trì bliadhna bho 1824 gu 1826 chaidh 4,500 duine a chur am prìosan gu laghannan seilge; an 1843 a mhàin bha 4,529 fear air a pheanasachadh fodhpa, agus bho 1833 gu 1844—aona bhliadhna déug chaidh 41 maor-seilge a mharbhadh le saor-shealgairean an Breatann, agus ri linn

nam mort sin 26 fear fhaotainn ciontach agus a chrochadh: 67 beatha duine, le'm bantraichean 's le'n dilleachdain 'n an déigh, an aona bhliadhna déug air tàille laghannan seilge!

Tha an cath dian sin a'dol air aghaidh gus an là'n diugh, an saor-shealgair air an dara taobh, agus uachdaranachd agus lagh na rioghachd air an taobh eile; tha prìosain, tha mòid, tha luchd-lagha, tha maoir-shith, maoir-sheilg agus iomad nì eile ri'n cumail suas, agus air a chùl sin cia mend beatha phrìseil a th'air a toirt air falbh bho àm gu àm? Cia mend mac deadh mhatàr de'n do rinneadh mortair agus a dh'fhàg an saoghal maiseach so fo laimh a chrochadair, no a tha an diugh a' searg 's a call a chéille am prìosain ar dùtchea?

Tha an tìr a' dol fàs, tha ar cùdain a' dol bàs, agus tha fearalachd a' bheagain a th'air fhàgail de'n t-sluagh air a dheòghal air falbh le òr is le fion nan òreasach.

De a nis a thainig 'nan àite?

Tha gun teagamh na fèidh agus na cearcan-fraoich nì's pailte, agus na coilltean nì's dosraiche far am b'abhaist na daoine còire, fial a bhi. Ach na daoine? tha sibh ag ràdh; seadh na daoine?

Thigibh lean gu ceidheachan na Abhainne Cluaidh latha sam bith a tha luingeas luchd-turais no eiltireach a' seòladh gu còrsachan America, 's bheir sin fhéin freagradh dhuibh. Chi sibh an sin iad. Chi sibh iad an ath bhliadhna; dh'fhoadadh sibh am faicinn am bliadhna, an uraidh, a' bhliadhna roimh sin agus gach bliadhna gu ceithir fichead bliadhna roimh sin. Chi sibh an sin iad, roghadh is taghadh ar luchd-dùtchea, an cùlaibh ri tìr na daorsa,—Albainn; an tìr leis am b'fhearr fèidh is cearca-fraoich na Gàidheil chalmna, agus a ruagadh iad bho chùirt gu mòd 's bho mhòd gu prìosan na'n deanadh iad uiread agus amharc air na h-iodhalan sin, no na'n deanadh iad oidhirp air làn beoil dhoibh fhéin agus d'an teach-laichean a thoir a' monadh no á allt. Ach tha an aghaidhean air Tìr na Saorsa taobh eile a chuain,—America,—dachaidh nam fògarraich a tha 'g an cuireadh a null le gairdeanan sgaoilte; tìr anns nach eil "fiadh a thoir a' fireach" no "breac a thoir á linne" 'na chionta bàs-thoilteanaich, agus far am bheil coille dhòmhail fo'n cuimrig a réir am miann. "Ach de idir a ghabhas deanadh gu stad a chur air an t-suidheachadh so, gu faotainn cuidhte 's an t-uallach so a th'air ar druim agus a tha 'cur sgaoilidh 'nar càinain, agus gu leigheas a chur anns a'

chreuchd fhosgailte so?" 'Se mo bharail-sa nach eil ann ach aon rathad, agus 's e so e:—"deanaibh sealg nam monaidhean agus iasgach nan tha an iuchair 'nar dorn." "Cha iasgach nan allt coitheadh do gach neach mu a bha iad bho thùs, agus tha an iuchair 'nar dorn." "Cha bhiodh an sin creutair beò, eum no iasg ri'n faicinn taobh a' staigh dheich bliadhna," tha sibh ag ràdh. 'S e am freagradh a bheir mi dhuibh:—"Mur a bitheadh no thogair!" tha sinn mar rioghachd a' pàidheadh ro dhaor air an son agus tha an t-àm air teachd, tha e eadhon thar an ama, anns am bheil e mar fhaicheadh oirn nì sam bith a tha 'cur bacadh air maith coitheadh na dùtchea a thilgeadh ris na gaothaibh as an t-sealladh, agus gun aon phrìoba a thoir d'ar suil as a dhéidh.

A' chrìoch.

—:o:—

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

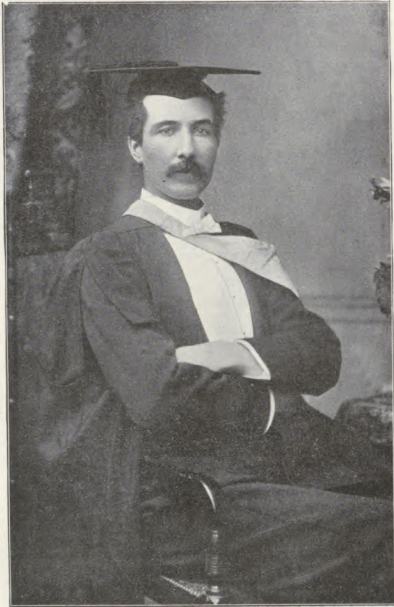
THE REVEREND GEORGE HENDERSON,
M.A. Edin., B. Litt. Oxon., Ph.D. Vienna.

The Rev. Dr. George Henderson, Lecturer on Celtic Language and Literature in the University of Glasgow, is the distinguished man whose portrait we present in this issue to our readers. A thorough Highlander by birth and nurture, he is an ardent lover of the Highlands as well as a profound scholar in their ancient tongue, and an eloquent exponent of its treasures and its beauties.

Born in 1866 in the parish of Kiltarlity, he belongs on the maternal side to the great clan of that region, the clan Fraser. From the local school he passed to that notable seminary, Raining's School, Inverness, where he pursued his studies under the late Alexander MacBain, LL.D. His University career, first at Edinburgh and then at Oxford, gave brilliant promise of future eminence. At Edinburgh he was Medallist in four of the Arts classes—Rhetoric, Celtic languages, and Moral Philosophy both junior and senior. Twice he carried the Queen's Celtic Scholarship, and in the second year of his Divinity course he won the Hepburn Prize for the best examination before the Presbytery of Edinburgh. At Oxford he enjoyed the distinction of an Honorary Scholarship at Jesus College; and passing to the Continent—like so many of the Celtic saints and scholars of ancient days—he took at Vienna the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

In the year 1900 he served for six months as Royal Bounty Missionary in the parish of Morven, where his warm human sympathy

of his pulpit power. In the following year he was ordained as colleague and successor to the Rev. Kenneth MacKenzie, minister



REV. DR. HENDERSON.

and evangelical preaching—neither of them hindered in the slightest either by his foreign travel or his deep scholarship—combined to raise the highest expectations

of Eddrachilis; and on his settlement there he married Agnes Dorothea, youngest daughter of William Lancelot Nieburhr, Esq., Oxford. In that parish he laboured

with singular success and acceptance, highly thought of, greatly respected, popular with all ranks in the parish, giving a tone to its society, and proving again, as he had proved before at Morven, that now as in the Eighteenth century, a Highland minister need not be less beloved by his people if he is altogether free from bigotry or narrow-mindedness, and is a scholar and a gentleman as well as an earnest and pious Christian.

Eddrachilis is one of the most remote of the West Highland parishes; but the light of Dr. Henderson's Gaelic learning could not be hid. Scholars of the highest eminence in England, in Ireland, and on the Continent, acknowledged him a master of Celtic erudition. His edition of the Life of John Morison the Harris hymnist, his edition of *Bricriu's Feast* (an old Irish tale) and his *Leabhar nan Gleann*—an excellent collection of Gaelic prose and poetry, shewed him abreast of the best Celtic scholars in Europe; and when the University of Glasgow, realising at long last, that Gaelic was a subject which it (of all Universities) was least entitled to neglect, was looking out for a permanent holder of its Lectureship in Celtic, it was to Dr. Henderson that its eye was turned. For several years, with the kind assistance of the Presbytery, he was enabled to combine the position of Lecturer at Glasgow, with the pastoral charge of his parish. But apart from the fact that "pluralities" are not popular in Scotland—though the united stipends of the two posts hardly made a decent living between them—Dr. Henderson was not the man to be satisfied with anything less than the full and conscientious discharge of the duties alike of his lectureship and of his cure. For the latter, other men might be fit: for the former he had no equal in Scotland, perhaps in Britain; and when the University became able to provide not a mere *honorarium* but something that might be called stipend (though a small one), it was clear alike to Dr. Henderson and to the Church authorities, which of the two positions he should choose. He resigned Eddrachilis—but not the Holy Ministry; and he is proving at Glasgow one of the most useful of the whole staff in the sacred work of preparing young men for the Highland ministry, as well as in advancing, to a high degree of scientific accuracy, the study of the language, the literature, the institutions, and the history of the Gael. He commands the admiration

of his colleagues, and the affectionate devotion of his students. He continues his learned researches and his literary labours; and in his recent volume on the Norse influence in the Western Highlands he has made a notable contribution to the history of Scotland.

It is earnestly to be desired that his Lectureship should be adequately endowed and converted into a professorship; and just as King Charles I. said, that it was worth while erecting the Bishopric of Edinburgh if it were only because it enabled him to give it to a preacher so admirable as Dr. William Forbes, so we may say it would be well worth the while to erect a Professorship of Celtic in the University of Glasgow for the purpose of rewarding so eminent an exponent of the subject as Dr. George Henderson. We have got the man: we should make the post.

Is e ar dùrachd nach'èil an là fad as gus am faic sinn an duine còir, fiachail, fòghluimte, an seilbh àrd-chathair na Gaidhlig an Oil-thaigh Ghlascho.

—:O:—

LEASAIN GHÀIDHLIG.

"AN STOIRM."

"Nach b'fhiadhaich an oidhe bha ann an raoir a Chaluin?" arsa Tormod Mór, an uair a choinnich iad a chéile air an rathad anns a' mhaduinn a' dol a (1) *mach leis a' chrodh*.

"Seadh, da rìreadh," fhreagair am fear eile, "bha dìreach eagal mo' bheath' orm gu'n tigeadh an taigh a nuas nu mo cheann."

"O, bha thusa ceart gu leòir dheth (2) *air a phuinc sin*," ars' am fear eile, (3) *"tha taigh geal agad-sa."*

"Geal no dubh," ars' Calum, bha an leòir ri dheanamh aig (4) *na cabair* anns an taigh a b'fhearr anns a' bhaile an raoir."

"Bha aig mo thaigh-sa, co dhiubh," arsa Tormod; "bha mise coma na'm fuiricheadh am nullach air—"

"Ach," arsa Calum, 's e a' cur stad air còmhradh Thormoid, "co tha so a tighinn? nach ann (5) *air a tha an sgoinn*."

"Tha Domhnall Ruadh, an ceàrd," arsa Tormod, "an duine bochd! bha oidheche fhuair aige-san agus aig a theaghlach anns (6) *a' phùbull* an raoir."

"Maduinn mhath, dhuibh fheara," arsa Domhnall 's e tighinn dluth orra."

"Maduinn mhath dhuit," arsa na bodaich

(7) *a beul a chéile.* "Ach dé mar a chuir sibh seachad an oidhche raoir?" dh'fhoighnich Tormod.

"O, gle mhath," arsa Domhnall, "ged a bha (8) *srann math* air a ghaoith."

"Srann math!" fhreagair Calum le iongantás, "srann math! an e sin a tha thu 'g radh?"

"Bha truas mo chridhe agam riut fhéin agus ri do theaghlach; fad' na h-oidhche cha b' urrainn mi sgur a' smaointeachadh oirbh."

"Car son so?" ars' an Ceàrd.

"Bha dìreach," arsa Calum, "eagal orm gu'n seideadh a' ghaath air falbh an pùbùil agaibh 's gu'm fàgadh i ruisgte sibh."

"Horul!" arsa Domhnall, 's e deanamh gaire mór, "ma tà a charaid 's ann a bha truas mór agam-sa ribh fhéin: bha eagal orm-sa nach biodh (9) *sgraith no sgealb* air lèrg agaibh an diugh: na taighenan (10) *grannda* sin agaibh, dubh agus geal, cha robh iad sàbhailte riamh anns an stoir: chaidil mise cho suaimhneach ris an rìgh an raoir."

Chrath na bodaich an cinn agus ghluais iad air falbh.

"Seadh a nis," arsa Calum, "dé do bheachd air a' Cheàrd?"

"Beachd bochd," fhreagair Tormod, (11) *cha'n aithne dha na's fhearr*, ach, b' fhearr leam-sa gu'm b' urrainn domh a bhi cho sona ris."

"Dìreach! dìreach!" arsa Calum—(12) "*mar is motha gheibh an duine 's ann is motha dh'iarraas e.* 'S math an leasan a thug Domhnall dhuinn, an diugh: gu'm a fàla beò Domhnall Ceàrd."

AM BUACHAILL.

- (1) Going out with the cattle—sending cattle to pasture.
- (2) Lit. : on that point—in that respect.
- (3) You have a *white house*. "Taigh geal"—stone and lime house with felt or slate roof. "Taigh dubh"—thatched cottage.
- (4) The beams—rafters.
- (5) Lit. : Is it not on him (that) there is the hurry—what a hurry he is in?
- (6) A tent or booth; ex. : shuidhich iad an pùbùil—they pitched their tents. Cf. Bith.
- (7) Out of each mouth, i.e., together.
- (8) Good (tight) breeze—sound or whistling of the wind.
- (9) Neither turf nor stick (turf covers beams under thatch).
- (10) Lit. : ugly (i.e., in the sense of mean, or useless).
- (11) He does not know (what is) better.
- (12) The more a man gets the more he wants.

AN SGOIL BHEAG.

Am bheil Màiri a staigh, a Sheònaid? Cha'n'eil, tha i anns a' bhàthaich no anns an taigh-bhainne. Gairm oirre a thigainn a staigh. Am bheil thu'n sin a Mhàiri? Tha, le ur cead, eiod a b' àill leibh? Tha mi faicinn dà charaid a tighinn rathad an taighe troimh an achadh an dràs, agus bu mhath leam grèim dinnearach a thoirt dhaibh. Cuir anart glan air a' bhòrd, agus dean ullachadh air an son. Cuin a bu mhath leibh an dinneir a bhi ullamh (deas)? Cho luath 's is urrainn duit, a Mhàiri, tha e nis seachad air meadhon là, agus tha sinn a' dol a thaghadh cuid chaorach an dèigh na dinnearach. An robh fhios agaibh gu'n robh iad a' tighinn an diugh? Bha, ach dhi-chuimhnich mi sin innèadh dhuit. Cha'n 'eil sibh a' toirt mòran uine dhomh, ach feuchaidh mi 'bhi ullamh mu dhà uair. Ni sin feum, a Mhàiri. Tha pailteas lòn agad—tha eanraich na maighich a thug mi as a' mhonadh air bhò'n dé, agus nach do mharbh sinn molt aig toiseach na seachdain? Cha'n 'eil dith lòn oirnn—tha mairt-fheoil, muilte-fheoil agus cuid sìthinn againn, agus do tuille a dhiarramaid?

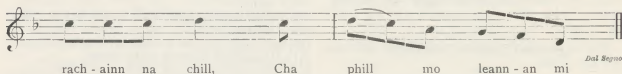
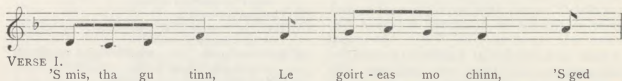
EADAR-THEANGACHADH.

Is Mary in the house, Janet? No, she is in the byre or in the milk-house. Call on her to come in. Are you there, Mary? Yes, by your leave, What is your wish? I see two friends coming the way of the house through the field just now, and I would like to give them a bite of dinner. Put clean linen on the table, and make provision for them. When would you like the dinner to be ready? As soon as you can, Mary, it is now past mid-day, and we are going to select some sheep after the dinner. Did you know they were coming to-day? I did, but I forgot to tell you that. You are not giving me much time, but I will try to be ready about two o'clock. That will do, Mary. You have plenty of food you have the soup of the hare I brought from the hill the day before yesterday, and have we not killed a wedder at the beginning of the week? There is no want of food with us—we have beef, mutton, and some venison, and what more would we ask?

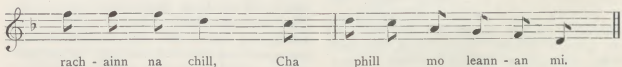
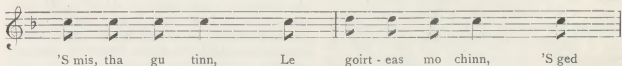
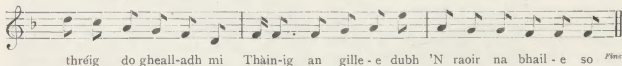
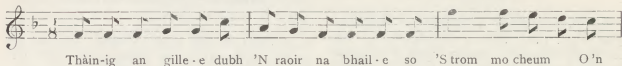
(A.) THAINIG AN GILLE DUBH.

SOLO.

FAMOUS WAULKING SONG.

(Rhythm brisk and very even; notes sharply cut, almost staccato).

(B) SANDY'S VERSION.



D. C.

Noted in Eigg by W. M. Parker, August, 1908. Version A. from Archie Macdonald (na bantraich), aged 40 to 50 years; Version B. from his son, Sandy, aged 14. Both versions differ from that in A' Choiris Chiuil (p. 13), the first very considerably. It is also interesting to note that the verses sung were the 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 11th, as given in "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd," p. 379.

COMPETITIONS AND TEST SONGS FOR MOD OF 1912.

JUNIOR SECTION.

"ORAN TIMES" TROPHY: TEST SONGS.

- 1, "Mo Chùrachan," unpublished air.
- 2, "A Dhomhnuill bhig," No. 6 in "Am Brù-Dhearg."
- 3, "Caidil gu lò," No. 6 in "An Lòn-Dubh," Part I.

New alto parts will be written for these three songs. They will be published in leaf-let form.

UNISON SINGING.

- 1, "Dh-éirich mi moch maduinn cheòthar."
- 2, "Moch Di-luain ghabh i'n cuan."

Nos. 7 and 16 in "Am Brù-Dhearg."

PORT-A-BEUL COMPETITION FOR CHILDREN.

Two specified tunes of which copies may be had from the General Secretary, Mr. John Maclean.

READING WITH EXPRESSION.

Three pieces from "Dàin Thaghte," viz., "Coire Bhreacain," "Cothachaibh," and "Loch Duthaich."

RECITATION.

Two pieces from "Aig Tigh na Beinne" by Mrs. K. W. Grant, "Am Fuaran àrd," and "Crònan."

LITERARY COMPETITIONS.

Special Prizes of £2 and £1 will be given to the teachers whose pupils win the highest aggregate marks, and similar prizes to the teachers whose pupils win the highest average marks in the Literary Competitions.

SENIOR SECTION.

CHIEF CHORAL COMPETITION: TEST SONGS.

- 1, "Clann nan Gaidheal (Test Song).
- 2, "Bàigh Rùsgaich."
- 3, "Mi'n shuidh' ann ònar."

The choirs will also prepare a song of their own choice.

ORAIN MHOHA.

- 1, "Brataichean na Fèinne" (unpublished).
- 2, "Oran air Latha Chuil-odair" (unpublished).

LADIES' CHOIRS.

- 1, "Fhir a dhìreas am Bealach."
- 2, "Cagaran Gaolach."

Nos. 36 and 43 in "Còisir a' Mhòid."

MALE VOICE CHOIRS.

Two songs in Three-part Harmony to be arranged and printed.

LITERARY COMPETITIONS.

Essay on "The Love Songs of the Gael."

New Gaelic Words for a specified air in Patrick MacDonald's Collection.

Gaelic Play suitable for children.

MUSICAL COMPOSITION.

Original Air for "Oran do Dhomhnuill Gorm Og" in the MacDonald Collection of Gaelic Poetry.

Harmony prize for a Four-part arrangement of the air of "Gaoir nam Ban Muil-each."

A GLEAM FROM A CEILIDH FIRE.

At the lip of night I turned my steps to the house on the glen's neck which stands where three glens meet, and from the ever-open door of which can be seen that majestic mountain which sends water into the Three Rivers. In out of the Autumn night I went—warm the hand-clasps, warm the glow of the peat fire, warmer still the bidding in the kindly Gaelic, to sit by it, and lay aside my plaid and cronag, and partake of the wanderer's portion. But it is not of this I would speak, nor of the asking for friends, apart in distance, but near in thought, nor of the simple, kindly interchange of thoughts (sometimes unspoken) which ever pass where old friend meets tried friend, that I would tell you either; but of the song which "Bean an Taighe" gave us, standing erect (as an Isleswoman should), the glow of the fire lightening and darkening her face—the song tossing and ebbing, as her own seas taught her:—

"Dh' fhag mi 'n so 'na shìneadh e,
'N a shìneadh e, 'n a shìneadh e,
Gu 'n d' fhag mi 'n so 'n a shìneadh e
'Nuair dh' fhalbh mi bhuain nam bràileagan."

... One fancied one saw the mother picking her way through the wild wood to the root of the great oak, where she had left her baby—her fragrant one—lying in that sleep, which we forget how to sleep when childhood leaves us, and we pull our bonnets over our brows, and set stern faces to the road with the many twists. On her, as she nears the spot, though she has not yet seen it, grows a numb fear, gripping her heart, and making her stumble in her haste. She reaches the spot, only to find her worst fears realised, and her baby gone—carried off by the Folk of Peace, the folk of the mad pranks and wistful yearnings—not mortal, yet would-be mortal, stealers of babes, but, we feel sure, cherishers of them when stolen, but:—

"Fhuair mi lorg an dobhrain duinn,
An dobhrain duinn, an dobhrain duinn,
Gu 'n d' fhuair mi lorg an dobhrain duinn,
'S cha d' fhuair mi lorg mo chubhrachan."

... A moment she wrings her hands over a wrung heart, and then away in her frenzied search—the otter's track she finds, and a hard track it is to find and follow, as those of us know who have followed the tiny scratches over the river banks and across the frozen snow; and mayhap she even has a word with the little wise beast himself—but never a sign of her "Cubhrachan"—

"Mo chubhrachan, o ho, ho!"

If ever music painted choked sobs coming from a heart beating over-fast with fruitless running, surely we are hearing it, and the lucky ones we are too, but:—

"Fhuair mi lorg a' cheò 's a' bheinn,
A' cheò 's a' bheinn, a' cheò 's a' bheinn,
Ged fhuair mi lorg a' cheò 's a' bheinn,
Cha 'd fhuair mi lorg mo chubhrachan."

... Even the mist-track left on the ben, cannot escape the love-searching of the mother, but the Little Folk have done their work only too well, and her "Fragrant One" can now only come to her in the dreams of night.

Fine as is the whole song, the line which stands out, to me at least, is that wonderful "Fhuair mi lorg a' cheò 's a' bheinn." Ah! if one could catch the track of the mist on the ben, one would be *there*, would one not? The mist-track—is it not symbolical of all that yearning unsatisfied, and (here at least) unsatisfiable—that awful "ionndrainn" of the Celt (but what true Celt would wish to be without it?)—that fevered and wistful groping after, the ideal, the unattainable, that ever evades and eludes us, when it appears just about to disclose itself,—that longing for we hardly quite know what. Ah! if we could but find the mist's track on the Ben—all, all, and more than all would be ours: but it never, never, never will, until the last twist in the road brings us in sight of the Iubhraich Bhàn (white barge) waiting to carry our souls out into the sunset.

ALASTAIR MACLABHRAINN,
CRIANLARICH.

—:O:—

COMUNN NEWS.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH INBHIRNIS.—The annual ceilidh of Comunn Gaidhealach Inbhirnis took place on 9th ulto. in the Queensgate Hotel. There was a large attendance, and the gathering was conceded to be the most successful held since the inception of the branch seven years ago. A highly attractive programme of Gaelic songs was admirably sustained. The chair was occupied by Rothiemurchus, the genial president, who has always taken the keenest interest

in the progress of the branch. In the course of an excellent speech, the Chairman made special reference to the importance of the work done among the children in singing and in the promotion of the learning of the language. He thought the Comunn, taking that line, was working on wise and sound principles. What had done more harm to the Gaelic cause and what had caused the language to drop out more than anything else was the mistaken policy of the immediate result of the Education Act of 1873. Had proper provision been made for the teaching of the Gaelic language to the children under the national system of education, much spade work, which they were doing that day, would not be necessary. Mr. Wm. Mackay, President of An Comunn Gaidhealach, spoke with reference to the progress of the Gaelic movement within recent years. The membership of An Comunn Gaidhealach, he said, consisted, about four years ago, of seven or eight hundred persons. Last year the membership at the time of the Mòd in Edinburgh was about 2000. This year at the Mòd in Glasgow the membership was 2945. That, of course, included not only the members of the Inverness Branch, but all the other branches. In round numbers they had at present 3000 men and women working for the Gaelic cause. Until a few years ago the work of the Mòd was done in one day, and sometimes easily done. Now three days were set apart for the competitions and concerts and a fourth day for business, so that their Mòd now was really a little Parliament. That success was very gratifying. Miss Fraser, conductor of the Inverness Junior Gaelic Choir, had asked him to explain that the children's Mòd would be merged in the big Mòd next year. He would remind parents that the preparation for the Mòd had already begun. It was of the highest importance that children who intended to compete in choirs or individually should without delay join the music classes and also the Gaelic classes held in various parts of the country. Mr. Mackay concluded by addressing the meeting in Gaelic, in which he referred to the increased interest manifested by the people in the Gaelic language and music. Both the Chairman and Mr. Mackay made special reference to the success of the Inverness Adult and Junior Gaelic Choirs, conducted by Mr. Roderick Macleod and Miss Kate Fraser respectively. The Rev. D. Connell gave a Gaelic address.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH AN OBAIN.—Under the auspices of this branch a ceilidh was held on 16th ulto. in the Supper room of the Argyllshire Gathering Hall, Oban. Dr. Kenneth Campbell, vice-president of An Comunn Gaidhealach, presided, and gave a stirring address. Mr. Kenneth Macleod, Crianlarich, gave an excellent Gaelic address; and Mr. Alastair C. MacLaren, Crianlarich, together with local vocalists, sustained an attractive programme of song.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH DHUNBRATUNN.—On the 21st ulto. this newly-formed Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held its second meeting in the Wesleyan Church Hall, Dunbarton. Mr. Hector Fraser, the president, presiding. In the course of his address the chairman referred to the initial success of their Comunn, the membership being doubled since their first meeting. This, he said, was prospective of still greater attainment. He extended a hearty welcome to Mr. John Maclean, General Secretary, who addressed the meeting in Gaelic and English. Mr.

Maclean fully explained the objects of An Comunn, and strongly recommended the adherence of all Highlanders to the traditions of their ancestors, and said that these traditions could be best maintained by keeping always in mind that they were Highlanders, and by preserving and promoting the language of their race. Mr. Lamont, who was mainly instrumental in forming this Branch, thanked Mr. Maclean and the friends who had accompanied him for their counsel and encouragement. An excellent programme of song was sustained by Miss Phemie Marquis, Miss Kate Maclean, Mr. Wm. Reynolds, and Mr. Hector Morrison, all of Glasgow. Mr. Lawson proposed a vote of thanks to the singers.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH MEUR NA CRIANLARICH.—Chumadh a' cheud choinneamh de 'n Chomunn re a' Gheamhraidh an t'Ala na Crìanlarich oidhche Di-luain an 20mh latha de Cheud Mhios a' Gheamhraidh, 1911. Bha an Cenn-suidhe, an t-Uasal Coinneach MacLeod anns a chathair, is bha àireamh mhàille an lathair. Chuala an Comunn le duilichinn mhòr gu'n robh e am beachd Mhr. MhicLeoid dreuchd na cathrach a thoirt suas. Thug an Runair, Mhr. Alastair Mac abhrainn, iomradh air cuisean a' Chomuinn ré na bliadhna bha seachad, 's bha gach aon a bha 'n lathair làn riaraichte leis an t-soirbheachadh air an t-ug e iomradh. Thaghadh iad so 'nan luchd-dreuchd:—Cenn-suidhe, Alastair MacLabhrainn; iar-cheann-suidhe, Uisdean Sutharlan; run-chlèireach agus ionmhassar, Ian MacColla; ball-taght' air Comhairle a' Chomuinn, Alastair Stiubhard; luchd dreuchd, Coinneach MacLeod, Raibeart MacLaoman, Ian MacDhiarmaid, Seumas MacNaomhain, Aonghais MacKite, Ian MacDhombhuil, Raibeart Stiubhard. Representatives on Central Association.—Mrs. Malloch, Stronra, Crìanlarich; Miss Malloch, Port-an-eilean, Crìanlarich; Ian MacColl, Inverdran, Crìanlarich (secy.); Alastair C. Stewart, Hotel, Crìanlarich; Robert Stewart, Hotel, Tyndrum; Hugh Sutherland, Stronra, Crìanlarich; R. G. Lambie, Crìanlarich; James M'Niven, Inverdran, Crìanlarich. Na dheigh sin chaidh Ceilidh thaitneach a chumail, 's chaidh feasgar cridheal a chur seachad le òrain 's le pìobaireachd. Bha Mhr. Aonghas MacNeachdainn a Bochnidir an lathair 's thug e beannachdan a' chomuinn sin gu comunn na Crìanlarich.

KYLEAKIN.—This Branch of An Comunn was opened for the session by an open meeting held in the School on the evening of the 10th ult. Mr. John Anderson, president, presided over a large audience, and delivered a short address. The choir afterwards sang "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig," and then Mr. John N. Macleod, Dornie, who has done so much in advancing the Gaelic cause, delivered an eloquent address on "The Comunn: its Aims and Objects." Mr. Macleod earnestly advised all who had not yet joined the Comunn to become members at once, and as a result of his appeal twelve new members joined. *Is math thu, Iain, buaidh leat.*

KILLIN BRANCH.—The opening meeting of this Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held on Wed., 8th ult. in the Public Hall, Rev. Mr. Mackay, president, in the chair. There was a large attendance of the members present, all Gaelic speaking. They were delighted and charmed with an excellent and interesting address, from Mr. Kenneth Macleod, Crìanlarich, couched in elegant and exquisite Gaelic, and delivered with all his wonted magnetic power.

Mr. Alastair MacLaren sang several Gaelic songs with great taste and good feeling. Members of the Branch contributed effectively to the success of the evening. The session promises to be interesting and enjoyable. The next monthly meeting is to be held on Wed., Dec., 13th.

At the last monthly meeting of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow Mr. T. D. Macdonald was appointed representative of the Society on the Executive of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

* NOTICE.—Secretaries of Branches and Affiliated Societies are asked to send brief reports of their meetings to the Editor or to the office of An Comunn for insertion in the Magazine. All communications should reach the Editor not later than the 18th of each month.

—:O:—

COMING EVENTS.

GLASGOW HIGH SCHOOL GAELIC CLASS CEILIDH.
Dec. 2—Musical Evening, St. Columba Gaelic Choir.
„ 9—“An Gaidheal 's an Gall,” Mr. Hector MacDougall.
„ 16—“The Fionn Saga,” Canon M'Culloch, D.D.
„ 23—Social Evening.

GLASGOW ROSS AND CROMARTY ASSOCIATION.
Dec. 12—Limelight Lecture by Mr. T. D. MacKenzie, vice-president, “Edinburgh Past and Present.”

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed to Mr. Duncan Reid, Editor An Deo-Greine, Central Chambers, 12 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, annual subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

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MacEachen's Gaelic-English Dictionary,	-	2/6 4d
Regimen Sanitatis, Gaelic Medical M.S.,	-	10/6 4d
Julius Caesar in Scottish Gaelic,	-	2/- 3d
MacDonald's Collection of Gaelic Poetry,	-	21/- 6d
Aig Tigh na Beinne, by Mrs. Grant, just pub.,	4/6	4d
Clarsach an Doire, Neil MacLeod, new edition,	3/6	4d
Caraid nan Gaidheal, Norman MacLeod, D.D.,	5/-	5d
Beauties of Gaelic Poetry, by Mackenzie,	-	2/3 4d
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A' BHLIADHN' ÙR.

Thainig an t-seana bhliadhna gu crìch, agus tha a' Bhliadhn' ùr a' rioghachadh 'na h-aite. Le gach deagh dhùrachd tha sinn a' guidhe BLIADHNA MHATH ÙR AGUS MORAN DIUBH do ar luchd-leughaidh agus do ar luchd-dùthcha anns gach ceàrn. Tha na briathran-fàilteachaidh—no faodaidh sinn a ràdh na beannachdan sin—air bilean gach neach aig toiseach bliadhna, agus thainig iad a nuas dhuinn o na linntean a dh-fhalbh.

Simplidh 's mar dh-fhaodas iad a bhi, tha na briathran sin a' giùlan amta féin gach buadh agus deagh-ghean is urrainn cridhe an duine 'dhòrtadh a mach; tha iad mar mhac-talla nam briathran glòrmhor a chuireadh an cèill bho chionn faisg air dà mhìle bliadhna "Sith air thalamh agus deagh-ghean do dhaoine." Nach eil am facal "MATH" a' ciallachadh agus a' gabhail a staigh maithas de gach gnè—cha'n e a mhàin soirbheachadh saoghalta, ach gach beannachd 'us maithas is urrainn innntinn

an duine a bhreithneachadh, air am bheil cridhe an duine an geall, agus air am bheil e am feum. Nuair a shineas sin an fhàilte sin—"BLIADHNA MHATH ÙR"—do ar comh-chreutairean, nach 'eil sinn a' guidhe gu'n lean agus gu'm mair maithas de gach seòrsa iad, cha'n e a mhàin ré na bliadhna air ùr-thòiseachd ach ré nam bliadhnachan ri teachd—"MORAN DIUBH." Is ann 's an spiorad sin, matà, a tha sinn a' cur na fàilte cridheil sin—"BLIADHNA MHATH ÙR" air ar luchd-dùthcha anns gach ceàrn anns am bheil iad.

Mar tha na h-aimsirean a' dol mu'n cuairt agus na bliadhnachan a' dol seachad, is iomadh atharrachadh a tha tighinn air cùisean an t-saoghail; agus mar is nàdurra tha gach bliadhna 'toirt barrachd air na chaidh roimpe ann am fòghlum, an eòlas agus an ealain de gach seòrsa.

Cha'n 'eil bliadhna nach 'eil a' toirt fo ar comhair nithean ùra agus annasach—a' chuid mhór dhiubh a chum math agus aghartachd a' chinneadh-daonna, ged a dh-fhaodas cuid a bhi air atharrachadh dòigh.

Bha a' bhliadhna 'chaidh seachad, fìor shoirbheachail ann an cèirdean na rioghachd, gu sònraichte anns na bailtean mòra far am bheil am mòr-shluagh a' cosnadh an teachd-an-tìr.

Tha e 'na aobhar duilichinn gu'n robh mòran ainmheir 'us còmhstri eadar luchd-oibre agus ann maighstearan mu na cùmhnantan oibreachaidh fo'n robh rian na h-obaire air a' riaghladh. Ged nach 'eil an trioblaid fhathast aig crìch ann measg cuid dhiubh, tha e 'na aobhar taingeachd do'n riogh-

achd uile gu'm bheil, aig deireadh na bliadhna, cùisean air an rèiteachadh eadar mòran dhiubh, agus gu'm bheil coltas air na maighstearan agus an luchd-oibre a bhi tighinn ni's dlùithe d'a cheile gu comh-chòrdadh. Air sgàth math agus soirbheachadh na rioghachd, tha sinn an dòchas gu'm bi còrdadh buan eatorra, a bhitheas taitneach agus buannachdail do gach taobh.

A bhi tighinn ni's dlùithe do ar cùisean fein—aoibhar na Gaidhealtachd—cha'n 'eil sinn idir riaraichte gu'n d' fhuair cùisean na Gaidhealtachd an cothrom no an ceartas a tha dligeach dhi mar roinn de'n rioghachd. Cha'n urrainn duinn, 's cha'n 'eil sinn a' dol a ràdh, aon fhacal mu mhodh-riaghlaidh na rioghachd a tha no a bha—tha glas-ghuib oirnn mu'n chùis sin—ach faodaidh sinn a ràdh gun oilbheum a thoirt do aon neach, nach d' fhuair cànan no cùisean eile na Gaidhealtachd, aon chuid cothrom no ceartas aig làmhnan luchd-riaghlaidh na rioghachd, tha sinn coma ciod a' bhuidheann parlamaid a bha no a tha an ùghdarras. Tha fhios aig na h-uile a tha gabhail suim idir do chùisean na Gaidhealtachd gu'n d' rinneadh dearmad air còirichean nan Gaidheal, agus am beagan misneachaidh a fhuair teagasg na Gaidhlig anns na sgoiltean bho'n Chrùn, gu'm b' ann, mar theirte, "aig bàrr na biodaige."

Ma tha na Gaidheil a' dol a chumail suas an dùthchais mar chinneach gu slàn, iomlan, feumaidh iad grèim teann a ghabhail air cànan agus air seana chleachdaidhean an dùthcha, agus anns an t-seachd so dheanamaid agartas dùrachdach ri pàrantan ri ministearan, ri luchd-teagaisg, agus ri gach neach aig am bheil spéis do'n Ghaidhealtachd gu'n cleachd iad gach oidhirp a chum aoibhar na Gaidhlig a chuir air aghaidh gu sònraichte a measg na cloinne. Ciod air bith a' bhuidheann-parlamaid a bhios an ùghdarras, tha sinn an dòchas gu'n tog na-Gaidheil an guth gu aon-intinneach, agus gu'n ruig an guth chuasan a' Chrùin, 's nach dean iad stad gun am bi reachdan air an cur air bonn a bhitheas a chum aghartachd agus feairrdeachd na Gaidhealtachd.

Tha sinn a' gabhail a' chothroim so aig toiseach na bliadhna gu bhi a' toirt buidheachais do ar luchd-leughaidh airson a' mhìsneich a fhuair sinn uapa anns an àm a chaidh seachad. Cha'n 'eil sinn gun dòchas gu'n teid àireamh ar luchd-leughaidh am meud, gu'm mair iad dileas do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach, agus gu'n cuidich iad rùntan

a' Chomuinn a choimhlionadh 'nan làn iomlanachd.

Tha sinn gu sònraichte an comain an luchd-sgrìobhaidh a thug dhuinn, bho àm gu h-àm, cuideachadh cho saor, falaiddh, gu bhi 'lìonadh duilleagan "An Deo Gréine"; agus tha sinn toilichte a ràdh gu'n d' thug an sgrìobhaidhean tollaintinn agus buannachd do ar luchd-leughaidh.

Gu modhail dh-iarramaid orra an cuid-eachadh a shineadh a mach dhuinn anns an dòigh cheudna, air a' bhliadhna so; agus riù-san nach do shin fhathast làmh-chuid-eachaidh, theireamaid "Thigibh . . . agus cuidichibh leinn."

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A PHONOGRAPH RECORD COMPETITION.

The Mòd Committee recommend that this year a prize should be offered for the best Record, on an Edison Phonograph, of a Gaelic Song by a native singer of at least 55 years of age. Last year a similar competition was announced and valuable prizes offered by Mrs. Parker of Fairlie. No competitor appeared, however. It is possible that the conditions were too difficult, at least, for beginners in the art of taking phonograph records. This year conditions are made easier; no transcription of the music is asked for, but simply the reproduction of the records in the hearing of the judges, who will have regard both to the value of the song and the clearness of the record. Good unpublished songs or interesting variants of published ones should be recorded by competitors. They can be afterwards transcribed by experts.

The process of taking down a song is extremely simple, with the necessary apparatus. For the *Edison Phonograph*—the only instrument at present on the market that can take records—an extra fitting is required for engraving the record of the song on a blank cylinder. This is not very expensive, and blank cylinders are quite cheap—about 6d. each. All that is required is to get the singer into a good humour, place the cylinder in position and the recording disc on the end of the trumpet tube instead of the reproducing apparatus, start the machinery, and persuade the singer to sing the song into the trumpet at close range. When the song is finished put on the reproducer, with the round agate point, on the newly-cut grooves and the song is given back with the

most marvellous perfection. It can, of course, be repeated many times, and the notes can be taken down on paper at leisure. Granted a musical ear and a little practice this should not be a difficult task. An ingenious musician of my acquaintance tunes his records to the piano by slowing down or accelerating the speed of the clockwork, and then plays piano accompaniments to the voice produced from the waxen cylinder!

It should be stated that the gramophone is not yet fitted with a reproducing apparatus, and the Columbia Graphophone Company have ceased selling cylinder record machines and taken to the production of the more portable flat circular disc record. But in almost every Highland parish there must be Edison Phonographs in use, and it would be a most desirable thing that they should be utilised for the collection of Highland airs. The possessor of a phonograph would find it well worth while to get a reproducing apparatus and a few blank cylinders for taking records of local singers, the voices of friends, speeches, violin or bagpipe playing, etc., etc. It would be a source of much amusement and specially might serve to keep from total loss much valuable folk song.

To work the mechanical part of the record taking, musical knowledge is not necessary—a child can do it. If good songs were got, the records could be posted to expert musicians who, also possessing phonographs, could easily note down the music in writing. The words should be carefully written down by the collector from the native singer. The record cylinder will not take more than three or four verses of a song. In short melodies it is quite possible to take two songs on the same cylinder, with the air of each twice repeated.

We trust that the offer of this prize will induce people here and there to furnish up old phonographs and try their skill at the business. It is almost certain that in every parish there must be two or more old songs worth preserving. Even in very unlikely places songs will be found still lingering in the memories of old folk. In the tenements of Oban and Glasgow and Edinburgh there are old folks, exiles from their native homes in the far glens and islands, who can sing at least one old song of the days of their youth. Mr. K. MacLeod tells me that he recently got on the phonograph what is by far the best version of "Cumha Mac-Ghille Chaluim Rarsaidh" yet recovered, from an old Raasay woman of over 80 years

of age, who was lately visiting a friend at Claisgour, Bridge - of - Orchy. The song is being transcribed by Mrs. Kennedy Fraser, and will be issued in a new volume of songs which she is now engaged upon. I had the pleasure of hearing the song on the phonograph, and the effect of it was weird and wonderful. It seemed like a voice from the far past centuries of Hebridean history full of elemental passion and pathos.

Decidedly the use of the phonograph should be encouraged as much as possible by An Comunn Gaidhealach, for the purpose of collecting folk song. When the city Gael goes on holiday he might carry with him to the North and West a phonograph instead of a camera. He might make it a new form of sport which would combine utility with amusement.

M. N. M.

SENIOR CHORAL MUSIC.

The booklet containing three songs arranged in four-part harmonies for Senior Choirs is now ready. The first song, "Mi'm shuidh 'am ònar," by Cameron of Rannoch, is set to the beautiful air supplied by Mr. J. McCallum, Tighnambarr, Taynuilt, for the "Oran Mòr" Competition at the Edinburgh Mòd. The air is an arrangement for the voice of the pipe tune, "Tighearna òg Dun Gallain." The harmony by Dr. J. Bell, Mus. D., obtained a first prize at the Mòd of last year.

The No. 2 test piece is Neil McLeod's "Clann nan Gaidheal," which the bard composed to the tune of "Tha tighinn fodham éirigh." The arrangement by Dr. J. Bell, to whose able assistance our Mòd choral music owes so much, has been very popular in the South to English words, and is a number in Parlance's "National Choir." It contains varied harmonies for four verses of the song, and should prove very testing, especially to the quality of tenors and basses.

The third song is the popular Glen Urquhart hunting song, "Braith Rùsgaich." New harmonies have been specially written for the Mòd Committee this year by Mr. Roddie. Mr. Roddie has also kindly written parts for the male voice choral songs as well as the three children's pieces.

Choirs are also expected to prepare a fourth song of their own choice for the Choral Competition. There should thus be plenty of fresh and interesting music heard at the forthcoming Inverness Mòd.

The Mòd Committee wish choirs to give a recital of the long tune, "French," at Inverness. At Edinburgh this old tune awakened much interest as a beautiful form of Gaelic sacred music the existence of which had been almost forgotten. In Inverness, where the long tunes were heard at Communion seasons in the chapel yard less than 20 years ago, the revival of the long tune not in unison, but with the splendid effect of a full choral rendering, should be very much appreciated. It is hoped that choir-masters will devote some time to the practice of the tune during the winter. It is published in "Coisir a Mhòid."

MOD SYLLABUS.

The Syllabus, Provisional, is now being printed. Copies will be ready for the Executive Meeting after the New Year.

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BEACHDAIREACHD AIR CLEACHD- AIDHEAN NAN AIRIDHEAN GAIDHEALACH.

(HIGHLAND SHIELING CUSTOMS.)

LE ALASTAIR STUBHART, GLEANN LIOBHAINN.

Fhuair am paipeir so a' cheud duais aig Mòd, 1911.

I.

Is e beachd nam feallsanach a tha a' rannsachadh a mach mu eachdraidh a' chlinne-dhaoine gur e sealg bu phrìomh obair do'n t-sluagh anns na ceud linntean de'n t-saoghal. A réir bàrdachd is beul-aithris, is e sealg a b' obair shònruichte do an Fhéinn, an uair nach biodh iad a' cogadh an aghaidh nan naimhdean lionmhor aca.

Ach ghealladh ann an eachdraidh, chi sinn gu'n do thòisich an sluagh a bha ag aiteachadh nan dùthchan anns an Ear air a bhi frithealadh do spréidh, do chroth, do chaoirich, is do ghobhair. Chunnac iad gu'n robh so 'na dhoigh na bu chinntiche 's na bu shocraiche air a bhi cosnadh am beò-shlainte na le bhi leanachd bheathaichean fiadhaich le boghachan-saighead is croinn-thabhuill. Bu chomharra sin air an adhartas a rinn iad, mar a tha treabhachas na chomharra air an adhartas a rinn na Ìinntean a thainig an deigh sin.

Chi sinn, matà, gur e frithealadh do spréidh an obair shònruichte bha aig Abraham ann an tìr Chaldaea, agus aig na prìomh athraichean 'na dheigh. Bhiodh iad,

coltach ri ar sinnsear fhéin, a siubhal leotha bho aite gu aite an tòir air fear na b' fhearr agus pailteas uisge. B' ionmhuinn le Daibhidh bhi treorachadh nan treudan "ri taobh nan uisgeachan theid seachad sios gu mall." Auns an Ear, an Australia, an Africa, agus ann an America mu dheas tha daoine fhathast a leanachd a gheachda cheudna an uair bhitheas an tiormachd a' losgadh an fheòir far am bi iad aig an àm, agus a' dol astaran fada. Is fhada bho na thoisich an cleachda bhi dol as deigh ionalt-radh na b' fhearr anns an dùthaich againn fhéin; cha'n urrainn sinn innseadh cia co fhada sa tha bhuath. Bha ar rioghachd Albannach cho troimh-cheile 's cho neo-shuidhichte fad iomadh linn, agus nach robh e furasd adhartas a dheanamh ann an dad idir. Bha aig an t-sluagh ri aghaidh chumail ris na naimhdean bho an taobh a mach, agus cha robh na cinn-cinnidh agus luchd-iùil na dùthcha còrdadh gu maith. Is tric a bha muinntir an aon ghlinne cogadh ri sluagh glinn eile airson aobhar gle bheag. Tha e ri fhaicinn uime sin nach robh e tearuichte aig na h-uile àm anns na linntean fada air ais a bhi dol air astaran mòra le'm beathaichean anns an robh am beairteas aca, cha mhór uile, 'na laidhe. Ach tha e cinnteach gu'n d'eirich an cleachda bhi dol air ruigheachas suas gu àirde mhóir ann an taobh tuath na h-Alba, agus anns a Ghaidhealtachd, cha mhór gu h-ionnan.

A nis gu bhi dol a stigh anns a cheist tha rud no dhà mu 'n cuairt dì a chuireas iongantais oirnn. Is aon nì a chi sinn, gu'n robh ann am mòran aiteachan aig an t-sluagh ri dol astaran fada chun nan àiridhean a bhuineadh dhaibh fhéin gu dligeach. Is iomadh àite anns an robh aca ri dol còrr is fichead mìle air astar, agus ri dol thar mhonaidhean agus glinn eile mu'n ruigeadh iad. Agus cha robh e furasd a thuigsinn ciod an t-aobhar airson gu'n robh aca ri dol cho fada, oir bhiodh sluagh nan dùthchan, 'na uairean, a' crosgadh air a chéile. Ach mar bu trice, is ann na b' fhaide gu tuath a bhiodh an sluagh a' dol gu'n ceàrn Samhraidh, ceart mar a tha mòran de muinntir nam bailtean mòra deanamh an diugh. Mar dhearbhadh air a so, bhiodh tuath Braidh Shraath Teamhuill, a tha stigh gu maith ann an Siorrachd Pheairt, a' dol air ruigheachas cho fhada gu tuath ri Gaig, ann an Siorrachd Ionainis, far an robh comas aca fhéin agus àireamh de thuath Bhaideanaich an spréidh leigeadh seach do'n fhrith, ach air chùmhnannt gu'n truis-

eadh iad aig oidheche do na cròidhean iad. Bhiodh sluagh Adhailt a stiùireadh mach ri Braigh Ghlinnteilt agus na glinn eile bha crìochnachadh ri Siorrachd Abaradhain, agus 'na uairean a' dol stigh air crìochan Bhraigh Mhàir. Bhiodh muinntir Shìos Min Locha Rainneich dol gu taobh Loch Earrachd, astar mòran mhiltean. Bhiodh an sluagh a bha fuireach aig ceann shuas Loch Rainnich a' dol air ruigheachas do'n Chaire Odhar, no nunn gu taobh Loch Treig ann Siorrachd Ionairnis. Air uairean bhiodh iad a' bristeadh mach ris an Iar, ri Beinn a Bhric, no Coireachan Bà, agus an Monadh Dubh, ann an Siorrachd Earraghaidheal. Is ann mu na h-àiridhean a bha anns na h-aitean fàsail ud a bha an cur a mach eadar Morair Adhailt agus Lochial, an uair a choinnich oisgean a cheud aite a dh'ainnich sinn, agus miolchoin Lochabair. Is ann le Lochial chaidh an latha, agus mar chomharra air gu'n d'thug am Morair thairis na h-uile coir a bha e 'g agairt air na monaidhean fadhaich ud, thilg e a chlaidheamh anns an locha bheag bha fagus dhoibh, ris an abrar "Lochan a Chlaidheimh" gus an latha an diugh. Gle iongantach, anns an t-samhradh theth, 1826, an uair a bha'n lochan fìor thraighte fhuair giullan buachaill an claidheamh.

Gu bliadhna Thearlaich, bu le Tighearna Shruthain an Rainneach, fearann Shron-Fearnan air taobh deiseir Lochathath. Bhiodh tuath Fearnan a dol a h-uile bliadhna air ruigheachas gu Coire Chairidh, air Shìos garbh Loch Rainneach. Bhiodh iad a dol troimh bun Ghlinn-Liobhainn, agus a mach ri Làraigh Bharra chun nan àiridhean dlìgheach aca fhéin.

An uair bhiodh iad a pilltinn dhachaidh bheireadh iad leatha, na h-uile aon diubh, luchd eich de ghiuthas Coille Dhubh Rainneach air son nan tighean aca, no airson airneis a dheanamh. Cha deachaidh riamh rathad ceart a dheanamh thar na làraigh, ach tha clach mhór sgoilte ri taobh an rathaid shlaodaich, nis an abrar Clach-nan-sailean, far am biodh muinntir Fearnan a' tarruing an analach an déigh tighinn thar a mhullaich bho thaobh Rainneach. Bha fearann Barantachd Chumiridh sineadh mu'n cuairt de mhonadh Druimfhionn, air taobh deas abhainn Liobhann. Bha àiridhean tuath na Barantachd ri clathaich dheas Sithchaillion, àite ris an abrar gus an latha an diugh na Ruigheachan, a bha gus bho chionn da fhichead bliadhna air ais air a meas mar fhearann coitichionn (*commonly*), ach a tha

bho sin ann an seilbh Morair Bhraidalbain. Fhuair teaghlach Bhraidalbain fearann na Barantachd bho chionn dlùth air dà cheud bliadhna air ais, agus cha b' fhada an déigh sin gus an do sguir sluagh culthaobh Druimfhionn air dol gu ruigheachan Sithchaillion. Ach bha coir aca riamh air mòine thilgeadh air a mhonadh sin, fhad's bu mhiann leo sin a dheanamh gus mu dhà fhichead bliadhna air ais. An déigh dhaibh sgur de dhol do na h-àiridhean, chaidh na crìomagan beaga fearainn a bha mu'n cuairt de na cròidhean a threabhadh, cuid diubh cho àrd ri 1400 troidh os cionn na mara, a reir cumtanas an t-Seanalair Stiubhart, Ghart, ach tha iad a nis còmhdaichte le fraoch. Bhiodh tuath bun Ghlinn-Liobhainn dol suas gu bràigh a' ghlinne, cuid diubh astar choig mìle fhichead. Bhiodh tuath Toiseachd Ghlinn-Liobhainn, fearann nan Griogarach, a bha air taobh deas uisge Liobhainn, dol gu ruig na Lochan, fagus do chrìoch Rainneach.

Chi sinn mar sin gu'n robh na seann Ghaidheil gu minic dol air astaran fada gus na h-àiridhean dlìgheach aca fhéin, agus nach robh uile gu leir iomchuidh orra. A nis bha aobhar na dha ag oibreachadh air son muga mór a thoirt mu'n cuairt. Mar a thubhairt sinn cheana, bha aig a chleachda so a bha cho coitichionn air feadh na Gaidhealtachd àm anns an d'eirich e suas gu inbhe àrd, agus àm dol air ais, gus a nis a bheil e air tighinn gu ceann gu baileach, ach ann an cearnan de'n Eilean Fhada.

(*Ri leantuinn.*)

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INVERNESS MOD, 1912.

The Local Committee met on Monday, 18th December, in the offices of Mr. John Mackintosh, solicitor, local secretary and treasurer. Mr. Alistair Macdonald, chief accountant, Highland Railway, convener of the committee, presided. The president of An Comunn, Mr. William Mackay, was also present. The meeting agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that the Mòd should be held on 25th, 26th, and 27th September. A sub-committee was appointed to secure suitable hall accommodation for the Mòd proceedings.

—:o:—

The marriage of Mr. John N. Macleod, Dornie, to Anna Macleod, Bernera, Stornoway, took place on 27th ulto.—Hearty congratulations.

MO CHUBHRACHAN.

KEY G OR A_b. RANN.

Arranged by W. S. RODDIE.

{ : s₁ | d:-:r | m:-:s | l:-:l | l₁s:-:s | m:-:s | l:-:l | l₁s m:-:d | r:-: }

O dh'fhàg mi'n so 'na shìn - eadh e, 'Na shìn - eadh e, 'Na shìn - eadh e;

{ : r | d:-:r | m:-:s | l:-:l | s:-:s₁ | l₁:-:d | m:-:m | m₁r:-:d | d:-: }

Gu'n d'fhàg mi'n so 'na shìn - eadh e 'Nuair dh'fhalbh mi 'bhuain nam bracail - ea - gan,

SEIS. *pp* *p*

{ : r | m:-:r | d:-:r | m:-:r | m:-:s | m₁r:s₁ | l₁d:-:s₁ | m₁r:-:s₁ | r₁d:-: }

Mo chùbh - ra - chan dubh, cùbhraidh thu, Mo chùbh - rathan dubh, hó, hó;

p

{ : r | m:-:r | d:-:r | m:-:r | m:-:s | m₁r:s₁ | l₁d:-:s₁ | m₁r:-:s₁ | r₁d:-: }

Mo chùbh - ra - chan dubh, cùbhraidh thu, Mo chùbh - ra - chan dubh, hó, hó.

(Chorus may be twice repeated).

O fhuair mi lorg an dobhraìn duinn,
An dobhraìn duinn, an dobhraìn duinn,
Gu'n d'fhuair mi lorg an dobhraìn duinn;
'S cha d'fhuair mi lorg mo chùbhrrachain! —Seis.

O fhuair mi lorg a' cheò 'sa' bheinn;
A' cheò 'sa' bheinn, a' cheò 'sa' bheinn;
Ged fhuair mi lorg a' cheò 'sa' bheinn
Cha d'fhuair mi lorg mo chùbhrrachain. —Seis.

Notes.—We give the above song referred to in an article by Mr. A. C. M'Laren last month. It is a new version of the old song "Mo Chùineachan." In some districts the word used is "Mo Chùrrachan." Mrs. Malloch, Crianlarich, from whose beautiful singing this version has been taken down, is a native of North Uist, and "Cùbhrrachan" is the word used there. A slightly different version has been arranged in two parts for the children's choral competitions this year, by Mr. Roddie. In the above version, noted by Mrs. Kennedy Fraser from a phonograph record taken by Mr. K. MacLeod, the beautiful grace notes are all retained. These are essential in solo singing, but are difficult to manage in part singing. The arrangement for children's voices may now be had from the Secretary of An Comunn.

THE HIGHLAND EMIGRANT'S MOAN
FOR THE HEBRIDES.

(GAELIC AIR.)

Not the skiff on the wave, not the foam on
the shore,
Not the blue mists that rise on the Cliffs
of Stravore,
Will gladden my eyes when they strain o'er
the sea,
For the Land that is dearer than life far
to me!

Not the rush of the breeze, not the water-
fall's roar,
Not the flap of the wings when the
cormorants soar,
Will gladden my ears when they hearken in
vain,
For the sounds which are music and joy o'er
the main.

Not the bay of the hound, not the bell of
the deer,
Not the wild pibroch's summons rejoicing
the ear,
Will sound in the West wind that sweeps
o'er the wave,
In the land which to me will give only a
Grave!

Not the sounds of my youth, not the scenes
that I love,
Will gladden my heart in far lands where
I rove,
But, behind the dark clouds, and beyond the
sea's foam,
I shall find more than all in a Glorious
Home!

F. MARY COLQUHOUN.
EDINBURGH.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

 MRS. CAIRNS MACLACHLAN.

Mrs. Cairns MacLachlan, whose portrait we reproduce, has come prominently before the public in connection with the Clachan at the

She is a member of the Executive Council of the Scottish Christian Social Union, under whose scheme-of-work she conducts a Girls' Club, and is Leader of a Guild of Play for poor children.

She is Honorary Secretary for Glasgow and the West of Scotland of the National



MRS. CAIRNS MACLACHLAN.

recent Exhibition in Glasgow. Apart from this, however, she is well-known in various departments of public life in the City; she takes an active part in Church work, especially with the children, and in a wider sphere, social work generally has claimed her attention.

Home Reading Union, and her leisure time is devoted to the study of literature, music, and natural history.

She is a Life Member of the Glasgow Choral Union, a vice-president of the Scottish Patriotic Association, and of the Scottish Poets' Club, and a Life Member of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Amid these multifarious interests, Mrs. Cairns Maclachlan has found time to study Gaelic under the tuition of Mr. Duncan Reid, and to take an active part in Highland affairs. The interest which Mrs. Cairns Maclachlan displays in this connection is the direct result of that vein of patriotism for everything Scottish, that something (call it sentiment or what you will), which is inherent in the heart of every true Scot, whether Highland or Lowland. She herself is a native of Edinburgh, and a daughter of the Clan Scott, while, through her husband, she is connected with the counties of Argyll and Perth. Mrs. Cairns Maclachlan was responsible for the representation of the Highland Village at the Feill of 1907, which was, through her enthusiasm and excellent management, one of the most successful features of that Bazaar.

She was also responsible for the sale of work, under the auspices of the Co-operative Council of Highland Home Industries, held in Glasgow in 1909.

When the Scottish Exhibition of National History, Art, and Industry was decided upon, the Executive approached Mrs. Maclachlan, and discussed with her the idea of including a Highland village in the scheme of the Exhibition. She at once recognised the possibilities of the idea, and had no doubt that it could be made an attractive and fitting part of a Scottish Exhibition, and incidentally a means whereby money might be raised to benefit the Highlands and Islands.

She then brought the scheme before some prominent members of An Comunn, and along with them she waited on the management of the Exhibition, and ultimately arranged provisionally for a site within the Exhibition grounds. A committee was then formed, and a guarantee fund of £5000 raised. When this was accomplished, the foundation of the Clachan was securely laid.

The success which attended An Clachan throughout, was most marked, and the final result will be a permanent monument to the foresight, judicious management, and untiring zeal of the promoters, prominent among whom being Mrs. Cairns Maclachlan. The Highlanders of Glasgow showed great power of co-operation under Mrs. Maclachlan's guidance. Vocalists, dancers, pipe-bands, lecturers, Gaelic dramatists, etc., all united in one grand effort to make An Clachan successful, with the result that a profit of

about a hundred per cent. on the original structural expenditure was made in twenty-six weeks. During that time Mrs. Cairns Maclachlan made many friends amongst all classes who visited An Clachan, and her powers of organisation, business capacity, tact, and strong, attractive personality were felt and recognised by all who came in contact with her.

An Comunn Gaidhealach and the Co-operative Council of Highland Home Industries (between which Societies the surplus profits of An Clachan are to be divided) owe Mrs. Cairns Maclachlan a debt of real gratitude for the unsparing energy and zeal which she has brought to bear upon those Highland schemes, to which she has devoted her valuable services.

—:o:—

HIGHLAND BALL AT EDINBURGH.

A great Highland Ball was held in Edinburgh on the night of December 14th, both the Assembly Rooms and Music Hall being utilised. The surplus funds, after paying all expenses, will be handed over to An Comunn Gaidhealach.

The Ball Committee consisted of the following ladies, nearly all of whom were present:—The Duchess of Sutherland, representing Sutherland; the Lady Inverclyde, representing South-west of Scotland; the Lady Dunedin, representing Edinburgh; the Lady Hermione Cameron of Lochiel, representing West Inverness-shire; the Lady Marjory Mackenzie of Gairloch, representing West Ross-shire; the Lady Mary Grant of Rothiemurchus, representing East Inverness-shire; Lady Munro of Foulis, representing East Ross-shire; Lady Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch, representing Morayshire; the Hon. Mrs. Stirling of Keir, representing Perthshire; Mrs. Murray of Polmaise, representing Stirlingshire; Mrs. Patten Macdougall of Gallanach, representing North Argyll; Mrs. Bishop-Culpeper, representing Edinburgh; Mrs. Burnley-Campbell of Ormidale, representing South Argyll; Miss Colquhoun of Luss, representing Dumbartonshire; Miss Ainslie Grant-Duff, Dalgety Castle, representing Aberdeenshire. There was also a long list of lady patronesses through whom tickets were obtained.

The vouchers and tickets were printed in both Gaelic and English, which caused much pleased interest, although most of those

present had no knowledge of the language of their forefathers, and many probably saw written Gaelic for the first time.

The dance programme in the Assembly Rooms had reels and country dances alternating regularly with the ordinary valse, the Sassunach element being duly provided for in the Music Hall with a succession of vales, and there were interludes between some of the dances when Gaelic songs were sung by the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, under the able leadership of Mr. Neil Orr; or, the pipers of the Black Watch marched up and down the beautiful room, one of the finest ballrooms in Europe, as it has been truly said.

A number of Highland County eightsome reels, and two country dances, had been arranged beforehand, besides three regimental reels, by the officers of the Black Watch, the Seaforths, and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

The music in the Assembly Rooms was supplied by Mrs. Logan from Inverness, who, with her band, understands in a way achieved by few, how to give that irresistible swing which is the delight of Highland dancing.

A very large proportion of the men wore kilts, which, with uniforms and hunt coats and the tartan sashes of the ladies, combined to produce a scene of great variety and brilliance. Many people said that the "Dannsa Gaidhealach" was one of the largest and most successful balls ever held in the Scottish Capital, and it is hoped that it may become an annual institution.

The honorary ball secretary was Mr. Ian Grant, Yr., of Rothiemurchus, and to him is due the warmest thanks of the committee, of the guests, and above all, of the Comunn Gaidhealach, which will reap the benefit of his unwearied efforts during many weeks, to ensure the success of the undertaking. But those who know him and understand his devotion to "Ar cànan 's ar ceòl" will realize that it was a true labour of love.

Wearing the Highland dress and dancing reels is without doubt not the highest expression of our national sentiments, but such things make a good beginning, and perhaps a gathering like this may sow a few seeds of deeper patriotic feeling, which some day will blossom into a closer participation in the ideals and the work of our Comunn Gaidhealach.

LEASAIN GHAIHDHLIG.

AM BODACH SIUBHAIL.

XII.

Seadh, mo ghille math," arsa' mhathair ri Domhnall beag, c' àit' an robh thusa cho anamoch an nochd?"

"Bha mi (1) *a' cèilidh* ann an taigh Sheumais Bhàin," fhreagair Domhnall.

(2) *A' cèilidh, an ann!* Nach bu choir dhuit a bhi air fuireach an taigh d'athar an nochd co dhiùbh," arsa' ise—"oidheche na bliadh'n ùire."

"Och! tha mi 'n taigh m'athar tric gu leòir," arsa' esan, (3) "*'s ann an taigh Sheumais fhéin* a bha an spòrs an nochd."

'De 'n spòrs a bha 'nn?" arsa' mhathair. "Tha bodach neònach anns an taigh an nochd," arsa' esan, "cha chreid mi (4) *gu'm bheil e ann gu léir.*"

(5) "*Sgeul nan creach!* Cia as a thainig an duine truagh?" arsa' mhathair.

"Cha 'n' eil mi cinnteach 'dé an t-àite as an d' thainig e, ach, co dhiùbh, 's ann aige 'tha (6) *na h-aon sgeulachdan* a's fhearr a chuala mise riamh."

'Dé 'n seorsa sgeulachdan a bha aige?" dh' fheorach a mhathair.

"O!" arsa Domhnall, "bha e anns a h-uile rioghachd a tha air an t-saoghal, agus bha e 'g innseadh dhuinn nu dhéighinn nan rudan a bhiodh iad a' deanamh aig a' bhliadh'n uir."

"Ubh, ubh! an e sin uile e? (7) *Cuiridh mise geall* gu'm faicheadh e rudan an taigh Mhurchaidh Mhóir an nochd cho iongantach 's a chunnaic e riamh."

"Ach! taigh Mhurchaidh Mhóir!"—arsa Domhnall le feirg. (8) "*Sìbh-fhéin's Murchadh Mór!* 'Dé na rudan iongantach a chitheadh e ann an sin?"

Nach fhaicheadh e a' chailleach dhubh—(9) *a' spionadh nan cearc* air son cuirm na bliadh'n ùire—Cha d' fhuair i air an còrr a radh—Rinn Domhnall lachan mór gàire. Bha fhios aige cho neònach 's a bha 'chailleach dhubh—(10) *ri faicinn.*

"Eisd, eisd! a bhalaich," arsa' ise, "na bodhair mi."

"A mhathair," arsa' esan, "am bheil fhios agaibh (11) *dé thug orm* an gàire mór ud a dheanamh?"

"Cha 'n' eil," arsa' ise, (12) "*'dé bu choir-each?*"

"Nach ann againn a bhiodh an spòrs na'm pòsadh am bodach siubhail a' chaill-each dhubbh?"—agus lach Domhnall a ris na bu chruaidhe na rinn e riamh.

"Och, och!" ars' a mhathair, si fhéin a nis a gàireachdaich, (13) "*nach ann gu dearbh.*" 'S ann againn a bhiodh cuimhne air a' bhliadhn' uir—ach 's fheadar dhomh-sa a dhol g' a fhaicinn."

"Falbh," ars' esan, "agus (14) *an ainm an àigh* thoiribh leibh e gu taigh na caillich."

Dh'fhalbh i, ach stad i tacan anns an doras, agus chuala i Domhnall fhathast a' gàireachdaich, agus ag radh ris fhéin.

"A' chailleach dhubbh, 's am bodach,
O, nach b'e spòrs e!
A' chailleach dhubbh, 's am bodach,
Na'n deanadh iad pòsadh."

AM BUACHAILL.

- (1) Verb from noun "Céildh," therefore—visiting.
- (2) Lit. visiting, (was) it?—visiting indeed. Cp. a phrase like Duine, an e—a man, (is) it.
- (3) It was in James's own house that there was, etc.
- (4) Lit. that he is in it enough—that he is all there.
- (5) Lit. story of plunders!—story of woes! Cp. woe the day.
- (6) Lit. the *one* stories—one set of stories, or the best selection.
- (7) I will put a wager— I'll bet.
- (8) Lit. yourself and big Murdo—i.e. away with you!
- (9) „ plucking the hens, i.e. for the New Year feast.
- (10) „ to look upon.
- (11) „, what brought on me—what made me laugh so much.
- (12) Lit. What was the cause.
- (13) „ would it not indeed (be funny).
- (14) „ in the name of goodness.

AN SGOIL BHEAG.

C' ainm a th' ort, mo ghille math? Calum Macmhathain, le ur cead. Có d' am mac thu? Is mi mac m'athar's mo mhathair. Na bi mi-mhodhail (mìomhail) 'ille, cha tig e do neach sam bith a bhi mi-mhodhail, agus gu sònraichte do ghille òg mar a tha thusa. Gabhaibh mo leisgeul, cha'n 'eil mi'g ur tuigsinn, a dhuin'-uasail. C' ainm a th' air d'athair? Tha mi'g ur tuigsinn a nis, is e Domhnall MacMhathain ainm m'athar. C' àit 'an d' rugadh thu? Rugadh mi 's an Oban. Dé'n aois a tha thu? Tha mi sè bliadhna deug a dh-aois. An urrainn duit Gaidhlig a bhruidhinn (labhairt). Is mi a's urrainn, ach tha móran anns an Oban mu m' aois fhéin nach bhruidhinn aon fhacal Gaidhlig. Is móid an náire dhaibh. Am bheil Gaidhlig aig d'athair 's do mhathair? Tha pailteas (gu leóir). Is i a' Ghaidhlig a bhruidhneas iad aig an taigh (dachaidh), agus b' ann an sin a dh-iounsaidh mise i. C' uin a dh-fhàg thu a' Ghaidhealtachd? Aig toiseach na bliadhna. Am bheil thu a' dol dachaidh aig a' bhliadhn' uir? Tha, airson latha mo dhà. Tha mi toilichte gu'n do thachair mi ort (gu'n do choinnich mi thu). Na di-chuimhnich do Ghaidhlig no do phàrantan anns a' bhaile mhór so. Beannaich leat agus Bliadhna mhath ùr dhuit. Mar sin duibh-se agus móran duibh.

EADAR-THEANGACHADH.

What is your name, my good lad? Malcolm Matheson, with your leave. Whose son are you? I am my father and my mother's son. Do not be rude, lad, it does not become any one to be rude, and especially a young lad like you (as thou art). Take my excuse (excuse me), I do not understand you, sir. What is your father's name? I understand you now,—Donald Matheson is my father's name. Where were you born? I was born in Oban. What age are you? I am sixteen years of age. Can you speak Gaelic? It is I that can, but there are many in Oban about my own age who do not speak one word of Gaelic. The greater shame for them. Have your father and mother Gaelic? Yes, plenty. It is Gaelic they speak at home, and it was there I learned it. When did you leave the Highlands? At the beginning of the year. Are you going home at the New Year? Yes, for a day or two. I am glad I met you. Do not forget your Gaelic nor your parents in this big city. Good-bye, and a Happy New Year to you. The same to you and many of them.

TUIREADH MAIGHDINN.

(A MAIDEN'S LAMENT.)

Words by Duncan Reid, Glasgow.

KEY G.

Air composed by John Sinclair, Glasgow.

{ s₁ | s₁ :- .l₁ :t₁ | d :- .l₁ | d :- .t₁ | t₁ :l₁ :t₁ | l₁ :se₁ :l₁ | t₁ :l₁ :t₁ }
 Dà bhliadhna 's an còrr o'n dh - fhàg thu 'm baile, 'S o'n thug thu dhomh gealladh o'd
 { s₁ :- :- :- :- :s₁ | s₁ :- .l₁ :t₁ | d :- .l₁ | d :- .t₁ | t₁ :l₁ :t₁ }
 bheul, Gu 'm bitheadh thu d'il - eas dhomh gu maireann, 'S gu
 SEIST.
 { r :- .l₁ | l₁ :se₁ :l₁ | r :- :- :- :- :s₁ | m :re :m | s₁ :- .l₁ }
 bràth nach traoghadh do ghaol. O! Chuirinn ort fàilt, is
 { l₁ :- .t₁ | t₁ :l₁ :s₁ | f₁ :s₁ :l₁ | t₁ :l₁ :s₁ | l₁ :- :- :- :- :s₁ }
 mi gu'n cuireadh Ged rinn thu mo ghonadh gu geur, 'Us
 { l :- :s f | m :- :s | f :- :m | r :d :r | m :- :f m :r :- :d .t₁ | l₁ :- :- :- :- ||
 bheirinn duit gràdh, is mi gu'n toireadh, Ged dh-fhàg thu mi tìr - sach a'd' dhéigh.

Cha d' fhuair mi sgrìob-piun no facal sanais
 O'n là 's an do dhealaich thu bhuam,
 Ach cagaran fann—is truaigh leam aithris—
 Gu 'n d' fhuair thu té eile tha chuan.

O'n dh-fhàg thu mi m' aonar, 's tùrsach m' anam
 'G ad chaoidh le osnaidhean cruaidh,
 'Us càch gu léir a' deanamh fanaid
 Mar thréig thu mi buileach, a luaidh!

A nis tha mo cheum air fas ni 's moille,
 'S mo cheann air cromadh le nàir,
 Mo chridhe tha trom, 's làn de mhulad,
 'S mo shùilean a' sìleadh nan deur.

Ach thainig guth binn a dh-ionnsuidh m' uinneig
 An àm dhomh bhí 'gabbail gu tàmh,
 Gu 'm bheil thu air cùn a' tigh'n ann turus
 Gu d' chailleag a ghabbail air làinb.

DONALD MÓR.

A TALE OF CANTIRE.

The winter had set in early over the "Fair Lands of Cantire" and now the snow lay deep on the tops and filled the glens. Down along the rocky shore great seas broke, while the salt spray was driven far inland with the wind.

The old year was near its close but the kindly folks had not much heart left in them to keep the New Year. For since the "Back

End" the Atholl men had been at their ploy of cattle lifting, and scarcely a hoof or horn could be seen from the Moil to "Salt Loch Fyne." And worse than all, many a brave lad who had gone to save his cattle had found his last resting-place in the heather with a score of wounds on him.

Far up in Carradale Glen in a little cottage where now only a cairn of stones marks its site, lived an old man nigh seventy clippings old. He had lived there all his days. His wife was dead, and Duncan—his only laddie—had found his last home in the

heather at the hands of the Atholl men early in the "Back End" of the year. The old man was always known as "Donald Mór," for there was not his equal in height on the whole countryside, and there was not a cheerier man than he from the Airds at Carradale to Peninver, till the day his son Duncan never came home—and from that day on no one had ever heard him laugh or even seen him smile.

It was evening when my tale opens; the snow was falling, and in all the cottages that then filled the glens, the folks sat round their peat-fires and listened to the wind outside.

This evening Donald Mór sat alone by his peat-fire and gazed into the red glowing peats, but his thoughts were far, far away in the past. He was thinking of the wife who now lay sleeping in the bonnie green kirkyard at Brackley, and Duncan, his own brave laddie, who now lay resting on the tops with a cairn above him to mark the end of his last journey. Suddenly a gust of wind burst Donald Mór's door open, and he rose to close it. Just before the door was closed he looked out to see what the night was like. The moon showed through snow clouds, and Donald Mór saw the figures of two men coming up the burn to the cottage. "Well! here are some of the boys coming to see me," he thought, for they often came in of an evening for a crack with Donald Mór. "I will get them a dram," said he, as he went over to his big old kist beside his bed where he kept the bottle. When he was there the door opened and without looking up, "Boys," said he, "ye are right welcome." A strange voice muttered something about the night, and Donald Mór looked quickly up to see who the strangers might be, and his eyes rested on the figures of two men. He took the whole situation in at a glance. The men were the dreaded Atholl men; but Donald Mór did not show the least surprise at the entry of such unwelcome visitors. He locked his kist, and then, rising slowly, walked up to the men, and grasping their hands firmly said, "Boys, ye are thrice welcome; Dhia! its no night to be out at all, at all. Sit ye by the fire and warm yourselves." The men did as they were bidden, and before long they were supping hot brose, while Donald Mór chatted away to them. "What's new with ye, boys?" asked he. The old man's utter coolness took them aback for a moment, then one of them spoke. "Bodach! did any lads pass this

way?" "None that I saw," replied Donald Mór, and the two men cursed.

After they had finished their brose Donald Mór told them to sit round the fire, and he gave them a dram. Then dram followed dram till Donald Mór had the two men "in right tune" as he said himself.

The drink made the men's heads light, and song came after song till the men grew hot and breathless. "Boys," said Donald Mór again, "I must thank ye, its not often I have such fine gentlemen's company of an evening, and such fine singers to be sure. So I will just tell you a tale about the MacNeils in Gigha till ye are ready for another song." This was received with shouts, and Donald Mór started his tale and the men listened spellbound from start to finish. When the tale came to an end the bottle was passed once more and one of the men remarked as he took his dram, "That was a great tale, Bodach." While the men were having their dram Donald Mór went over to his press-bed and pulled from under it a fine broadsword and handed it round to the company to look at. One of the men remarked as he handed it back, "Man, that's the finest blade I've seen between this and Cowal." "Boys," said Donald Mór, the drink having loosened his tongue, "I killed four men with that broadsword before ye could count half a score, and no man could do that, between this and Perth, except myself." This last remark went home and at once put the men on their metal. "That's only a Bodach's boast," answered they, "Fingal himself could not have done it though he had tried." "That's as true as death," retorted Donald Mór, the blood of the MacMillans now fully roused. "Well, show us the magic stroke that did the deed," shouted both the men as they stood up with hot and angry faces. "That I will and right gladly too," answered Donald Mór, and before the men knew what he was about, the blade was singing round his head, and down it came full on the head of one and then the other—and they fell as the pines do in the winter gales.

Donald Mór picked the bodies up and carried them out. And as he flung them down in the snow he remarked, "Lie there, my fine heroes, and I doubt if Fingal himself could have done it, though he had tried."

J. MACLEOD CAMPBELL,
OF SADDLE.

COMUNN NEWS.

CRANNLOCHLUICHEART. — Choinnich a' mheur so de'n Chomunn air an dara latha thar an fhichead de cheud mhios a' gheamhraidh anns an Tigh-sgoil, agus thòisich an t-seisear le céilidh. Bha an Ceann-suidhe Urr. Iain Mac Neachdainn anns a' chathair, bha roinn mhath sluagh a' làthair, agus chaidh oidheche thaitneach a chur seachd le bhith seinn agus ag òiseachd oran taighte Gaidhlig.

THE GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH.—This Society, which has a strong syllabus this session, is doing active and vigorous work in Perth. The Chief is Mr. Robert Stewart, and the Chieftainess, and Representative on the Executive of An Comunn Gaidhealach is Miss Murray MacGregor of MacGregor, whose enthusiasm for the Gaelic cause is not surpassed by the most ardent member of An Comunn. The Society held an opening Céilidh on the 26th Oct. last, and was in every way a success. On 9th Nov. the Rev. Kenneth MacLeod, Fossoway, gave an interesting lecture on "A Tour in Ireland," illustrated by song and story and lime light views. On 23rd Nov., "Brittany and the Bretons," illustrated by lantern slides, was the subject of a most attractive lecture by Dr. Fergusson, Alloa. By the way, Dr. Fergusson is an ardent student of Gaelic, and possesses a large and valuable collection of Celtic books. On 26th Nov., the Rev. Lewis MacPherson, U.F. Church, Stanley, preached a Gaelic sermon under the auspices of the Society in St. Andrew's Parish Church. On 7th Dec. Mr. Donald Sutherland, Scone, lectured on "Scone, the Ancient Capital of Scotland." All the meetings were well attended and the lectures were highly appreciated by the audiences.

CEANN-LOCH-EIRE: *Tea* GHAIÐHEALACH AN ARDMHÒIRLICH.—'S ann againn a bha'n *Tea* shunndach an Ardmhòirlich air Di-sathuirne, an 9 amh. latha de'n Dùbhlachd. Shuidh ceithir-peasa-deug a sìos aig bòrd fialaidh, leis a Chòirneal, Fear Ardmhòirlich, aig non cheann deth, agus Mrs. Medley, a nighean, aig a' chann eile. Thugadh dhùin a' thuinginn nach robh facal Beurla ri bhi air a' labhairt, agus is math a rinn sìon as a' eugmhais. An dèigh do'n Chòirneal failte chridheil a chur air a' chuid-eachd, thug Mrs. Medley seachad òraid ghòirid, ghrinn ann an deagh Gaidhlig. Am measg nithe eile, dh' eòrlaich i gu dùrachdach air pàrantan a bhi dileas ann a bhi' labhairt cànan air n-aithriche ris a' chloinn anns an dachaidh. Na'n d'èanadh iad sin, cha'n fhaigheadh a' Ghaidhlig bàs. As dèigh na *Tea*, thòisich na h-òrain. Sheinn a Bhean-usal i f'ia a' cheud òran, na h-òidhean a togail na seòid leatha. Air do dhà no trì a' thuilleadh a bhi air an seinn, chaidh "Far am bi an toil bith an Gnomh" a' leughadh a' Leabhar na Céilidh." An sin fhuair sinn òran no dithis eile, a' crìochnachadh le "Snas leis a' Ghaidhlig." An uair a' b' fheudar gaoileadh, dh' fhaireich sinn uile gu'm biodh e'n a' ni taitneach na'm biodh e co-nasach dhùinn tighinn 'an ceann a' chéile mar so na bu trice.

MEUR NA CRIANLARICH.—Bha céilidh aig a'

chomunn so an Tigh-Sgoil na Crianlarich air oidheche Dhi-h-aoin an 15mh de Mhios Deireannach na bliadhna, agus cho math ris na buill bha àireamh mhath de choighrich a' làthair cuideachd. Bha an Ceann-suidhe, Mr. Alastair MacLabhrainn, 's a' chathair, agus thug e iomradh air a' chail a' bha air tighinn air a' chomunn leis gu'n robh Mr. Coinneach MacLeòid g' am faigail agus a' pileadh gu Strathloch. Bha Mhr. Tormod MacLeòid, Céilidh nan Gaidheil, Glascho, agus Mr. Gillespeuig Stiubhard, Comunn Gaidhealach Adhail aig a' chéilidh. Chuireadh oidheche shunndach seachd le plobaireachd, òrain, agus seanachas.

The membership of the Branch is now 52, and in addition we have 40 children being taught Gaelic and Gaelic Singing once a week by members of our committee in the school at night. We have also a small senior class of 6. The large membership for such a small place as Crianlarich is due largely to the energy of our new Secretary, Mr. Iain M'Coll.

COMUNN GHAIÐHEALACH BHAIDEANACH.—This Branch, at its annual general meeting held last month decided that the choir should go into training at once with a view to competing at the Mòd in Inverness. The practices, which are to be held weekly, have already begun and have been very well attended. Mr. D. Munro, Nairn, a gentleman who has had considerable experience of Mòds has been appointed conductor, and under his able leadership the choir are very hopeful of making a good fight for the Shield.

NORTH Ayrshire BRANCH.—This branch held a very successful soiree in the Assembly Hall, Ardrossan, on Friday, 8th ultimo. The Rev. Mr. MacMillan, Ardrossan, occupied the chair, as the president of the branch, the Rev. Charles Lamont, Saltcoats, was unable through illness to be present. The chairman delivered a most interesting and inspiring speech on "Highland Character."

* * NOTICE.—Secretaries of Branches and Affiliated Societies are asked to send brief reports of their meetings to the Editor, or to the office of An Comunn for insertion in the Magazine. All communications should reach the Editor not later than the 18th of each month.

MULL AND IONA ASSOCIATION—ANNUAL GATHERING.—This association will hold its forty-fourth annual gathering in the St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow, on Friday, 26th January, under the chairmanship of Bryce Allan, Esq., yr. of Aros. The concert programme is again a distinguished one, Miss Ina Hill, the distinguished prima donna of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, and Mr. Charles Tree, the eminent baritone having been engaged to appear, as well as such favourite Gaelic vocalists as Miss Jessie M. MacLennan, Mr. Robert Morrison, and the 1911 Mòd medallist Mr. Robert M. MacDonald. Lightness will be given to the programme by the humorous interludes of Mr. Lindon Wyatt.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

INQUIRER.—You are quite right in your contention that MacMhaighstir Alasdair was an Inverness-shire man and not a native of Argyllshire, as is being continually asserted by the lecturer you mention. This lecturer would seem to be confused by the fact that Maighstir Alasdair, the poet's father, was parish minister of Ardnamurchan, and he evidently does not realise that, while the district of Ardnamurchan is in Argyllshire, the parish of the same name was at that time about one half in Argyllshire, and one half in Inverness-shire. Up till the passing of the last Local Government (Scotland) Act, the Parish of Ardnamurchan extended from the boundary of the Parish of Glenelg, the River Morar in the North, to Loch Sunart in the South. From the River Morar to the River Shiell and the loch of the same name, comprising what is now the civil, and (ecclesiastically) the *quoad sacra* Parish of Arisaig and Moidart, is in the County of Inverness; and from the River Shiell to Loch Sunart, comprising the districts of Acharacle and Ardnamurchan, and now forming the Civil Parish of Ardnamurchan, is in the County of Argyll. Although Maighstir Alasdair's church was in Kilchoan, Ardnamurchan, his manse, or what he used as a manse, viz., the farmhouse of Dalilea, Moidart, was in Inverness-shire. In this farmhouse the poet was born and bred, and, with the exception of the short time during which he followed the fortunes of Prince Charlie, and a few years during which he was parochial teacher in Ardnamurchan, his whole lifetime was spent in Inverness-shire, to which county his people belonged, they being scions of the Clan Ronald. It is, therefore, incorrect to claim him as a native of Argyllshire. Argyllshire is the proud possessor of MacMhaighstir Alasdair's compeer, Donnachadh Bàn nan Orain.

Gael.—The Comunn Gaidhealach was founded in 1891; the first Mòd was held in Oban in 1892. The Gaelic Society of London was founded in 1777; the Gaelic Society of Inverness in 1870. The London Gaelic Society contributed £500 towards the founding of the Celtic Chair in the University of Edinburgh, the proceeds of a grand ball held under its auspices for the purpose. [EDITOR]

—:O:—

COMING EVENTS.

- GLASGOW HIGH SCHOOL GAELIC CLASS CELIDH.**
 Jan. 6.—Elocutionary Recital by Mr. Struan Robertson and Friends.
 „ 13.—“The Sons of Rob Roy,” by Mr. David N. Mackay.
 „ 20.—“The Art of Reading and What to Read,” by Rev. D. Cameron. M.A.
 „ 27.—“Sons of the Sea,” by Mr. Arch. Dawson.
CELIDH NAN GAIDHEAL.
 Jan. 6.—Oraid, Mgr. omhnull MacPhail.
 „ 13.—“Cloinn Pharlain an Ear-thir,” an t-Urr. Colla Dombhnullach.
 „ 20.—“Còr, Còir agus Coirich,” Mgr. Aonghas MacRob.
 „ 27.—“Oraid, Mgr. Donnachadh Macilleudaidh.

YOKER MONTHLY GAELIC SERVICE.

Jan. 7—(Sunday)—Monthly Gaelic Service in Yoker Parish Church at 3.30 p.m. The Rev. Hector MacKinnon, Shettleston, will preach.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH NA CRÌONLAIRICH.

Jan. 19.—Lecture: “Dugald Buchanan,” by Rev. G. W. MacKay, Killin.

MULL AND IONA ASSOCIATION.

Jan. 26—(Friday)—Annual Gathering in St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow, at 7.45 p.m. Chairman, Bryce Allan, Esq., Yr., of Aros.

GAELIC SOCIETY OF GLASGOW.

Jan. 30.—“The Note of Melancholy in Ossianic Poetry,” Dr. Neil MacInnes, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.

—:O:—

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.
LIFE.

Mrs. John A. Stewart, Perth.
 John Macleod Campbell, of Saddell, Carradale.
 ORDINARY.

Charles E. G. Leighton, Savona, B.C.
 James Campbell, Glasgow.
 Rev. Malcolm Macleod, Broadford.
 J. D. McLauchlan, Edinburgh.
 Duncan Johnston, Drimantoran, Islay.
 C. MacKinlay, Carradale.
 Miss MacKinlay,
 Robert Morrison, Partick.
 Miss Nonnie Maclean, Tiree.
 Miss F. Campbell, Broadford.



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The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, annual subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

The Magazine will be sent post free to all countries in the Postal Union for 1/6 per annum. Single copies will be sent by post for 1/3d.

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Miss Phemie Marquis, Soprano (Gaelic and English), double Gold Medallist, and Mod Prize winner.—46 Windsor Terrace, Glasgow. 'Phone, 231y6 Charing Cross.

Miss Mairi Matheson, Contralto, Gaelic and English Vocalist, Mod Gold Medallist—pupil Royal Academy of Music and Sir Henry Wood—of the Queen's Hall, St. James' Hall, etc., etc.—accepts engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Banquets, etc.—5 Brunswick Square, London, W.C.

R. Morrison, Tenor (Gaelic and English Vocalist) Mod Gold Medallist; Champion Puirt-a-beul, 1909 and 1910; Pupil Northern College of Music—40 Gardner Street, Partick.

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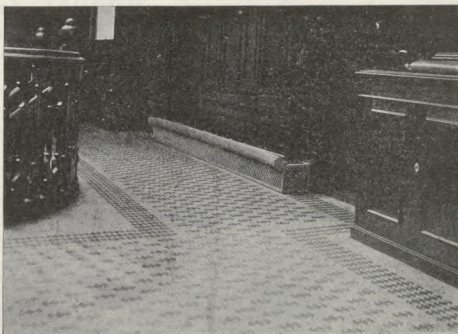
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Leabhar VII.]

Ceud Mios an Earraich, 1912.

[Earrann 5.

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OBÀIR A' CHOMUINN.

Tha e da rìreadh taitneach gu'n d' fhuair teachdair a' Chomuinn, T. D. Domhnallach, an deagh fhurmailt anns na ceàrnan sin de 'n Ghaidhealtachd a ghabh e a staigh air a thurusan gu bhi cur air aghaidh rùntan a' Chomuinn, agus gu 'n deachaidh cuid mheuran ùra 'chur air boun. Bha a thurus 'na aobhar brosnachaidh anns na h-àitean sin, 'na aobhar misnich do 'n Chomunn agus do na teachdairean a chuireadh a mach bho chionn mu thuairam 's bliadhna, a deanamh chùisean rèidh gu bhi cur air bonn mheuran, sgoiltean Gàidhlig agus Ciuil. Bi'e an cuimhne ar luchd-leughaidh an deagh obair a rinn iad sin do 'n Chomunn anns an àine ghoirid a bha aca, agus tha an Comunn a nis a togail air a' bhunait a leag iad. Rachadh an Comunn agus an luchd-saothrach air an aghaidh gu riaghailteach, dùrachdach, aonachail, misneachail, ann a bhi coimhlionadh na h-obaire a chuir iad rompa, agus

chithear mòran de na cnaip-starraidh a tha 'cath an aghaidh na Gàidhlig air an sguabadh air falbh. Cha 'n 'eil teagamh sam bith nach 'eil mòran anns a' Ghaidhealtachd a tha an diugh a' gabhail tlachd agus spèise do 'n Ghàidhlig, a bha roimhe so fuar, dearmadach, agus caoin-shuarach mu chor an càinain. Tha so 'na chomharra fallain a tha 'giulan misnich agus dòchais do chridheachan nan Gaidheal, chionn faodar a ràdh gu'm bheil càinain agus cùisean eile na Gaidhealtachd cho dlùth-cheangailte ri chèile, 's gu'm bheil soirbheachadh aoin diubh a' deanamh chum maith coitichionn a' chòrr.

Bu mhath leinn aon fhacal a ràdh, anns a' cheud àite, ri Buill a' Chomuinn, agus anns an darna àite ri Meuran a' Chomuinn. 'Se dh-iarramaid air Buill a' Chomuinn oidheip a dheanamh gu àireamh nam Ball a mheudachadh; ma bheir gach Ball a staigh do 'n Chomunn ACH AON ANNS A' BHLIADHNA, nach bu mhor an cuideachadh sin. Tha sinn an dòchas matà, gu'n toir gach Ball a staigh do chrò a' Chomuinn, air a lughad aon anns a' bhliadhna.

Mu na Meuran, tha sinn anns a' bheachd gu'm bu chòir do gach Ball AN DEO GREINE a ghabhail (ach buill aoin teaghlach far an deanadh aon feum 'nam measg). Cha 'n 'eil an cosdas ach glé bheag, ochd-sgillinn-deug anns a' bhliadhna, saor aig an taighean leis a' phosta. Dh-iarramaid air Cinn-Suidhe, agus Rùnairean nam Meur a' Chùis so a' thoirt fa chomhair nam Ball aig an coimeinmhean, agus tha sinn an dòchas gu'm faigh ar n-iartas an aire agus an cuideachadh a tha toilltinneach.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Executive Council of An Comunn met in the Palace Hotel, Edinburgh, on Saturday, 13th January. The meeting was well attended. On the motion of Dr. W. J. Watson, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod presided.

The General Secretary intimated that Mr. Duncan Reid had completed the Gaelic translation of the Constitution and Rules, and of the Byelaws which he had been authorised to make by the last meeting of the Executive, and that the translation was now in his, the Secretary's, hands. The Council agreed to remit the translation to the Publication Committee for inspection, and to remit the question of what remuneration should be given to Mr. Reid for his services in this matter to the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee reported that the Treasurer had submitted a statement of the Finances of the Association which shewed that there was a sum of £142 0s. 2d. in the bank, but against that the Association were due him a sum of £18 1s. 5d.

The Education Committee reported that they had had two meetings since the Executive Meeting on 4th November, and that they had resolved to recommend to the Executive Council that a Conference of Gaelic-speaking Teachers should be held in Perth about Easter for the purpose of discussing the best means to introduce and maintain the teaching of Gaelic in Highland schools, and to ask the Executive Council to authorise the expenditure of £50 upon this object in order to defray in whole or in part the travelling expenses of teachers invited to the conference. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, convener of the committee, in moving the adoption of the report, said they attached very great importance to the proposal to have a conference of Gaelic-speaking teachers, as there were a number of able teachers in the Highlands who taught both Gaelic and English, and the committee would like to get some of them to come to the conference and give them the benefit of their experience. If, however, the response to the invitations sent out was not sufficiently large, the conference would not take place. After some discussion as to the place at which the conference should be held, the report of the committee was adopted, the question of the suitability of Perth or Fort-William being left in the hands of the committee.

The report of the Publication Committee

shewed that Mr. Duncan Reid had offered to sell the copyright of his "Elementary Course of Gaelic" to the Association for £30, and that the committee had agreed not to recommend the purchase of the copyright meantime, but to ask for authority to proceed with the publication of the Second Edition as recommended at their previous meeting. The committee had also agreed to ask the Executive Council to authorise them to prepare a scheme of Elementary and Secondary text books for the use of Students of Gaelic. Dr. Watson, who moved the adoption of the report, said that they felt that this was at present a most important part of the work of the Comunn, as while Gaelic was recognised officially up to the very highest degree—it was a subject for the bursary competition and the preliminary examination in the universities of Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen—no adequate provision had hitherto been made in regard to Gaelic text-books. Information in Gaelic subjects could only be got from a variety of expensive books, and these even were not readily accessible. They thought, therefore, that the subject ought to be considered as a whole and a comprehensive scheme of text-books, including such works as Mr. Reid's grammar and books edited by Mr. Malcolm Macfarlane, produced to cover elementary and secondary education. That seemed to be the only way, Dr. Watson further said, in which they could have a decisive influence on the language, raising it from the illiterate to the scholarly stage. Mr. Donald Macphie suggested that the Comunn should consider whether the time had not arrived when they might publish some sort of Golden Treasury of Gaelic Poems for the use of Mòd competitors and others. The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

The Propaganda Committee reported that they had agreed to communicate with the secretaries and other officials of agricultural and industrial shows in the Highlands for the purpose of getting competitions in Gaelic introduced at these shows. Mr. T. D. MacDonald's report to the committee shewed that he had visited on propaganda work for the Association, Tiree, and the Northern parts of Mull, and had established Branches at Tiree, Torosay, and Salen. He had everywhere been cordially received.* Mr. Hugh

* A more detailed account of Mr. MacDonald's propaganda tour will be found on pages 79, 80, 82, and 83.

Maclean, who is again engaged in teaching Gaelic singing classes in Broadford, Kyle, and Kyle of Lochalsh, reported that the classes were being very well attended, and that he had some hope of being able to take a choir to the Inverness Mòd. Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, convener of the Propaganda Committee, moved the adoption of the report, and said that now was the time for the Association to undertake propaganda work in the Highlands. Everywhere the people were ripe for it, and Branches were being formed wherever they sent a propagandist. She herself was going next month to Islay, where Lady Mary Morrison was helping them, and Mr. MacKillop was preparing the way. In Islay they hoped to establish a central Branch with a number of subsidiary Branches in various parts of the island. The committee proposed to send Mr. T. D. MacDonald to Barra immediately in response to an urgent invitation, and the General Secretary would shortly be visiting Kintyre on propaganda work. They were also proposing to ask 100 Highland clergymen to give them assistance in this work, she hoped the Executive Council would be liberal in giving them funds. The committee asked members to send in names of persons suitable for propaganda work—they would particularly welcome those who could give their services at week-ends.

The meeting approved of the committee's report.

The Arts and Industries Committee reported that it was proposed to hold the 1912 Competitions and Sale at St. Andrews in August, and also that they had agreed to adopt as a distinguishing mark to be affixed to all goods produced in the Highlands under the auspices of the Association or approved of by them, a stamp or seal consisting of the crest of the Association with the words "Rinneadh so ann an Gaidhealtachd na h-Alba" substituted for "An Comunn Gaidhealach—Ar Cànan 's ar Ceòl." The convener of the committee, Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, having moved the adoption of the report, which was agreed to, and having explained the arrangements being made for the Sale, etc., handed over to the Association a large number of rubbings, sketches, and drawings of Celtic designs given to her by Miss Watson, Roseneath, for the use of the Association, and in doing so she suggested that a reliable inventory should be made of the individual designs by two members of the Executive along with the General Secret-

ary. The Chairman in accepting custody of the designs, proposed that they should record their sincere appreciation of this valuable gift. Mr. P. MacDougall Pullar and Mr. Donald Currie were appointed to catalogue the designs.

The Rev. M. N. Munro, convener of the Mòd and Music Committee, submitted the report of their last meeting. As the present edition of "Còisir a' Mhòid" was almost exhausted, the committee recommended that a second edition should be prepared containing, if possible, this year's Mòd songs and the psalm tune "Elgin." The committee also strongly recommended that grants-in-aid of travelling expenses should be given to choirs as far as possible, distance being taken into consideration. They also recommended that newly-formed Junior Choirs should be supplied with a reasonable quantity of music free of charge, and that newly-formed Senior Choirs should be supplied with copies of "Còisir a' Mhòid" at the cost price to the Association. Mr. Munro also submitted the draft Syllabus of the 1912 Mòd to be held at Inverness on 25th, 26th, and 27th September.

Before consideration of the Mòd Syllabus was taken up, Mrs. Burnley-Campbell asked and received permission from the Council to introduce to the meeting Mr. J. P. Grant, Yr., of Rothiemurchus, Hon. Secretary of the Highland Ball held in Edinburgh on 14th December, 1911. Mr. Grant on being introduced said that he had been deputed by the Committee of the Highland Ball to hand over to An Comunn Gaidhealach a cheque for £300 being the surplus realised by the Ball. Mr. Grant also said that as it was intended to hold the Ball annually the committee had retained a further sum of £62 as a reserve and had lodged it in bank on deposit receipt in the names of those members of the Ball Committee who were also members of An Comunn. On behalf of the Association the Chairman expressed their sincere thanks for this handsome gift, and asked Mr. Grant to convey to his committee their great gratitude for the assistance which they had in this way given the cause for which the Association stood.

Consideration of the Mòd Syllabus was resumed after lunch, and a number of alterations in the terms and conditions of the competitions were agreed to. Two new open competitions for Junior Medallists and Prize-winners were added to the Syllabus.

The report of the Mòd and Music Committee was approved with the exception of the recommendation regarding payment of the travelling expenses of choirs competing at the Mòd, which was, on the motion of Mr. Donald MacPhie, remitted to the Finance Committee for consideration and report.

Miss Kate Fraser reported on behalf of the Inverness Local Committee the arrangements which they were making for the Mòd, and also submitted a draft of the circular appealing for donations to the Mòd Fund. The Local Committee's recommendation that the Mòd should be held on 25th, 26th, and 27th September, was approved.

A motion by the Rev. George W. Mackay, Killin, "that a deputation be appointed to approach the Highland Committees of the Churches at their meetings in March to secure their co-operation in the use and cultivation of the Gaelic language" was unanimously agreed to and the following gentlemen were appointed to form the deputation, viz., Wm. Mackay, Esq., president; Dr. W. J. Watson, vice-president; Archibald Menzies, Esq., Malcolm Macleod, Esq., Rev. George W. Mackay, and the Rev. M. N. Munro.

The Council agreed, on the motion of Mr. Malcolm Macleod seconded by Mr. Donald MacPhie, to remit to the Advisory Committee to consider the manner in which the "Clachan" surplus could best be utilised to advance the work of the Association, and to submit proposals to the next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council should take place at Stirling on Saturday, 30th March.

A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman brought a very successful meeting to a close.

—:—

A HIGHLAND CRADLE-SONG.

—

A great German Musician has delighted the world with a set of airs happily styled "Lieder ohne Worte" (Songs without Words). Some time ago I was singing at a concert, at which the veteran Scott Skinner was playing. I had the privilege of hearing him play, as an encore, a "Highland Cradle Song," played with all the pathos and tenderness of a genuine Celt and the masterly touch of a skilled musician. In the German "Lieder," one is content to bask in

the sweet music, without bothering about the words, and to simply accept them for what they are named—wordless songs. But with this "Crònan" of which I am writing, I confess I felt a strange, undefined dissatisfaction. It was too beautiful, too perfect, too *haunting*, to leave one quite satisfied or at rest, without attempting to word it. As I watched the strong, sympathetic face of the player, I could not help feeling that *he* at least was echoing words to it in his heart as he played, or his fiddle could not have spoken as it did. What were those words? The tune began softly and smoothly, as befits a "Crònan," but towards the end it rose in a yearning and, as it were, anxious note, and then curved down in a peaceful and sweet, yet strong ending, like the goodbye the sun gives us behind our hills on a summer's evening. I forgot the big hall in which I sat, and was carried to an out-of-the-way glen, down which a burn rattled and sang, and at the head of which a strong mountain towered. On the bank of the burn stood a white, heather-thatched cottage, and through the door of it a mother could be seen crooning to a bairn on her knee, and (I fancied) she sang to her baby boy, something in this strain:—

"Little love-pledge of him that is dearest,
Helpless one guarded by my love,
Blood of mine and essence of his,
May the sheltering bens give thee of their strength.

On the rough path of Life, may thy father's spirit
nerve thee;
In the sore temptations, may thy mother's purity
surround thee;
On the stony ways may thy bleeding feet be guided
By the tender strength of Him who made thee."

There was love, nothing but love, in the beginning, then the natural anxiety of the mother, knowing as she did the dangers of life, coming in later, and at the end the confidence inspired by her faith, and the Highland song stirred me strangely yet left me with a sense of peace. But why cannot some Bard write Gaelic words to fit such a tune?

ALASTAIR MACLABHRAINN,
CRIANLARACH.

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SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

In the event of a sufficient number of students coming forward to justify the holding of the above this year the Education Committee are prepared to undertake the necessary arrangements. Intending students are requested to send in their names to the General Secretary as early as possible.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

ALEXANDER FRASER, DALMUIR.

The subject of our Portrait Gallery this month has been for several years an active member of the Gaelic Movement in Glasgow.

Raining's School, Inverness, under the tuition of the celebrated educationist, the late Dr. Alexander MacBain. Arriving in Glasgow at an early age, imbued with that Celtic fervour instilled into all pupils by his recent master he immediately identified himself with the Gaelic movement in the city. He



ALEXANDER FRASER, DALMUIR.

Born in Stratherrick, Inverness-shire, 37 years ago, Mr. Fraser is one of the younger sons of the late Mr. Ewen Fraser, Farmer, Murnish, Stratherrick. After receiving his elementary education in the Public School of his native strath, he completed his learning in that seminary of Highland lore,

was for three years secretary, and subsequently for two years president of the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association, and he is now one of the chieftains. One of the founders, in 1898, of the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, and for several years an active member of its now famous choir, he

is still one of its vice-presidents, and a loyal supporter of the association. Mr. Fraser is a member and a director of the Northern Highland Benevolent Association of Glasgow, and of the Glasgow Celtic Society, one of the founders of the Glasgow Caledonian Shinty Club, and, since the incorporation of that body with the Glasgow Skye Shinty Club, he has represented the organisation on the Camanachd Association Executive. He is also a director of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow.

Three years ago Mr. Fraser founded the Clydebank Gaelic Musical Association, and was for its first session conductor of the choir.

Two years ago, when the Rev. T. S. MacPherson started the monthly Gaelic Services in Yoker Parish Church, Mr. Fraser, although not residing in the district, readily consented to give his services as precentor, and he still ungrudgingly gives his services in this way. This winter he is conducting a singing-class instituted by the Rev. Mr. Macpherson in connection with these services. Mr. Fraser is a Life Member of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and has for several years represented the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association on the Executive of An Comunn. He is an active member of the Mòd and Music and the Finance Committees of An Comunn. In this respect he holds the record for combined attendances at meetings of the Executive Council and of the above standing committees.

Mr. Fraser is married to Caroline, eldest daughter of the Rev. Andrew Morrison, U.F. Church, Bannockburn.

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BEACHDAIREACHD AIR CLEACHD- AIDHEAN NAN AIRIDHEAN GAIDHEALACH.

(HIGHLAND SHIELING CUSTOMS.)

LE ALASTAIR STIUBHART, GLEANN LIOBHAINN.

Fhuair am paipeir so a' cheud duais aig
Mòd, 1911.

II.

Tha sinn de'n bheachd gur ann a dèigh do ghnòthuichean fàs na bu shuidhichte anns an dùthaich, an dèigh do lagh 's do riaghailtean na b' fhearr tighinn a mach, an dèigh do choganna nam Fineachan, agus togail nan creach stad, a thainig na h-àiridhean gu bhi cho soirbheachail. Ach cha

b' fhada bha iad aig an àird uile gu léir. Mar dhearbhadh air cho neo-thearuinte 'sa bha e bhi cur sprèidh do na h-àiridhean fada air astar, tha an sgeul agus an t-oran mu chreach "Crodh Chaillein" bho àiridhean Braigh Liobhainn ag innseadh dhuinn. Tha nì eiginn brònach mu'n cuairt da leis mar a chaidh crùis as do'n bhanarach òg, Nic Cridhe, mar a tha' bhana-bhàrd a rinn an t-oran ag ràdh;

"Ged itheadh na fithich
Nic Cridhe 's na laoiagh,
Gu 'n tugadh crodh Chaillein
Dhomh bainn' air an raon."

Tha sinn a' creidsinn gur ann as doigh an Ar-a-mach a chuir Rìgh Seumas bhàrr a Chrùin agus a chuir Uilleam na h-Olainn agus Màiri air, a chinn na h-àiridhean cho neasail. Bha an cleachda 'fàs na bu bhih-eanta bhi dol do na glinn mhonaidh far an robh am fear pailt, oir bha bliadhnanach cruaidh ann aig an àm. Rinn an troimh-chéile bha ann ri linn bliadhna Theartaich bacadh' chuir car tamuill air soirbheachadh nan àiridhean, ach cha b' fhada gus an d' fhuair iad thairis air a sin. Ann an cuid àiteachan chuir e an cleachda ann an oisinn gle mhor. An uair a chail Struan seilbh air Sron-Fèarnan, agus a fhuair Braidalbain e, chail tuath na dùtcha sin an còir air monadh Rainneach, oir cha d' fhuair Braidalbain sin riamh. Chaidh oighreachdan a reic agus a bhriseadh sìos, mar a bha Gleann Liobhann, an uair dhealaich Meinneirich Mheighernie ri Seastal, agus chail tuath a' bhuin an còir tuille air ruigheachan a' bhraighe, a tha air an ainmeachadh cho sonruichte ann an Litrichean Cruinne-còlais Mhic Pharlain (*Macfarlane's Geographical Notes*, 1650). Thachair so mu dheireadh na h-ochdamh linn deug. Leis na h-uile mugha bha ann, thainig mòran de na sean chùmh-antan bha eadar tighearnan gu ceann. Ann an sean chòirichean, chi sinn aon tighearna còrdadh ri fear eile airson sochairean sonruichte, mar a leanas. Bha còrdadh eadar Caimbeulach Tighneimh (Duncaves), agus Meinnearach Mheighernie, gu faigheadh tuath a cheud fhir dol a chladhach giuthais ann an Cnoc-na-cìr, air fearann a Mheinnearaich airson solus geamhraidh, agus gu faigheadh tuath an fhir eile dol a ghearradh caoil airson cleibh is sìntean do Choille Tighneimh. Stadadh an cleachda sin co dhiubh leis mur a bha cuisean tighinn air adhart, ach an uair bha mugha thighearnan a faotainn an fhearainn, ghreas e air adhart na h-atharrachaidhean a bha gabhail àite

gu luath. Bha na caoraich dhubh-cheannach a' fàs miadhail, agus thòisich tuathanaich mhór as an taobh Deas air tighinn do'n Ghaidhealtachd. Bheireadh iad tuille mail air an fhearann airson gabhalachan móra chaorach na b'urrainn do'n tuath bheaga thoir. Chaidh sguabach an léir-sgríos agus an losgaidh a tharruing thairis air mórán de'n Ghaidhealtachd air tàillibh nan caorach. Chaidh na h-àiridhean a' thoirt bho'n t-sluagh, agus an toirt do na tuathanaich mhóra. Sguir na turusan móra Samhraidh do na glinn fhàsail, mhonadail, agus thòisich na mail mhóra, am beagan fearainn, agus an cruaidh-chàs do an tuath bheaga. An àite bhi dol do na h-àiridhean, is ann a thug an éigina ghoirt air mórán diubh toiseachadh air a bhi deanamh uisge beatha toirmisgte anns na bothain anns am b'abhaist daibh bhi fritheal nan treud, is airson nan oidhirpean a bha iad a' toirt airson an gnothuichean a choinneachadh bha iad air an ruagadh le maoir's le gàidsearan, agus an eismeil iomadh uair ùbhlà trom a phlaideadh no dol do'n phrìosan. An nì nach d'rinn na caoraich airson cur as do na h-àiridhean rinn na féidh, an uair a sgaoil na frithean a mach cho mór bho chionn leth cheud bliadhna. Bha iomadh aobhar ag oibreachadh airson nan àiridhean a chur sìos, ach tha sinn a creidsinn gur e an leithsgeul a bha aig tuath Ghlinn Urchadain air àiridhean Coire Dhò fhagail is iongantach air an tachair sinn.

Tha sliabh fada monaidh a sineadh a mach aig Coire Dhò ris an abrar Tigh-Mórna-Seilg—far an robh ùruisg no bécán do'm b'ainm Daibhidh, agus spiorad boireannaich do'm b'ainm Mór, a' fantuinn. Bha iad le chèile fad an aghaidh tuath a' ghlinne bhi cur an spréidh do'n àite sin fad an t-Samhraidh. Chuir an dithis air falbh an crodh às an àiridh sin uair na dhà, ach mu dheireadh ghabh Daibhidh an fheirg, spion e craobh mhór ghiuthais as na freumhan, ruag e air falbh daoine agus beathaichean Ghlinn Urchadain a mach thairis air crìoch Ghlinn Moireastain, seachad air Ach-na-Gonaran. Tha na faeail leis an do sgiurs e air falbh iad air an cuimhneachadh fhathast;

"S leams Doire-Dhamh, is Doire-Dhaibhidh,
 'S Bòirisdh bhuidh nan alltan,
 'S Ceann-a-chnoc mhor le fiodh 's le fàsaich
 A bhodachibh dubh doithe, togaibh oirbh!"

Bha cleachdadh aig an tuath ann an iomadh àite de'n Ghaidhealtachd a bhi togail suas

a' chruidh ris na coireachan agus na glinn bheag mhonaidh a bha fagus air laimh aig deireadh an Earraich, an uair bhiodh a' chonnalach a' fas gann, agus an crodh ainneis, an deigh dhaibh na h-uile Faoilteach, Feadag, Gearran, Mart, is seachduinn chruaidh na Caillich a chuir seachad. 'Se an togail Earraich theireadh iad ri so. An deigh do'n t-sluagh an còirichean a chall air na ruigheachan móra a bha aig an sinnsir ré iomadh linn, lean iad air dol do na h-àiridhean so a bha dlùth do laimh fad thri no ceithir mhiosan de'n t-Samhradh, ann an cuid àitean gu ruig 1820, ann an Gleann a' Cheathramh Mhoir, an Gleann Liobhainn, gu deich bliadhna na bu deireannaiche na sin.

Ach bha glòir nan ruigheachan air falbh roimh sud, theagamh da fhichead bliadhna, co dliubh. Cha robh ann aig an àm sin ach samhraidh air an rud a bha ann roimhe, mar nach robh anns an dara teampull ach samhraidh do'n fhear bhriagha thog Solamh.

Ach gu bhi ag innseadh mu na cleachdaidhean a bha aig an t-sluagh anns na bothain àiridh, cha 'n' eil e cho furasd dheanamh. Nuair a bheachdaicheas sinn air cho farsuing agus bha an seòl ud air dol a mach air feadh Albainn, tha e gè iongantach nach 'eil tuille de fhìor chùntas soilleir againn air mar a bha an sluagh a' caitheamh na h-uine anns na h-àiridhean. Tha na bàird a' bruidhinn air an àm ud mar gu'm b'e "Linn an Aigh" bhiodh ann. Na'm b' fhìor iadsan is e gaol is sùgradh ris an robh an òigridh cur seachad na h-uine, agus cha 'n' eil teagamh nach robh mórán de sin dol air adhart far an robh na h-uile nì mu'n cuairt cho freagarach, a' ghrian a' dealradh air na beanntan cho boidheach, am fear, am frach, agus iomadh blàth cur loinn air an fhonn, na fuarain ghlan fhionnar ag éiridh mu'n cuairt orra, na h-uillt mhóra ri toman feadh nan easan. An deigh do'n oidheche sgaoil-bhrat a tharruing thairis air an t-sealladh, bhiodh a' ghealach boillsgeadh mach troimh na neòil, agus anns na sìtheanan dluth do laimh shaoileadh iad iomadh uair gu'n robh iad a' cluinntinn a' chiùil ris an robh an sluagh beag a dannsadh. B' eibhinn a sheinneadh an uisge ann na speuran, 's bu mhear a leumadh na laogh 's na h-uain mu na cròidhean. Bha iad fhéin òg agus air bheag curaim, agus agus cha b' iongantach ged a bhiodh an cridheachan air uairean ag aomadh gu gaol is caidreamh caoimhneil, mu'n robh na bàird a' labhairt

cho bitheanta. Thubhairt Uilleam Ros as leth nighean àraidh,

"Gu 'm b'òg mis' agus Cailean,
Ann an gleannan na cuach,
Is sinn tional nan dithean
Leinn fhéin feadh nan cluan."

Thubhairt Donnachadh Bàn mu Mhàiri,

"Shiubhladh tu fàsach àirdh glinne,
'S an ait an cinneadh an spriidh,
Ga'm bleothan mu chrò's bhì chòir na h-innis,
Laogh òg a uireadh 's a' leum."

Tha Murachadh MacCoinnich a' tarraing deilbh fìor ghrinn air an dòigh a bha aca 's na h-àiridhean anns an òran shnasamhor sin "Mairi Laghach."

"Nuair a thig a' Bhealltuinn,
Bithidh a' choill fo bhàth,
'S t'oin bheaga seinn duinn
A dh'oidhech agus a là;
Gabhair agus caoirich,
Is crodh-laogh le 'n àl,
'S Mairi bhàn 'gan saodadh
Mach ri aodann chàrn."

Tha Rob Donn a' seinn gu blasda mu

"Iseabail Nic-Aoidh,
Aig a' chrodh laogh,"

Is ged theagamh nach fhaca bàrd binn air latha fhéin an cleachda riamh, air leinn gu bheil fàile cùbhraidh na h-àiridh ri fhair-eachdain de'n òran mheasail sin,

"An gleann san robh mi òg."

Thubhairt an t-ùghdar aig "Fàilte Bhraid-albainn,"

"Mu thoiseach an t-Samhraidh, 'n am chur cruaidh air gleanntaibh gu feur,
Bhiodh eòin na coille gu rannmhor, gabhail ceileir binn greannar doibh féin,
Bithidh an uiseag 's an smeorach, 's iad gu ceòlmhor air barraibh nan geur,
Is binn an luinneag 's an òran, ann an coille nan cnò leotha féin."

Bha na bàird gu mòr air an togail ri dòigh caitheamh-beatha na h-àiridh. Faiceamaid a nis eòid a bha muinntir na h-àiridh féin a smuaineachadh mu'n chùis. Tha e air innseadh mu mhnaoi chòir a mhuinntir Ghlinn Liobhainn, gur e a bha i ag radh 'na sean aois mu na làithean sòlasach a bha aice anns na ruigheachan, "Fionnagheann mo chridhe, far nach bitheadh Didòmhnaich." Ged nach eil na briathran so a' toirt beachd àrd duinn air a cràbhadh, tha iad feuchainn duinn am beachd àrd a bha aice-se air caitheamh beatha nan àiridhean. Chuala sinn mu bhean chòir eile air an d' thainig anshocair ghoirt aig àm sònruicht. Chaidh duine diadhaidh a' a' choimhearsnachd gu' fiosrachadh air latha Sàbaid àraidh. Leubh e earrannan freagarraich as an Sgrìobtur

dhi, agus bha e a' toirt comhfhurtachd dhi mar a b' fhearr a b' urrainn e, ach is ann a dh' fhàs i ro neo-shoistinneach gus an do sguir e air tuille dragh chur orra. Bha fear eile còmhla ris a' thuig nach robh anshocair na mnatha coltach ri bhì chum bàis agus a bha na b' eòlaiche air a gnè na' cheud fhear. An uair a chaidh beagan uine seachad, agus a bha i coltach ri bhì na bu shocraiche, thubhairt esan, "Mata a bhean, is ann a bha mi smuaineachadh an ceart uair air gu'm bu sona ionraic a bha sluagh a cur seachad na h-uine anns na ruigheachan an uair a bha sibhse òg seach mar a tha sluagh an duigh."

Bu mhòr a' bhuaidh a bha aig na facail air a mhnaoi. Mhosgail i suas gu h-ealamh mur gu'm biodh a h-anshocair gu h-iomlan air a fagail. Thubhairt i gu beòthail, "Mata a laochain is fìor sin, nach iomadh, latha sòlasach, sona a chuir sinn seachad anns na h-àiridhean boidheach. A nis cha d' innis sinn an dà sgeul so mar dhearbhadh air mì-chùram agus aineolas ar sinnsir mu nith-eau a bhuineas do dhiaidhachd ach mar dhearbhadh air a' bhuaidh a fhuair cleachda nan àiridhean air na h-inntinnean aig an t-sluagh a bha dol a' ionnsuidh.

(Ri leantuinn.)

—O—

LEASAIN GHAIHDHLIG.

"TAIBHS' A' BHODACH."

XIII.

Bha bodach ann an sud a roimhe agus chaidh e aon latha do'n bhaile mhòr. Am measg rudan eile cheannaich e fichead sgadan, chuir e ann am poca paiper iad agus (1) *thog e air dhachaidh*.

Bha astar fad' aige ri dhol, bha 'm (2) *feasgar a' ciaradh* agus bha cabhaig air mu'n beireadh an oidhech' air. Choisich e gu math ach thuit an oidheche gle thràth.

A nis bha 'm bodach (3) *a làn chreidsinn gu'n robh taibhsheachan ann* agus bha e mar sin air chrith leis an eagal. Bha e fhathast trì mìle bho 'n taigh agus b' fhada leis gu ruigeadh e, ach gu mì-fhortanach rac am poca agus thuit (4) *an sgadan* air an rathad. 'Dé' nis a dheanadh e? Bha eagal a bheath' air gu'm bitheadh na taibhsheachan air a mhuin mu'n faigheadh e air an togail. So mar a rinn e.

Bha còta aotrom uachdair aige air a ghairdean, cheangail e an dà mhuinchill aige ri chèile, (5) *sgioblaich* e gu math e agus chuir e an sgadan (6) *am broinn a' chota*,

chroch e 'air a ghualainn e agus dh' fhalbh e.

Bha e (7) *an impis sgàineadh* leis an eagal ach bha a' ghaoth mòr, (8) *agus i 'na chùl-thaobh*, agus shaoil e mar sin nach biodh e ro fhada.

Sheall e as a dhéigh an uair úd. Bhuail rud-eigin air. "Mo Chreach!" aris' esan, a' e 's cur (9) *a bhois'* air a shùil, "'dé bha sud?"

Lean e air aghaidh 's e 'g ràdh ris fhéin. "Sud a' cheud bhuile bho na taibhseachan; tha 'n t-àm agam-sa ruith—" ach cha b' urrainn dha ruith leis an eagal.

Sheall e a ris as a dhéigh; fhuair e an ath bhuile air an (10) *leth-cheann*. "Mort!" aris' esan, (11) *àird a chlaiginn*, agus (12) *mach a thug e*. Cha do ruith e gle fhada, agus an uair a chaill e' anail rinn e air a shocair. "A Dhia nan gràs, cobhair mise!" aris' esan, "Dé thainig orm-s' nochd!"

Chluinneadh tu nis plac a chridhe a' bualadh, bha eagal air sealltuinn as a dhéigh oir bha e cinnteach gu'n robh rud-eigin (13) *mi-chneadh* ann. Ach mu dhiseadh dh' fhas e laidir ('na bheachd fhein), thug e sùil le cabhaig thar a ghualainn, *ach cha bu luath'è thug na fhuair e sgaile mhór* mu'n adann.

(14) "*Cùis an Uamhais!*" Cha deachadh aige air an còr a radh, thuit e 'na (15) *phlàta* mòr air an rathad, chaill e a lùtha leis an eagal. An uair a (16) *thainig e thuige fhéin* bha an cota leis an sgadan a nuas mu' mhuineal agus an sin dh' aithnich e an rud a bha 'g a bhuiladh.

"An donas gu'n toir leis thusa," aris' esan,

's e a' breith air muineall a' chota, "'s tusa a bha 'gam sgailceadh fad' na h-uine."

Agus sin mar bha a' chùis. Bha' ghaoth ag crathadh muineall a' chota shios air a dhruim agus gach uair a thionndaidheadh esan a cheann bha i a' bualadh air anns an adann.

(17) "*Ceart mhath an àiridh*," aris' e fhéin an uair a fhuair e' anail gu math, "mur b'e gu'n d'òl mise pris a' mhuil mhoir an diugh cha robh sud air éirigh dhomh."

AM BUACHAILL.

(1) Lit.: he lifted on him, etc.—he set off home.

(2) „ the evening was coming down.

(3) „ fully believing that there were ghosts in it—
had full faith in the existence of ghosts.

(4) "An sgadan" here is used in its collective sense
—a quantity of herrings.

(5) Tidy up.

(6) Inside of.

(7) Lit.: on the point of splitting.

(8) „ and it (the high wind) in his back—i.e. the
good breeze behind sped him homewards.

(9) Palm of his hand.

(10) Lit.: half-head—check.

(11) „ the height of his head—the pitch of his
voice.

(12) Lit.: out he took (himself)—off he went (c.p. 1).

(13) „ not quite proper—uncanny.

(14) „ Cause of terror! (c.p. 1). Lord preserve me!

(15) „ a pall—something spread out, hence here
means—he fell in a heap (useless lump).

(16) Lit.: when he came to himself—recovered con-
sciousness

(17) Quite good the deserving—served *you* (himself)
quite right.

OLD DONALD.

Night walked the glens and over the bens in her silent black brogues, and the wind, God's piper, played its lament—that only folks can understand when they are nigh the end of life's hard jaunt and the dawn seems slow at the coming—when old Donald was near his end, but he sat in his chair by his red, glowing, peat fire—for was it not the boast of his clan that none had died in their beds.

The wind played its lament round the gables, then died away in a sob, but old Donald did not heed it for his thoughts were away in the past, which comes back clear when the men in the "White Barge" are waiting for you. His vision was clear, for the mist was rolling away. He saw it all again, that wild night in the glen when Archie from over Borddubh water and he

came to knives over MacNicol's daughter, leaving a wound ill to heal.

Dying as old Donald was, his eyes glowed like a peat as the vision became clear—"Dhia!" said he aloud, "if Archie was here I would—" but his sentence remained unfinished for the door had opened and in came Archie.

Since that night in the glen a score and more years back they had not met, but that undying hate which had been smouldering in the heart of old Donald burst into flame at the sight of Archie. "Archie," he hissed, "I am game for ye yet."

The crusie flared up for a moment, two old hands joined in the grip of friends, that magic band which even death itself cannot sever—and the men in the "White Barge" put off.

J. MACLEOD CAMPBELL,
OF SADDLE.

PUIRT-A-BEUL.

FOR JUVENILE COMPETITION AT MOD OF 1912.

KEY F.

{	d	:d	:d	m	:—	:d	f .f	:—	:r	m	:m	:	}
	B' fhearra		leam	fhìn		gur	truagh		nach	beireadh,			
{	l _i	:—	:—	r	:—	:d	t _i	:s _i	:—	s _i	:—	:—	}
	Tè			dhe		na	h-eir - eag			an,			
{	d	:d	:d	m	:—	:d	f .f	:—	:r	m	:m	:	}
	B' fhearra		leam	fhìn		gur	truagh		nach	beireadh,			
{	l _i	:l _i	:l _i	s _i	:s _i	:s _i	d	:—	:—	d	:—	:	}
	Tè	dhe	na	h-eir - eag	- an		bà			na.			
{	m .m	:—	:s	s	:—	:m	l	:—	:s	m	:r	:d	}
	Gheabhadh		tu	féin		a	ghaoil		an	t-ubh	aic - e,		
{	r .r	:—	:r	r	:—	:m	f	:—	:f	m	:r	:d	}
	Gheabhadh		tu	féin		a	ghràidh		an	t-ubh	aic - e,		
{	m .m	:—	:s	s	:—	:s	l	:—	:s	m	:r	:d	}
	Gheabhadh		tu	féin		a	ghràidh		an	t-ubh	aic - e,		
{	r	:r	:r	m	:m	:r	d	:—	:—	r	:—	:	
	Tè	dhe	na	h-eir - eag	- an		bà			na.			

AN CÙ BÀN.

FOR JUVENILE COMPETITION.

KEY A₇.

Chorus—1st time.

{	r	:—	:d	d .t _i	:—	:s _i	l _i .f _i	:—	:f _i	s _i	:	}	
	Dì		an	dò	-	bhan,	os an		cù	bàn,			
{	s _i	s _i	:d	:—	.d	d	:—	:r	d .t _i	:—	:t _i	l _i	:—
	Nach	min - ig			a	bha	sinn,	os an		cù	bàn,		
	Chorus											D.S.	
{	r	:—	:d	d .t _i	:—	:s _i	l _i .f _i	:—	:f _i	s _i	:—	:	
	Dì		an	dò	-	bhan,	os an		cù	bàn.			

2 Air cul gàraidh, os an cù bàn,
Dì an dò-bhan, os an cù bàn.

3 Cagnadh enàmhan, os an cù bàn,
Diurra dò-bhan, os an cù bàn.

4 Mharbh am bròn mì, os an cù bàn,
Dì an dò-bhan, os an cù bàn.

5 A gleidheil a chàise, os an cù bàn,
Diurra dò-bhan, os an cù bàn.

NOTE.—“Diurra” is an imitation of a growl introduced at intervals.

Both airs collected in Eriskay by Miss Amy Murray, of Boston University, U.S.A.

Errata—In last month's music of “An Cùbhrachan” for m,r, — : — : — | r,d, — : — : — read m,r, — : — : — | r,d, — : — : — for passing note in both lines of Chorus; also delete slur under | l_i, d, — : — in both lines Chorus.

TIREE, IONA AND MULL.

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE COMUNN PROPAGANDA TOUR.

BY T. D. M.

"The isles of Greece, the isles of Greece,
Full many a bard has sung,
The isles I love best lie far in the West,
Where men speak the Gaelic tongue."

So sang the late Sheriff Nicolson, and undoubtedly this son of the Isles had a full measure of the Highlanders' love for the homeland, and all that Celtic fervour which makes him in exile dream of the Hebrides. All the same, there are times, in winter, when some other place may be dreamed of and wished for by the traveller landing from or embarking on a MacBrayne boat among these isles of the West; particularly when, as in the case of Tiree and Iona, the modern and needful equipment of a pier is absent. In what measure this was felt by the writer may be incidentally gathered from what follows.

TIREE.

It was missionary work on behalf of An Comunn. Notwithstanding its growth, and the gratifying progress and results of its work so far, there is no denying the fact that up till recently the Gaelic homes of the Isles have not been in tangible touch with the movement to the extent that might be expected. Of late, however, it is appreciably felt that the Comunn's name and fame has been preparing the way for Comunn work in these fertile Gaelic fields. The apparent apathy to the movement in some areas is not based on antagonism, but is owing partly to misconceptions as to the Comunn's objects, and partly to an indifference born of that sleepiness too often characteristic of small rural communities lying out of the beaten track. There is, however, a latent spirit that only requires rousing. The soul is not dead that slumbers, and even stagnant water can be clarified.

My first call was the island of Tiree, and the foregoing remarks as regards sleepiness do not apply here. Whether it be the open and cheer-inducing expanse of outlook from every point of vantage, or the restless, boisterous spirit of the elements, or both combined, there is no gainsaying the fact that a cheerful view of things in general and a stalwart faith in endeavour are the prevailing moods in this stormy, seagirt isle. Conse-

quently, one felt one's effort appreciated and buoyed on a wave of hope and expectancy. Coupled with this there was the certainty that Gaelic here was a living force. Everyone spoke it, no one denied it. There was one exception I came across—the worthy doctor, a recent comer, but he had already been enthused by the healthy Gaelic atmosphere, and was hard mastering the language. It is with confidence, then, that I bespeak prosperity for the Comunn in Tiree.

I used to wonder how it was that such a comparatively small island was such a nursery for the ministry, the teaching, and other learned professions. I do not wonder now. They do not consider their own language a hindrance to them in Tiree, and consequently it is not.

BUNESSAN (MULL), BY THE WAY.

It was my intention on leaving Tiree to call at Bunessan, and hold a meeting there. But on account of telegraphic communication being broken between the two places I could not advise the latter place of my coming, and although the steamer stayed long enough there to allow one to go ashore, there was no meeting announced or held. I called on the Headmaster, Mr. MacKechnie, a Tiree man, personally imbued with his native island's enthusiasm for the cause, but rather doubtful as to the attitude of the locality. He informed me of a children's Xmas treat being held that evening where I could meet the Parish Minister, the Rev. Hector Maclean, also a Tiree man. I took advantage of the opportunity and found a cheerful gathering of, I believe, between 60 and 70 children, presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Maclean, assisted by Mr. MacKechnie and his assistants. It was a gathering that did one good to see, and spoke volumes for the kindly interest taken by the shepherd in the lambs of his flock. From a Gaelic propagandist point of view I was rather taken aback when told that quite 60 per cent. of the young ones were boarded out children from Glasgow, and were not likely to appreciate much of the few words I was permitted to address to them in the native language of the place. I was informed that many of these Glasgow children succeed in becoming Gaelic speakers, but I am afraid that the proportion who will do so will grow less and less as time goes on, under present circumstances. It is a delicate question, and one would prefer not to allow the circumstances to recall the story of the old woman's parrot and that of the sailor. The

old woman in question, who lived in a seaport town, did washing for sailors. She had a parrot that was taught to repeat texts from Scripture. Once upon a time a sailor called with washing having a parrot in his possession that was taught to repeat texts the very opposite to those found in Scripture. The old woman was horrified at the language uttered by the sailor's parrot, and she persuaded him to leave it with her during the ship's stay in port in order that it might learn something better from her's. In due time the sailor took away his parrot, and the old woman was mortified to find that her's spoke henceforth, well—sailor language. Let me say at once that there was no indication of anything of the kind at Bunessan. On the contrary, there was an exhibition by two little nites of the Glasgow children in the nature of a dialogue which was delightful in its pathos, in its moral, and in its evidence of a careful and early training, as well as in its evidence of the apt intelligence of the children; and a training, too, which must still be maintained by their present guardians and instructors, in order to retain the exhibited proficiency. One cannot help believing that these children must have been under the care of Glasgow's Parish Council from their infancy. From one's knowledge of things in general it would be difficult to believe that they approached the age of the Glasgow urchin before coming under the influence of the appointed guardians of the Glasgow Parish Council, whether in the country or in Glasgow homes. It is in the latter kind, those who are of the urchin age, and who have learned the ways of the city slums, in whom danger lies. This is said in application to the problem in general, and not with reference to Bunessan in particular.

There is another aspect of the question, suggested to me by a remark of Mr. Maclean, that "many of these Glasgow boarded children acquired Gaelic." Could it be so ordered that all of them acquired Gaelic, not merely in the sense that the Highland shepherd's dog acquires it, by sound of ear alone, but if they acquired it as an instrument of culture, verily it would be a revenge for the Saxonising tendencies presently in force in some parts of the Highlands. There is no obstacle to such a consummation if the local authorities are willing to act. The Rev. Mr. Macdonald, of Kiltarlity, has demonstrated this to some extent by his success in making a prize-

winning Junior Gaelic Choir out of the material supplied by Glasgow's boarded-out children. Further on I will have more to say as to one means by which this could be helped forward.

Bunessan, in the foregoing remarks, is only dealt with by the way. It will be further dealt with when it is reached in its proper place, on the occasion when a meeting was called and held there.

(To be continued).

DAN MOLADH NA GAEDHILGE.

AIG MOD, 1911, CHOISINN EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL, GLASGO, A' CHEUD DUAIS AIRSON NAN TRI DAIN EIRIONNAICH A LEANAS A CHUR ANN AN GAIDHLIG ALBANNAICH.

'Si Ghaidhlig fhéin is grinne seòl,
Gur blasda fonnmhòr i mar cheòl;
'S i labhradh briathra binne beòil;
Is fìor gur mòr ar gràdh dhi.
Aon teang cha'n'eil ri coimeas ri',
Am blas no fonn cha léir dhomh i,
Gu'n d'labhradh i ré ionadh linn

An dàn 's an ceòl,

'S am meas ro mhòr,

An cùirt nam flait'h 's nam rìghrean còir
'S am briathraibh ceòlmhor bhàda.

Ach thig an là air Tìr nam Beann
'S an togar sròl nan Gàidheal ri crann;
Bidh rìghrean dùthchail os ar ceann
'S theid cruit is pìob a ghléusadh.
Nì gaisgich thrèubhach féum le lann,
Nì bàird an euchdan chur an rann,
'S a' Ghaidhlig aosd bu ghrinne fonn,
'Na h-éideadh dlùth,

A' faotainn cliù,

An cùirt nam flait'h, 's i féin a b'fhiu,
'S theid cainnt nan Gall fo gheusaibh.

Thig linn bhios son' air Eirinn* ris,
Le saibhreas, ceartas, rian is sìth;
Is riaghlaidh saoi an cùirt an Rìgh
Is treun-laoich 'striochdadh nàmhaid.
A' Ghaidhlig diridh suas gu h-àrd,
Am meas 's an cliù thar béurla ghnàth,
Ga labhairt leinn gun dìth gach là.

Luchd teagaisg fìor

A' fòghlum Chrìost,

Is eòlas Dhé dhuinn saor gun phris
Le saors' is sìth 'n ar n-àros.

* Dh' fhaodta "Albainn" a chur an aite "Eirinn" an so na 'm b'ìdh-te airson nan Albannach a dheanadh dheth.

EIBHLIN, A RUIN.

Le gràdh dhuit thréig radharc mo cheann,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Do mholadh is taitneach leam,
Eibhlin a rùin !

M' aon leannan ro ghriun is tù,
Sòlas mo shaoghaidh thù,
Mo chruit is mo shéud is tù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Bean leighis mo chléibh is tù,
Mo cholaman an coill is tù,
Do m' chri cha 'n 'eil sláint gun thù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Gun cheilg fo gath gréin do chliù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Gun bhréig tha do bhéul glan ùr,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Is bréighe na Bhénus thù,
Is àille na reultan thù,
M' Eilidh gun bhéum is tù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Mo ròs is mo lilidh thù,
M' aon chuid de 'n t-saoghal thù,
Rùn mo chri 's mo chléibh is tù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Sheòlainn thar sàile leat,
Eibhlin a rùin !

'S ri m' bheò cha 'n fhàgaim-se
Eilidh mo rùn.

Le òrain gu 'n tàlainn thù,
Phògaimn do bhéul gu dlùth,
'S sheinninn air téud do chliù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Mu bhruaichibh nan sruthan fann,
Fo ghorm dhuileach ghéug is chrann,
Ceòl nan eun os ar ceann.

Eibhlin a rùin !

Bu shòlas thar beatha leam,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Na 'n luidhinn air leaba leat,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Phaisginn ri m' chréubhaig thù,
Dhionainn o éucail thù,
Thaghainn thar aon neach thù,
Eibhlin a rùin !

Mo réult mhaiseach mhadainn thù,
Mu 'm faicinn do chri fo thùrs
Och! 's e 'n t-éug bhiodh orm ro dhlùth.
Eibhlin a rùin !

—:O:—

PAISTIN FIONN.

Lan gràidh tha m'anam do m' phàisdein ùr,
'S tha cridhe 's a h-aghaidh ri gàire rium;
A cìocha geala mar bhlàth nan ùbh 'l,
'S a muineal mar eala la màrta.

FONN—

Is tusa mo rùn, mo rùn, mo rùn,
Is tusa mo rùn 's uo ghràdh geal;
Is tusa mo rùn 's mo suaointinn gach uair,
'S e mo chreach gun mo luaidh bhi làimh
rium.

'S e gaol mo chridhe mo phàisdein bàn,
Le gruaidh a' lasadh mar chrann fo bhlàth;
Tha uis' air dol faoin air mo phàisdein bàn,
'S mi féin gu 'n òladh a slàinte.

Is tusa mo rùn, etc.

Nam bithinn an baile 'm biodh sùgradh 's
greann,

'S mi 'm shuidhe 's a' chuideachd ag 'òl an
dram,

Mo phiuthar bheag ma' rium 's mo làmh fo
ceann,

Gur subhach a dh'òlainn a slàinte.

Is tusa mo rùn, etc.

Thug mi naoi oidhe am luidh gu truagh,
Bho bhi sinte fo 'n dùlinn am fasgadh nam
bruaich,

'S mi 'smaointinn an còmhnuidh air caile mo
luaidh

'S nach fhaighinn air cruas mo ghlaoidh i.

Is tusa mo rùn, etc.

Thréiginu gun fharran mo chàirde gaoil,
Is thréigin na 's maireann de mhnathan an
t-saogh'l;

Ach cha tréig mi ri m' mhaireann gràdh
lurach mo chridh',

Gu 'n sinear gu h-ìosal fo chlàr mi.

Is tusa mo rùn, etc.

—:O:—

COMUNN NEWS.

NORTH AYRESHIRE BRANCH, AN COMUNN GAIDH-
EALACH.—The Branch had a very enjoyable Gaelic
Ceilidh in the Masonic Hall, Saltcoats, on the 23rd
Dec. last, when the Rev. Mr. Lamont, Saltcoats,
delivered a most interesting paper in Gaelic on St.
Columba. Mr. G. T. Macpherson occupied the
chair and an ong (those who spoke in the old language
on the subject were Captain Campbell, Ardrossan,
Mr. Donald Macrae, Ardrossan, and Mr. Roderick
MacLeod, Saltcoats. On the 20th curt, Mr. G. T.
Macpherson is to give a paper on the "History of
the Celts."

COMUNN GAIDH-EALACH LOCHABAIR.—This Branch
lately had a Ceilidh at "An Gearasdan" which was
largely attended from all parts of the district. Mr.
Alastair C. MacLaren, Inverardran, came to sing and
received repeated encores, and Mr. Kenneth MacLeod,
M.A., gave an inspiring address. The Lochaber
Senior Choir, now a large body, and two Junior
Choirs, provided the entertainment. Miss A.
Mackenzie and Miss Halse delighted the audience,
and they and all the soloists were warmly encored.

air; treasurer, Mr. Neil MacIntyre, Ardow; members of committee, Rev. Mr. Paterson, U.F. Manse; Mr. A. MacMillan, teacher; Mr. John Beaton, Willowbank; Mr. John Beaton, Dervaig; Mr. Neil Cowan, Dervaig; Mr. John MacKinnon, Dervaig; Mr. Hugh MacDonald, Bealachroy Hotel. BUNESSAN, MULL.—President, Rev. Hector Maclean, The Manse; vice-presidents, Messrs. Duncan Cameron, factor, and John MacKechnie, teacher; secretary and treasurer, Miss MacQueen, teacher; members of committee, Messrs. Neil MacPherson, Donald Morrison, Ardtun; Donald MacKinnon, Lee; Miss MacKechnie, Schoolhouse; John A. Campbell, Ardoch; Alex. M. MacGregor, Inspector of Poor. TOBERMORY.—In the course of his tour, Mr. MacDonald addressed a meeting of the old Branch at Tobermory. Mr. Alex. Fraser, Clydesdale Bank, presiding. The chairman and Mr. D. Cattanach, the secretary, also spoke, and it was resolved to make an effort to institute a local Mòd in Tobermory, to which all the Mull, Tiree and Morven Branches should be asked to contribute competitors.

DONATIONS TO INVERNESS MOD FUND, 1912.

Captain Henry Davidson, Burmah,	Silver Medal and £2	0	0
Miss Reyburn, Stirling,		1	1
A Hebridean Highlander in Prince Rupert, Canada,		3	10
Captain Colin MacRae, Achnaba, Lochgilhead,		3	0
Misses Williams, Guynnon-Dal, Llanarthney, Wales,		2	0
Glasgow Atholl and Breadalbane Assoc.,		1	1
Miss C. Cochran, Calder Glen, Blantyre,		0	11

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.

ORDINARY.

Miss Jessie Cameron, Ledcharrie, Luib S.O., Perthshire.
A. S. Matheson, Edinburgh.
Hon. Mrs. MacKinnon of Mackinnon, Dalross Castle, Inverness.
Mrs. J. N. Macleod, Dornie.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed to Mr. Duncan Reid, Editor An Deo-Greine, Central Chambers, 12 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, annual subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

The Magazine will be sent post free to all countries in the Postal Union for 1/6 per annum. Single copies will be sent by post for 1/4d.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

The Editor requests the kind indulgence of those correspondents and contributors who are awaiting replies to communications sent to him as he is presently suffering from an attack of pneumonia and is consequently unable to engage in any correspondence.

OUR GAELIC ARTISTES' REGISTER.

Miss Jessie M. MacLennan. Contralto (Gaelic and English Vocalist), Mòd Gold Medallist.—24 Stewartville Street, Partick.

Miss Phemie Marquis, Soprano (Gaelic and English), double Gold Medallist, and Mòd Prize winner.—46 Windsor Terrace, Glasgow. 'Phone, 231y6 Charing Cross.

R. Morrison, Tenor (Gaelic and English Vocalist) Mòd Gold Medallist; Champion Puirt-a-beul, 1909 and 1910; Pupil Northern College of Music—40 Gardner Street, Partick.

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Julius Cæsar in Scottish Gaelic,	- 2/ 3d
MacDonald's Collection of Gaelic Poetry,	-21/- 6d
Aig Tigh na Beinne, by Mrs. Grant, just pub.,	4/6 4d
Clarsach an Doire, Neil MacLeod, new edition, 3/6	4d
Caraid nan Gaidheal, Norman MacLeod, D.D., 5/-	5d
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AN DEO-GRÉINE

Leabhar VII.] *Mìos Meadhonach an Earraich, 1912.* [Earrann 6.

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THE LATE MR. DUNCAN REID.

The intimation in the last issue of this magazine that Mr. Duncan Reid had contracted pneumonia gave cause for serious anxiety. It was early seen that there was little prospect of his recovery. He died on the 7th of February at the age of sixty-three.

Mr. Reid was a native of Clachan, Kintyre, and was educated at the parish school there. In early manhood he came to Glasgow, and for many years prior to his death he was managing clerk and accountant in the Glasgow office of Messrs. George Halliday, Ltd.

Mr. Reid early identified himself with the cause of Gaelic education. His abilities as a teacher of Gaelic were recognised by the School Board of Glasgow when in 1887 they appointed him to teach the Gaelic classes of the Evening Continuation School in the High School of Glasgow. For sixteen consecutive years he conducted these with remarkable success, and there are many in Glasgow and elsewhere to-day who owe their love for and knowledge of the Gaelic almost entirely to the enthusiasm and interest which Mr. Reid was able to inspire. He lived to see many gratifying results of his labours, and of these none gave him more genuine satisfaction than the appointment last year of his former pupil, Mr. John Maclean, as Secretary of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

In 1894 he founded the Glasgow High School Gaelic Class Ceilidh which has proved itself to be one of the most active and successful institutions of its kind in Glasgow. It is interesting to note in this connection that to Mr. Reid is due the credit of giving to the word "ceilidh" the larger and popular significance which it now enjoys.

He was one of the original members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and has all along been a member of its Executive Council and

of one or more of its Standing Committees. He was the Local Secretary of the Glasgow Mòd of 1907, the success of which was largely due to his individual enthusiasm, organising ability and tact. For the last three years he was Editor of this Magazine, and he discharged his duties in a manner which commended itself to the public and especially to the members of the Publication Committee with whom he was more closely associated.

Of his published works the outstanding monuments are his two Gaelic text-books, "A Course of Gaelic Grammar" and "Elementary Course of Gaelic," and the song "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig" which has been adopted as the rallying song of the Gaelic movement. Both text-books have had a very considerable circulation, and the rallying song has become the "Marseillaise" of the Highlands. The "Elementary Course," which was issued under the auspices of the Comunn, has proved itself to be by far the most popular introduction to the language that has ever been given to the public.

As a Gaelic lecturer Mr. Reid's services were much in demand. He had an intimate acquaintance with Gaelic literature, and made a special study of the poets. His literary hero was Duncan Bàn Macintyre, and he never tired of reading, quoting, and pointing out the beauties of the hunter bard of the Highlands.

Of these and other works the whole Gaelic-speaking public know; but there are fewer who know of the great amount of time and trouble which he gladly and gratuitously gave to the revision of the manuscripts of others. To would-be Gaelic writers and speakers his advice was ever freely given, and many a Gaelic author has had reason to be grateful for the fine literary taste and exact acquaintance with idiom, and that instinctive knowledge of the right word, which were the charm alike of his conversation and his writings.

Among contemporary Gaelic writers Mr. Reid's name will always have an honoured

place, but it is on his work as a grammarian and a teacher that his permanent reputation will securely rest. He had a perfect genius for grammar and phraseology, and he had such an instinct for seeing and comprehending the difficulties which beset a learner of Gaelic that it was hard to believe he was himself a native speaker.

His genial presence will be greatly missed by the Executive Council, and in the many Highland circles in Glasgow in which he was ever a welcome guest. He carried with him an atmosphere of friendliness and quiet dignity which was felt wherever he went. By his death the Gaelic cause has been bereft of one of its most winning advocates, and his services to the cause were all the more valuable because he ever strove to maintain the purity of the spoken as well as of the written language.

But it was to those who met him in his own home that the real charm of the man was disclosed—the gracious and kindly welcome, the thoughtful enquiries for friends, the great talks on Gaelic affairs, the reminiscences of old days in Kintyre and the Highlanders of long ago, the pointed but good-natured criticism of those with whom he disagreed, and finally the "Oidhe mhat leibh" and the warm hand-grip at the door. Those who saw him at his own fireside are those who know their loss.

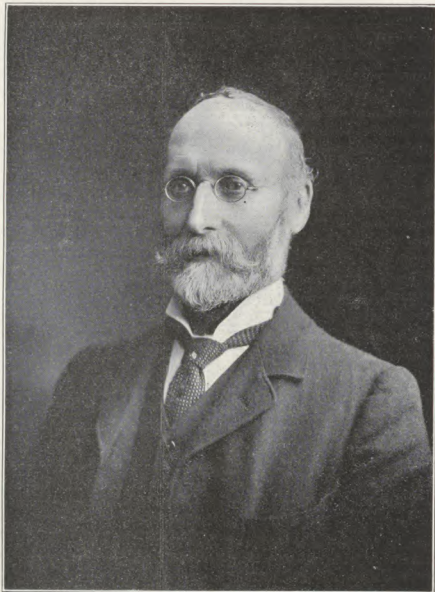
Mr Reid's character and temperament were essentially Highland. There was a gentleness and a manliness about his bearing which appealed alike to young and old. Malice and vulgarity had no place in his nature. He had a warm and generous heart, a soul earnest for what it believed to be right.

To his widow and family we would offer our heartfelt sympathy and the assurance that among the members of An Comunn Gaidhealach the memory of their friend will ever be cherished with affectionate regard.

Bu duine e cho suairce, sìobhalta, coibheoil, còir 's a chaidh àrach riamh an 'Tìr nam Beann; agus bu Ghàidheal e a bha

daonnan dileas d'a dhùthaich agus dileas d'a
cànain. Mar thuirt Am Bard Sgitheanach,
Niall MacLeòid :—

Bu sheasmhach dian e air an eul;
'S a Ghàidhlig aosda, cheòlmhor, bhinn,
Chaill thusa gaisgeach treun nach till,



THE LATE MR. DUNCAN REID.

"Caraide dileas tir nam beann,
A chumadh suas i fein 's a clann;
A ceòl, a bàrdachd, is a cliù,

Bha ' aignidhean de d'ionmhais làn,
'S bu tric a dhearbh e sin do chàch."

DONALD CURRIE

BEACHDAIREACHD AIR CLEACHD- AIDHEAN NAN AIRIDHEAN GAIDHEALACH.

(HIGHLAND SHIELING CUSTOMS.)

LE ALASTAIR STUBHART, GLEANN LIOBHAINN.

Fhuair am paipeir so a' cheud duais aig Mòd, 1911.

III.

Bha taobh eile air an duilleig. Bhiodh Dughall Bochanan, agus 'fhear-cuideachaidh, Donnacha Loudinn, gu minic a tathaich air na h-àiridhean air feasgaran Sàbaid, agus a labhairt ris an t-sluagh mu na nithean a bhuineadh do'n bheatha mhaireannaich.

Bha mar an ceudna, Mac-Artair, a bha 'n a mhaighstir-sgoile ann an Toiseachd Ghlinn Lìobhainn 'deanamh moran feum am measg sluagh nan àiridhean. Bhiodh e a leubhadh nan Sgrìobtuirean dhaibh anns a' Ghàidhlig Eirionnaich, na g'a eadar-theangachadh as a' Bheurla, mu'n robh am Bìobull air a thionndadh gu Gàidhlig Albannaich idir. Bhiodh e a' teagasg na h-òigridh à Leabhar Aithgearr nan Ceist agus as na Sailm. Faodar ainmeachadh ann an so gu'n robh mac aige chaidh air adhairt gu bhi 'n a mhinistear. Fhuair Mac-Artair òg sgrìeachd ann am Muile, agus tha e air innseadh gu'm biodh e sgrìobhadh litrichean do athair anns an Litir Eirionnaich, dluth air deireadh na h-ochdamh linn deug, theagamh cho deireannach agus a chaidh feum a dheanamh de'n mhodh sgrìobhaidh so ann an Albainn.

Cha'n'eil teagamh nach robh na sgeulachdan, na h-òrain, agus na h-uile seorsa ciuìl a faotainn an aite fhein anns na h-àiridhean.

Chunnaic sinn a cheana beagan mu'n dòigh cuir seachad uine bha aca anns na h-àiridhean. Bhiodh e feumail a nis gu'n tuiqeamaid beagan mu'n obair shònruichte a bha iad a deanamh. Bha e riamh air a chreidsinn gur e a b'obair shònruichte aig na boireannaich a bhi fritheal do'n chrodh 's do na làigh, 'sa deanamh im is càise de'n bhainne. Tha na bàird gu tric a deanamh luaidh air an obair so a bha aig na boireannaich. Bhiodh iad mar an ceudna gu dealaidh ris na h-uile obair-tighe bhiodh ri deanamh, deasachadh biadh, 's a ceartachadh, 's a fuaigheal 's a nigheadh aodaichean, mar bhiodh aca ri dheanamh aig an tighean fhein. Bhiodh na daoine buachaill-eachd, 's a càradh suas na h-uile ni a bhiodh

siantan a' Gheamhraidh 's an Earraich air milleadh. Tha sinn a' creidsinn nach ciurradh na bha iad a deanamh de obair iad agus gu'n robh iad a cuir seachad mòran uine ri sealg is ag iasgach. Cha'n'eil mòran de chunntas sgrìobhte againn air an obair bha g'a cumail air adhairt anns na h-àiridhean. Tha leithid a' chunntais a leanas air an aobhar sin na's luachmhoire. Ann an eachdraidh sgrìeachd Fairtichill, a sgrìobh Maighstir Iain Camaran, a bha 'n a mhaighstir-sgoile aig Ionarbharra, airson "Cunntas Nuadh nan Aireamhan" (*New Statistical Account of Scotland*) chi sinn plathadh beag mu chid a bha dol air adhairt. Bha lann aige anns an obair so maille ris an Urramach R. Macdhomhnuill, ministear na sgrìeachd. Chaidh an leabhar a chlo-bhualadh ann an 1838, glé ghoirid an dèigh do chleachda nan Ruigheachan sgruchd ann an Siorrachd Pheairt.

"Tha na h-atharraichean a tha air gabhail aite bho na chaidh an 'Sean Chùntas a sgrìobhadh mòr agus lionmhor. Aig an am sin bhiodh an aireamh bu lionmhoir de thuath na Sgrìeachd, airson feabhas an fheoir, a dol leis a' chrodh do na h-àiridhean Ruighe, cuid diubh a dol astar fichead mìle agus an còrr. Dh-fhanadh iad anns na h-àiridhean ré an t-Samhraidh. Bhiodh na daoine cuir seachad mòran de'n uine ri sealgaireachd is iasgach, agus na boirionnaich a' snìomh lìn 's a frithealadh do'n bhainne 's a deanamh im is càise deth. Am measg na tuath mheadhonach, bha e tric a tachairt gu'n robh iad a' pàidheadh a' mhàil le lion a bha iad fhein a togail, a' snìomh, 's a figheadh. Ach a nis, cha'n'eil ach ro bheag de sin g' a dheanamh, ach beagan de aodach lìn a bhitheas aca airson an ùis fhein, oir cha'n'eil margadh air a nis. Tha a' chuid is momha de'n chrodh a nis air an cuir a stigh do thighean anns an oidheche ré an t-Samhraidh agus a' Gheamhraidh. Cha'n'eil ceòl binn na banarach ri chluinntinn aig a' chrò a nis mu fheagar."

Bhiodh aig na daoine ris a' mhòine thilgeadh airson nan àiridhean agus airson nan dachaidhean aca, agus na rathaidean a' charamh suas. Tha Donnachadh Caimbeul, Ionarnis, a bha 'n a fhear deasachaidh paipair naidheachd 's a' bhaile sin aig innseadh dhuinn gu'n robh àiridhean Braigh Rainneach ro ainneil bho chionn còrr is ceud bliadhna air ais. Bha iad a' cumail treudan mòr de ghobhair an sin. Bhiodh iad ga'm bleoghainn, agus na caoraich cuideachd an dèigh na h-uain a thoirt bhuapa. Bha meug

nan gobhar air a mheas 'n a leigheas eifeachdach airson tinneas caitheamh. Tha e ag innseadh gu'm biodh truaghain a bha air tuiteam ann an anshocair anns na bailtean mòra, a Peairt, Dundeach, Duneidin, agus Glaschu a' dol gu na h-àiridhean àrda, fallain ud. Bhiodh iad ag òl bainne is meug nan gabhar, agus a fuotainn ùrachd neirt air feadh nam beanntan.

Ri Samhradh tioram, teth cha 'n 'eil teagamh nach deanamh e moran feum daibh na sgrioban ud a bha iad a' toirt do na h-àiteachan àrd ud far an robh aca, "An t-uisge glan 's an t-àille, is bainne blàth na buaile." Tha e coltach gu bheil e na chleachda fhathast aig cuid de mhuintir na Frainge, agus *Switzerland* a bhi dol do na glinn 's na beanntan, far a bheil iad ag òl pailteas de bhainne nan gobhar. Ann an Lochlainn, ann an cuid chearnan deth tha an cleachda bhi dol do na ruigheachan, *Saeter heim*, "an dachaidh àiridheach," mar a their iad fhein ris, a dol air adhart fhathast.

Is ann 's na h-àiridhean monaidh a bha na mnaithean 's na grugachichean a deanamh an annlainn cheart. Na 'm biodh tuath Albainn an diugh a toirt uiread aire do dheasach a' bhainne 's an uachdair, cha bhiodh feum air uiread de im 's de chàise a thoirt à rioghachdan eile.

Bha pàirt de Bhragh Ghlinnliobhainn a bha aon uair aig an tuath ann an coitcheann (*commonty*), far an robh feadhainn diubh a dol do na ruigheachan na bu deireannaich na a' chuid eile. Bha beagan treabhachais g' a dheanamh anns an àite. Bha sean duine còir ag innseadh dhuinn gu'm biodh e, an uair a bhà e na bhalachan òg a' dol còmh-ladh ri fear eile na h-uile Earrach a bhualadh an eorna a bha fàs an sin. Bhiodh na boireannaich a bha a' bhliadhna roimhe sùd anns an àiridh a tasgaidh na mulachagan càise ann a mìr mòr connachais anns an t-sabhal. Bha e ag radh nach do bhlaiss e càise cho math ris riamh 'n a bheatha.

Feumaidh sinn a chiumhneachadh an so nach robh an sluagh uile falbh do na ruigheachan anns an t-Samhradh. Bha aireamh choitearan 's luchd ceaird anns na h-uile baile beag aig nach robh crodh na caoraich ri fhrithéaladh. Bha an àireamh bu lion-mhoir de na daoine òga air a fàgail aig an dachaidhean a fhrithéal do 'n bhàrr agus a chaoineachadh an fheoir, agus feadhainn de na boireannaich mar riutha. Cha robh na bothain àiridh ach beag, agus cha robh mòran rùm anna airson teaghlaichean mòra. Bha ar 'n athrichean fo dheagh chliù airson

stuamachd, agus cha robh iad idir gun bheagan de eagal cliù-thoilteannach roimh 'n mhaol ainmeil sin, ged nach robh a h-ainm aca, *Mrs. Grundy*.

Mar dhearbhadh air cho farsuing agus a bha an cleachda air dol a mach feadh taobh Deas na h-Alba chi sinn an aireamh mhòr de ainmean ruigheachan a gheibhear ann an ainmean nan àiteachan, an dà chuid anns a' Ghàidhlig agus anns a' Bheurla. Anns a' Ghàidhlig, gheibh sinn ainmean coltach ri *Airdrie*, *Ard-ruighe*, *Machrie*, *Mach-ruighe*, *Auchanrie*, "Ach-an-ruighe, Ruighe Pheallaidh, an Ruighe-fada, an Ruighe-bàn, agus mur sin air adhart. Anns a' Bheurla gheibh sinn, *Galashiels*, *Fairshiels*, *Greenshiels*, *Overshiels*, etc.

Mur eil cor thigh ciobair no gaimear ann an cuid de na glinn fhàsail, cha 'n 'eil a nis ach na làraichean fuara troimh a bheil an fheanntagach ag eiridh ri fhaicinn, far an robh roimhe so an fhàilte chàirdeil ri fhaotainn, an gair cridheil, 's an ceòl binn ri chluinntinn. Dh-fhalbh iad mar an ceò bharr nam beanntan, agus cha 'n 'eil e coltach gun tòiseach an cleachda tuillidh. Bu ghriinn do 'n t-sluagh a tha air an dùnadh stigh re na bliadhna anns na bailtean smùideach, salach, mios de 'n t-Samhradh a chuir seachad anns na h-àiridhean, ach cha 'n 'eil na bothain ann na 'n sluagh a chuireadh fàilt orra,

"Ach an diugh tha maor is lann,
Air gach altan agus òb,
Cha 'n 'eil saorsa sruth nam beanntan,
Anns a' gheann san robh mi òg."

Bha anns a' phaipeir naidheachd "An t-Albannach" (*The Scotsman*) an latha roimhe cuntas air àiridhean nan *Lammermoors*. Dh-fhaodadh na h-uile facal deth bhi air a sgriobhadh mu na h-àiridhean Gàidhealach, tha e cho coltach ri ciod a bha gabhail àite anns na linntean a dh-fhalbh, bho 'n chrich Shassunnaich gu Tigh Lain Ghroìt, bho Shroìn Bhuchain gu Ardnamurchan, na gu ruig na h-eileanan is fhada an iar ann an Albainn. Fadaidh e bhi gu 'n robh an ruigheachas na airde na bu tràithe ann an taobh Deas Albainn far an robh an lagh na b' fhearr air a chumail, ach tha na sean làraichean ag innseadh sgeul a tha taitneach mu aontachd spioraid a chinne dhaoine ann an suidheachadh sònruichte de adhartas, ge b'e a bhios iad ag àiteachadh na tir gu Deas na gu Tuath, co aca is Gaidheil, na Sassunnaich, na sluagh as an Aird-an-Ear iad.

Tha 'n sgriobhair ag radh mu aon de na bothain so. "Bha an dorus aige air an Ear-

Dheas, bha clach mhor air meadhan an urlair far an robh, tha e coltach, leac-an-teine. 'S an oidhche chaidleadh an teaghlach air leabaichean fraoich, an cadal suaimhneach, domhainn sin a bha ri fhaotainn anns an àille ghlan a measg nam beanntan. An so bhiodh na boireannaich òga as na clachan bheag far an robh na croitearan a tuineachadh a tighinn astar ochd mìle le 'n treudan cruaidh 's an t-Samhradh, agus a deanamh càise bhlada do 'n bhainne fhallain, mhath, a bheireadh an crodh 's na h-àirdhean.

'S e beatha a bha ri iarraidh, cha mhor nach robh ri mhiannachadh, a dh-fheumadh a bhi aca anns na h-àirdhean. An òige le h-aotromachd cridhe, agus saorsa nam beanntan. Cha robh ni mu 'n cuairt de na bothain a ghabhadh samhachadh ri cianalachd air an latha bhriagha ghrianach ud, cha robh ni mu na foidean uaine, na clachan neo-shnaithte a bha 's na làraichean ud. Bhuneadh iad do 'n t-Samhradh, agus do 'n àm bu shona ann am beatha nam boirionnach shuundach òg. Ma thainig bròn riamh an rathad ud a measg nam monaidhean, chuir tim as an t-sealladh e, agus cha 'n eil a nis air fantuinn as deigh na h-uile ni a bha ann ach mactalla a' cheileir agus a' ghaire chridheil. A' ghrian a dearsadh air na h-uillt, fead a' bhudagochd, ceòl nan uiseagan agus eoin eile, bha iad uile sgaoileadh spiorad sòlais, agus cha b' urrainn neach gu 'n an t-am a chaidh seachad fhaicinn roimhe."

Bu mhiann leinn dealbh an àm thaitnich so a tharruing a mach, 'sa thoirt air na mnaithean 's na daoine a bha deanamh an àite fhéin a lionadh gu firinneach a thogail suas ré tamuill a chum 's gu faiceamaid eia mar a bha sluagh a' caitheamh an ùine anns na h-àirdhean. Cha ghabh sin deanamh, agus cha 'n eil ri fhaicinn de 'n ni a nis ach iarmad beag deth ann an eilean Leodhais, far an robh sinn duilich fhaicinn nach seachain trioblaid eadhoin na h-àirdhean; chaidh grunnadh òg a bha 's na h-àirdhean a bhathadh bho chionn ghoirid. Gun teagamh is ann mar so a bha cuisean riamh. Bha breith, is posadh, is bàs a tachairt anna. Bha caoinhneas, blàths, is càirdeas ri fhaotainn anna; bha, agus faireachduinnean eile nach robh cho cliuteach do 'n chinne dhaoine faotainn aite anna: Ach carson a thieam-aid tuille. Tharruing tim a sgàilbhrat thairis air na h-uile ni a bha ann, agus cha léir dhuinn ach pàirt. Faodar a radh;

"Tha osag a' chlainn aig dorus na h-àirdh,
'Sa ghealach gu h-ard fo bhàrr."

Cha 'n fhaigh am fear turais tuillidh fàsadh ann am bothain na h-àirdh. Ged fhannaich e cha 'n eil aon ann gu truas a ghabhail ris, na gu theasairginn.

"Chunnaic mi na gruagaichean,
Le 'n cumain is le 'm buaraichean,
A' bleoghainn a' chruidh ghuailfhionn,
Air uabhar an t-sleibh;
Le 'n ceileirean 's le 'n drain,
A' tional a' chruidh còmhla,
Bu bhinne leam a' chòisir
Na smeorach air ghéig;
Ach nis cha 'n fhaic mi gruagach,
A' bleoghainn cruaidh air buailidh,
No idir na buachaillean
A cuallach an treud;
Cha 'n fhaicear crodh air àirdh,
Cha 'n fhaicear sprèidh le 'n àl ann;
'S ann tha na glinn a 's àillidh,
'N am fasaich fo fhéidh.

—:o:—

NEW BRANCH FORMED IN ISLAY

On Wednesday, 31st January, the Public Hall, Bowmore, was filled to overflowing by a large and enthusiastic gathering of the people of Islay who had assembled, on the invitation of Lady Mary and Mr. Hugh Morrison of Islay, to hear an address from Mrs. Burnley-Campbell on the work and methods of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and to consider the desirability of forming a Branch of An Comunn.

Mr. Morrison presided, and in a short and telling speech set forth the objects of the meeting. It had been suggested, he said, that it was now desirable that a Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach should be formed in Islay, and Lady Mary and he had thought it would be a good thing to bring the people together so that they might have an opportunity to show their feelings in the matter. Accordingly a concert had been arranged, and Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, who had identified herself with the Gaelic movement, had been invited to come to Islay and explain the purposes of An Comunn. He understood that An Comunn provided a common meeting place for all classes who were interested in the Highlands, who wished to see the Highlands prospering, and the population continuing on the land. It had stimulated and encouraged Highland industries. In short, its real object was to encourage and keep alive the ancient language, traditions, poetry, and music of the Highlands.

Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, who spoke first in Gaelic and then in English, said that she would endeavour to show why a Branch

of An Comunn would be useful in Islay. Gaelic was a language of great antiquity, and therefore with its traditions it was worthy of being kept alive. In reply to the objection that it was needless to teach Gaelic in schools because it had no commercial value, her answer was that many subjects are taught in school for their intellectual value. A knowledge of two languages was useful to every child, and the Gaelic being the natural language of the children of the Highlands, they should be taught that language in their schools. In Ireland, Belgium, and other European countries, bi-lingual instruction is regularly given. There was a wealth of Gaelic literature awaiting the Gaelic scholar, and she considered it a moral duty to hand down to their successors what they had received from their ancestors. An Comunn was not a political association. The duties and responsibilities it mainly urged upon its members were:—1, To use Gaelic at home in speaking to the children; 2, To see that Gaelic reading and writing is taught in their schools; 3, To attend church services in Gaelic; 4, To support Highland industries. She concluded by appealing to her hearers to give in their names for the formation of a Branch of An Comunn in Islay.

On the call of the Chairman rousing cheers were given to Mrs. Burnley-Campbell for her visit to Islay and for the admirable address she had given.

The proposal to form a branch was supported by the Rev. N. McLellan in an eloquent Gaelic speech, which aroused great enthusiasm.

An excellent programme of Gaelic song was sustained by Miss Cathie P. Turner, Mòd Medallist, who had been brought specially from Glasgow for the occasion, and by native vocalists.

A great number of persons intimated their willingness to become members of an Islay Branch so soon as it would be formed.

The singing of the National Anthem in Gaelic brought a most successful and enthusiastic meeting to a close.

—:O:—
 “IONNDRAINN.”

—
 Shall we see our dear ones ever,
 Those on earth we'll see no more,
 Those we think of wond'ring, yearning,
 Those who've crossed the Ferry o'er?

In the distant, dim Hereafter,
 When has tolled the evening bell,
 Shall we greet them in their beauty?
 In the forms we loved so well?

How the recollection seeketh,
 And the heart unbidden cries
 For the smile on lips sweet, gracious,
 And the soft light in their eyes!
 If our dear ones are but spirits
 Hidden ever from our sight,
 They can be to us but voices
 Ever calling from the night.

Better this than the unbroken
 Awful silence of the grave.
 But to kiss them, hear their voices,
 Take them in our arms we crave.
 Shall we ourselves, out there, have voices?
 Shall we instruments possess,
 Which will soothe our souls with music?
 Would it be, a Heaven unless?

What availeth pond'ring, thinking,
 With our staggered spirits prone,
 And our thoughts like birds' wings beating
 On the wall of the Unknown?
 Let us bravely quit repining,
 And endure until the end;
 For beyond that high, grim rampart,
 Our own dear ones towards us bend.

ALASTAIR MACJABHRAINN,
 CRIANLARACH.

—:O:—
 TIRÉE, IONA AND MULL.

—
 IMPRESSIONS FROM THE COMMUN PROPAGANDA
 TOUR.

—
 BY T. D. M.

—
 II.

TOROSAY.

I arrived at Craignure on a wet and cheerless January afternoon, and as I surveyed the surroundings the question arose where are the people who are to form a meeting to come from? Less than a quarter of a mile apart there was, in one direction, the Established Church and the Manse, and in the opposite direction the United Free Church and the Manse belonging to it. Between the two there was Craignure Inn and Craignure Post Office. A little distance across a bay there was what was described to me as the factor's house. In addition to these, two small houses of what may be termed the native kind seemed to

form the sum total of the human habitations. I was reminded of the story of the provisioning of a West Coast fisherman's boat when about to start for the East Coast fishing. It is too well-known to be repeated here, and might be considered out of place if I did repeat it. Mr. Duncan MacKinnon, the postmaster, being advance agent for the meeting called for that evening, his guidance was immediately sought. I learned that Craignure was but the landing port. The nearest community was Lochdonhead, some four miles distant, where was situated the Schoolroom in which the meeting was to be held. Mr. MacKinnon was himself a Gaelic enthusiast, and gave a cheering prospect of the evening. A call upon the Rev. Mr. Sutherland, U.F. Manse, served rather to darken than to brighten the prospect. Mr. Sutherland was sympathetic but sceptical; I could see that his faith in the movement was weak. A previous engagement prevented him attending the meeting, but I had his promise to assist afterwards. A call on the Rev. Wm. MacKintosh, M.A., at the Manse, was more promising, and he subsequently demonstrated his goodwill by attending the meeting at Lochdonhead School, notwithstanding a downpour of rain that might have kept many a younger man indoors.

Mrs. MacKintosh, although of English birth and parentage, is a Gaelic enthusiast, and conducted a Gaelic music class in the district for one or two seasons.

The Schoolroom at Lochdonhead contained a fair audience when the meeting began, and there was no mistaking the meeting's sympathy with and appreciation of An Comunn's work. The headmaster, Mr. John MacDonald, who accepted the Secretaryship of the new Branch, is a Gaelic-speaking Highlander from Sutherlandshire, and was heartily in sympathy with the work of the Comunn. The teaching of Gaelic music forms part of his curriculum. Craignure and Lochdonhead, or Achnacraig, form the Torosay end of the parish of Torosay and Pennygown; hence the Branch here established was named the Torosay Branch.

SALEN.

Salen is the capital of the Pennygown end of the before mentioned parish, and here there is a comfortable-looking and fairly numerous community, among whom there are many enthusiasts for the Gaelic movement. The Rev. Mr. Fraser, the Manse, was a host in himself at our meeting, and

is sure to make an excellent president to the new Branch. Mr. MacRae of the Hotel, who acted as advance agent, deserves special mention.

Everyone in Salen may not be enthusiastic in the cause. It is thought fashionable by communities as well as by individuals to ape greatness at a certain stage in their careers. The Gaelic movement has not escaped its share of the opposition arising from the snobbishness which has its birth in aped-greatness, but it has, on its own merits, surmounted it all, and will continue to do so. Salen is just at that stage when its aspirations will be dwelling on the near possibility of attaining to the dignity of a town, and rivalling Tobermory. It is therefore at the stage when an aggressive Gaelic propaganda is most needed. It is blessed with a healthy Gaelic hinterland, and a branch of An Comunn should be able to counteract the modern tendency to consider as not "class" what is genuinely native of the soil, a tendency too characteristic of what are termed "rising communities."

TOBERMORY.

The Branch in Tobermory is old-established, but as the course of my tour passed through it, a visitation to the Branch was arranged. During a recent interregnum between the retiral of one secretary and the finding of another, the Branch was for a short time in a condition of somnolence, but since the appointment of Mr. Cattanaich to the office, and the infusion of fresh blood and additional strength from the arrival in Tobermory of Mr. Fraser of the Clydesdale Bank, it has literally renewed its youth. The enlistment of Mr. Buik as conductor of the Choirs, a junior and a senior, has also helped to an incalculable degree. In the beginning of last month the Branch held a concert in the Aros Hall, which is admitted by all to have eclipsed anything of the kind hitherto held in Tobermory. The Branch is now on a footing which gives it an influential position, and will enable it not only to worthily represent An Comunn in its own town, but to be also of immense value and assistance to the new branches now established throughout Mull. Bailie Fletcher, who has been president of the Branch since its establishment, has been unable to take his wonted active share in the work during the past few weeks on account of a family bereavement, and his breezy bonhomie has been much missed.

To be continued.

BRATAICHEAN NA FEINNE.

ORAN MOR COMPETITION, No. 1—MOD OF 1912.

Noted by Marjory Kennedy Fraser from the traditional singing of Kenneth MacLeod.

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED].

KEY F.

{ r : r	{ r : r	{ m : d	{ r : r	{ r : r	{ r : r	{ f : f	{ f : f	{ f : f	{ f : f
{ Arsa	{ Man	{ us,	{ Righ	{ Lochlainn	{ (1) Co	{ i	{ a'	{ bhratach,	{ fhilidh dhunaich, An

{ f :- f | s :- s | l :- | - : r | r . d : l . | : | l₁ : l₁ : l₁ : l₁ | l₁ : l₁ : l₁ : l₁ }
 e sud brat - ach Mhic Treun Bhuadhaich ? Chi mi gille gasda air a }

Fine.

{ r :- | - : r | r :- m | l :- | - :- | - : r | r : r | }
 ceann, 'S i fhéin na deann thar sluaghaibh. (2) { : r : r | }
 Arsa

{ | r : - | m : d | r : r | : | r : - r | r : r r | f : - | - : f | }

Ois - ean na Féinne: Cha'n i snd ach an Li - - ath-

{ f : f | : f . f | s : — | l : r | r . d : l | : l | l . l : l . l | l : l . l . l }
luidneach, Bratach Dhiar - maid O Duibhne, Trath ghluaisceadh an Fhéinn uil' a }

{ | r : | : r, r, r | l : - | - : - | r : r | r : r : - || r : - m, d | r : - r | }

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D.S.

Co *Repeat* Oisean : (4)

{ (r :- .r | r :- .r,r | f :- .f | f :- .f | f :- .f | s :- | l :- | - :- r) }

{ r . d : l₁ | : | l₁ . l₁ : l₁ | l₁ :- l₁ l₁ l₁ { r . : | : l₁ l₁ l₁ | l₁ :- . l₁ | l₁ . l₁ : l₁ | }

Mhorna, Nach tug troigh riamh air a h-ais, Gus an do chrith an talamh trom }

{ | r glas, : | : r . r 'Se bu | r . r : r . r | r shuaicheantas do'n t-sròl | r . r : . bhuidhe, | : r . m Toiseach | | : — — : . r teachd is }

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} r : r : r : r \mid \\ \text{deireadh falbh.} \end{array} \right. : \left\| \begin{array}{l} r \\ Hó \end{array} \right. :- \begin{array}{l} m, d \mid r \\ \text{hor-a-ló} \end{array} :- \begin{array}{l} d \mid \\ \text{ho} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{l} h \\ h_ó \end{array} :- \mid - :- \mid \begin{array}{l} r \\ \text{Brat} \end{array} :- \mid \begin{array}{l} d \\ \text{ach} \end{array} : \begin{array}{l} r \\ \text{na} \end{array} \mid \left\{ \right.$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{s}_i \\ \text{Féin} \end{array} \vdash \begin{array}{l} | \mathbf{l}_i \\ \text{ne} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{d} \\ \text{a t'} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{r} \\ \text{ann.} \end{array} \mid - \vdash \mid \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{r} \\ \text{Hó} \end{array} \vdash \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d} \mid \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{r} \\ \text{hor-a-ló} \end{array} \vdash \mathbf{r} \mid \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{l} \\ \text{hó} \end{array} \vdash \mid - \vdash \mid \right\}$$

D.S.

{ | $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{r} & \text{r} : \\ \text{Manus} : \end{smallmatrix}$: | $\begin{smallmatrix} : \text{r} \\ \text{Co} (V, I) \end{smallmatrix}$ || $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{r} & \text{r} \\ \text{Oisean} : \end{smallmatrix}$: | : | $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{r} & : - \text{r} & | \text{r} : & : \text{r} & \text{r} \\ \text{Cha 'n} & \text{i} & \text{sud} & \text{ach an} \end{smallmatrix}$ | $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{f} & : - & | \text{f} : & \text{f} \\ \text{Sguab} & - & \text{ghabhaidh} \end{smallmatrix}$: | }

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

Brat - ach Os - cair chròdha laidir, 'Nuair a shineadh na baird air seinn, Sgeul na

LEASAIN GHAIDHLIG.

“TAIBHS’ A’ BHODAICH.”

XIV.

“RIABADH - NA - FAIRGE.”

“Nach b’ uamhasach an oidheche b’ ann an raoir, ‘fhearaihbh?’ arsa Domhnall Mòr, ri dithis no triuir a thachair ris anns a’ mhaduinn.

(1) “*B’ eadh* gu dearbh,” ars’ iadsan, “bha i cruaidh air na fir bhochda a bha” (2) *riabadh na fairge* troimh ‘n oidheche.”

Bha iad a’ smuainteachadh, tha mi creidsinn, air na h-iasgaircan a bha muigh anns na bàtaichean beaga, fuasgailte, gun bhord, gun dhian—agus anns nach robh moran comhfhurtachd (3) *ged a thigeadh a’ chùis gu b’hi searbh*.

“Seall so! seall so!” arsa Domhnall ‘s e tabhairt tarruing air gualainn Iain Bhàin, “seall so!”

Thionndaidh iad gu leir chuu na mara agus chunnaic iad bàta beag a’ tighinn timchioll na maola a’ ruith le crann rùisgte agus air a lua-gadh aig na tonnaibh.

A! ars’ Iain, (4) “*s beag tha fios aig fear-a-bhaile* cia mar tha fear-na-mara *bèd*; nach ann riutha a thachair an oidheche? Bha ‘n t-eathar a ris a’ tarruing dluth air a’ phort agus ghluais na daoine sìos airson cuideachadh a thabhairt seachad na’m b’ eudar e.

A nis ‘s iomad bhàta an deigh dhith an (6) *cuan mòr a chur dhith gu sàbhailt* a chaidh ann an cruaidh ghàbhadh air (7) *bràigh a’ chladaich*—agus sin mar dh’eirich do ‘n “Chruinneig.” B’e “A’ Chruinneag,” ainm an eathair.

Ràinig Domhnall agus na fir eile an cladach, agus cha b’ fhada gus an robh mòran comhla riutha.

Bha ‘n t-eathar beag a’ tighinn gu math luath an cùl na gaoithe; theann i ri tir agus nuair dh’fhairich an sgiobadh (8) *fasgadh an fhearainn* thog iad sgòid bheag de ‘n t-seòl. Ged nach robh a’ ghaoth a nis cho cruaidh, bha am muir mor a’ beucaich agus na tonnan àrda, gruamach (9) *le ‘n cireanan geala* a’ briseadh le gaoir air a’ chladach agus a’ cur crith ann an cnamhan na muinntir a bha feitheamh.

Bha boill, agus raimh, agus putan, agus gach ni freagarach aig na fir g’ an ullachadh, oir bha fios aca ‘nuair a bhuailleadh am bàta tir nach biodh moran ùine ri chall—oir bhiodh i air a’ lionadh ann an tiota agus na daoine ann an cunnart am beatha.

Bha am bàta a nis cho fagus air tir ‘s gu ‘n chluinnadh an sgiobadh còmhradh na muinntir a bha air a’ chladach.

“De nì sinn?” ars’ an sgiobair ri Calum Ruadh—am (10) *fear-toisich*—“an ruith sinn am port dìreach no am feuch sinn am mach air an (11a) *Sgeir Dhuibh*?”

(11b) “*Cum agad*,” fhreagair Calum, “tha ‘n (12) *làdach* so gu bhi seachad agus air a chùl ruithidh sinn am port dìreach.”

“Ceart gu leòir,” ars’ an sgiobair agus e ‘cumail a shùla gu faiceallach mu ‘n cuairt air.

“Taobh deas a’ phuirt! Taobh deas a’ phuirt!” Ghlaodh na fir air tir, “Ceart! Ceart!” fhreagair an sgiobadh a beul a cheile

(13) “*Lean oirre*, a nis,” arsa Calum, “tha beagan sìth ann an dràsta.” “Ceart,” ars’ an sgiobair, agus cho dìreach ri saighid chum e air a’ phort.

Ach—bha na tonnan mòra car ealamh air a shon. Dh’eirich an fhairege (14) *‘na meall* as an deigh.

“Mo chreach! Mo chreach!” ghlaodh na h-uile a bha air tir. Bhual an tonn an t-eathar beag. Thigeadh i air a tarsuinn mar nach biodh innte ach slige chreachainn agus chaidh an sgiobadh a shlugadh anns na h-uisgeachan.

“A nis, fhearaihbh!” arsa Domhnall.

—Cha robh an còrr ri iarraidh; sìos (15) *am mol* gu ‘n ruith iad, mach air a’ mhuir gu ‘n leum iad agus greim teann bàis aig gach fear air an ròpa.

A Charaid! feumaidh tù sealladh mar so *fhacinn* ma ‘s tuig thu e!

B’ iongantach agus bu mhiorbhuileach an obair a rinn na daoine ud.

Mu ‘n abradh tu, “slige chreachainn,” bha “A’ Chruinneag” tioram, tràighte, shuas air a’ mhol agus an sgiobadh air an giùlain a steach do na taighean a bha fagus.

‘S e aon nì a bhi *bruidhinn* air a’ mhuir ach rud eile a bhi *air a’ mhuir*, ach na bha thu riamh a comhnuidh aig cois na fairge ‘s ma’ dh’fhaoidte gu ‘n tuig thu an cunnart troimh ‘n d’thug “A’ Chruinneag” (16) *am mach a ceann-uidhe*.

(1) ‘Seadh or is eadh—it is; bu eadh or b’ eadh—it was.

(2) Lit.: tearing the sea—battling with the angry waters.

(3) Lit.: though the business turned out to be bitter—i.e., though a storm came on.

(4) Lit.: little knowledge is there at the landsman how the seaman lives.

(5) A little open boat.

- (6) Lit.: after putting the great ocean off her—i.e., having covered a good distance on the high seas.
- (7) Cladach—(a) shore (generally), (b) beach where boats are wont to be hauled up, therefore lit.: on the bosom of the beach—within sight of the beach.
- (8) Lit.: shelter of land—high land breaking the force and violence of the wind.
- (9) With their white crests.
- (10) The front-man—the look-out.
- (11a) The Black Rock—a huge ledge some distance from beach.
- (11b) A sea term—hold on, steady there, etc.
- (12) Làdach—a series of huge waves (generally followed by a short lull, then another làdach follows).
- (13) Another sea-term—follow her—let her go.
- (14) Lit.: in her heap—the heaving wave rose, etc.
- (15) Mol—shingle; *am mol*, here—the beach.
- (16) How “A’ chruinneag” took out (arrived at) her destination.

Further Note.—Three words used in the lesson for the sea (i.) *an cuan*—the ocean; when you consider the vastness of the sea this is the best term; (ii.) *an fhairge*, used generally for the *angry* sea; (iii.) *am muir*—the sea—the most general term. (This form is also used as a’ mhuir. In the former, muir is masculine, in the latter it is feminine).

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AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

ARTS AND INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL COMPETITIONS AND SALE OF HIGHLAND HOME INDUSTRIES.

Arrangements have now been made to hold the Annual Competitions and Sale in the Volunteer Hall, St. Andrew's, Fife, on 17th, 18th, and 19th September next. Mrs. Macdonald, 13 Howard Place, St. Andrew's, Fife, has kindly consented to act as Local Convener, and an influential Local Committee has been formed.

The syllabus and conditions of the competitions are in course of preparation, and will be issued shortly. Copies may be had from the General Secretary of An Comunn, from the Honorary Secretary of the Arts and Industries Committee, Miss Campbell of Inverneill, Inverneill, Ardrishaig, and from the Local Convener.

THE 1912 (INVERNESS) MOD SYLLABUS.

The syllabus of competitions for the 1912 Mòd to be held in Inverness on 25th, 26th, and 27th September, is now ready, and may be had, post free, from the General Secretary, Mr. John Maclean, 108 Hope Street, Glasgow.

Fhuair Iain Mac-an-aba, Drochaid Spiothain, aig Mòd, 1911, a' chiad duais air son dà dhàn le Schubert, "The Serenade," agus "The Wanderer," a chur ann an Gaidhlig Albannaich.

EALAI DH GAOL.

"THE SERENADE."

Dhuitsa, 'luaidh, air gaoith a ghlòmainn,
Seidear ceòl mo chridh;
Ann an suain a ghleannain nòsair,
Eudail, còmhlaich mi,
Eisd ri fuaim an doire bhronaich,
'S reultan òir g'a dhion,
'S reultan òir g'a dhion,
Chum 's gum buail mo chaoidh do sheòmar
Ré na h-oidheche min,
Ré na h-oidheche min.
Feuch! Tha oran binn na smeòraich
'Dòrtadh feadh nan crann.
'S urras air mo spéis an còmhnuidh,
Mìre-ghlòir nan rann;
'S math is eòl di bior gach dòrainn
'Bheir an gaol gu ceann,
'Bheir an gaol gu ceann.
H-uile rùn as grinne 'seòladh
Thar mo chridhe fann,
Thar mo chridhe fann.
Gu robh 'eòl nar sheum ga'm chòmhnaidh,
'S a toirt dhòmhsa sìth.
'S tusa, 's tusa 'mhàin, mo shòlas
Thig, is furtaich mi,
Thig, is furtaich mi,
Och, furtaich mi.

AN TRIALLAIR.

"THE WANDERER."

Bho bheanntan fiat' tha mise 'triall;
Troimh ghlinn a cheò, thar chuantan ciar,
Tha mise 'triall.
Mo cheum tha trom, gun duine leam;
'S a ghnath tha osnadh 'g radh 'nam chom,
"Cà bheil sìth?"
Tha gath na grèine 'n so gun bhlàths,
Tha 'm blàth a seargadh, 's beatha 'enamh,
Cha chluinn mo chluas ach fuaim gun
bhrìgh,
'S is faoinéis leamsa 'h-uile ni.
Cà bheil thu, cà bheil thu.
O! Thir-nan-òg?
Le dìrarchd 's gu diomhain,
Dh' iarr mi do chòrs'.
'S tu 'm fonn do 'm buin mo dhachaidh
bhlàth,
Mo dìachaidh bhlàth,

'S am beil gach ròs is grinne 'fàs
Far bheil mo chairdean caomh' a tàmh
'S am coinnich iad-san 'dhealaich tràth
'S am faigh mi fàilt' o chridh, a ghràidh
O! càite 'bheil thu.

Mo cheum tha trom, gun duine leam;
'S a ghnath tha osnadh 'g radh 'nam chom,
"Cà bheil sìth?"

'S tha guth bean-shith sior ann am chluais,
"S ann far nach bi thu, 'gheabhar sonas
buan."

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COMUNN NEWS.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH—NEW BRANCHES
FORMED IN THE COURSE OF MR T. D. MACDONALD'S
PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN. NORTH BAY, BARRA.—
Chairman, Mrs. Joseph MacLean, Skallary; Secretary
and Treasurer, Mr. Sinclair, teacher, North Bay;
Members of committee, Miss MacIntyre, teacher; R.
MacNeil, Donald MacDonald, John MacLean, and
Lachlan MacLeod.

CASTLEBAY, BARRA—President, Rev. Father
William MacKenzie, North Bay; Vice-presidents,
Rev. Father Cameron, Castlebay, and Mr. D.
MacNeil, merchant, Castlebay; Secretary and
Treasurer, Miss Johnston, The Glen, Castlebay;
Members of Committee, Messrs. Malcolm MacNeil;
Malcolm Johnston, Roderick MacLean, James
Stewart, Neil Campbell, Jonathan MacLean, and
Miss MacPherson, Castlebay.

BENBECULA, S. UIST.—President, Rev. Father
J. MacMillan, Benbecula; Vice-president, Rev.
M. MacArthur, U.F. Manse; Mr. Neil Mac-
Lean, farmer, Nunton; Secretary, Mr. Donald
MacMillan, Torlum; Treasurer, Mr. J. Mac-
Lean, do.; Members of Committee, Messrs Hugh
Boyd, Creagory; Neil Campbell, Kileriavagh; J. A.
MacLeod, P.O., Creagory; A. MacLean, Creagory
Hotel; N. Stewart, teacher, Torlum; Angus Mac-
Donald—all of South Uist. Representative on Ex-
ecutive Council, Mr. Arch. MacLean, Creagory Hotel,
South Uist.

CARINISH, N. UIST.—President, Rev. Ewen Gillies,
U.F. Manse, Carinish; Vice-presidents, Mr. N. Mac-
Lean, merchant; Mr. A. Ferguson, postmaster;
Secretary, Mr. R. Campbell, teacher; Treasurer, Mr.
Malcolm MacArthur, E.C. missionary; Members of
Committee, Mrs. Harvey, Carinish; Mr. Donald Mac-
Lean, smith, Carinish; Mr. R. MacKay, Ellary;
Mr. D. J. MacLean, P.O., Burlish; Miss Mary
MacDonald, teacher, Claddach-Kirkibost, North Uist;
Roderick MacDonald, Carnoch, do.; Mr. Malcolm
MacLean, Kallin, do.; Mr. D. MacKenzie, The Inn,
Carinish, North Uist; Mr. Alasdair MacDonald,
solicitor, Lochmaddy; Mr. Lachlan MacLean,
Locheport; Miss Campbell, teacher, Kallin, North
Uist.

BAYHEAD, N. UIST.—President, J. R. MacDonald,
of Balranald, J.P.; Vice-presidents, Rev. D. Mac-
Donald, The Manse, Baleoch; Dr M. T. Mac-
Kenzie; Hector H. MacKenzie, factor; G. C.
Rose, teacher, Bayhead; Secretary, A. Boyd, Bay-
head; Treasurer, Mr. MacNaughton; Members of
Committee, Ronald Laing, Lag-an-Torran; John

MacDonald, Kyles; Malcolm MacDonald, Bayhead;
A. MacLean, do.; Donald E. MacLellan, Angus Mac-
Donald, The Glebe; Miss MacIver, teacher, Bay-
head; Miss MacDonald, and Miss MacAskill, do.—
all of North Uist.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH BHOID.—Chumadh coin-
neamh de'n Chomunn seò ann an Talla Sràid an
Thùir air feasgar Dhi-haoine, an dara latha de'n
mhìosa seò, fo riaghladh Captein Seumas Mac
Uaraig; agus bha deadh chruinneachadh a' làthair.
Air an fheasgar seò leugh Mgr. Iain MacPhail òraid
sònruichte nath air a' chuspair:—"Aoradh Uisge:
Tobraichean Naomh is Leigheasach." Nochd an
t-oraidiche gu'n robh e mion-eòlach air seann
eachdraidh a' dhiùthcha, agus thaitinn an òraid gu
h-anabarrach math ris na bha làthair. An toiseach
a' phàipeir thug an t-oraidiche iomradh air an
dia-aoradh 'bha na seann daoine creidsinn agus
a cleachdainn mu uisge lochan, tobraichean
agus uillt, agus mur a bha na h-uisgeachan sin
air am beannachadh 's air an naomhachadh leis
na Naomhan Padruig, Calum Cille, Catan, Blathan,
agus Naomhan eile a thainig do Albainn a chraobh-
sgaoileadh a' Chreideimh Chrìosduidh a measg
nan daoine paganach a bh' ann 's an àn. A
leantunn air aghaidh thug an t-oraidiche iomradh
air mòran de thobraichean sònruichte feadh a'
Ghàidhealtachd a bha gu so chionn beagan bliadhna-
chan ainmeil air son leigheas ghalairan, an-
shocair, is ecruchd a' thiodh air duine; agus mòran
seann "friot" mu'n chreidimh neonach sin a bha
faicinn buadh-leighis ann an uisgeachan naomha
beannaichte. 'San dol seachad thug e iomradh
cuideachd air Tairbh-Uisge, Eich-Uisge, Ban-Sithean,
agus spioradan neo-riochdail neo thaimhaidh mar
sin, a bha na seann daoine creidsinn a bha beò 's
a riaghladh 'san uisge, 'sa dh' fheumadh iobairt
aoraidh bhi air a thabhairt dhaibh nam bidh buadhan
ra fhaotainn uapa. 'S fhiach am paipear a leughadh
do chruinneachadh Gàidhealach an àite sam bith,
eadhon cho foghlumte 'sa bhitheas iad! Tré an
fheasgair fhuair eadhu pùirt Ghàidhealach air a' Phìob
mhòr bho Iain Mac Illeathain—Pìobair a' Chomunn,
agus òrain bhinn bhlasda, Ghàidhlig bho Chaitein
Mac a' Phearsainn, B.S. "A Bheinn-Mhòr," agus
am Pìobaire. 'S mar sin chaidh oidhche thaitneach
thoirt gu crìch.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH CHEANNLOCHLUICHEART.
—Choinnich a' mheur so air feasgar Di-dàinail an
seachdadh latha fìchead de mhìos meadhanach a'
gheamhraidh Bha an t-Iar-cheann-Suidhe, Mgr.
Alasdair Frisael, anns a' chathair. Thug an ceann-
suidhe, an t-Urr Iain MacNeachdainn, seachad òraid
mu Sgeulachd Chloinn Uisneach. Choinnich an
Comunn a rithist air a' cheathramh latha fìchead de
mhìos deireannach a' gheamhraidh air son deasbuid
mu'n cheid. "Am bu chòir an còirichean inasgach
anns an fhaighe a thoirt bho na h-uachdarain?"
Bha Mgr. Alasdair Frisael a' cumail a mach gu'm
bu chòir, agus air an taobh eile bha Mgr. Alasdair
MacImlinnein. An uair a bha na gutan-taghadh
air an toirt seachad fhuaras gu robh aon ghuth-
tughaidh aig Mgr. Frisael os cionn na thugadh do
Mgr. MacImlinnein.

MEUR NA CRIANLARAICH.—Bha còilidh thaitneach
air a cumail 's an tigh sgòil air feasgar Dih-bhoine

an 16 mh là de cheud mhios an Earraich, 1912. Ged a bha 'n oidhche gu math stoirmeil bha sluagh mòr a' lathair. Bha an Ceann Suidhe, Mgr. Alasdair MacLabhrainn 's a' chathair, agus an dèigh dhà fàilte 'chur air a' Chomunn chaidh oidhche chridheil, thlachdmhor a' chur seachad le pìobaireachd, leighadh, is le bràin Ghàidhlig. Air gairm an Iar-Chinn-Shuidhe, Mgr. Sutherland, bha taing chridheil air a thoirt do dh-Fhear na Cathrach. Bheir an t-urramach Colla Dòmhnallach, Earrar, òraid 's a' Ghàidhlig do 'n Chomunn air a' choigeanh là diag de 'n Mhàrt.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH 'S AN T-STRATH.—The meeting of the branch on Monday, 12th February, took the form of a ceilidh, when the Broadford School was crowded to the door with a keen and appreciative audience, over which the Rev. M. MacLeod, M.A., presided. The Seanachaidh for the evening was Mr. J. MacPherson, M.A., who gave an interesting and entertaining paper entitled, "Sop as gach Seid," a series of stories, legends and traditions associated with the parish of Strath. Thereafter a comprehensive programme of solos and part songs was submitted and successfully carried through by members of the senior choir. A very happy ceilidh was then terminated by the usual votes of thanks to the lecturer, singers, and chairman. This branch, formed less than a year ago, is a development of the Gaelic singing classes conducted last year by Mr. MacLean, of Easdale, under the auspices of An Comunn. This district is under deep obligation to An Comunn for sending Mr. MacLean this year again to carry on the work so auspiciously begun last winter. Both junior and senior classes are largely attended, the average attendance of seniors being over forty.

THREE.—The weekly meeting of the Three Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in Scarinish School on the evening of Friday, 9th ult.—Rev. D. MacPherson, president, in the chair. The essayist for the evening was Mr. Dan MacArthur, merchant, Scarinish, who, through unforeseen circumstances, was unable personally to be present, but an excellent substitute was found in Miss MacLean, the Schoolhouse, who read Mr. MacArthur's admirable paper. Taking as his subject "Donnachadh Ban Mac-an-t-saoir," the essayist dealt with the early life and upbringing of the poet. The bard's lack of education was incidentally referred to, and appropriate passages culled from his poems to illustrate the adage that "the poet is born, not made." Before passing to an exposition of the poet's later work, the essayist had many interesting anecdotes to relate, illustrative of the humour and repartee of his hero. A very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer for his instructive and interesting paper brought a pleasant and profitable evening to a close.

TOBERMORY BRANCH.—The annual concert and dance promoted by the Tobermory Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach took place in Aros Hall on the evening of Thursday, 8th February. The hall was crowded, and the audience included contingents from Salen (Mull) and Dervaig. Mr. A. J. Fraser, vice-president, who presided, made an admirable speech in which he gave an account of the history of the Branch, of the work which they had done for the Gaelic cause, and of the work which they proposed to do in the future. An excellent concert pro-

gramme, to which the Junior and Senior choirs of the Branch and native soloists contributed, was submitted. Mr. Robert Morrison, who had come all the way from Glasgow, gave stirring renderings of favourite Gaelic songs. The concert realised over £26. An assembly followed.

—:O:—

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—:O:—

COMING EVENTS.

GLASGOW GAELIC MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

- Mar. 7 (Thursday)—Annual Concert in City Hall, Candleriggs; chairman, Donald Maclean, Esq., M.P., Deputy-Chairman House of Commons.
EDINBURGH HIGHLAND REEL AND STRATHSPEY SOCY.
Mar. 15 (Friday)—Annual Concert in Music Hall. Miss Jessie N. MacLachlan and Mr. Roderick MacLeod are among the artistes.
ST. COLUMBA GAELIC CHOIR, GLASGOW.
Mar. 20 (Wednesday)—Annual Concert in Christian Institute, Bothwell Street; chairman, Captain C. A. H. Maclean of Pennycross.

—:O:—

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.

LIFE.

- P. J. C. McGregor, Erzerun, Turkey in Asia.
John A. Farquharson, Carlisle.
Colin Sinclair, M.A., Ibrox.
Hugh Morrison, Islay House, Islay.
Miss Jane S. M. Howden, Murrayfield.

ORDINARY.

- Archd. Maclean, M.A., Dennistoun.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed meantime to Mr. John Maclean, 108 Hope Street, Glasgow, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, Annual Subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

The Magazine will be sent post free to all countries in the Postal Union for 1/6 per annum. Single copies will be sent by post for 1½d.

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THE ARTS AND INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE desire to bring to the notice of all who are interested in Wood-Carving, Marble Cutting, Engraving, Embossing, Embroidery, etc., the series of 12 different sheets of

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A' GHÀIDHEALTACHD AGUS A' GHÀIDHLIG.

Tha e 'na aobhar taingealachd do na h-uile a tha 'saoithreachadh airson leas na Gaidhlig, gu bheil ar co luchd duthcha feadh na Gaidhealtachd a' gabhail le leithid de chairdeas ri teachdairean A' Chomuinn. Mar thoradh an saothreach tha eòlas mu na h-aobharan a th' aig A' Chomunn 's an amharc air a chraobhsgaoileadh ann an tomhas anns nach robh sin comasach dhuinn roimhe so, agus a nis ann an iomadh àite feadh na tìre, gheibhear meur ùr de 'n Chomunn Gaidhealach. Ma tha cùisean na Gaidhlig ri bhi air an leasachadh, is ann anns a' Ghaidhealtachd a tha 'n obair r'a deanadh. Is ann air an òigridh a tha 'g eiridh suas an diugh a tha sinn a' steidheachadh ar dòchais, agus tha sinn ag earbsa

ris na meuran ùra a thatar a' cur air bonn feadh na dùthcha gu'm bi iad a' sparradh air parantan an dleasdanas araon do'n cloinn 's do'n cànan ann a bhi g'a teagasg dhoibh.

Ri meuran A' Chomuinn anns gach cearn tha ann an earbsa a bhi 'teagasg an t-ùrigh a thaobh an dleasdanas an àm a bhi taghadh luchd riaghlaidh nan sgoiltean. Aidichidh duine reusonta sam bith gur ni minadurra nach biodh clanna nan Gaidheal air an àrach ann an leithid de dh'eòlas air an cànan fein, 's gu'm bruidhinn 's gu'n leugh 's gu'n sgrìobh iad i gu deas.

Tha e soilleir gu bheil sluagh ar duthcha a' dùsgadh as an cadal agus a' gabhail suim do na nithean so, ach fhathast tha sinn fad air deireadh air sluaighean Ceilteach eile. Cha'n 'eil de dhileasachd do aobhar na Gaidhlig 'n ar measg agus gu'n cùim sinn Paipear naigheachd Gaidhlig a' dol air a chasan fhein. Cha'n ionnann sin a tha 'chuis ann an Eirinn agus ann an Cuimridh, far am bheil na h-uiread de phaipearean, chan-e 'mhain seachdaineil ach lathail air an clò bhuailadh gu h-uile ann an canaichean nan tìrean sin, agus air an ceannach 's air an leughadh leis an t-sluagh. 'S tha 'bhlath is a' bhuil. 'S aithne do ar coimhearsnaich anns na h-àitean sin an còraichean agairt 's an cuisean tiomail a leasachadh mar nach aithne dhuinne. Cha bhi cor na Gaidhlig Albanach ach iosal cho fad 's a chluinnear Gaidheal a' faraid "Cìod a's fhiach eòlas na Gaidhlig do dhuine sam bith? Cha chuir i sgùil na phòca 's cha chuidich i e ann am feabhas sam bith." Mar-eil sinn ag

iarraidh eolais ach nàr mheadhon gu bhì 'faotainn stòrais, cha'n'èil ar n-iartais ach suarach. Ma tha sinn a' creidsinn nach ann le h-aran a mhaìn a bheathaichear an duine, creididh sinn mar an ceudna gu bheil aig ar cainnt, ar 'n eachdraidh, 's ar litreachas luach os cionn òir a theid am mugha.

Tha na buaidhean a's airde agus na h-iartusan a's fiachaile a tha comharrachadh sluaigh sam bith ra'm faotainn 'n am bàrd-achd, agus chan-eil an duine a their nach eil a' Ghaidhealtachd saibhir ann am bàrd-achd ach a leigeil ris cho aineolach 's a tha e. Cha'n'èil eilean 's a' chuan t-siar aig nach-eil iomadh luinneag bhoidheach a moladh a mhaise, agus tha dearbhadh gu leòir ann an obair nam Bard o Ossian a nuas gu'n robh ar'n athraichean cho deas ri sluaighean eile gu bhì 'faireachduinn buaidh nan nithean sin a tha maiseach agus ion-mholta. Is suarach am feala-dha do chlanna nan Gaidheal a bhì 'g eisdeachd aig an cuirmean-ciuil ris an treamsgal bhochd a chluinnear ann an tallana cluich nam bailtean mora, seach na h-orain bhinn Ghaidhlig anns am fairichear saibheas an t-samhraidh agus àilleachd nam blàth 's anns an cluinnear ceileireadh nan eun, langanaich an fheidh, agus cluich a' bhradan 's a' bhrìc bhàin.

Bha slugh na Gaidhealtachd iomraiteach riamh airson am misnich, an duinealach an dilseachd, an uaisle. Cha dòcha gu'm faighear iad sin ann an tomhas mor sam bith ma gheibh a' Ghaidhlig bàs.

—:o:—

AN COMMUN GAIÐHEALACH.

DEPUTATION TO THE CHURCHES.

The deputation appointed by the Executive Council to wait upon the Scottish Churches to ask for their support and co-operation in the use and cultivation of the Gaelic language waited upon the Highland Committee of the Free Church on Tuesday, 5th March, and on the Highland Committee of the Church of Scotland on Wednesday, 6th March, in Edinburgh. The deputation received a very hearty reception from both churches.

At the Free Church meeting the deputation consisted of Dr. W. J. Watson, and Mr. Archibald Menzies, S.S.C., Edinburgh; Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Glasgow; the Rev. George W. Mackay, Killin, and the General Secretary.

Dr. Watson, who submitted the prayer of the deputation, said—

"We appear before you as representing An Communn 'Gaidhealach (The Highland Association), an Association which has among its chief objects the teaching and use of the Gaelic language, and the study and cultivation of Gaelic literature.

In view, first, of the extent to which the work of the Free Church in the Highlands is carried on through the medium of Gaelic, in view, secondly, of the importance which is rightly attached to the Gaelic-speaking people being able to read the Holy Scriptures in their native language, and in view, thirdly, of the importance to the Church and to the people of having ministers not only able to speak the language but also possessing a literary knowledge thereof, we feel that we can approach you with confidence of your sympathy with these our objects as an Association.

We would respectfully direct your attention to the present state of matters in the Highlands with regard to Gaelic, namely, that while the Education Department interposes no obstacle in the way of its being taught in the public schools, there are, as a matter of fact comparatively few such schools in which young people are taught to read Gaelic. Further, that the Department has instituted a Gaelic paper in the Leaving Certificate examination for young people who have passed beyond the elementary stage, which should, and does, prove a valuable means towards acquiring a literary knowledge of the language, but which, in our opinion, might be taken advantage of to a still larger extent than it is at present. In connection with this state of matters, and, we believe, largely responsible for it, we are of opinion that the supply of trained Gaelic-speaking teachers possessing a literary knowledge of the language, is at present inadequate, and we feel that every effort should be made to increase the number of such teachers, and to encourage them to work in the Highlands as opportunities arise.

In attempting to secure the objects thus indicated—the teaching of Gaelic reading in elementary schools, the cultivation of a literary knowledge of the language in central schools, and the supply of teachers equipped with a scholarly knowledge of the language, all of which we believe to be in the best interests of the Highland people, we respectfully and earnestly desire your support and effective co-operation.

In particular, deeply conscious as we are of the value of the services which the Free Church might render at the present time, as it has rendered in the past, in connection with Gaelic education, we feel that material assistance would be given to individual effort by a pronouncement of your Committee on the subject."

Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Glasgow, who spoke in support of the object of the deputation, said that while it was the aim of An Comunn to do all they could to encourage the use of the Gaelic language and the cultivation of its literature, they were not faddists striving for an impossible ideal, but sober-minded men and women who were actuated solely by a desire to see their native language given its proper place in the minds and hearts of the Highland people. They were particularly anxious to enlist the support of the Clergy, whose influence was still deservedly high in the Highlands, on the side of their movement, as they believed they could very greatly help to inculcate in the Highland people a greater respect for their own language than they presently showed. Highlanders were far too indifferent with regard to the Gaelic. No other people, for example, would so tamely acquiesce in the exclusion of their own language from their schools and churches. The hope of the Gaelic movement was in the children, and he trusted that the members of the Highland Committee of the Free Church would do all they could to assist the election to School Boards in the Highlands of all candidates who would encourage the teaching of Gaelic in the schools. He also hoped that the Committee would endeavour to provide that, in Sunday schools in Gaelic-speaking districts, Gaelic would be used, where possible, in preference to English, and that they would in every other way endeavour to promote the use of the language in which the Gospel was first preached in our land, and in which so many of them thought it was best preached.

Principal McCulloch replied on behalf of the Committee, and said he heartily sympathised with the movement for the restoration of the Gaelic language, and had always been interested in the work of An Comunn although unable to take any part in it. He hoped the work of An Comunn would prosper, not only for the sake of the language, but for the sake of the people, as there were still many who could only profit from religious instruction through their

own language—the Gaelic. The Committee would carefully consider the representations made to them that day, and he hoped they would be fruitful of good results to all parties concerned.

The Secretary of the Highland Committee, the Rev. D. Maclean, of Free St. Columba, Edinburgh, said he felt there was a good deal of misapprehension about the Churches' attitude towards the Gaelic movement. As far as the Free Church was concerned, they gave many facilities to the students who were to be their future ministers to acquire, not merely a colloquial, but a scientific knowledge of the language. They realised that the best medium to reach the hearts and the consciences of a number of their Highland people was still the Gaelic language.

Last year bursaries or grants, the examinations for which included Gaelic, were given to 32 undergraduates. For first year's bursary examination in Divinity, Gaelic was given as an option for Latin, Greek, or Mathematics, and apportioned a similar number of marks. Fifteen Gaelic-speaking students were at present attending the Divinity Classes, and of the 13 or so students attending Professor Mackinnon's Celtic class at Edinburgh University, 9 were Free Church students, and of those 8 are preparing for the ministry of the Free Church. Their Principal had conducted a Gaelic class in Glasgow for some years, and he (Mr. Maclean) at present held a Gaelic class in the Free Church College in Edinburgh, the attendances at both being eminently satisfactory.

Their Free Church students had repeatedly won the Macpherson bursary and Blackie prize open to all Celtic scholars. The Committee when appointing agents in the Highlands, were careful to appoint Gaelic speakers only to those districts where Gaelic was still the medium of instruction. It would thus appear that the Church was giving careful consideration to the equipment of their future ministry with such knowledge of Gaelic as would commend them as preachers to the people among whom their lot was cast. He hoped that when the Churches were helping An Comunn, An Comunn would help the Churches by waiting on Gaelic services in the large cities in Scotland.

Major Menzies having thanked the Committee for their courteous and sympathetic reception, the deputation withdrew.

On Wednesday the deputation to the Highland Committee of the Church of Scotland

consisted of Dr. Watson, Major Menzies, the Rev. G. W. Mackay, and the General Secretary.

They were cordially welcomed by Rev. Dr. Russell, and Dr. Watson again explained the object of the visit of the deputation.

Speaking in support, Major Menzies said he hoped that the ministers of the churches in the Highland parishes would endeavour to encourage the young people to take a healthy interest in their own language, and not be ashamed of it, as he was afraid too many of them are. At the present time, he said, a great deal of money was being spent on keeping up old institutions, cathedrals, and Ayr bridges, and the like, and he thought they were not seeking too much in asking that a little money be spent on the most ancient institution that Scotland could boast of—the Gaelic language. He concluded by urging upon the Committee the desirability of using Gaelic as much as possible in the Sunday schools and in the church services in the Highlands.

Dr. Russell, replying on behalf of the Committee, said that he listened with great interest to the representations of the deputation, and he assured them that the Highland Committee were in thorough sympathy with the cause for which An Comunn was working, and he trusted that the old language would be cherished, not only in Scotland, but in every place where a Highland community existed.

After thanking the Committee, the deputation withdrew.

The report of the result of the visit of the deputation to the Highland Committee of the United Free Church will appear in next issue, as that Committee did not meet until the 26th March, by which date the Magazine had gone to press.

—:O:—

CONFERENCE OF GAELIC-SPEAKING TEACHERS.

The Conference will take place in the Royal British Hotel, Perth, on Saturday, 6th April, at 10 a.m.

The arrangements for the Conference are now in a forward state, and a large and representative attendance of teachers and others interested is expected, provided that no further curtailment of travelling facilities is made by the railway companies.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

It is the intention of the Education Committee of An Comunn to hold the Summer School of Gaelic in Islay, in Bowmore or neighbourhood this year if a sufficiently large number of students come forward at an early date and intimate their intention of joining. The Committee are satisfied that Islay as a *locale* for the school could hardly be improved on. Islay Gaelic is highly reputed for the richness and quality of its idiom, and its splendid literary qualities are well known to all who take any interest in the literature of the ancient language of the Gael. Sincere students of the Gaelic language can hardly fail to derive a fresh inspiration from the atmosphere of a land which nourished and developed the life and thought of such literary Gaelic giants as Iain Og Ile, Hector Maclean, his coadjutor, Neil Macalpine, the Gaelic lexicographer, and William Livingstone, the bard.

The work of the school will be carried on, it is anticipated, very much on the lines which proved so successful at Roy Bridge and Oban. To enable the committee to make the necessary arrangements in good time, intending students are requested to send in their names without delay to the General Secretary at 108 Hope Street, Glasgow.

—:O:—

PRIZE TRANSLATIONS.

With regard to the Prize Translations of last Mòd from the Irish Gaelic and from the songs of Schubert recently published in the "DEO-GREINE," it should have been stated that these translations may be sung to the original music. The melodies for the Irish songs are in an interesting little volume by Dr. Joyce, "Irish Music and Song," published by Gill & Co. of Dublin at 8d. It contains the words and music of 20 Irish Gaelic songs. Schubert's "Serenade" and "Wanderer" (copyright music) are published by Boosey & Co., London.

Those who compete this year in the translation of the "Erl King" by Goethe, should make the Gaelic version to fit the well-known tune by Schubert. Those who know German should translate into Gaelic verse from the original German.

M. N. M.

ORAN AIR LATHA CHUIL-ODAIR.

LE COIRNEAL IAIN RUADH STIUBHART, CHINNE CHAIRDEIN.

ORAN MOR COMPETITION, No. 2—MOD OF 1912.

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KEY G. *Deliberately and with feeling.*

{ :m .m | m :— :d .d | r :— :m .m | m :— .s₁ :s₁ | l₁ : :l : }
 { O' gur | mis' th'air mo | r chràdh, Thuit mo | chridh - - e gu lâr, : 'S tric }

{ | l₁ :— .l₁ :s₁ | l₁ :— :d | r .m :— : : : :d .d }
 { | snith - - e gu'm shàil o m' | léirsinn. Mu }

{ | d :— .l₁ :s₁ | l₁ :— :r .r | r :— .d :d | d :— :d .d }
 { | Thear - lach mo ruin, Oighre | air - - idh a' chrùin, : 'S e gun }

{ | d :— :d .m | s :— .s :s | m :m :— : : }
 { | fhios ciod an taobh gus an téid e. }

Ged a bhuannaich sibh blàr, Cha b' ann d' ur cruadal a bha,
 Ach gun ar sluaghainn bhi 'n dàil a chéile
 Lasair theine nan Gall, Frasadh pheileir mu 'r ceann,
 Mhill sud cìreachdas lann 's bu bheud e.

Ach thig cuibhle an fhortain mu 'n cuairt, Car o dheas na o thuath,
 'S gheibh ar n-eascairidh duals na h-eucoir.
 'S gum bi Uilleam Mac Dheòrs', Mar chraoibh gun duilleach fo leòn,
 Gun fhreumh, gun mheangan, gun mheòirean géige.

Gu ma lom bhios do leachd, Gun bhean, gun bhràthair, gun mhac,
 Gun fhuaim clàrsaich, gun lasair chéire :
 Gun sòlas, sonas, no seannas, Ach dòlas dona mu d' cheann,
 Mar bh' air ginealach clann na h-Eiphit.

Is chì sinn fhathas do cheann, Dol 's an adhar ri crann,
 'S eoin an adhair ga theann reubadh :
 'S bidh sinn uile fa-dheòidh, Araon sean agus òg,
 Fo 'n Rìgh dhligheach 'g an còir 'duinn géilleadh.

The above version of the air was taken down by Miss Amy Murray of Boston, U.S.A., from the singing of the Rev. Allan Macdonald of Eriskay. The long poem from which these words are selected may be found in Turner's collection, and in MacKenzie's "Beauties of Gaelic Poetry." MacKenzie gives some details of the life of the author, Colonel J. Roy Stuart, a gallant Jacobite soldier and Gaelic poet. He took a prominent part in the rising of 1745, and his military knowledge and personal courage were of much service to Prince Charles. At Culloden, Colonel Stuart strongly urged that a day's truce should be obtained before attacking Cumberland's forces. This proposal, unfortunately for the Highland army, was not supported by the other counsellors of the Prince. After many adventures Colonel Stuart eventually escaped to France. He was a native of Kincardine in Badenoch. The bitter hatred of the Duke of Cumberland that burned in the hearts of Highlanders after Culloden finds adequate expression in the above poem.

Where there are lines with extra words or syllables the corresponding notes of the music must be halved or repeated, in order to fit these words into the bar in the most natural way.—M.N.M.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

MISS JULIET MACDONALD.

With this issue of the "DEO-GREINE" we give a portrait of Miss Juliet Macdonald, one of the most zealous members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, and a firm believer in the value of bi-lingual education.

"Gordons" and the "Greys" cried "Scotland for Ever"), the son of Captain Alastair Macdonald, 82nd Regiment, Inverlain, Lochaber, a brother officer of Sir John Moore. Captain A. Macdonald was the second son of Ranald Macdonald of Aberarder, who joined the Standard of Prince Charles at Glenfinnan and fought through the campaign,—some of his impressions of which were recorded by



MISS JULIET MACDONALD.

Celtic literature has always had a great fascination for her, and she has made a study of the historical, traditional, and genealogical lore of Lochaber.

She is the only child of the late Captain Ranald Macdonald of the 92nd Gordon Highlanders (whose uncle Colonel Donald Macdonald commanded that regiment in the famous charge at Waterloo, when the

the patriotic Forbes. Aberarder's predecessors in the previous century fought for the Royal cause at the battles of Inverlochy and Killiecrankie.

A tombstone erected by him to the memory of his father who died in 1714 is perhaps unique in its way, as it records, not the virtues of the deceased, but his genealogy.

The Aberarder family, a branch of the

Clan Ranald of Lochaber, descend from "Iain Dubh," who fought at the battle of "Blarnanleine" in 1544, a son of Ranald Glas of Keppoch, he married a daughter of Mackintosh of Mackintosh. The perilous lives and romantic escapes of their immediate descendants are commemorated in many soul-stirring songs and plaintive laments. Of these Miss Macdonald possesses a large collection with the airs to which they were sung. She is thus thoroughly imbued with the Celtic spirit, while her sympathetic manner and charming personality have helped to win supporters for the Gaelic movement among a large circle of friends, many of whom have joined the Comunn Gaidhealach. On the inauguration of a branch of the Comunn in Lochaber Miss Juliet Macdonald initiated the Lochaber Mòd, now an annual event. The energy and enthusiasm she has been the means of inspiring in others there, can be judged by the fact that the junior choir of that Comunn has twice carried off honours at Mòds in the South, and the Gaelic language, which bid fair to disappear among the younger people in the district, has by all accounts entered on a new and long lease of life. Miss Macdonald fitly represents Lochaber on the Executive of the Comunn Gaidhealach. For her efforts in assisting the London Stall at the "Feill" under its convener, Miss Farquharson of Invercauld, she was awarded a vote of thanks by the Gaelic Society of London, of which she is a member and its representative in Scotland.

When the idea of a Summer School for learners was mooted by the Comunn she was appointed convener of its first gathering held at Roy Bridge, which proved very successful. Being an excellent linguist, her foreign correspondents interested many of the "literati" abroad, and several sympathetic notices of the Gaelic gathering appeared in both French and German newspapers. She was most successful with the late Professor Zimmer of Berlin, the great Celtist, who was so delighted by the experiment that he communicated with the Imperial Academy of Sciences in Vienna, and the authorities there sent Dr. Trebitsch to Lochaber to take phonographic records of Gaelic speech, and song and music, and these are now preserved in the archives of the Imperial Academy in Vienna. Miss Juliet Macdonald has all the love of country which inspired her namesake "Sìlis," the poetess of bygone times in Lochaber, and her favourite motto is "Albainn gu bràth," or "Scotland for Ever."

REITICHIDH GAOL SLIGHE.

LE IAIN MAC CORMAIC.

Fhuair an sgeul so a' cheud duais aig Mòd, 1911.

Cha'n'eil tir, no linn, no treubh anns nach fhaigh sinn dearbhadh air firinn an ràidh so. Cha'n'eil tir no treubh anns am bitheanta am faigh sinn dearbhadh air na anns a' Ghaidhealtachd againn féin, agus am measg nan Gaidheal d'am buin sinn. Thug litreachas Shasuinn duinn Imogen; thug litreachas na Gréige duinn Penelope; agus litreachas na Róimhe Dido mar shamhladh neo-bhàsail air dìlseachd bhunaiteich mnatha. Ach a rèir na bàrdachd a tha toirt duinn a h-eachdraidh a nìos o linn nach fhaic sinn le ceò mealltach na h-aoise, cha'n'eil ball-sampuil a dh'ainmich mi, a thig a nìos ri Deirdre nìh-fhortanaich nan Gaidheal, a chuir cùl ri crùn is comhfhurtachd is saibheas air sgàth Naoise fhlaimeh, a' bhanaich, agus a lean e air iomadh slighe chunnartaich, ghàbhaich, air chomhach an "Alba Soir," gus an do chuir am bàs sgaradh eatorra.

Mar so bha Dìor-bhàil Nic Gill-eathain, aona nighean Fear Ard-tunna ann an Ros Mhuileach. Mar so dh'èisd i ri tridbualadh binn teudan clàrsach a gaoil; agus mar so dh'fhuiling i cruadal, is fhuair i ànradh, is choisinn i diomb a h-athar air sgàth an fhir d'an d'thug i gràdh. Ach thug i an gràdh sin do h-aon a bh'an suidheachadh na b'isle na i féin. B'e sgagalag a h-athar e; ach am mach o nach robh ann ach an cos-naiche dubh, mar a their iad, cha robh lasgaire an astar seachdain de choisachd, cho innich, deas, eireachdail ri Eumann Mac Sìridh. Cha robh an astar na thomhaiseadh guala ris. A chur na cloiche, a chaitheadh an ùird, a chur car de'n chabar, cha robh a chomh-impire r'a fhaotainn an astar. Cha do sheas riamh na b'eireachdala an deise Ghaidhealaich; agus bu chùis-fharmaid fhaicinn 'san diollaid a' srianadh teud gruileamaich a chuireadh teine le chrùidhean iarainn a clachan an rathaid mhóir ag iarraidh air aghaidh. Is iomadh nigheanag sgìobalta aig an robh sùil air Eumann. Is iomadh té glé mhath as, a bha leann-tàlaidh di anns a h-uile h-àite am bitheadh e.

Tha laghan nàduir a' bualadh air gach neach ann an aon dòigh; agus dh'aindeoin staid iriosal Eumainn, ghéill Dìor-bhàil a cridhe thusal bhlàth, shimplidh dhaibh; oir,

'na sùil, cha b' fheàrr feòil seach feòil, no fuil seach fuil. Thug i gach gaol a bha 'na cridhe do Eumann. B'e a ceud gaol e cuideachd. Bu tothaide leis an sin e; air fhàdadh 's mar bha e le fann-ghaoith bhlaith na neo-chiontachd. An coimeas ri Dior-bhàil cha robh an Eumann ach iochd-aran. Bha faireachduinn aige air a' chuan a bha eadar a leithid-san agus leithid nìgean a mhaighstir; ach dh' oibrich a giùlan ris air aigne anns an dòigh mhìorbhuileich, dho-thuigsinn anns an dean leannain eadar-chòmhraidh ri chèile gun chuideachadh seachas beòil, gus an do thuit e an trom ghaol oirre. Dh' fheuch e r'a fhalach. Thug e oidhirp air buaidh a thoirt air faireachduinnean. Cheil se e le ghiùlan neo-eisimeileach. Ach bha an leann-tàlaidh an eud, agus dh' aindeoin neart a bhuidhnan, gheill e do'n chumhachd dhìomhair a bha sruthadh bho chridhe na h-òighe. Gheill e. Rinn iad comh-sheanachas le sealladh an sùil. Thuig iad suithachadh a chèile. Cha b' flada gus an do dhaingnich seachas blàth, mìlis beòil an gaol gun fhios a bha eatorra, agus gus an d' rinn còmh-chomunn an dìomhaireachd an tàthadh ri chèile an dòigh 's gu'm b'e am bàs a mhàin a chuireadh sgaradh eatorra.

Cha'n 'eil ach an aon stuagh de thigh Ard-tunna an làthair an diugh. Cha'n 'eil uair a chì mi an aon stuagh sin féin, air a chomh-dhualadh le eìdhinn 's le dubh-chasaich 's le dìthein, nach cuimhnich mi air Dior-bhàil 's air Eumann. Cha'n 'eil uair a chì mi a' chlach mhór, dhubb ri taobh an t-seann tùir nach tig an coltas mu m' choinneamh mar gu'm faicinn iad: Eumann a' toirt a ghearrain gu taobh na cloiche 's a' cuideachadh Dior-bhàil do'n diollaid.

Is iomadh linn de theaghlach Ard-tunna do'n d' rinn a' chlach dhubb seirbhis mar so. B' annasach a h-eachdraidh r'a cluinntinn na'n innseadh si i! Agus an t-Aonadh Mór an measg nan cluintean bòidheach ud os cionn an rubha duibh, ghairbh far am bheil Ard-tunna fraochach, fearach, fionntanach, mar thoiseach luìng-chogaidh a' sgoltadh tonnan mòra a' Chuain-t-siar! Nach iomadh còimhdail dhìomhair, shàmhach a thug Eumann 's Dior-bhàil d'a chèile gus, mo chreach! an d' rinn luchd an innseagan lionn an t-sodail a chur gun fhios mu'n cuairt orra.

Nuair chuala Fear uaibhreach Ard-tunna mu'n t-suiridh, b' rùchd e mach mar bheinn-theine. Chaidh sgaradh obann a chur eadar

a' chàraid; agus dh' fhàg Eumann an dùthaich gu clis. Laigh bròn air Dior-bhàil; ach cha do bhoigaich sud cridhe a h-athair. Cha bu dual da gu'm bogadh—fear a chuir mòran de shaoghal seachad a' sabaid le claidheamh an armait na Frainge a' cosnadh cliù agus fortain, mar a rinn iomadh fear de sheòrsa 'san àm; agus mar a rinn iomadh fear de sheòrsa 'na dhéidh, an armait Ghustavus Adolphis na Suaine. Cha bu dual da, leis an sin, a bhi bog-chridheach: esan nach do chleachd ach a bhi 'g iomairt le lann stàilinn a ghrabhaladh cliù dha féin.

“A bhrònag,” ars' esan ri Dior-bhàil, “cha deanainn tàir air fear a bhiodh adhaircean air gach bois dheth le làimhseachadh a' chlaidheimh, air cho bochd 's gu'm biodh e; ach tha mi cur eùil agus dubh-chùil ri fear a tha dhùirn air cruadhachadh le spògan a chroimn-treabhaidh, agus nach b' aithne rianh fuaim bu bhinne na fuaim na h-urghail a' tionndadh sgrìobh threabhaidh. Cha b' ionann leam rianh an da ni; agus ni thusa, bhrònag, a réir mo reachd-sa, agus leigidh tu Eumann Mac Siridh am mach as do chiumhne. Sin agad mo reachd-sa am beagan fhacal.”

“Cha di-chuimhnich mise Eumann, athair; agus cha téid fear eile 'na àite a'm chridhe-sa—an cridhe nach leam a nis; an cridhe nach eil agam ach an t-àite falamh anns an robh e nuair bhuailleadh e le sodan ri m' thaobh, 's mi am broilleach Eumainn”; arsa Dior-bhàil. “Cha'n 'eil lus an t-sléibh na's dilse do'n t-samhradh; cha'n 'eil a' ghrian na's dilse do'n ghealaich air am bheil i boill-sgeadh; agus cha'n 'eil am muir-làn na's dilse do'n chloich mhóir ud shìos nuair dh' iadhas e mu'n cuairt oirre, na tha cridhe Eumainn dòmhsa. Athair, fàsaidh m' fhalt bachlach, dubh cho geal ri canach an t-sléibh; bithidh gach cleit a tha'n dràsd cho cuarsagach ri biadh na faochlaig, cho sìnte ri biolaraich na tràghad nuair thig an làn oirre, agus mo ghruag uile cho tioram, chaisreachach ris an lionaraidh air sgeir fo theas na gréine nuair is isle tràigh na reothairt shamhradh, mu'n toir mi eùil ri m' Eumann.”

Dh' éisd a h-athair gu tosdach, 's e 'na shuidhe m'a coinneamh air cathair.

An sin phaisg i a làmhnan air a glùn, agus a' sealltainn an àird, ars' ise: “Ochòin, ochòin, Eumainn, Eumainn! Cha'n 'eil an saoghal leam, bho'n dhealaich thu rium, ach doilleir, gun sunnd, gun aobh, mar a' ghealach air speur a' mheadhon là gheamhradh. Tha mi faicinn na dùthcha as t'innais mar

speur nuair spionteadh a' ghrian as, agus gun r'a fhaicinn ach an toll dorch anns an robh i an crochadh nuair bha i a' boillsgeadh air an t-saoghal. Eumainn, Eumainn!"

Thug briathran a nighean tiomadh air Fear làidir Ard-tunna; ach cha'n fhaicteadh air a ghnais e. Smuainich e gu'n leighiseadh ùine am bròn 's an ionndrainn, agus chum e ceann cruaidh rithe.

Chaidh ùine seachad. Bha Dìor-bhàil fathast fo lionndubh ach bha galar fulaing aice do'n lot. Thug tim aideachadh as a h-athair; agus bha e goirt leis ciabhagan na h-àilleig a bhi fàs glas, agus a gruaidhean a bhi fàs tana, bàn. Bha an nighean gun mhàthair a bheireadh comhairle oirre, gun phiuthar a deanadh ban-chompanas rithe, agus an t-aon as an do ghabh i tlachd gun fhios no sgeul air. Na'n tilleadh Eumann, is gann nach toireadh e a nighean da le dhà làimh—ach gheidh e sin aige féin.

Cha chualas riamh guth air Eumann. Cha robh fios c' àite 'n robh e, no an robh e beò no marbh.

Mu na h-àmannan so bha comh-bhann càirdeal eadar Alba agus an Fhraing, agus an àite òigridh sgairteil, chalma a bhi deanamh dhachaidhean ùra de eithirean, mar thatar an diugh, bha iad an uair ud, mar chaidh ainmeachadh cheana, a' dol 'nan ceudan do armait na Frainge. B'e so an dorus a bha fosgailte 'san àm thar crìochan Alba; agus bha Dìor-bhàil am beachd gu'n do ghiùlaineadh Eumann air falbh leis an t-sruth a bha sìubhal cho làidir an taobh ud, agus a' sguabadh na h-uibhir de òigridh leis. Is iomadh fear treun a dh'fhalbh an uair ud nach do thill. Is iomadh uair a smuainich Dìor-bhàil gu'm b'e Eumann fear dhiubh. Cha robh sgeul aice air. Ach thachair, mu dheireadh, rud a thug dhi brath air agus a sheòl 'na rathad i. B'e sin gu'n d' thàinig ceannairceach air chomhach a Còlasaidh do Mhuile. Chuir Mac Dhubh-shith Chòlasaidh fios gu Fear Dhubhairt gu'm biodh e 'na chomaine na 'n cuireadh e chuige do Chòlasaidh ceann a' cheannairich; oir gu'm b'e duine e a shalaich an rathad air féin air iomadh dòigh an Còlasaidh.

A leigeadh thuigsinn buirbe nan daoine a bh' anns an àm, chaidh ceann a' cheann-airich a chur dachaidh do Chòlasaidh agus gad ialuinn troimh a dhà shùil. Ged a bha beatha duine, an uair ud, cho suarach an sùilean a chomh-chreutairean ri beatha naoisg, ghabh Fear Chòlasaidh mriothachd ri Fear Dhubhairt a chionn a leithid de bheub-

anachadh a dheanamh air a h-aon de a dhaoine; agus leig se a thuigsinn sin da cho math. Chuir e fios do Dhubhairt gu'n robh e 'na chomaine air son ceann a' cheannairich a chur chuige; ach nach ruigeadh e leas dol cho fad as an t-slighe ri gad a chur troimh a shùilean a thoirt tair dhàsan. "Leis an sin," ars' esan," ma tha 'n còrr ghad am Muile, faodaidh tu bhi 'gam bogadh."

Bu duine Fear Dhubhairt nach do dhiùlt riamh tairgse air a' chlaidheamh a tharruing; agus 's e am fios a chuir e gu Mac Dhubh-shith; nach robh Muile riamh gun ghoid, agus gu'n robh esan a' toirt an aire gu'n robh iad daonnan bog.

An déidh so bha lannan 'gan geurachadh air dà thaobh na Linne-tharsuinn, agus sùil am mach aig na Muilich gach làtha, feuch am faicadh iad birlinnean Mhic Dhubh-shith a' nochdadh am mach thar Rubha Gheatha.

Chunnacas, mu dheireadh, iad a' togail ri cuan, agus a' toirt an aghaidh air an Ros. Chaidh a' Chrois-thàraidh a chur troimh Mhuile le luathas eich, agus anns a' mhaduinn an là-rn-a-mhàireach bha 'n armait Mhuileach air faiche os cionn Phuir Bhèathain, air cladalach deas an Rois, deas air son blàr a thoirt do na Còlosaich.

B' ann an latha ud a chuireadh am blàr a tha cho ainneil an diugh fathast feadh an Rois Mhuilich 's a bha e a' cheud latha: Blàr Phort Bhèathain. Comharraichidh na Rosaich an mach an diugh fathast "Lianag nan srian," an dail bhòidheach ghorm far an do thilg iad srianan nan each a leigeil an steud gu ionalttradh fhad 's a bhiodh an cath 'ga chur.

Thug na Muilich am mach buaidh mhór, ainneil, agus tha e air aithris gu'n robh iad a' sgutadh nan corrag bhàrr nan Còlosach nuair a bha 'n làinhan an greim an beòil mhóra nan bàtaichean, g'an cur air bhog an cabhaig, 's an ruag 'nan déidh.

'S i sgeul air Blàr Phort Bhèathain sgeul cho taitneach ris an éisd na Muilich an diugh fathast, nuair a chruinnicheadh luchd na còilidh mu'n cuairt an teintein 'san oidheche fhada gheamhraidh, agus an seanachaidh—nach do bhàisich fathast an cùltean na Gaidhealtachd—a' taomadh nan sgeul anns a' Ghàidhlig is feàrr.

Greis an déidh a' bhlàir bha grunnan ghillean air chéilidh am biadh-lann dubh 'Tigh Ard-tunna, agus b'e Blàr Phort Bhèathain agus liodairt nan Còlosach bu chuspair daibh. Thachair do Dìor-bhàil teachd a

steach air thurus nuair a bha fear de na gillean a' leigeadh fhaicinn do'n chuideachd, le bós, fainne òir a thug e bhàrr lùdaig Còlosaich, a fhuair e an oir na tuinne far an do rinneadh mòran millidh air an nàmhaid. Cha d' thug neach a bha stigh an aire do'n choltas a thàinig an gnùis Dior-bhàil nuair a chunnaic i am fainne. Cha do ghabh i fad oirre; ach bha at smuaintean féin 'na cridhe.

Thug i a seòmar oirre; thilg si i féin air langasaid, agus a' feitheamh air a' chruisgean a bha gu dreòsach an crochadh ris a' bhalla m'a coinneamh, dhealbha i an inneachd a chuireadh i an cèill gun mhàin, gun mhoille.

An latha no dhà bha m' fainne a chuir i féin air lùdaig Eumainn 'na seilbh. Nuair fhuair i 'na làmh an e, bha leatha gu'n robh Eumann féin gu corporra, pearsanta 'na cuideachd. Mheòiricheadh i an seud luachmhor, agus bhruthneadh i ris mar gu'm biodh beatha ann.

"Eumainn, Eumainn! Tha thu na's faisge orm na shaoil mi. Ma rinn thu eadh an aghaidh do luch-dùthcha, cha b'ann do d' dheòin. Tha de thoileachadh agam a nis gu'm bheil fios agam e' àite 'm bheil thu agus gu'm bheil thu beo; oir na'n do thuit thu anns a' bhàr, dh' aithnichteadh thu, ghaoil, agus bu mball le m' chàirdean an sgeal a thoirt chugam," agus a' bualadh a làmh air a chèile, ars' ise: "Dh' fhòlaich thu thu féin gu duineil air mo sgàth-sa, Eumainn; ach ruigidh mise thusa nis, agus, na thig ort dol do'n tràigh g' am chumail, theid mise, nighean agus aon nighean Fear Ard-tunna, leat."

Am beagan ùine fhuair Dior-bhàil an t-aiseag gu Còlosaidh. Dh' fhalbh i am breug-riochd mar bhean-foighe.—Cha ghabh-thead ionghnadh de'n t-seòrsa 'san àm; oir bha luchd-foighe 'nan ceudan air feadh na Gaidhealtachd gus an deach bailgeachd a chur air an iomairt le Reachdan Ithe anns a' bhliadhna 1609.—Nuair dh' ionndrainneadh i aig a dachaidh chaidh a rùrach shìos is shuas; ach enàimh dh' cha ghabhadh faotainn. Bha daonnan dorran air a h-athair air son mar a ghoirtich e a faireachduinnean; ach a nis, bho na rinn e suas intinn nach fhaiceadh e r'a bheò i, bheireadh e 'n saoghal mu'n iad a' ghrian nach d' thug e dad na h-aghaidh rianmh. Cha robh a nis leasachadh air. Thàinig am breamas, agus cha leighiseadh aithreachas e. Dhrùidh a' bhuille gu mòr air. Chrom a dha shlinnean leathann le cràdh-lot bròin. Sheac a ghnùis

agus thàinig moille 'na cheum. Nuair chiththeadh e le cheann crom agus le chois eachd uireas-bhuidh, bha 'n sluagh uile duilich eum an t-saighdeir bhi air chall.

Bha Dior-bhàil gu sàbhailte an Còlosaidh. Bha i deanamh a diachill air atharrais na bana-bhleidire; ach ged nach do ghabh i oirre e, is minic a thug a cleas air na Còlosaich a ràdh gu'm feumadh gu'm fac i làithean a b' fheàrr; oir gu'n robh fuil uasal na h-aodann. Shìubhaill i o bhaile gu baile; agus, mu dheireadh, fhuair i Eumann an Cille-chatain. Bha i nis aig fois. Fhuair i na bha 'ga dìth; ach ghleidh i an sgàil-bhrat thairis oirre.

Be àm an Earraich a bh'ann, agus bha Dior-bhàil deònach air bhi goireasach. Cha robh neach nach aithnichteadh nach do chleachd a làmh an mine obair gharbh. Dh' aindeoin a sgèdaich bhatar a' cur uireachd gu'n robh i os cionn eumanta; agus b' iomadh uair a dh' fheumadh i a' ghàireachduinn a phlùchadh oirre nuair a chluinneadh i an oigridh a' cagartaich ri chèile 's ag ràdh "gu'm bu bhan-phrionnsa fo gheasaibh i." Cha'n obadh i eadhon air dol a chur a bhuntata le h-aparsaid, agus cha deànadh i ach gàire chridheil nuair ghlaodhadh cuid de na h-inghneagan i chur fad cas a màthar eadar gach sgòilean.

Cha d' fhalaich Eumann am blàths a bh' aige rithe a chionn gu'm bu Bhana-Mhuileach i, eadhon ged nach do leighis lot Phòrl Bheathain.

"Leigribh tàmh do m' bhean-dùthcha," theireadh ean eadar fealla-dhà agus da-rìreadh; "tha gaol agam air na tonnan a dh' iomaineas a' ghaath tuath nall a' Muile. Tha blàths agam ris an eun a thig air fuadach a eilean mo ghaoil. Is cùbhraidh leam an ceartair fàileadh toit an fhraoich a fal-oisgean an Rois. Agus e' ar son nach bu chùbhraidh leam m' fhuil is m' fheòil, ce b'e eò'n chuid de Mhuile as am bheil thu, a bheanag"; ars' ehan an làthair na cuideachd air an achadh bhuntata; agus a' tighinn thar na cùise, chrath e a' Bhan-Mhuileach air dheòis gus an d' thàinig deòir 'na sùilean a' faicinn gu'n robh a h-uile mir de Eumann fathast ann.

"Muile, Muile!" ars' Eumann; "cìod e chuir 's nach bu chaomh leam e? Dh' fhàg mi ni bu duilghe leam ann ged a dh' fhàg mi'n té ud ann," agus e coeadh na làimhe bho'n do chail e'n lùdag. "Ach bha air an té sin féin ni bu duilghe leam na i. Tha m' uile uile am Muile nan craobh—am Muile nach fhaic ach mu m' choinneamh."

Sheas an sluagh uile a dh'éisdeachd na h-uirghill. Thug Dìor-bhàil ceum far an robh Eumann, agus a' sìnèadh dha am fàinne, ars' ise: "An aithnich thu sin?"

"A bhronag," ars' esan am mach, "bho nach fhaighinn a' h-a'is an té thug dhomh e, cha b' urrainn mi rud fhaotainn a rachadh cho dlùth do m' chridhe."

Thilg a bhean-foghe dhi a lùraichean an làthair na cuideachd agus mu choinneamh Eumainn sheas Dìor-bhàil. Ghlais an dithis mu chèile, agus chruinnich an luchd-obair mu'n cuairt, is deòir 'nan suilean—oir leugh iad a' chùis.

"Bu ghoirt Blàr Phort Bheathain, Eumainn; ach bu mhilis e cuideachd," arsa Dìor-bhàil. Agus bu mhilis daibhsan; oir an ceann seachdain chaidh na Còlosaich chàirdeil, dhuineil leo do I, le bàta ochd ràmh; agus anns an t-sean eaglais mhòir ainmeil, chuir an sagart orra an t-snaim nach d' fhuasgail gus an d' fhuasgail am bàs i.

Nuair chuala Fear Ard-tunna mar a bha, lion a chridhe le sòlas a nighean a bhi beò. Ghlan an sgeul aoibhneach air falbh an gamhlas a bh'aige do Eumann. Ghabh e ris a' chàraid gu suilbhearra. Thug e leis do Ard-tunna iad, agus bha riamh tuilleadh Eumann mar aon duine aige. Fhuair e toil-eachadh an deireadh a làithean ris nach robh fughair aige. Bha Ard-tunna an seilbh oghachan 'na dhéidh gus an do chailleadh e mu dheireadh na seachdamh linn deug.

Ma tha dearbhadh gu'n réitich gaol slighe 's e so e. Cha bhi dad as an rathad air dilseachd.

—:o:—

GAELIC TEACHING IN SCHOOLS.

A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME.

As an example of what is possible in the way of teaching Gaelic in Highland schools under the present provisions of the Scotch Education Code we have pleasure in submitting the following scheme which has been in operation, with the approval of the Department, in the Poolewe school taught by that virile Gaelic enthusiast, Mr. William Cameron.

SCHEME.

Classes I. and II.

Junior Division, first and second year:—

(a) Reading "An Treoraiche" and St. John's Gospel.

(b) Recitation, memorising Psalms, and Catechism.

(c) Conversation during lessons in Gaelic, and explanations in Gaelic during other lessons as far as feasible.

(d) Gaelic songs and hymns.

(e) Easy sentences from Gaelic into English.

Classes III. and IV.

Intermediate Divisions, third and fourth years:—

(a) Reading New Testament, translation, etc.

(b) Macfarlane's "Scottish Gaelic" for grammar, versions, and dictation; M'Bean's "Guide to Gaelic Conversation."

(c) Memorising suitable poems from the "Londubh," and Psalms and Catechism.

(d) Gaelic songs and hymns in two-part harmony.

Classes V. and VI.

Senior Division, fifth and sixth years:—

(a) Reading and translation of any part of the Bible (Trust standard of examination), and Uirsgeulan na Féinne (at 2d.), and Sgeulachdan Arabianach, "Elementary lessons in Gaelic."

(b) "Scottish Gaelic" in full, or MacBean's "Elementary Lessons in Gaelic," and MacBean's "How to learn Gaelic," or Reid's.

(c) Composition, essays, stories, etc.

(d) Poems from Dain Thaghte and Nicolson's "Gaelic Proverbs," choir and solo singers trained for "Am Mòd" (music—A' Choisir Chiùil, An Londubh, An Uiseag in two and three-part harmony).

Classes VII. and Junior Students.

Supplementary Division and Advanced Departments, seventh and eighth years:—

(a) Revisal of work done in fifth and sixth years.

(b) Dr. MacBain's Gaelic Grammar, and his Higher Gaelic, and Specific Readings and Examination Papers for Leaving Certificate, and Uirsgeulan Gaidhealach, Naigheachdan Fìrinneach. MacKenzie's "Peauties of Gaelic Poetry," Dain Thaghte, Buchanan's Poems.

(c) To qualify for Leaving Certificate, and to compete in literary and musical competitions at "Am Mòd."

(d) Local Place-names; names of local plants in Gaelic to be taken as nature study. [Practical botany.]

MacAlpine's and MacEachan's Gaelic dictionaries or MacDonald's new Gaelic dictionary to be used for reference.

TIME TABLE.

1. Gaelic Grammar, Composition, etc., are taught twice per week, on Tuesday and Thursday, from 3.30 to 4 (one hour).

2. Gaelic Songs, etc., are taught on Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 4.30 (one hour).

3. Bible Knowledge is taken, embracing Gaelic, on the five days, from 9.30 to 10.30 (5 hours). Total time for Gaelic—7 hours per week.

4. Plus Gaelic S. School and Choir Practice twice a week.

NOTES ON SCHEME.

(a) For whole school Bible lessons and devotional exercises are entirely in Gaelic.

(b) Short home exercises in Gaelic are given twice a week.

(c) The above scheme has been drawn up for Gaelic-speaking pupils, but is quite suitable for non-Gaelic-speaking pupils.

GRANTS.

In connection with the above scheme of Gaelic teaching the following grants are available:—

(1) In the intermediate division, 2s. 6d. from Gaelic Society of London for each pass, as per above scheme.

(2) In the senior division, 5s. from Highland Trust, Edinburgh.

(3) Where Gaelic is made use of in the teaching of English, £10 is paid by the Scotch Education Department.

(4) Where a Gaelic-speaking teacher is employed to give bi-lingual instruction, 1s. per head extra grant is paid by the Scotch Education Department in the junior division.

(5) Valuable money prizes and medals are awarded to junior competitors at the annual Mòd.

(6) Gaelic has, since 1904, been recognised as a subject for the leaving certificate, and it is also an optional subject in the Arts course in all our universities.

The first two grants are paid to the Gaelic teacher, and in some cases the £10 grant is paid by patriotic Boards, but in most cases this yearly sum is appropriated by the Boards for the reduction of rates.

—:o:—

LEASAIN GHÀIDHLIG.

(1) "LATHA NA GOGAIREACHD."

XV.

Aon mhaduinn chiùin Earraich bha teachlach Sheumais Bhàin 'nan suidhe aig a' bhòrd a 'gabhail am bidhe 'nuair a thainig "gille" a' mhinisteir a steach.

A nis 's e (2) *seana ghille a bha ann an Tormod a' Mhinisteir*, agus bha e rudeigin lag anns an inntinn, no—mar a their cuid—bha e bog anns a' cheann.

(3) "*Failte ' stigh*," arsa Tormod, (4) '*s math an t-àm 's an d' thainig mi*."

"Mol sin 'nuair a dh' fhalbhas tu," arsa fear-an-taighe, "ach dean suidhe. 'Dé do naigheachd?"

"Cha 'n 'eil nì sam bith ùr agam," arsa esan, "ach dé fios a tha so a chuir sibh thugam-sa an diugh cho trath air an latha?" Sheall Seumas ri bean-an-taighe agus phrìobise ' suil rìsan. Thuig iad le cheile mar bha chùis.

"O, 'Seadh," arsa Seumas, (5) "*gabh romhad*—agus a chionn gu 'm bheil a' mhaduinn gu math (6) *cha mhisde thu a' chuairt a' ghabhail*—gu ruig thu taigh Dhomhnuill Mhòir aig ceann am muigh a' bhaile agus tha gnothuich eigin aige-san riut."

"Ceart gu leir," fhreagair Tormod, "'s ann is math leam an còthrom fhaighinn. 'S fhada 'o nach fhaca mi Domhnull. Slàn leibh," arsa esan, 's e ri falbh.

Rainig e taigh Dhomhnuill ann an ùine ghoirid agus chaidh e steach.

"Dean suidhe, dean suidhe, ' dhuin' uasail," arsa bean-an-taighe, "'S fhada (7) 'o n dà latha sin."

"Tapaidh leibh," arsa esan, "ach cha 'n 'eil ùine agam an dràsda air son suidhe. 'Dé an gnothuich mor a th' agaibh dhomh-sa 'n diugh, a Dhomhnull, 's gu 'n d' chuir sibh fios orm?"

Bha Domhnull 'na thosd car tiota. "Ach co thug am fios dhuib, a Thormoid?" arsa esan. "Thubhairt an t-searbhanta rium anns a' mhaduinn gu 'n d' thainig fios orm bho Sheumas Bàn, agus thubhairt Seumas Bàn rium a thighinn far an robh sibh-se."

"O! dìreach sin," fhreagair Domhnull, (8) "*Theirig* thusa air ais gu taigh Chaluum Ruaidh, agus gheibh thu mach bhuath-san gach nì ' tha dhith ort."

"S neònach an gnothuich a th' ann," arsa Tormod. "'S iongantach dà rìreadh e. Tha e còtach gu 'm bheil eagal air a h-uile neach (9) *luaidh air*."

'Dé air an t-saoghal an t-olc a rinn mise 'n diugh!"

Dh' fhalbh e agus rinn e air taigh Chaluum Ruaidh. Chaidh e ' steach (10) *a' chlaigionn gun suilean*.

"Dé 'n gnothuich a th' agaibh dhomh-sa 'n diugh?" arsa Tormod, "'s gu 'n d' chuir sibh fios orm?"

"Co thug am fios thugad?" dh' fhoighnich Calum. "Thug an t-searbhanta fios thugam an toiseach bho Sheumas Bàn, chuir Seumas Bàn mi gu Domhnull Mòr, agus chuir Domhnull Mòr ann an so mi—(11) *agus eadar sibh gu leir dh' fhaireach e orm an*

gnothuich mòr sin (12) a lorgachadh fhathast."

Thuig Calum mar a bha. "'Seadh ma tà, thainig thu do'n àite cheart mu dheireadh. Theirig thusa air ais gu taigh Sheonaid a' Chùbair—tha fios agad gu'm bi na seana mhaighdeanan an tòir air nan seana ghillean—, theirig air ais agus—."

"O, ma tà, 's mise nach teid, (13) cas! Co air an t-saoghal (14) a ghabh air mise a' chur anns (15) a' bhoil so gun aobhar?"

"A Thormoid," arsa bean-an-taigh, "nach eil fhios agad dé n latha tha 'nn an diugh!" "Tha Di-luain," arsa esan, "agus bu chòir dhomh cuimhne a' bhì agam air 'nuair a thig e ris."

"O, b' eadh," arsa ise, "ach 's e 'n diugh Latha na Gogaireachd."

Rinn fear-an-taigh gloc mòr gaire 'nuair a chunnaic e an a-tatharrachadh a thainig air adann Thormoid.

Cha d' thubhairt e smid ach thionndaidh e air a shàil agus chuala iad e a' crònan am mach an doras.

Anna bheag a' chiobair, Anna bheag a' mhinisteir,

Choisinn thu (16a) do gheall ged chaill thu do (b) mhothachadh.

Anna bheag a' chiobair, Anna bheag a' mhinisteir,

Paidh'dh tu gu daor air mise ' chur air ghogaireachd.

AM BUACHALL.

- (1) All Fools' Day. Lit.: the day of bamboozling.
- (2) Lit.: it was an old "lad" that was in Norman, etc., i.e., Norman, the minister's man, was an old bachelor.
- (3) Lit.: Hail, to the household—one of the many terms of salutation used in entering a house.
- (4) Lit.: good is the time that I have come—meal-time.
- (5) Lit.: take on—go on; proceed.
- (6) Lit.: you will not be the worst of, etc.
- (7) Lit.: long since these two days, i.e., "the day you were here last and to-day," therefore the phrase means—you're a great stranger.
- (8) Theirig—go; used as imperative of the verb "theid" (past tense, chaidh).
- (9) Luaidh air—speak on it: everyone seems afraid to mention the thing.
- (10) Claignonn—skull, but here used generally for "head," therefore "head without eyes"—tumbled in (cp. pell-mell).
- (11) Lit.: "and among you all"; or "between the one and the other of you."
- (12) Lorgaich—to find out; to trace.
- (13) 'Tis I that won't, " (not a) fool!"
- (14) Lit.: Who took on him?—"dared."
- (15) Boil—confusion; excitement.
- (16a) "Your bet."
- (16b) "Discretion"—(i.e. in sending an old man like him on a fool's errand).

COMUNN NEWS.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH—NEW BRANCHES FORMED IN THE COURSE OF MR T. D. MACDONALD'S PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN. KILCHOAN, ARDNAMURCHAN.—President, the Rev. Mr. Smith, the Manse; Vice-Presidents, Rev. Mr. Macniven, U.F. Manse; Mr. Dugald MacDonald, and Mr. Lachlan Cameron; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. John Hugh MacDonald, Post Office, Kilchoan; Members of Committee—Nurse MacNab, Miss MacDonald, Post Office; Miss Mary Cameron, Ferry; Messrs. Don. Cameron, Mingarry; Donald Cameron, Ormsaig; Colin Connell, do.; Alex. Macniven, Mingarry; and John MacDonald, Kilchoan.

ACHARACLE AND MOIDART.—President, Rev. Neil Mackinnon, the Manse, Acharacle; Vice-Presidents, the Rev. Provost Mackintosh, Moidart; Dr. MacNaughten, Salen; and Mr. MacGlashan, headmaster, Acharacle; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss M. Cameron, teacher, do.; Members of Committee, Mr. John Cameron, Kintra; Mr. J. Livingstone, Acharacle; Mr. Ronald MacDonald, Moss; Mr. J. MacIntyre, Acharacle; Mr. D. Cameron, The Hotel, do.; Mr. A. Matheson, Salen; Mr. Hugh Macpherson, Acharacle; Mr. Allan Macnaughtan, Mr. MacDonald, manager, Kinlochmoidart; Mr. A. MacPhee, Gobbsheilach; and Mr. S. Cameron, Raeland.

ARISAIG.—President, Rev. Canon Chisholm, Arisaig; Vice-Presidents, Councillor Ronald MacDonald, Bunacaimbe; Mr. Donald Robertson, Millburn; and Mr. James Gillies; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Alexander MacDonald, Post Office; Committee Messrs. D. MacDonald, Back of Keppoch; Ronald MacDonald, do.; James MacDonald, Low Buildings, Forbes Fraser, Keppoch; Farquhar Matheson, merchant; Mrs. Mackenzie Campbell, The Manse; and Mrs. MacDonald, Post Office.

MALLAIG.—President, Rev. M. Smith MacLaine, U.F. Manse; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Archibald MacLellan, merchant, and Mr. Neil Macintyre, merchant; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Joseph Macmaster; Committee, Messrs. Donald MacDougall, Donald MacDonald, Iain Gillies, and Coll MacDonald, with power to add to their numbers.

GLENELG.—President, Mr. D. McCrimmon, Cremona Cottage; Vice-President, Mr. Angus Stewart, Barnhill; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Crisnie Macrae, teacher, Moyle; Committee, Rev. A. MacTaggart, The Manse; John MacLeod, Kirkton; Dr. Keillier, Kirkton; and William Mackintosh, The Hotel; Donald Macrae, Bigburn; Peter M'Innes, Kirkton.

ROSS-SHIRE, INVERASDALE.—President, Mr. A. Cameron, Achadh Mor, Tournai bard; Vice-Presidents, Duncan Mackenzie, Inverasdale, and William Cameron, Poolewe; Secretary, Mr. E. Lawrie, Poolewe; Treasurer, Mr. J. Maciver, Poolewe; Members of Committee, Messrs. A. Cameron, jun., Achadh Mor; Alex. Maciver, shoemaker, Poolewe; Rod. Maclean, Riverside, Poolewe; Murdo N. MacLennan, Hotel; J. Macpherson, Midton, Inverasdale; A. Urquhart, tailor, do.; F. MacDonald, merchant, do.; A. Munro, Cool; J. MacLeod, Midton; John MacLeod, contractor, Inverasdale; J. Mackenzie,

Post Office; Murdo Mackenzie, Poolwe, representative on the Executive of An Comunn; Mr. K. Maciver, M.A., Dunfermline.

GAIRLOCH. — President, Mr. D. MacGillivray, Schoolhouse, Achtercairn; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Alex. Mackenzie, contractor, Strath, and Mr. J. Mackenzie, surveyor; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. D. Grant, Estate Office; Members of Committee, Col. Sergt. Mackenzie, Charleston; F. Murchison, Inland Revenue; J. H. Mackenzie, Strath; John Campbell, merchant; Mr. Calder, Schoolhouse, Sand; J. Chisholm, Badachro; Mr. Fraser, sen., Tighnamara; J. Ross, registrar, Strath; Miss Macintyre, M.A., Achtercairn; and Miss Mackenzie, Strath.

AULTBEA. — President, Mr. C. Mackenzie, Hotel; Vice-Presidents, Miss Jessie Mackenzie, Ormiscaig, and Mr. Kerr; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. Morrison, Bad-ferna; Members of Committee, Mr. W. MacLennan, Mr. D. Maciver, Miss M. J. Maclean, Messrs. W. Grant, Wm. MacLennan, John Beaton, J. MacDonald, and H. Grant.

KINTAIL BRANCH. — Mr. T. D. MacDonald addressed a meeting of the above branch in the Dornie Institute on Wedne day, 13th ult. — Mr. John N. MacLeod, the president, in the chair. There was a large attendance, and the meeting was very enthusiastic. The branch hopes to send several competitors to the Mòd at Inverness. Selections of Gaelic song were rendered with much feeling and expression by members of the Kintail Gaelic singing class.

THREE BRANCH. — The meeting of this branch on Friday, 1st March, took the form of a musical evening. Rev. D. MacPherson, president, occupied the chair, and was supported by Dr. D. MacDougall, vice-president. A new feature in the evening's entertainment was a Gaelic play ("An Gaidheal a' chail" a' Ghaidhlig), given by members of the Association. Songs were given by members and friends, and by the Senior Pupils of Scarinish School. Selections on the bagpipes were given by Mr. D. MacKinnon, and on the piano by Miss Reoch, Island House. A dance followed, the music being supplied by pipers D. MacKinnon and H. MacDonald, and by Mr. K. Mackenzie on piano, and Mr. N. MacDougall on melodeon.

MEUR CHEANNLOCHLUICHEART. — Choinnich a' mheur so air feasgar Di-ciadaoin an aon latha thar an fheachd de cheud mhios an Earraich. Bha an Ceann-suidhe, an t-Urr-Iain MacNeachdainn anns a' chathair. Chum an Comunn deasbuid, air a chuspair — "Am bu chòir na rathaidean iarainn a bhith fo riaghladh an Staid." Bha Mgr. Alasdair Camshron a cumail mach gu'm bu chòir, agus Mgr. Ruairidh MacCoinnich nach bu chòir. An deigh do na buill am beachdair air a' cheisid a chur an ceill chaith oidheche thoillechte chur seachad. Choinnich an Comunn a rithist air an ochdamh latha thar an fheachd, Bha an t-Urr. Iain Mac Neachdainn anns a' chathair. Thug Mgr. T. D. MacDhòmhnuill, fear-ionaid an Ard Chomuinn, oraid thaitneach seachad air soirbheachadh a' Chomuinn agus mur a bha na meoir a meudachadh anns gach àite le cuid-

eachadh an Ard Chomuinn. Bha coinneamh eile aig a' Chomuinn air an t-reas latha deug de'n Mhàrt. Bha an t-Urr. Iain MacNeachdainn anns a' chathair. Thug an t-Urr. Gillesbuig MacDhòmhnuill, Cill Tarachlainn, oraid gile thaitneach do 'n Chomuinn air Blàr Traigh Ghruineart. Na dheigh sin, thug an òigh Nic Coinnich air a chlànn òg tha i teagasg oranan Gaidhlig a sheinn, agus buidh dh'èir dh'i airson an t-saachair tha i gabhail an bhith teagasg na cloinne anns a' chànain Gaidhealach.

THE ISLAY BRANCH. — The Gaelic movement in Islay received a great impetus from Mrs. Burnley Campbell's visit to the island in January. At the close of a large and enthusiastic meeting, over 150 ladies and gentlemen enrolled as members of An Comunn. On the 14th March a meeting of the members was held in the Public Hall, Bowmore, when the following office bearers were elected: — Patroness, Lady Mary Morrison; Hon. President, Hugh Morrison of Islay; President, Rev. Neil MacLellan, Bowmore; Vice-Presidents, Jas. Forbes, M.V.O., Eallabus; Rev. James Fraser, Skerrols; Colin E. Hay, Esq., Ardbeg; Dr. D. MacLachlan, Balnaby. The duties of secretary were entrusted to the capable hands of Mr. M. MacTaggart, solicitor, Bowmore; and a large and influential committee representing every district in the island was also appointed. It is anticipated that branches of An Comunn will be started in all the different districts of the island in the near future. The members were gratified to learn that there is a proposal to hold a Gaelic Summer School in Islay this season, and the opinion was expressed that if the proposal was carried into effect, it would receive considerable support locally. The prospect of the movement is at present very promising in "the green grassy isle."

CEILIDH GHÀIDHLIG DHÙCHDAID-CHARRA. — Aig a' choinneimh mu dheireadh aig a' Cheilidh air an Earrach so bha an Ceann-suidhe, Mgr. MacRob, mar bu ghnàth, air ceann na cuideachd, le Mgr. Grand, Fear an Tigh Osda, ri 'uinn. Chuireadh oidheche chridheil, shuinnach seachad le pìobaireachd, sgeulachdan agus òrain. B'e am pìobaire Mgr. Caimbeul a bha aireamh mhòr bliadhnaich ann na phìobaire aig an Teaghlach Rioghail. B' iad na seinneidearan agus na seanchaidhean Calum Iasgair, Lachunn MacCuthbhe, Aonghas Domhnullach, Alasdair Grand, R. Mac Thearlaich, an òigh Nic Leòid as na Hearradh, agus Ruairidh Mac Leòid a' Inbhirnis. Thug a' cheilidh a leithid de thoilinnintu do'n chuideachd a bha làthair is gu'n rodh gach neach a caoidh, 'nuair a thàinig am dealachduinn, nach b' i a' chiad tè an àite na té mu dheireadh.

MEUR BRAIGH RAINEACH. — The above branch during the past winter held several meetings (cèilidhs). At the New Year time the first cèilidh took place in the Public Hall, Bridge of Gaur, when there was a very large audience, presided over by Dr. Norris of Rannoch. A most interesting lecture was given by the Rev. A. E. Robertson, president, on "Mountaineering, viz., Spring and Summer Days in Lochaber, Moidart and Skye," illustrated by a series of unique and original lantern slides. It is

needless to say that the entertainment was most highly appreciated. In February, the Rev. George Calder, of Strathfillan, gave an excellent lecture on "Donnchadh Bàn," which the lecturer delivered in his usual racy manner. On Thursday, 14th March, the Rev. Coll MacDonald, of Arrochar, another enthusiastic Gael, and a master of the language, delivered a most humorous lecture on "An Saoghal Iongantach," which greatly delighted the audience. It is to be hoped we shall be able to procure another good Gaelic lecturer before the long days come.

NEW BRANCH IN PERTHSHIRE — AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH AN SRATH-ARDAIL. — Patron, His Grace the Duke of Atholl, K.T.; Hon. President, The Lady Helen Stewart Murray, Blair Castle; President, Kenneth MacLeod, Strathloch, Pitlochrie; Vice-President, John Stewart, Mains of Donnie, Kirkmichael; Secretary and Treasurer, and Representative on Executive Council, Archd. A. Stewart, Glenfergus, by Pitlochrie; Representatives on Central Association, John Stewart, Donnie, Kirkmichael, by Blairgowrie; John MacDonald, Ashintully, do.; Jas. Stewart, Sundew Cottage, do.; John Cameron, Ballinluig, do.; Norman MacLeod, Blackwater, do.; Thomas Michie, Clunskae, by Pitlochrie; Alexander Farquharson, Bridgend of Strathloch, do.; James Dewar, Dalreoch, Enochdhu, do.; Robert Rattray, Davan of Kindrogan, do.

MEUR NA CRIANLARAICH.—Thug an t-Urr. Colla A. Domhnallach, Earrar, òraid thaitneach do'n Chomunn, an Tigh-Sgoil na Crìanlaraich, air feasgar Dhi-h-aoin, an 15mh. latha de'n Mhàirt. Ghabh e mar chuspair "An Sean Saoghal Iongantach." Bha aireamh mbath de'n Chomunn an lathair, agus bha iad anabarach toilichte leis na chual' iad. Bha òrain air an seinn le cuid de na buill aig deireadh na h-òraid. Air gairm an Iar-Chinn-Shuidhe, Mhr. Sutherland, bha taing chridheil air a thoirt do Mhr. Domhnallach, agus air iarrtas Mhr. Lambie do Fhear-na-Cathrach, Mhr. Alastair MacLabhrainn.

GLASGOW ROSS AND CROMARTY BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.—At the annual monthly meeting of this Association, Mr. Alexander MacLellan, C.E., of the Clyde Trust, delivered a most interesting lecture on the development of the River Clyde. He traced the history of the river from its earlier days, and produced photographs of vessels used in its navigation, from the ancient dug-out canoe to H.M.S. "Colossus," recently built at Greenock. Over 100 line-light views were greatly appreciated by the audience, and at the close Mr. T. D. Mackenzie, vice-president, moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. MacLellan.

LANGUAGE WEEK IN IRELAND.—During the week beginning 17th March (St. Patrick's Day) and ending 24th March, special meetings of various kinds, church services, concerts, etc., to popularise the language movement, were held throughout Ireland under the direction of the Gaelic League. A special collection in aid of the funds of the League was a feature of the celebrations.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed meantime to Mr. John Maclean, 108 Hope Street, Glasgow, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, Annual Subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

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AN DEO-GRÉINE

Leabhar VII.]

Ceud Mhios an t-Samhraidh, 1912.

[Earrann 8.

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TEAGASG NA GAIDHLIG.

Cha 'n urrainn nach bi toradh cudthromach a leantain na coinneimh a bha 'm Peairt aig toiseach a' mhios a chaidh. Cha robh e furasda do chuid ruigheachd gu baile Pheairt, do bhrìgh 's nach ro meadhoin turais cho freagarach 's a b' abhaist. Ach gheibh toil rathad, agus dh'fhoillsich an luchd teagaisg a thainig as gach còrn gus a chruinneachadh an deadh-ghean do'n Ghàidhlig. Tha sinn a' saòilsinn nach urrainn Gall no Gaidheal, a tha fo stiùireadh spiorad reusonta, coire fhaighinn do na beachdan a chuireadh an ceill do thaobh a ghne teagaisg bu choir a bhi riaghladh ann an sgoiltean na Gaidhealtachd. Nach eil eil e mi-nadurraich, agus calg-dhireach an aghaidh nan nìthan sin a tha co-cheangailte ri steigh-foghlum a bhi cuir chloinne nach tuig facal Beurla fo churam luchd teagaisg nach tuig facal Gàidhlig? Gu de seòrsa oilean a bheir Sàsunnach do bhalachan Gaidhealach, 's nach

urrainn e dad a mhineachadh dha na chànan fein? Cionnas a threòraicheas e'n inntinn gu bhi ' beachdachadh air a chruitheachd a tha mu'n cuairt dheth—air na flùraichean, na lusan, na cnuc, an fhainge, air obair nàduir gu coitheidh? A' bheil a leithid so a chleachdadh foghlum ann an còrn eile san Roinn-eorpa? Tha e neo-chomasach do fhear-teagaisg ruigheachd dluth ri cridhe agus inntinn chloinne air dhòigh eile, ach troimh a chànan a dh'ionnsaich iad o'n òige. Agus mar bi gluasad -inntinn air a beothachadh o cheum gu ceum le maighstear sgoile a tha deas air son a dhreuchd, cha bhi an t'ionnsachadh ach neo-bhrioghail Cha'n'eil ach an aon rathad, an toiseach, gu inntinn chloinne air feadh na Gaidhealtachd—a Ghàidhlig. Thig a Bheurla na h-am fein (cha 'n'eil neach na h-aghaidh) an deireadh a ghnòthuch, ach si ' Ghàidhlig a cheud chéum. Bu choir an Gaidheal a bhi air a theagasg mar Gaidheal, agus cha'n e a bhi deanamh leth Ghall agus leth Gaidheal de—tha tuille 'sa chòir de'th' n' t' seorsa so ann. Na biodh maid a di-chuimhneachadh gur i Ghàidhlig a tha ga 'r comharachadh a mach mar chinnheadh air leth, agus gu'm bi e na aobhar tàmailt ma bhitheas sinn a cur di-meas air an dileab luachmhor a shruth o' ar sinnseir. Gu'n teagamh tha e iomchuidh a nis gu'n tugadh sluagh na Gaidhealtachd fainear nach 'eil foghlum an cloinne comhlionta, mur bi eòlas aca air cànan na dùthcha anns an d' rugadh 's a thogadh iad, a chum agus gu'm bi iad comasach feum a dheanamh de'n litreachas.

Se ghnòthuch iongantach a th' ann—dh' fhaodamaid a radh cuis-naire—gu'm bheil

na h-uidhir air feadh na Gaidhealtachd meagh-bhlath do thaobh na Gàidhlig, cuid eile fuar, cuid eile, an àite a bhi 'cuideachadh na muinntir a tha 'stri ri 'cumail beo, a faighinn coire do'n dòighean 's do'n riaghailtean. Tha moran de'n riamhag shalach so ceangailte ri cuid de na Gaidheil. 'Carson nach biodh maid mar 'o shean, "Ri guailibh a cheil?" Mar 'tha sean-fhacal ag radh: "Saoilidh am fear" 'tha na thàmh gu'r e fein làmh a's fearr air an stiùr." Tha cuid a cuir luchd-riaghlaidh nan sgoiltean as leth air son a' suidheachadh a thaobh càinain an t-sluaigh, ach tha sinn an dòchas gu'm bi iad a toirt fainear a nis, na nìthean cudthromach a tha air am fìlleadh an am fìor-ghrùnd teagaisg, agus nach aichidh iad do'n chloinn an aon mheadhoin a ruigeas an cridheachan òg, a chum farsuinnteachd inntinn a bheothachadh anna, agus an deanamh deiseil air son an aite a ghabhail mar luchd-comhnuidh na rioghachd, gluaiste le gradh - dùthchadh—gu h - àraid a Ghaidhealtachd.

'S airidh maighstirean sgòile ann an cuid a chèarna do'n Ghaidhealtachd air mòran eile air son an deadh-dhùrachd a tha iad a taisbeanadh mu thiomchioll teagasg na Gàidhlig, gu'n bheag air a shon. Ach feumaidh pàrantan agus luchd-riaghlaidh sgoiltean a ghabhail a stigh, ma tha foghlum na nì a tha luachmhor (agus tha e sin) gu-r fhiach e bhi air a dheadh phaigheadh. As eugmhais deadh - ghean a maighstir -sgòile cha bhi mòran de dh'adhartachadh air a chùis, agus ma bheir deich puinnid Shassunach do gach sgòil so mu'n cuairt, tha e gle shaor.

Tha e na aobhar-toileachaidh gu'n do dh' fhoillsich na ministean dìlseachd do chànan na Gaidhealtachd nuair a choinnich iad ri cuid de luchd-riaghlaidh a Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich 'o chionn ghoirid. 'S an acaas a tha fios gu de cho eifeachdach 's a tha Gàidhlig a chum a bhi riagheachd faireachduinnean an t-sluaigh, agus a tais-eachadh an cridhe mu thiomchioll nìthean an t-saoghail a tha ri teachd. Tha dòchas againn gu'm bi a h-uile sgòil-shabaid sa Ghaidhealtachd air a riaghladh a reir càinain na dùthecha. Ma dh'fhalbhas a Gàidhlig a sgoiltean na Gaidhealtachd, falbhaidh i as na h-Eaglaisean, agus ma thachras sin, chaill an dùthaich a beatha!

—:o:—

Trod chàirdean 'us sith naimhdean, dà rud nach còir feart a thoirt orra.

Cha'n fheòil grùdhan, 's cha shùghan làgan.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

EXECUTIVE.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Christian Institute, Stirling, on the 30th of March. Mr. William MacKay, Inverness, President, occupied the chair. The following members of the Executive were present:—Mrs. Reyburn, Stirling; Rev. M. N. Munro, M.A., Taynult; Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Govan; Mr. Archibald Menzies, Edinburgh; Mr. Donald Macphie, Cumbernauld; Rev. G. W. Mackay, Killin; Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Yoker; Mr. T. D. Macdonald, Gaelic Society of Glasgow; Mr. P. Macdougall Pullar, Glasgow; Mr. And. Stewart, Dunoon; Mr. Alastair C. MacLaren, Criannlarich; Mr. Archibald Stewart, Strathardale; Mr. Alexander J. Macrae, Clan Macrae Association; Mr. Donald Maclean, Glasgow; Mr. Alexander Macallister, Glasgow; Mr. Norman Macleod, teacher, Glasgow; Mr. Robert Macfarlane, Treasurer. Apologies for absence were read from other members of the Executive. After minutes were read and approved, the Secretary referred to the meetings of the deputation appointed by the Executive, with the Highland Committees of the Church of Scotland, the U.F. Church, and the Free Church, with the object of securing the support and co-operation of the churches in the work of An Comunn in promoting the use and cultivation of Gaelic. From the favourable manner in which the deputation was received, they were hopeful that the interviews would be fruitful in results. The Rev. Mr. Mackay, as one of the members of the deputation, moved that the Free Presbyterian Church, the Episcopal Church in Scotland, and the Roman Catholic Church should also be approached. Mr. Malcolm Macleod seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE CLACHAN SURPLUS.

The Secretary submitted the report of the Advisory Committee on the utilisation of the Clachan Surplus. The Comunn's share was £1,500, and it was recommended to be disposed of as follows:—Publication Committee, £600; Propaganda Committee, £500; Education Committee, £100; Mod and Music Committee, £200; leaving a balance of £100. Mr. Malcolm Macleod, in moving the adoption of the report, explained that these sums

were meanwhile earmarked for the work of the Committees mentioned, and the sums set apart were not more than were really required. The Publication Committee had in hand the publication of Mod Prize Papers. The question of Gaelic text books had to be faced. The £100 already given to the Propaganda Committee produced excellent returns. During the last few weeks a chain of branches of the Comunn had been formed along the west coast, as a result of Mr. T. D. Macdonald's labours in these parts. Large tracts in Sutherlandshire, Ross-shire, and Invernesshire, had still to be taken up, and this meant the spending of more money. The present was an opportune time for this, as there was apparently an atmosphere in favour of their movement. The Mod and Music Committee desired to assist local Mods throughout the Highlands. They also wished to help as far as possible Junior Choirs to come to the Mod. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee were adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Mr. Macdougall Pullar, the Convener, submitted the report of this Committee. It was agreed to recommend that a fee of £3 3s. should be paid to the representatives of the late Mr. Duncan Reid for his services in translating the Constitution, Rules, and By-laws of the Association into Gaelic. With regard to paying the expenses of choirs attending the Mod, the Committee felt that they had not sufficient information to come to a finding, and they recommended that the Mod and Music Committee should be asked to formulate their proposals more definitely. The report was adopted.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

It is proposed to hold a Summer School of Gaelic in Islay in the month of August this year, provided that a sufficient number of students can come forward.

THE PERTH CONFERENCE.

About a score of Gaelic speaking teachers had intimated their intention to be present at the Perth Conference on the 6th of April. Lady Helen Stewart Murray, in a letter, suggested the postponement of the meeting, as difficulties of travelling might arise on account of the miners' strike. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Conference should be held on the date already fixed.

THE LATE MR. DUNCAN REID.

The Rev. Mr. Macpherson, Convener of the Publication Committee, suggested that it would be a suitable thing to remit to a small committee the duty of drawing up a minute of condolence with Mrs. Reid and family on their loss. It would be only becoming that they should take notice of the great loss that the whole Gaelic movement had sustained by Mr. Reid's removal from their midst. The meeting, at this stage, appointed the Convener, Mr. Malcolm Macleod, and the Secretary to draw up a minute of condolence.

THE EDITORSHIP OF "DEO-GREINE."

The Convener then proceeded with his report, and acknowledged the able services of the Secretary in keeping the magazine going until an editor was appointed in succession to Mr. Reid. He suggested that the editor's honorarium for two months should be paid to their Secretary, Mr. Maclean. Mr. Macpherson then said that the Committee had very carefully considered the appointment of a successor to Mr. Reid, and they unanimously recommended the appointment of Mr. Donald Macphie, Cumbernauld. He pointed out that the Publication Committee intended to publish as soon as possible the best part of the work (literary and musical), done at previous Mods. Further they were going to publish the second edition of Reid's Elementary Course of Gaelic—about 2,000 copies. But they could not do this until they had acquired the copyright, which Mr. Reid had valued at £30. The Committee thought that Mrs. Reid might be offered £25. This they thought she would accept, if the Executive approved. If these arrangements were carried out, the work of bringing out the second edition should be entrusted to Mr. Norman Macleod, teacher, Glasgow. He, Mr. Macpherson, hoped that some light might be shed on the question of elementary school text books, when the teachers met in conference at Perth. From inquiries made, he found that for leaving certificate purposes, three books were required: (1) a primer of Gaelic literature, (2) a history of the Celtic language, and (3) specimen readings from the various Gaelic classics. To edit these books he thought the services of Dr. Watson ought to be secured.

MOD PRIZE PAPERS.

The Committee desired some leading on the question of permission to former Mod competitors to publish their work. It should be understood that all the work (which gained prizes at the Mòds) was the property of the Executive. Application was sometimes made for permission to publish special papers, but the Committee felt it would be establishing a dangerous precedent to grant permission. Mr. Macpherson concluded by moving the adoption of the report. The President, in referring to the appointment of a new editor, expressed his pleasure at the wise selection which had been made by the Publication Committee. Mr. Macphie in accepting the post, expressed his appreciation of the warm feeling extended towards him in the recommendation by the Committee. He suggested that, in view of the approaching coming-of-age of the Association, a special number of the magazine ought to be prepared. The meeting agreed; and the September issue is to be enlarged for that purpose.

Major Menzies, in seconding the adoption of the report, suggested that £30 should be given to Mrs. Reid for the copyright of the Gaelic Grammar. Rev. Mr. Macpherson said he was quite agreeable. After some discussion the Committee were authorized to purchase the copyright. With regard to the Mod prize papers, the Chairman said he supposed it was the feeling of the meeting that these prize papers became the absolute property of the Executive, and that they could not be published, or otherwise used, after prizes had been awarded, without the consent of the Publication Committee. He did not think however, that prize-winners should be restricted from reading their papers at meetings.

PROPAGANDA WORK.

In the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, the Secretary read the report of the Propaganda Committee. A letter had been received from the Inverness Branch asking for the services of an organiser to work in certain districts of Inverness-shire. The Committee agreed, and Mr. Roderick Macleod was appointed. As a result of Mr. T. D. Macdonald's work the number of branches had been practically doubled since last September. The number now is nearly 50. The services

of Mr. Hugh Maclean, teacher of Gaelic singing in Kyle and Broadford, were continued until May.

ARTS AND INDUSTRIES.

From the report of this Committee it was learned that it would not be advantageous to the Comunn to incur the expense of copyrighting the Celtic designs, which have been issued by the Comunn.

MOD AND MUSIC COMMITTEE.

Rev. M. N. Munro, Convener, in presenting his report said that a letter had been received from the Secretary of the Highland Society of London, promising as formerly £5 to the Mod Prize Fund, and expressing the hope that this sum be again given for a Gaelic humorous song. But there was no Gaelic humorous song on the syllabus this year, and the Committee suggested that Nos. 22 and 24 in the syllabus should be substituted, the prize to be divided between these two. Competition 22 was for a poem not exceeding 100 lines on any subject, and competition No. 24 was for "an original Gaelic love-song set to a Gaelic air." He suggested then that the Secretary should ask the Highland Society of London for their consent to this application of the money. Proceeding, Mr. Munro reported that a letter was received from Captain Colin Macrae referring to the words and music of an old Kintail song, the "Four Johns of Scotland," which forms one of this year's competitions. The best form of the music and words can be got from Major Macrae-Gilstrap.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF JUNIOR CHOIRS.

Considerable discussion took place on this subject, those taking part being the chairman, Major Menzies, Mr. Macdougall Pullar, Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Mr. T. D. Macdonald, Mr. A. M'Allister, Rev. Mr. Mackay, and Mr. D. Macphie. Ultimately Mr. Macleod moved and Rev. Mr. Macpherson seconded "that having received applications on behalf of Portree and Fort-William Junior Choirs for assistance towards the expense in attending the Mod, the Executive resolved that it be remitted to the Mod and Music Committee to consider the

whole question of giving grants to choirs on account of travelling expenses to the Mòd, and to formulate proposals on the footing that such grants be given to junior choirs only, and that preference be given to newly-formed choirs in rural districts.

It was reported that some singers had adopted the practice of designating themselves as Mod Medallists when they were winners only of local Mod medals. The Committee pointed out that only winners of the gold medals and the silver medals at the National Mod were entitled to describe themselves as Mod Medallists.

JUDGES.

The Mod and Music Committee recommended the following judges for the juvenile literary competitions:—Competition No. 1, Rev. Mr. Sinton, Dores, and Mr. Angus Macdonald, Lairg School; Nos. 2 and 3, Messrs J. Macdonald, Glasgow, and D. Macphie, Cumbernauld; Competition No. 4, Rev. Mr. McGillivray, Petty, and Mr. James Kennedy, Logierait; Competition No. 28, Rev. M. N. Munro, M.A., Taynult; Mr. Kenneth Macleod, M.A., Strathloch.

Mr. J. P. Grant of Rothiemurchus was appointed to the Executive Council in place of the late Mr. Reid.

—:o:—

AM BRAISDE LATHURNACH.

LE EACHANN MAC DHUGHAILL.

Choisinn an sgeul so an dara duais aig Mòd, 1909.

Feasgar àraidh air an t-samhradh a chaidh seachad bha mi a' leigeil m'anail air aon de na suideachain sin a leag luchd riaghlaidh bhlaie an Obain ri taobh an rathaid-mhóir chòmhnairid ghrinn ud a chrìochnaich eadh bho chionn ghoidid a null seach an Corran gu Gaieamhain, agus mi caran sgith an déidh gach bruthach is enoe a dhirich 's a thearainn mi bho mhadainn, ged a bha ioc-shlaint is beathachadh an àigh fhéin anns an oiteig chùbhraidh chaoin a bha tighinn thar Lios-mòr is bheanntan A' Gharbh-lis, 's a bha le eiginn a' cur corra bhristeadh am bil na tuinne an àm do ghrinneal a' chladaich stad a chur air a teachd air aghaidh.

Bha am feasgar da rìreadh àillidh, agus nithean iongantach ri am faicinn an sealladh nan sùla. Bha cùl Chearara mar bhaile-dèidein a' brisgeadh le soithichean cogaidh

ar dùthcha—uchd-éididh Bhreatainn ri agaidh gach nàmhaid—agus bha Bagh an Obain air bhoile le bàtaichean de gach uile chumadh agus de gach uile ealain sheolaidh, a mach 's a stigh, a stigh 's a mach fad finnfuaineach an fheasgair. Air gach taobh a sheallainn, bha obair an la-'n-diugh 's an la-'n dé ri a faicinn, bho'n tigh-sholuis a bha thall fa m' chomhar air ceann a deas Lios-mòr agus na carbaid ealain a bha dol seachad orm an drasda 's a rithisd le srann mar uile-bheist, agus a' fàgail mo sheallaidh mu'n cuairt a' cheud tionndaidh mu'n gann a bheireadh mo shuil orra. Ach bha aon chomharradh a' m' shealladh nach b' ann an diugh no an dé a leagadh a stéidh. Os ma cheann air oir a' chnuic le a bhathais léith, agus le a bhallachan daingean cruaidh còmhdaichte mar le fallainn le sìdhinn ghuirm nan creag, mar gu'm biodh e a' deanamh dìmeis air gach nì neo-fhaicsinn-each eile a bha gabhail an àite mu'n cuairt air, bha an daingneach aosmhor iomraiteach, Caisteal Dhun-olla.

O! a thùr nan sonn agus a dhachaidh nan gaisgeach, innis do sgeul dhuinn a nis. Fosgail do leabhar cuimhne agus foillsich dhuinn éuchdan is alla-ghnuimhan, subhachas is dubhachas, gaol is fuath nan ceudan bliadhna a shéid thar do chinn. Seadh innis do sgeul! ach cha 'n e idir sgeul a th' agad ri b-innseadh ach eachdraidh, eachdraidh shlòghean is chogaidhean, fhineachan is dhùthchannan. Ach cha 'n eil ach clachan balbha f'ar comhair, 's tha sgàile nam bliadhna a' cur folaich air iomad nì air am bu mhaith leinn a nis beachdachadh.

Ach dhùin mi mo shùilean car tamuil agus leig mi le mo mhac-meannna mo tharruing air ais do'n àm a dh'fhalbh, agus gun dàil thainig caochladh air an t-sealladh a bha fa chomhar mo shùl. Dh'fhalbh na soithichean cogaidh air sgiathaibh nan ciadan bliadhna; thill gach clach air leth a bha 'san tigh sholuis air an robh mi ag amhàire, do 'n chreig as an do bhuanaichdeadh iad, chaidh stad air ùpraid nan carbaid-ealain, agus chaidh eadhon an rathad mòr air an robh iad a' triall as mo shealladh. Bha fhathast an aon ghrian a' tilgeil nan aon ghaithean òir orm thar bheanntan Mhuile, bha an aon bhùrrhadh 's an aon taomadh aig a' Chuan-mhòr cùl Chearara, ach bha iomad atharrachadh mu'n cuairt air an àite anns an robh mi am shuidhe.

Bha Dun-olla an sud, ach cha b'e sàmhchair na h-aoise no uaigneas a' bhàis a bha taobh a stigh a bhallachan; cha b'e ula

glas an tuim a bha còmhach leac an doruis, agus cha b'è gearan na còmhachaig a bha ri chluinntinn troimh a chuid uinneagan an ciaradh an fheasgair. Tha na bliadhnachan a thighe air an aiseag air ais, agus theann mi dlùth laimh gu beachd a ghabhail air na bha dol air aghaidh am measg nan laoch a bha nis air an aite a ghabhail taobh a stigh na h-aitreabh.

Tha Mac 'ille Mhicheil, gille-ruith Mhic Dhùghaill, air tighinn troimh an doruis mhòr agus e a' suathadh an fhalluis de ghnùis. "Tha teachdaireachd shònraichte agam gu Iain Og," tha e ag ràdh, "agus feumaidh mi fhaicinn gun dàil."

Thug an dorsair a stigh e an làthair Iain Oig Mhic Dhùghaill far an robh e fein agus an òigridh a b'innbiche an Lathurna agus anns a' choimhearsnachd aig cuirm, oir b'è so coimhealadh latha a bhreith 's e nis 'na bhliadhna air fhichead. Dh'èirich Mac Dhùghaill 'na sheasamh nuair a mhothaich e gille-ruith Dhumstaigh-innis a' tighinn a stigh, agus thug e làmh air a chlaidheamh. Ghabh mi làn bheachd air, nuair a sheas e suas am measg na bha an làthair; bu laoch òg, dreachmhor, dìreach e, coltas na fearal-achd is an làn ghaisgich na phearsa uile gu leir, agus coltas na còspaid fhèin 'na shùil. "Seadh, cìod a thug Mac 'ille Mhicheil gu ruige Dun-olla air a' leithid so de chabhaig?" arsa' esan. "Am bheil a' Bhan-tighearn mo mhàthair gu maith, no 'n e teachdaireachd bho'n deas a th'agad?"

"Tha a' Bhan-tighearn do mhàthair gu slàn na com," fhreagair an gille ruith, "ged a tha a cridhe fo thùrs a' caoidh a h-athar a leagadh gu lár. Tha teachdaireachd air tighinn bho'n deas da rìreadh; tha an Cuimeanach Ruadh do sheanair air a mhòrt an eaglais Dhùn-fhris fo bhìodaig a' Bhruasaich Mhóir, agus tha am Brusach air a ghairm 'na rìgh air Albainn, ged is fhearr coir Iain Oig 'ie Dhùghaill an diugh air Crun Albainn na a chòir-san."

"Ma's i sin do theachdaireachd 's ma tha do theachdaireachd fìor," arsa Iain, "cha'n àm so gu cuirm an seomraichean chaisteal, agus cha'n ann 'san truaill a tha aite chlaidheimh, 's cha'n àite do'n iubhar a bhi an crochadh cùl na' còmhla. Tuigidh am Brusach nach e 'an Cuimeanach a mhaìn a mhòrt e ach gu'n do mhòrt e seanair oighre Shomhairle Mhóir Mhic 'ille Bhride, gu'm feumar dioladh a thoirt a mach agus gur h-iad gineil Shomhairle Mhóir a bheir a mach e. Air falbh sibhsè nis a luchd leanmhainn m'athar-sa, Alasdair Mac Dhùghaill

mac Rìgh Eoghain, agus cuiribh bhur gaisgich 'nan uidheam 's bithibh fein aig dorsan Dhumstaigh-innis mu'n leig sibh trì latha thar 'ur cinn, gu fios cinnteach a thoirt air suidheachadh is airmh an fheachd a ghabhas cur air bonn, gu coinneamh a thoirt do'n luchd millidh ud. Agus thusa, a Mhic an-Dorsair, thig thu leamsa a null gu Dunstaigh-innis, feuch dé an t-uidheamachadh a thatar a' deanamh an sin fo laimh m'athar. Agus a Chailein Oig, a mhic bhrath'r m'athar, cumaidh thusa Dunolla gus an till mise, a dh'aindeoin co thig ort thar monaidh no thar cuain." "Am bheil Mac Dhùghaill ag éirigh as leth nan Cuimeanach?" arsa seann Nic an-Dorsair, piuthar Dhiarmaid Thaibhsair Mhic Eocha ri a mac 'bu shinne an oidhe sin, "An Cuimeanach foilleil, ged a b'e an t-oighre, an Cuimeanach cealgach agus ogha a' Chuimeanaich allabharr a chuir mnathan Bhàideanach gu nàire, agus a chuir fir na dùthecha air bhoile." Am bheil Clann Dùghaill a' dol a dh'èirigh leis, ged a b'e athair cèile Alasdair agus seanair an oighre? Ma tha, a ghaoil a Chuinn, ma tha, creanaidh Lathurna air."

"A mhàthair, a mhàthair!" fhreagair Conn, "Is neonach leamsa an diugh bhur briathran, agus na cuinneadh cluas mo chinn an còrr dheth. B'e an Cuimeanach Ruaidh oighre dlìgheach Albainn bho'n a chàill Rìgh Iain an crùn, agus 's fhearr eadhon coir Iain Oig 'ie Dhùghaill an diugh air na coir a' Bhruasaich. Is fheudair gur e curaigh gu cùl am Brusach, agus faodaidh gu 'm bheil Saorsa Albainn cho maith ri a crùn bhuaith, ach cha do dhi-chuimhnich sinn fhathast gu'n do chog e ri Uallas's ri dhùthaich air raon na h-Eaglaise-Brice, agus gur motha tha ann de fhuil an Lochlannaich na de fhuil an Albannaich, agus leis a sin creidibh-se mo bhriathraibh-sa, cogaidh Clann Dùghaill ris agus cha strìochd Iain Og, ged a dh'fheumadh e dol an co-bhonn eadhon ri Sasunn mi-thaitneach ga 'm bheil sin leis; agus a bhàrr air sin uile far am bi Oighre Shomhairle Mhóir, bidh Conn Mac an-Dorsair le 'chlaidheamh dìleas gu dluth air a shàil."

"Och, Och, mata," arsa' mhàthair, "mar sin fein bitheadh e, ach chunna mise na coin dhonna an raoir, agus chuala mi an nuallan-ach air a' bhruthaich ud shuas, agus creid thusa ' Chuinn gu'm bi feòil mo chinnidh agus fuil mo dhaoine 'ga stròicheadh 's gu dòrtadh, mu'n teid moran uine seachad."

(Ri leantuinn).

GAELIC IN THE SCHOOLS.

TEACHERS' CONFERENCE AT PERTH.

The Conference, arranged by the Education Committee to hear the opinions of teachers on the present position and future prospects of Gaelic was held at Perth on the 6th of April. Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Glasgow, presided, and between twenty and thirty teachers were present from all parts of the Highlands. Among others present were Lady Helen Stewart Murray, Blair Castle; Mrs. Burnley Campbell, Ormidale; Rev. Dr. Henderson, Lecturer in Celtic in Glasgow University; Dr. W. J. Watson, Rector of the Royal High School, Edinburgh; Rev. G. W. Mackay, Killin.

The Chairman welcomed those present, and said that the attendance would have been larger but for the present unsatisfactory railway arrangements for travelling.

Mr. John Macleod, Dornie, in introducing the first subject for discussion, said that although in a large number of schools in the Hebrides the children did not know one word of English when they went to school, the infant mistress was a pure-bred Sassenach, who had not a word of Gaelic. Why should a child whose native language was Gaelic, not get the same fair chance as the child whose mother-tongue was English? After referring to the scarcity of proper school books, he said they need not expect Highland teachers as a whole to go into the matter, unless they were properly remunerated. If the language was to be preserved, Gaelic must be taught systematically, wherever there were children.

Mr. D. Macdonald, Easdale, said that if they had a dozen or two dozen earnest, good Gaelic teachers in the Highlands, it would solve the whole problem. There was the other drawback, that in small schools the assistants were generally English-speaking only.

Mrs. Burnley Campbell asked how they could get more Gaelic-speaking teachers.

Mr. K. M'Iver, M.A., B.Sc.: By giving them a capitation grant of £10.

Mr. Murdo Kerr, Aultbea, said that while their boards during an election professed that they were in favour of Gaelic, their instinct was against it.

Miss Macdonald, Pitlochry, disagreed with the statement that teachers were unwilling to teach Gaelic unless they got a capitation grant.

Mr. Cameron, Poolewe; Mr. Urquhart, Kyle, and others having spoken,

The Chairman said he gathered from the opinions expressed, that very much of the apathy which existed, was due to the fact that boards were not so actively sympathetic, as they might be. It seemed to be also felt, that while there might be some doubt as to the adequacy of the supply of Gaelic-speaking teachers, it was admitted there was a considerable number capable of teaching Gaelic in the elementary branches, who did not do so because no pecuniary inducement was held out to them. These points would be kept in view by the Comunn.

Mr. D. Macdonald, Easdale, in speaking of the use of Gaelic as an aid, said the Government set about education in Gaelic in the wrong way, and death had been very nearly the result. Highlanders sold their birthright for a mess of pottage, and since 1872 their loss had been irretrievable. When it was dropped as a special subject, many teachers dropped it entirely.

Mr. James Kennedy, Ballinluig, suggested ten as the age at which the teaching of Gaelic should be introduced in bi-lingual districts, and Mr. Norman Macleod, Glasgow, spoke on the subject of school books. Mr. Kenneth M'Iver, M.A., Dunfermline, opened the discussion on the provisions necessary for the teaching of Gaelic. Speaking on it, Dr. Watson said he thought their greatest want at the present moment was the want of properly-trained Gaelic-speaking teachers in elementary, higher grade, and secondary schools. They had been too long quiet upon the treatment accorded to Gaelic, and that was because they had been losing their feeling of nationality. Unless they improved, Gaelic might be spoken in Ireland hundreds of years after this, while in Scotland it would only be a thing of history.

Dr. Watson subsequently opened a discussion on Gaelic in its higher stages. He said that matters had been greatly improved, and that the present position would not have been believed possible ten years ago. Reference was made to the absence of suitable text books. He said that when these were provided, the leaving certificate would come at once.

Dr. Henderson strongly objected to old Irish being introduced into the leaving certificate, and pointed out that allowance must be made by those who set the papers, that Gaelic was still a spoken language.

A SERIES OF RESOLUTIONS.

After luncheon a series of resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted.

Dr. Henderson moved that the Conference was strongly of opinion that in all schools in the Highlands attended mainly by Gaelic-speaking children, Gaelic should be an essential subject of instruction, and that in all other Highland schools attended by Gaelic-speaking children instruction in Gaelic should be available to all who desire it. That, he said, meant that Gaelic should be compulsory in Gaelic-speaking districts. Mr. Norman Macleod, Partick, seconded.

Dr. Watson moved that the Conference was of opinion that the present supply of trained Gaelic-speaking teachers possessing a literary knowledge of the Gaelic language was inadequate to the requirements of the Gaelic-speaking area, and respectfully urged on the Scottish Education Department and on the Provincial Committee for the Training of Teachers the desirability of affording all Gaelic students in training adequate opportunity of availing themselves during their term of training of the facilities for the further study of Gaelic, which are now available at the training centres of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. Mr. Don. Sutherland, Scone, seconded.

On the motion of Lady Helen Stewart Murray, seconded by Mr. Cameron, Poolewe, the Conference declared that the grant of £10 in aid of the employment of Gaelic-speaking teachers formerly paid under minute of the Department and now distributed under Section 17 (9) of the Education (Scotland) Act should be paid as an addition to the salary of those teachers in respect of whose services the grant is earned.

Mrs. Burnley Campbell moved, and Mr. John Macleod, Dornie, seconded, a resolution to the effect that the Conference was strongly of opinion that in appointing teachers to schools in Gaelic-speaking districts, school boards should in all instances give a preference, other things being equal, to Gaelic-speaking applicants.

Mr. John Macdonald, Perth, moved that in the opinion of the Conference the time was now ripe for the institution of a Higher Grade Leaving Certificate in Gaelic. It was very unfair that Gaelic-speaking students should not get the advantage of taking their own language. Mr. D. Urquhart seconded.

Rev. G. W. Mackay moved that the Conference observed with regret that the

provision requiring Secondary Education Committees in nominating junior students in parishes in which the home language of the children is Gaelic, to give a preference to those applicants, who have a good colloquial knowledge of Gaelic, has been dropped from the regulations for the training of teachers, and expressed the hope that, notwithstanding this omission, Secondary Education Committees would continue the practice of giving a preference to such candidates, and would insist on instruction in Gaelic being provided for these junior students. Mr. Macdonald, Easdale, seconded.

The last resolution was proposed by Mr. M'iver, and seconded by Miss Macdonald, and was as follows:—"That this Conference is strongly of opinion that all inspectors of schools in Gaelic-speaking districts should be familiar with the Gaelic language."

The Chairman said that on behalf of the Executive of the Comunn he wished to acknowledge how much they were indebted to the teachers, who had come to give them their counsel on that important question. They had gained a vast amount not only of instruction but of guidance for their future work from that Conference, which had been a distinct success from beginning to end. The Comunn was in serious earnest about the whole matter, and no effort would be wanting on their part to give effect to the valuable suggestions thrown out that day. He begged to thank the teachers and the two eminent Celtic scholars, who had honoured them with their presence and lent distinction to their discussion.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Dr. Henderson, brought the proceedings to a close.

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Biadh a thoirt do'n fhearann mu'm fàs an t-acras air; fois a thoirt da mu'm fàs e sgith; a ghartghlanadh mu'm fàs e salach—comharradh an deagh thuathanaich.

Smachdaich do smaoinean an uair a bhios tu leat fhéin, agus cuir srian ri d' theanga am measg chuideachd.

Cha tric leinn aithreachas a bhi oirne air son gu 'n d'fhuirich sinn 'n ar tosd, ach is minic a ghabh sinn aithreachas, a chionn nach do chum sinn ar teangadh.

BEACHD AIR COINNEIMH NAM MAIGHSTIREAN SGOILE AM PEAIRT.

LE IAIN MACLEOID, DORNIE.

Chaidh rannsachadh mór a dheanamh air cor na Gaidhlig anns na sgoilean Gaidhealach air coinneimh nam maighstirean-sgoile 'm Peairt, agus tha sinn a lán chreidsinn nach do chuireadh uibhear de sholus riamh roimhe air a' chùis chuidthromaich so ann am foghlum òigridh na Gaidhealtachd. Bu mhiann leinn ann am facal no dhà ar smuaintean fhéin mu 'n choinneamh a chur f' a chomhair air luchd-leughaidh.

Cha 'n 'eil teagamh, sam bith nach 'eil a' mhór-chuid de na parantan Gaidhealach caoin-shuarach mu oilean na Gaidhlig a thoirt do 'n cloinn. Chi sinn samhlaichean air sin mu 'n cuairt duinn gach lán. 'S fhearr leo gòdail ghranda de sheorsa Beurla, nach 'eil iad fhéin a' tuigsinn, ionnsachadh do 'n cloinn, na chanain bhreagha shultmhor air an deachaidh iad fhéin àrach. 'S e ni brònach a tha so ach 's fìor e. Reic ar Gaidheil còir an ceud bheirith, agus tha iad ag aithris air na Sassunaich a rinn iomadh uair ball magaidh dhiubh fhéin 's de 'n dùthaich 's de 'm fàrdachean. 'S e' cheud ni a dh' fheumas sinn a dheanamh, ma ta, beachd-an fallain a thoirt do 'n co-luchd-dùthcha timchioll air a' chùis so, agus a thoirt dhachaidh orra cho nàrach agus a tha e dhoibh a bhi deanamh dimeis agus tàir air dileab an sinnsir. Tha sinn a' creidsinn nach 'eil a' chuid mhór aca 'faicinn coire sam bith ann a' bhi 'g ionnsachadh Beurla a' mhàin do 'n cloinn. Dhall an t-aineolas an sùilean, 's rinn e caoin-shuarach iad, ach na cailleamaid oidhirp sam bith air iad fhéin 's an clann a shoillearachadh 's a' chùis so, agus chi sinn gu 'm bi toradh iomchuidh a' leantuinn 'ur saothreach.

Tha foghar na Gaidhlig mór agus an luchd obair tearc. Chum an seorsa Beurla 'bha 'g ar cuartachadh ann an clò cadail sinn cho fada, 's gu 'm bheil eadhon fhathast sùilean cuid againn gu math lannach agus tròm-sgleothach, ach tha an Fheinn a nis air a h-uilinn, agus nach bochd da -rìreamh an Gaidheal nach gabh pàirt 's a' chòmhrag as leth a' chàinain. Tha mòran mhaighstirean sgoile 'n ar Gaidhealtachd fhathast nach do thog an guth riamh air taobh an càinain. Faodaidh gu 'm bheil cuid aca aig nach 'eil eòlas litreachail orra, ach gu de 'n soirbheachadh mór a bhiodh 'n ar tìr na 'm b'

urrainn gach maighstir-sgoile 's a' Ghaidhealtachd a ràdh gu 'n d' rinn e na b' urrainn da airson teagaisg na Gaidhlig. "'S e leth obrach tòiseachadh," tha 'n sean-fhacl ag ràdh, agus deanadh gach neach a tha teagasg cloinne na Gaidhealtachd a dhìchioll 's an aobhar so, agus bheir a' chlànn a bhios fo chùram am mìle beannachd air fhads' is beò iad.

Thaing tarruing no dhà againn air minis-tearain na Gaidhealtachd, ach cha do chuir e dad de dh' ioghnadh oirnn a chluinntinn air gach laimh gur beag a rinn a mhór chuid dhiubhsan riamh airson na Gaidhlig. Tha beagan diubh a' deanamh obair chiatach n' an sgìreachdan fhéin, agus cha 'n urrainn sinn buidheachas gu leoir a thoirt dhoibh airson sin. Ach feumaidh sinn aideachadh gu 'm bheil cuid ann nach 'eil a deanamh a bheag air son ar càinain. Dé 'bhuannachd a bhiodh ann na 'm biodh sgoilean Sàbaid Gaidhlig, agus Sgoilean Biobuill air an cumail anns gach eaglais 's a' Gaidhealtachd fo steòrnadh a' mhinistoir.

Tha mòran de Bhuid nan Sgoilean 's a' Gaidhealtachd nach 'eil ro chneasda 'thaobh teagaisg na Gaidhlig. Na 'm biodh na parantan mar bu chòir dhoibh, bheireadh iad orra sealltuinn ri cùis an càinain, ach an àite eagal a bhi air Bòrd na Sgoile roimh na parantan mar bu chòir dhoibh, 's ann a tha na parantan le 'n aineolas a' dol 's an fhaochaidh roimh luchd riaghlaidh foghlaim an cloinne. Tha mòran de chùisean riaghlaidh nan sgoilean Gaidhealach an aghaidh càirdeas do 'n Gaidhlig, uime sin cha 'n 'eil ar càinain a faighinn an t-àite 'bhuineas di na dùthaich fhéin.

Tha eagal oirnn nach 'eil na h-òrain Gaidhlig a' faighinn an àite bu chòir dhoibh 'n ar sgoilean. Gun teagamh feumar aideachadh nach 'eil aireamh mhór de na maighstirean-sgoile Gaidhealach comasach air seinn, agus bu chòir gu 'm biodh e mar fhiachain air an neach sin òrain Gaidhlig a theagasg. Cha 'n 'eil dòigh is fearr air faighinn gu cridhe 'Ghaidheil na tre cheòl a chàinain, ach feumaidh e bhi air a theagasg air chor 's gu 'm bi fìos aige de 'n dòigh 's an còir òrain a chàinain a bhi air an seinn. Cluinidh tu duine sud 's an so a' seinn "Cumha Mhic-Criomagain" aig cuirnachuil 's a' Gaidhealtachd, agus cha mhór nach tog e na sgrathan bhar mullach an tighe leis an sgreadail a bhios air, agus sin agad, a dhuine rud a chòrdas ri cuid aca. Mar is luaithe dh' ionnsaichear iad 's a' chùis so 's e 's fhearr.

So ma ta smuain no dhà a chaidh troimh ar n-intinn aig coinneimh Pheairt. Faodaidh nach cuir thu t-Amen riutha, ach de'n deifir. 'S fhad bho dhearbhadh mise iad, ach a dh'aindeoin gach cnap-starra eumamaid suas an "Deo-gréine" ri crann, agus "an ti a bhuannaicheas chum na criche, 's esan a shaorar."

—:o:—

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC IN ISLAY.

As intimated in the March number, arrangements are in progress to hold the Summer School at Bowmore, in the island of Islay, during the month of August.

Islay has many attractive features, that will enable those who attend the School to spend a pleasant as well as an instructive holiday. The fertility and beauty of the island have long been known and appreciated by the Gaelic people, who often speak of it as "Le Ghorm an Pheòir"—Green, Grassy Islay. As a golfing resort Islay has now become very popular. The famous Machrie Golf Course is within a few miles of Bowmore, and Gartmain Course is close by. Both sea and loch fishing is to be had, and there are good roads for cycling. Sea bathing may be had in the immediate vicinity of Bowmore, and boating on Lochindaal. The island is full of historical and antiquarian associations and remains: the old Celtic crosses of Islay are famous.

There is a daily service of steamers to the island. The R.M.S. "Columba" leaves Glasgow (Bridge Wharf), daily at 7.10 a.m.: passengers may leave Glasgow Central Station (Cal. Rly.), at 8.30 a.m. and join this steamer at Gourrock. Passengers for Islay must change at Tarbert, Lochfyne, and cross to West Loch Tarbert, from whence the "Pioneer" sails direct to Islay. On Monday and Thursday, the steamer "Clydesdale" sails from Lancefield Quay, Glasgow, via the Mull of Kintyre. The fares from Glasgow at the present time are 16s. first class, and 10s. 3d. steerage. After landing there is a coach drive of nine miles.

Good lodgings can be had in Bowmore or neighbourhood; Mr. George Forrest, Royal Bank, Bowmore, has kindly consented to furnish particulars to inquirers.

The School will probably begin on Thursday, 1st August, and will continue for four

weeks. The hours of study will be from ten a.m. till one p.m. each day, except on Sundays. Classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students will be formed, and it is intended to have lectures in Gaelic by eminent Celtic scholars.

The fee for the full course of four weeks will be one guinea, but special terms may be granted to those who can attend for shorter periods only, and to teachers.

Intending students are requested to send their names to the Secretary of An Comunn, Mr. John Maclean, 108 Hope Street, Glasgow, as early as possible.

—:o:—

SONG FOR THE GAELIC AIR "THE CAMPBELL'S PIBROCH."

FOR THE "DOUBLE PULL" OF THE OARS OF
THE GALLEY.

My pillow! My pillow! Oh, wet is my pillow!

My pillow is wet with my salt tears for thee!

I have known thee in joy, and lov'd thee in sorrow,

And hast thou kind thoughts and salt tears for me?

We have sobbed our farewell by the pine at the fountain,

And my love is as deep and as sad as the sea.

My trust is as strong as the wild heather mountain—

Is thy love as true, and as constant to me?

I look to the sea foam—I gaze on the west,
For I love thee, and watch for the skiff that sails best!

Oh! my heart-strings are breaking—are breaking for thee,

And is thy heart too beating with true love for me?

Oh! Son of the Mighty, to thee in all sorrow

I bring my full heart with its hopes and its fears!

For me, nevertheless, there may break a glad morrow—

But there's joy in the Land whence are banished all tears!

F. MARY COLQUHOUN.

LEASAIN GHAIHDLIG.

FO DHUBHAR CRAOIBHE.

XVI.

O chionn latha no dhà bha mi a' gabhail cuairt a muigh air an dùthaich. Bha 'n latha tioram, sgairteil, agus a chionn gu'n robh an rathad (1) *car teann air na casan shuidh* mi sìos aig bun craoibhe (2) *a' leigeil m' analach*. Bha mo mhac beag Tòmas comhlairium agus thoisich e a' cur cheistean orm mu gach ni a bha e a' faicinn 's a' cluinntinn.

Bha meangannan na craoibhe a' sgaoileadh a mach 'os ar cinn agus bha (2a) *na gucagan beaga, donna* (3) *air tì briseadh a mach le fionnarachd an Earraich*.

"Athair," aris' am fear beag, "nach grannda na craobhan sin. Tha iad cho dubh, salach, 's cha 'n eil duilleagan air (4) *gin aca*."

"O, cum ort," arsa mise, cha d' thainig an t-àm aca fhathast air son duilleach a bhith orra. Cha d' thainig an Samhradh fhathast."

"Thainig an Samhradh," aris' esan, gu (5) *beachdail*. Nach e 'n diugh (6) *"Latha Bealltuinn?"*

"C' a'it an euala tu-sa 'm facal sin, a bhalaich?"

"Chuala aig mo sheanair a nuair a bha sinn anns an Eilean Sgiathanach an urraidh."

"Agus 'de tha e a' ciallachadh, a Thòmais?"

"Cha 'n eil fhios agam, gu dearbh, fhreagair esan, ach na 'm biodh mo sheanair faisg orm dh'innseadh esan domh. 'S e duine iongantach a tha 'na mo sheanair."

(7) *"Am bheil thu 'n dùil am bheil duine idir anns a' bhaile so aig am bheil fhios 'de th'ann 'Latha Bealltuinn?"*

"Cha 'n eil duine; 'de a' chiall a th'acasan do ghnòthuichean Gaidhealach! "Ach," aris' esan, "car son a bha Màiri mo phiuthar a muigh cho moch anns a' mhaduinn?"

"An robh i (8) *air a cois* cho moch a sin?"

"O, bha," aris' esan, "bha i a muigh mu 'n robh e sè uairean, agus thill i an sin dhachaidh 's a h-aodann cho salach 's a (9) *ghabhadh e' bhith*."

"O, bha i 'g a nitheadh fhein ann an (10) *dealta 'Cheitein*," arsa mise.

"Gu firinneach 's ann," arsa Tòmas, "chuala mi mo shean-mhathair a bruidhinn air dealta 'Cheitein."

Sheall e mu 'n cuairt, stad e, sheall e a ris a null agus a nall. "Cluinn sud, athair!" aris' esan. "'De 'm fuaim a tha sud? Tha e coltach ri fuaim "Cloc" mór mo sheanar."

Cha b' urrainn mi gun gaire a dheanamh, oir chumhniche mi gu 'n robh uaireadair ann an taigh a sheanar, agus a nuair a bhith-eadh e a' buailleadh nan uairean 's ann (11) *le "fuaim Cuthaig"* a deanadh e e.

"Sud a' chuthag," arsa mise, "isean dìreach mar a bha ann an uaireadair 'do sheanar."

(12) *"Nach fhiach thu 'n glac thu e, ach an toir mi dhachaidh leam e."*

"Cha 'n fhiach gu dearbh; dh'itheadh an cat dùbh e," arsa mise, "agus bhithheadh tu 'n uair sin duilich gu 'n do ghlaic thu e."

"O, leig leis, ma ta," aris' esan. "Ach, 'athair, 'de tha 'n duine ud a' deanamh? Faic (13) *an smùr a tha e a' togail*."

"Sud agad an tuathanach a' cur an t-sil. Nach fhaca tù do sheanair a' deanamh (14) *a leithid cheudna?"*

"Chunnaic," fhreagair esan gu h-uailleil, "a h-uile rud ceart a chunnaic mi ' riamh 's ann aig mo sheanair a chunnaic mi iad."

(15) *"Sin thu fhein, a Thòmais, mo ghille glan! Bi duineil an combhuidh air son do dhùthcha 's do dhaoine. Ach feumaidh sinn a bhith a' falbh dhachaidh, agus—a Thòmais —tha do sheanair a' tighinn air an t-seachd-uinn so agus bheir e leis thù gu Tir-nam-Beann."*

(16) *Las a shùilean* le aoibhneas; b' uallach, sollagach a dhannsadh e air a thurus dhachaidh, agus an drasda 's a ris theireadh e air a shocair—agus e seasamh suas mar gu 'm bitheadh a chridhe làn de spiorad nan seann laoch—

"Tir nam beann, nan gleann, 's nan gaisgeach."

(1) Lit.: rather hard on the feet.

(2) „ to let my breath—to take a breath—take a rest.

(2a) Lit.: "buda."

(3) „ on the point of.

(4) Gin—any.

(5) Lit.: smartly (or cocksure sort of way).

(6) May-Day (c.p. bale-fire). The name arose from ancient rites practised by the Gaels on this day. C.p. proverb, Dadar dà theinne Bhealltuinn—(i.e. purifying fires).

(7) Lit.: are you in the opinion?: do you think?

(8) „ on her foot, therefore—was she up?

(9) „ as dirty as it would take (on it) to be—as dirty as could be.

(10) Lit.: "Ceitean"—month of May, therefore, dealta 'Cheitein—May dew.

(11) Reference is to the class of clocks with "cuckoo chimers."

(12) Lit.: will you not try to catch, etc.

(13) „ dust.

(14) „ the like same—something similar.

(15) „ that's you yourself, Thomas, or—good lad, Thomas.

(16) Lit.: his eye sparkled with delight.

AM BUACHAILL.

AN SGOIL BHEAG.

"An tù sud a Thormoid? 'S an ort a tha fallus. 'S an.

"Suidhe ann so ma ta, agus leig d' anail.

"Dé chùin thu as an sgoil an digh?

"Fhuair sinn la-treabhaidh 'o(bho) Chalum Caimeul, agus b' fheadar dhomh a dhòl do bhùth Iain Ruaidh a cheannach rudan air son na dinneirich. Seadh, dìreach. An do chuir sibh dad a' òhantata fhathast? Cha do chuir ach mu leth-bhàraile. Bha mu bhràithrean thall aig a' sgeir dhuibh an dé, agus thug iad dhachaidh luchd-feamainn air son leasachadh a' choire. An robh thu fein cuideachd riu. Cha robh, cha leigeadh iad dhomh 'sail' a' ghabhail. Dé thubhairt thu? "Sail." Se sin Beurla. C'arson a bhitheas tu measgachadh Gàidhlig is Beurla? Nach eil fhios agad gu dé Ghàidhlig a th' air "sail?" Tha, ach se sud a bhitheas na balaich eile ag radh. Cha d' thuit sin gu 'm bheil iad ceart. Am bheil Gàidhlig aig a' Mhaighstir-sgoile? Cha 'n 'eil diog. 'S cia mar a tha sibh ga thuigsinn? Cha 'n 'eil sinn ga thuigsinn ach an dràsda (an tràth so) 's a rithist. 'S bochd an gnothuch sin, ach tha mise a' cluinntinn gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig ri bhith air a teagasg anns na sgoiltean an uine ghoirid. Gu dearbh tha mi glé thoilichte. Bithidh fios againn an sin gu dé tha na focallan mor Beurla a' ciallachadh. 'S fhearr dhuit a bhi 'dol dhachaidh a' laochain, tha eagal orm gu'n do chùin mi robh fhada thu."

TRANSLATION.

"Is that you, Norman? (Lit.: is it thou, there). How you perspire! (It is on thee the sweat is). Yes (it is). Sit down here and rest yourself (let your breath). What kept you from school to-day? We got a day's ploughing from Malcolm Campbell and I had to go to Red John's shop to buy things for the dinner (s' fheadar dhomh, I must). Yes, just so (exactly so). Have you planted any potatoes yet? We have planted only half a barrel. My brothers were over at the black rock yesterday, and they took home a load of sea-ware for manuring the corn (lit.: improving). "Luchd"—people, as well as load, e.g., luchd-eisdeachd—hearers. Were you yourself along with them? No, they would not allow me to take a sail. What did you say? Sail. That is English. Why do you mix Gaelic and English? Don't you know the Gaelic for "sail"? Yes, but that is what the other boys say. That does not say that they are right. Has the schoolmaster Gaelic? Not a syllable. And how do you (all) understand him? We do not understand him except now and then. That is a poor business (poor is that business), but I am hearing that Gaelic is to be taught in the schools in a short time. Indeed I am very glad. Then we shall know the meaning of the big English words (knowledge will be to us then what the big English words mean). You'd better be going home my dear fellow, I fear I have kept you too long (it is better for thee to go home, fear is on me), etc.:" ("laochan" is from laoch, a hero, but it is a very common term of endearment, or coaxing in the Highlands).

COMUNN NEWS.

NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Executive Council will meet in Inverness, on Saturday, 25th May, and not on 11th May as originally arranged.

GOVAN BRANCH.—The Annual Business Meeting of this Branch was held on the 4th ult., when office-bearers for the ensuing session were appointed. The Branch has had a most successful session. They were fortunate at the outset in having the presence of Mrs. Burnley Campbell, who presided at their opening concert, and delivered a rousing address, thus giving a fillip to the movement. Lectures were delivered

during the winter by Mr. Henry Whyte (Fionn), Mr. Angus Macintyre, President, Glasgow Gaelic Society, and Rev. J. A. MacCormick, B.D., Ardhattan. Gaelic songs were rendered at the close of each lecture and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The Branch membership numbers 70, which it is confidently hoped will be increased during the coming session.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH BHAIDHEANACH.—This young Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach gave a most successful concert on the 3rd of April. The Rev. D. Macfarlane, who takes a warm interest in Gaelic, occupied the chair. The Choir was under the leadership of Mr. Munro, and gave an excellent rendering of "Mi'm shuidhe am anar," "Clann nan Gaidheal," and "Bairigh Rusgaich"—the test pieces at the coming Mòd in Inverness. The rest of the programme was made up of English and Gaelic songs. Mr. Roderick Macleod, the well-known Gaelic soloist,

sang among others the new setting of "The Canadian Boat Song," arranged by Mrs. Kennedy Fraser, and sung for the first time at this concert. The usual votes of thanks brought a highly enjoyable and successful performance to a close.

KILCHOMAN, ISLAY.—This recently-formed branch held its first concert on the 10th ult. The attendance, which was large, represented people from Bowmore, Bridgend, Portnahaven, Portwenyssa, and Claddach—altogether an enthusiastic gathering. Dr. MacLachlan, Ballinaby, the President of the branch was in the chair, and was supported by Colonel Mactaggart, Bowmore; Messrs. Bruce, Forbes and Mackillop, Eallabus; Mrs. MacLachlan, Mrs. Forbes, Miss Mactaggart, and Miss Connell. The programme contained fifteen Gaelic songs, and six English. This judicious arrangement was for the benefit of those residents who do not know Gaelic, but are sympathetic to the old language. A number of the gentlemen who took part in the concert were in Highland costume. Well done, *Ie bhoidheach*

NORTH AYRSHIRE BRANCH.—This branch of An Comunn is the most southern outpost in Scotland for the advancement of the aims of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Its office-bearers are enthusiastic Highlanders, and at their annual business meeting, they arranged for a most successful concert on the 12th ult., in the South Beach U.F. Church Halls, Saltcoats. The Rev. A. Hunter, B.D., parish minister of Kilwinning, presided, and was supported by well-known gentlemen from Ardrrossan and Saltcoats, among them the Rev. Chas. Lamont, U.F.C., Saltcoats. It was reported that the Gaelic classes, under the auspices of the Ardrrossan School Board, were well attended during the past year. Among the office-bearers appointed for the ensuing session are Mrs. Chevalier Parker of Fairlie (Hon. President), Rev. Charles Lamont (President), Rev. Archibald Hunter, Kilwinning (Vice President), along with three other gentlemen.

THE LOCHABER MÒD.—A very successful Mòd took place at Fort-William on the 18th ult. The competitors were more numerous than on former occasions, and there was a distinct advance in proficiency. The judges were the Rev. M. N. Munro, Taynult; Rev. J. W. Macintyre, Kilmonivaig; and Rev. A. Shaw, Fort-William. At former Mòds Brae Lochaber used to carry off the best prizes, but the Gearasdan children are now holding their own, doubtless on account of the unwearied exertions of Miss Juliet Macdonald, who holds up "Bratach na Gàidhlig" so loyally. A novelty at this Mòd was a competition for infant singing of one of the "Port-a-béul" tunes arranged for the Inverness Mòd, but the bairns went through the ordeal successfully. It is a pleasure to add that wealthy people in the surrounding districts, and places farther away, assisted the meeting financially.

COMUNN GÀIDHEALACH BHÓID.—Bho 'n a chuir-eadh an fìos ma dheireadh mu'n Chomunn seo thun *An Deo-Greine* chumadh dà choinneimh choitcheonn. Mòd air son na Cloinne, agus oidhche chridheil Cheilidh le Tì, Ceòl is Abhaachdas. Air 16 là de 'n Ghearrain thug Mhr. Iain Mac Gilleathain, Rùnaire A' Chomunn Gaidhealach seachad paipear Gàidhlig ionnsaichte air an obair 'aig an Ollamh

Camshronach, Brodick, ris an canar: "Reliquæ Celtiquæ." Nochd an t-òraidiche ann an Gàidhlig a bha anabarrach blasta gu'n robh e mion-eòlach air a' chuspair a thagh e. Air feasgar a' chiad latha de 'n Mhàirt thug Mr. Gillesbuig Caimbeul seachad òraid mhath air an Eilean Sgitheanach, a bha air a dhealbhadh le solus aoil. Air 15 là de 'n Mhàirt chumadh Mòd air son na Cloinne: Mòd a bha buanachdail 'sa h' uile doigh. Bha buinn-chuimhneachan airgid is òir air an toirt seachad air son co-fharpaisean air son Orain Ghàidhlig, Beul-aithris, Piobaireachd agus Danas Gaidhealach. Fhuair eadh £5 bho Ban-Mhorair Bhòid, agus £1 bho'n Chomunn Gaidhealach a phagheadh cosdas a' Mhòid. Chuireadh crìoch air an t-seisein air feasgar 22 là de 'n Mhàirt le Ceilidh a bha cridheil sona. B'e seò oidhche Gaidhealach cho mòr sùndach, aighearrach 'sa chumadh am Baile Bhòid riamh. 'S cinnteach nach b' urrainn a leithid a chumail 's' bliadin' air ais mu 'n deach Comunn Gaidhealach Bhòid a chuir air bonn. B'e am Probhastair Milloy a bha 'sa chathair, agus na's fhearr cha 'n 'eil!

At the annual business meeting of the branch held on Friday, 12th April, it was stated that there had been eight regular fortnightly meetings held at which four Gaelic and four English papers had been read. The attendance at the meetings was uniformly good. A successful Juvenile Mòd was held on 15th March. The membership of the branch had increased by 26 during the session. The financial condition of the branch is very satisfactory, there being a credit balance of £42 13s. 4d. Mrs. R. A. Mackinlay, having resigned the Treasurership as she leaves for Canada shortly, was accorded a special vote of thanks for her efficient services during the past six years. A donation of £2 2s. was voted to the prize fund of the Annual Mòd at Inverness.

ABERFELDY BRANCH.—Office-bearers: President, Mr. MacDiarmid, Bank of Scotland; Vice-President, Dr. MacArthur, Tighnabruach; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss E. K. Menzies, Rannoch Lea, Aberfeldy; Representative on Executive Council, Mrs. Galloway, Dirgarve, Aberfeldy.

JOINT LOCAL MÒD IN ROSS-SHIRE.—The Strath (Skye), Kyleakin, and Kyle of Lochalsh and Plockton Branches have arranged to hold a joint Children's Mòd in the Kyle Institute on Friday, 10th May. The syllabus includes competitions in Gaelic reading, recitation, solo singing, and choral singing in two part harmony, as well as in unison. The prize fund depends entirely on voluntary contributions, and it is to be hoped the friends of the districts comprised in the scheme will help. A grand concert sustained by the prize-winners, and Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness, will be held on the evening of the Mòd. The secretary is Mr. J. N. Macleod, Dornie, who will be glad to receive donations towards the prize fund.

CHILDREN'S MÒD AT OBAN.—The arrangements for the Local Mòd to be held at Oban in June are proceeding smoothly, and everything points to its being a success. The schools in Lorn, Mull, and Morvern are expecting to have competitors forward.

SKYE.—A new branch of An Comunn was formed at Dunvegan, Skye, on Saturday, 13th April, by the Rev. Neil Ross, Aberdeen, who is presently on a propaganda tour through Skye. Macleod of Macleod

was elected president, while Mr. Robert F. Matheson, Kirkton Cottage, Dunvegan, was elected secretary.

KYLAKIN GAELIC CONCERT.—The closing concert of the session, under the auspices of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, was held in the school-room on the evening of Friday, the 29th March. The object of the concert was to raise funds to send to the Central Association for the purpose of defraying part of the expenses incurred by them in sending to this district this year again Mr. Hugh Maclean, the singing-master. The members of the branch are very much indebted to the Propaganda Committee for the special kindness they showed by sending Mr. Maclean two years in succession, Mr. Maclean was indefatigable in executing his work, and the young people of the place benefited much by his tuition. Mr. Anderson, the president of the branch, occupied the chair. A large, varied, and interesting programme was gone through, entirely sustained by local talent, both vocal and musical. The most interesting part of the programme, and the part which had the audience into fits of laughter, was the Gaelic play "Reiteach Moraig." This play put the old people in mind of the good old days, and the young who never saw a real "Reiteach" enjoyed it immensely. Miss Macinnes acted as accompanist. Mr. Livingstone proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes, to the chairman and to the accompanist. All the votes of thanks were heartily accorded by the crowded audience.

ROTHERSAY GAELIC CHURCH.—The Gaelic Church congregation of Rothersay gave a unanimous call to Mr. D. W. Mackenzie, Stornoway, to become their missionary-pastor, in room of the Rev. Kenneth Smith, recently translated to the Free Church, Greenock. Mr. Mackenzie has taught the Gaelic and Irish classes in Stirling, Alloa, and district for the last two sessions, and is a good Gaelic scholar. The Rev. D. W. Mackenzie entered on his duties as missionary-pastor at Rothersay on Sabbath, 31st March, and preached in Gaelic in the forenoon to a fair congregation of Highlanders. Mr. Mackenzie has recently undertaken a propaganda tour in Kintyre on behalf of An Comunn.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH DHEUNOMHAINN.—The closing ceilidh of this branch was held in the Burgh Hall on Monday evening, 25th March. Mr. W. Disselduff, president of the branch, occupied the chair, and the lecturer for the evening was Mr. Henry Whyte ("Fionn"), Glasgow. Mr. Whyte took as his subject, "A Night with the Gaelic Bards" and gave an anthology of Gaelic Songs by the leading Gaelic bards from the days of Mary Macleod, better known as "Mairi, nighean Alasdair Ruaidh," down to the present day. A selection of songs were rendered by three Mòd Gold Medallists, viz.—Miss Annetta C. Whyte, Mr. Murdo MacLeod, Mr. Robert M. Macdonald, and Miss Flora MacNeill, Kirn. Each effort was heartily applauded by the large audience present. The accompaniments were played by Miss Whyte, and Miss Duncan, Dunoon. At the close, the chairman moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Whyte, and his musical friends for their kindness in coming to Dunoon and giving them such a treat. A vote of thanks by Bailie Miller to the

chairman, and the singing of "Oidhe mhath leibh" terminated the proceedings.

MÒD CHOMUINN GHAIÐHEALACH CHILLEMHAODH-AIN, AN 'OIGEAH MÒD.—Bha 'a Mòd so air a ghleidheadh air feasgar Di-h-aoinn 12mh do'n Ghiblin, ann an talla Ghleanndaruaill. Bha aireamh mhòr sluagh cruinn 'o'n sgìreachd, agus buidhean 'o Strachur agus Caol-an t snaimh. Bha Mgr. Calum Cleireach, ceannsidhe a Chomuinn, anns a chathair, agus bha Ban-tighearna Omidail, mairi ri a mac, Mgr. Cailean, 's a h-inghean, maighdeann Chaim-beul, 's cuideachd mhòr aoidhean a lathair Dh' fhosgladh a Mòd le farpuisean na h-oigridh (fo choig bliadhn' deug), agus an deigh sin, dh' fhosgladh co-fharpuisean nan Inbheach leis a chuideachd a bhi seinn, "Suas leis a Ghàidhlig." As deigh sin, lean farpuisean ann an leughadh, sgrìobhadh, aithris, agus seinn na Gàidhlig gu 11 p.m., agus chord iad gu math do 'n luchd-eisdeachd. Mu theis meadhan na h-oidheche, fhuairreas ceol binn 'o choisir chiuil phìobairean, le Alasdair Mac-a-Phearsain mar fhear iuil air an ceann; agus bhean na dheigh sin, bha Dan-chluich air a leagail a ris le cuideachd mhnathan, ghilleac, 's nighean. Fo dheireadh, chrìochnaicheadh am Mòd le coisir chiuil sheisear ghillean 's nighean a seinn, "Mo dhachaidh," air dhoigh a bha anabarrach taitneach. Air a bhliadhna so bha meur do cho-fharpuisean ur aig a mhòd; se sin co-fharpuisean tighe, ann a' leithid 's deasachadh arain cruineachd air grideil, 's ann an amhuinn, fuineadh aran coirce, figheadh chois-bheart fhir, agus fuaigheall anair leine ghil, le clann fo 15 a dh'aois. As deigh do 'n mhòd crìochnachadh, thoisich an oigridh air dannsa, agus lean so air aghairt gu briseadh na faire. Bha na h-uile co-fharpuis agus an dan-chluich, pailt cho soirbheachail air a bhliadhna so agus a bha iad anns na bliadhnanach a chaidh seachad.

ARBROATH.

The Arbroath Gaelic Class has just brought a successful session to a close. There were over twenty members in the class, and excellent work was done, under Mr. C. S. Malcolm, teacher. At a closing ceilidh Mr. Malcolm was presented with a copy of "Faclair Gàidhlig." The Gaelic movement in Arbroath owes much to the zeal and ability of Mr. J. C. Hay, secretary, to whose energies the formation of the class is chiefly due.

—:O:—

DONATIONS TO INVERNESS MOD FUND, 1912.

Per Local Secretary, Mr. JOHN MACKINTOSH,
Solicitor, Inverness:—

Amount already intimated,	£13 2 0
Alexander Macdonald, Esq., H.M.I.S., Inverness,	0 10 0
Wm. Mackay, Esq., Solicitor, Inverness,	5 5 0
Col. Macpherson, Drumalinn, Inverness,	0 5 0
Mrs. Macdonough, Hazel Bank, Tomatin,	0 5 0
Major E. D. C. Cameron, Cuidrach, Skye,	1 0 0

Miss Howden, Albyn Villa, Inverness,	2	0	0
Patrick J. Ford, Esq., Edinburgh, ...	2	2	0
J. E. B. Baillie, Esq. of Dochfour, Inverness,	1	0	0
Ex-Provost Mackay, Grangeinouth, ...	1	0	0
Rev. D MacGillivray, Manse, Petty, Lady Mary, and J. P. Grant, Esq. of Rothiemurchus,	0	10	6
Provost MacFarlan, Dumbarton, ...	5	0	0
Bradley Martin, Esq., Mayfair, London,	2	2	0
Councillor John Young, Inverness, ...	1	0	0
Alexander Fraser, Esq., Draper, Inver- ness, ... (Gold Pendant)	1	1	0
W. R. Christie, Esq., Jeweller, Inver- ness, ... (Gold Pendant)			
J. MacKintosh, Esq., Solicitor, Inver- ness,	1	1	0
Her Grace The Duchess of Sutherland, The Earl of Cassillis,	2	2	0
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Major Gunn, Bellevue, Inverness, ...	1	0	0
A. Macdonald, Esq., Accountant High- land Railway, Inverness, ..	1	1	0
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Col. Macdonald, The Haven, Inverness, The Highland Society of London, ...	1	1	0
R. Findlay, Esq., Chicago, per A. Mac- donald, Esq., Accountant, Inverness,	5	0	0
L. Macbean, Esq., Fifeshire Advertiser, Kirkcaldy,	0	8	3
Ronald Macdonald, Esq., National Bank Buildings, Portree,	1	0	0
Theodore Napier, Esq., Edinburgh, ...	0	10	0
Mrs. Burnley-Campbell of Ormidale,...	5	0	0
The Right Hon. Lord Lovat,	5	0	0
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AN DEO-GRÉINE

Leabhar VII.]

Darna Mìos an t-Samhraidh, 1912.

[Earrann 9.

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CLO-CADAIL A GHÀIDHEIL.

“An o gu'm bheil an Gaidheal na chadal? De 'tha thu 'ciallachadh? Cha chluimhne leamsa àm anns an robh na Gaidheil cho aighearach 's a tha 'chuid is mò dhiu 'n diugh. Dean a phuing soilleir.” So agad matà. Bithidh daoine gu minic a' bruidhinn mu dhà sheorsa cadail—cadal a chuirp nàdurra, agus cadal na h-inntinn. Bha 'n Gaidheal 'na làn dhuais anns na làithean a dh'fhalbh 'nuair a chual e gairm a chogaidh, ionnas gu'n do ghabh e 'n t-saighdearachd, agus tha fios aig an t-saighal mar a dhearbha e a dhuinealas. 'Nuair a bha feum aig an rioghachd air, cha robh e air deireadh; dh'fhàg e 'n clachan anns a 'n d' rugadh 's an do thogadh e, an fheadhainn a b' fhaig ann an dàimh ris, càirdean agus luchd-eòlais, air son a dhùthcha. Ach o chionn fada thainig nàdur de dhùsal air inntinn do thaobh cànanain òige, agus tha e mar gu'm bitheadh e coma dh'i. “Ma thogair,” ars' esan. “'Si 'Bheurla a chuid-

icheas mi air son mo bheò-shlàinte a bhuinig a' measg ùpraiden an t-saoghail. 'Si 'Bheurla a ni duin' uasal dhìom. Cha 'n 'eil an diugh ann ach sabaid ma'm faigh neach air adhart, agus se fear na Bourla a bhios an uachdar. Leigeamaid leis a Ghàidhlig bho chad a bli traghadh as air a socair.” 'Nis tha a' mhuinntir a tha na leithid so a shuideachadh fo sgleò. Thainig nàdur de dhruidheachd orra, agus tha iad fo thruaillidheachd inntinn.

Blìadh' thar fhichead 'o n' diugh, agus fada roimh sin, dh' fhaoidte a ràdh gu'n robh an Fheinn air a h-uilinn, agus a rèir a h-uile coslas gu'm fanadh i mar sin. Ach dh' èirich buidheann 'bheag anns an Oban na 'n làn dhuais, agus las iad teine nach deach a smàladh fhathast, ged a bha cuid aig an àm a crathadh a 'n cinn. 'S ann a tha e sgapadh anns gach àite, 's ag èaladh mar fhàloisg feadh chrìoch-an na Gaeltachd, agus 'se dleasdanas gach fìor Ghaidheal a cheart aire' thoir nach bi e ga mhùchadh. Ann an àite sin tha e mar fhàlachadh a' chumail beò mar a tha na Persianich a cnuil an “teine naomh” aca fein beò. Ach feumaidh e connadh ma's teid e as—se sin fìor Spiorad na Gàidhlig a bhith riaghladh a' measg an t-sluaigh. Ma ghabhas sin àite 'n ar dùthaich, agus na chrathas an Gaidheal dheth an doilleireachd a dh' iadh ro fhada mu'inntinn, ma dh' éireas e air a chasan, cha ruig sinn a leas mòran suim a ghabhail air oiteag sam bith a tha séideadh 'n ar n' aghaidh 'o 'n ear na 'n iar. Tha sinn a faicinn na h-uiread a chomharraidhean gu'n do dhuais mòran de 'r luchd-dùthcha ma dheireadh tre obair

chraobh-sgaoileadh a Chomuinn Ghaidheal-
aich, agus nach 'eil neach aig a' bheil tuigse
chothromach a creidsinn a nis gu-'n dean
eòlas air cànan a mhàthar cul-a-mhagaidh
dhe. 'S ann 'tha eòlas coimhlionta ann an
dà chànan ga' dheanamh am measg an
t-sluaigh mar ghunna-dà-bharraill' an laimh
an t-sealgair. Loisgidh e gu foghainteach
'am Beurla na'n Gàidhlig. Mar seo tha e
os ceann a Ghoill. Bha sgleò na Beurla,
a mhaoin, oirnn ro fhada. Cha d' thuir sin
nach eil eòlas na Beurla feumail, ach gu'
dé air an talamh a thruaill inntinn cuid,
'nuair a tha iad a feuchainn ri ' dheanamh a
mach nach eil stà ann a bhith faighinn
eòlas air a chainnt mhathaireil — cainnt
làithean sona na h-oige. Nach bu chòir doibh
a nis éisdeachd ri beachdan dhaoine fogh-
luimte a tha fileanta ann am mòran chànan-
ean eile, agus a tha co-dhùnadh troimh àrd-
oilcanachadh gur 'h-i Ghàidhlig cainnt cho
luachmhor 's a 's aithne dhoibh, do bhrìgh
agus gu'm bheil i ro fheumail a chum a
bhith 'cur solus air cànanean eile. 'Mur a
h-éisd iad ri beachdan dhaoine de'n t-seorsa
so, co ris a dh' éisdeas iad? 'S e buaidh an
aineòlais cumhachd is truagh a tha 'n ar
duthaich. Tha cuid de na Goill, an diugh,
ann an àite a bhith ag' amharc air a
Ghàidhlig le snodha-gaire mar a b' àbhaist,
a feuchainn ri h-ionnsachadh mar a tha iad
a togail Fraingeis, no cainnt nan Germail-
tach. Sin agaibh eisimpleir air na tha lean-
tainn barrachd eòlais, is tuigse, is sgoilear-
achd. 'S mór an call a th' ann cànan air
bith a dhol a dhith, agus ma chailleas
an Gaidheal a chànan, dé seorsa ablach a
bhios ann? Cha 'n aithnichear e ceud
bliadhna an deidh so, agus faolaidh e stad
a bhith bruidhinn air eachdraidh a shinnsear
agus an treubhantais. Eiremaid matà agus
deanamaid a Ghàidhlig co-inbhe ri cànan-
ean eile. Ma chuireas sinn meas oirnn fein le
'bhith deanamaid so, cuiridh daoine eile meas
oirnn mar an ceudna, oir a luach a chuireas
neach eir fein, 's amhuil sin mar a sheallas
am pobull gu léir air.

Cuiridh sinn crìochnachadh air an tagradh
so ann am focail mna uasail àraid a tha
fathast a' lathair, agus a tha gle dhileas
do'n Ghàidhlig. "Am bheil sinne, Gaidheil
na h-Alba, dol a leigeadh leis a Ghàidhlig
dol a dhith? Am bheil i ri bhith air a
tasgadh suas ann an leabhraichean fuara,
agus air a cunnas am measg nan cumh-
achdach a dh' eug? No'm bheil i ri mair-
sinn beò le oige nam beann a tha gach
bliadhna air an ath-nuadhachadh tre anail

an Earraich le beatha uir? Tha 'n t-am
againn ar maol-snèimh a thilgeadh air cul,
agus trusadh ris mu'm bì e tuilleadh 's
anmoch; oir mar dean sinn sin gu h-ealamh
gheibh air sean mhàthair bas." Nach e seo
an tul-fhirinn?

—:O:—

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

EXECUTIVE MEETING.

A meeting of the Executive Council of an
Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Queens-
gate Hotel, Inverness, on Saturday, 25th
May. Mr. William Mackay, Inverness, presi-
dent, occupied the chair. There was a small
attendance of members. It was reported that
the Secretary had communicated with the
Free Presbyterian Church, the Episcopal
Church, and the Roman Catholic Church in
reference to securing their aid in furthering
the Gaelic cause, but no opportunity had
yet been given for a deputation to wait
upon them. The Finance Committee agreed
to recommend the purchase of the copy
of Patrick Macdonald's Collection of
Gaelic Music offered to the Association.
The committee also authorised the comple-
tion of the purchase of the copyright of
"Reid's Elementary Course of Gaelic."
With reference to the Education Com-
mittee's report, Lady Helen Stewart Murray
drew attention to the fact that the work
of the Gaelic classes would begin in
October, and said it was most desirable that
the elementary series of text books should
be published as early as possible.

A report by the Propaganda Committee
was submitted. It stated that a number of
new branches had been formed in the High-
lands. The Secretary reported that at the
date of the last annual report they had 24
branches; now they had a total of 70. Mr.
Alexander Macdonald, Inverness, gave in the
report of the local committee, and said they
had already received £110 in subscriptions
towards the prize fund of the Inverness
Mòd, to be held in September. He also
said that they proposed to have a concert
on each of the three nights of the Mòd, and
that J. P. Grant, Esq., of Rothiemurchus,
had consented to preside over the Junior
Concert on Wednesday, Lord Lovat over the
Concert on Thursday, and the MacIntosh of

MacIntosh over the Grand Concert on Friday.

The Mòd and Music Committee recommended the appointment of the following Judges for the various competitions at the Mòd. Junior Oral Competitions:—Rev. Neil Ross, Aberdeen; Rev. D. Connell, Inverness; Rev. M. N. Munro, Taynult; and Mr. D. Macphie, Cumbernauld; Senior Oral Competitions:—Revs. Neil Ross and M. N. Munro. Vocal Music Competitions (all three days):—musical judges—Professor Barret, Forres; Mr. W. H. Murray, Giffnock; Mr. Sharpe, Dundee; and Mr. W. S. Roddie, senr., Inverness; Gaelic judges—Rev. A. J. Macdonald, Killearnan; Dr. George Henderson, Glasgow University; Rev. D. Lamont, Blair Atholl; and the Rev. Father Macdonell, Fort Augustus. Instrumental Music Competitions:—Mrs. Macdonald of Dunach, Oban; Miss Shaw, Thornhill, Inverness; Mr. MacIntosh, Raigmore; Major Menzies, Edinburgh; and Mr. L. A. Boyne, Inverness. Senior Literary Competitions:—Dr. Wm. J. Watson, Edinburgh; Dr. George Henderson, Glasgow; Mr. Fraser, Aberdeen University; Mr. Alister Macdonald, Inverness; the Rev. M. N. Munro, Mr. William Mackay, Inverness, and Dr. Sinton, Doros; Musical Composition and Compilation:—Major Menzies, Miss Tolmie, Edinburgh; Mr. W. H. Murray and Mr. A. G. Taylor, Inverness; Phonograph Record Competition:—Mrs. Kennedy Fraser and Mrs. Chevallier Parker. The recommendations were unanimously approved of.

Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness, and Mr. Alastair MacIaren, Crianlarich, were appointed delegates to the Oireachtas.

The final Syllabus of the Mòd was submitted and considered. Several new competitions were added, and it was agreed to re-number the competitions.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Council at Perth on Saturday, 27th July, at 12.15.

—:o:—

MOD COMPETITIONS.

All who intend to enter for the Mòd Competitions are requested to apply for copies of the final edition of the Syllabus as a considerable number of new competitions have been added.

Copies may be had from the Secretary, 108 Hope Street, Glasgow.

GAELIC-SPEAKING MINISTERS.

SCARCITY OF DIVINITY STUDENTS.

Among the reports of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland which has just been issued to members appear the following:—

“The Committee on Education for the Ministry had remitted to them the question of the scarcity of Gaelic-speaking candidates for the ministry. Their inquiry has disclosed a situation which calls for the immediate attention of the Church. It is reported that there is at the present moment more than one vacant Gaelic parish for which no application has been received.

As bearing upon this striking deficiency the following statistics of Gaelic-speaking students in the divinity halls of the four universities for the last 10 years (1902-3 to 1911-12) are significant:—University of St. Andrews, 3; University of Glasgow, 26; University of Aberdeen, 3; University of Edinburgh, 8—total, 40; being an average of four students per annum. When it is remembered that, according to the “Year Book,” there are at present 156 parishes and mission stations in which Gaelic is a necessity, and 37 in which it is “desirable,” in all 193, it is evident, without further argument, how inadequate has been the supply of Gaelic-speaking ministers in recent years. While the inquiry revealed a divergence of opinion as to some of the alleged causes of the present scarcity, such as the ecclesiastical conditions in many parts of the Highlands, the remoteness, and small stipends of many of the charges, there was a general consensus of opinion that the real explanation is to be found partly in the altered conditions of education in the Highlands and Islands, combined with the higher standard now required for admission to the universities, and partly in the attractiveness of other careers, especially that of teaching, under the fostering care of the Scotch Education Department. The committee recommend that the General Assembly should impress upon ministers, elders, and members in Gaelic-speaking parishes the seriousness of the present situation, and request their earnest co-operation in encouraging the more thoughtful and promising of their sons to consider the claims upon them of the ministry of the Church; and that steps should be taken to devise a scheme for assisting lads of suitable character and proved ability in their progress towards the ministry.”

[The cure for this serious state of matters lies with the ministers whose influence is so commanding in the Highlands. Let them assist the efforts of the Comunn Gaidhealach in securing the teaching of Gaelic in all Highland Schools. Let them impress upon parents the duty of seeing that their children are really taught Gaelic. Let them join in the work of the various branches, and encourage Gaelic music, folk lore, and literature. In this way young men will enter the university with a competent knowledge of their mother tongue, and may turn their attention towards the Church. We do not admit that altered conditions in Highland education, and a higher standard for admission to the universities are the main causes for the scarcity. The Highland student is quite as capable of passing a stiff examination as his Lowland brother. His brains are as good, and his record speaks for itself. Finally the only cure is Gaelic in the schools, and the sympathy of the ministers.—*Ed. D.-G.*]

—:o:—

AM BRAISDE LATHURNACH.

LE EACHANN MAC DHUGHAILL.

Choisinn an sgeul so an dara duais aig Mòd, 1911.

“Tha am Brusach air inntreachadh a stigh thar Dhrum-Albainn agus buidheann thaghta sluagh leis; tha an Dùghlasach leis, agus tha mar an ceudna na Cairmbeulaich agus Clann Dòmhnuille ‘na fhabhar.” B’e sin an teachdaireachd a ràinig Dùnstaigh-innis agus Dunolla tràth air mhadainn, agus gun dàil bha an teachdaireachd cheudna air a cur an cois a’ chroinn-tara troimh ghleannaibh gorma, agus thar aonaichean glasa Lathurna. Tha latha na dèuchainn air tighinn; tha chaonag air a bonn; tha an claidheamh air a tharraing, agus tha an targaid air a togail suas; tha a’ bhratach air a cur ri crann agus tha a’ phìob-mhor ‘ga gleusadh, ach O! c’arson, c’arson a tha Sliochd Shomhairle Mhòir an diugh roinnt an aghaidh a chèile an aite bhi guala ri gualainn? Siol Dùghaill air an dara taobh is Siol Dòmhnuille air an taobh eile, agus Alba n’am fèum le chèile? Ach b’i sud an sgeul a bha riamh ‘g a h-aithris, agus ‘s i sin an sgeul a dh’fhàg an Gaidheal ‘na fhògarach an diugh. Dh’innseadh an sgeul ud iomad uair, ach cha do dh’innseadh riamh i ni b’ fhollaisiche na dh’innseadh an uair mu dheireadh i, air raon fuilteach Chuil-fhodair; ach faodaidh gu’n

innsear fhathast sgeul, agus gu’n atharraichear a seisd, agus gu’m faighear na Gaidheil an uair sin mar bu chòir, guala ri gualainn an aghaidh feachd an fhoirneir, agus làn bhuaidh-làraich a’ leantainn an céuman gu daingeann dlùth.

Am Brusach a’ tighinn na stigh do Lathurna agus Mac Dhùghaill le fheachd a’ dol a chur cath ris! Nach b’ anabarrach an gnothach e. Raibeart Brus, Rìgh-Ghaisgeach mòr na h-Alba, rìgh nach do shuidh air rìgh-chaitheir Albainn riamh a thug barr air, agus sliochd Shomhairle Mhòir seach feadhainn sam bith ag éirigh na aghaidh, agus eadhon a’ dol an co-bhonn ris an t-Sasunnach, nàmhaid guineach a’ Ghaidheil; ach an neach a shreasa fòghlum tuigeadh e.

“Iain Og Mac Alasdair,” thoisich Ailein Bàn nan Duan nuair a chaidh an t-oighre ‘na éideadh ‘s a ghabh e aite athar air ceann a chuid cheatharnach, “Iain Og Mac Dhùghaill is oighre dligheach Dhunstaigh-innis agus Dhunolla, tha fuil rìghrean a’ dìreadh a’ d’ aodann ‘s a’ froidsaidh troimh do chom neo-chearbach. Tha àrdan nan laoch bho’n do chinn thu a’ cur spionnaidh a’ d’ laimh gu èuchdan nan trèun-fhear mòr bho’n d’ thainig thu a chur an guionh. Tha fuil Fhinn is Ghoill a breabadh a’ d’ chuislean, Gall trèun a thubhairt ris an Ròimh, ‘cho fad so thèid, ‘s nis fhaide cha tèid!’ Tha fuil rioghail na h-Eireann agus na Lochluinn a dìreadh a’ d’ ghnuis, ach os ceann sin uile is tu oighre Shomhairle Mhòir nan Eilean, agus mar oighre Shomhairle Mhòir tha Clann Dùghaill an diugh aig do shàil.

“Co sud a tha tighinn a’ d’ aghaidh? Co ach am Brusach le fuil do sheanar air a laimh, fuil an Normanaich na ghnuis, Crùn Albainn na ghlaic ach claidheamh a’ ghaisgich na dheas-laimh, seadh claidheamh a’ ghaisgich na laimh agus na laoch neo-chearbach leis gu glinn Lathurna ‘chur fàs. Eireamaid ‘na aghaidh gu daingeann crusaidh, buaileamaid gu làidir trèun. Leanamaid Oighre dligheach nan Gaidheal,—Iain Og Mac Alasdair, Mhic Eoghain, Mhic Dhonnachaidh, Mhic Dhughail, Mhic Shomhairle Mhòir, Rìgh nan Gaidheal ‘s nan Eileanan, agus bheir sinn buaidh eadhon air a’ Bhrusach Mhòr. Is e ‘Buaidh no Bàs’ ar “slogan,” ach ‘s i a bhuaidh a bhios ann agus Mac Dhùghaill air an ceann.”

Shéid Pàdraig Mór suas “A Cholla mo rùn” le sgàl a thug crith air na monaidhean agus fhreagair Mac Talla nam beann do’n iolach a dhirich ris na h-aonaichean

nuair a thog Mac-an-Léigh a' bhratach ri crann. "Buaidh no Bàs" ghlaodh iad a rithist agus a rithist agus air falbh a ghabh iad agus badan de'n fhraoch mheanganach ghorm os ceann mala gach tréun-fhíor, targaid nan cruaidh-bhuillean air gach gairdean agus an claidheamh díleas guineach stailinn air gach leis.

Bha seann Eoghan Mac-an-Dorsair agus a thríuir mhac, dithis air gach laimh do Mhac Dhùghaill, oir fhuair an teaghlach an t-urram sin bho'n latha fhuilteach ud a thuit seanair seann Eoghain agus a cheathrar bhraithrean aon an déidh aoin ri gualainn Shomhairle mu'n d'fhuair feachd nan Gall an lannan fuilteach a shàthadh troimh chom an tréun-fhíor sin nuair a thug e an ionnsaidh mhi-rathail ud air fearann còmh-nard Rinn-na-friutha a chosg a bheatha dhá. Ach cha b'ann le toil am màthar a a dh'fhalbh iad gèd nach do dh'iarr i orra fuircach; Och, och!" ar's ise, "tha triùir dhiubh nach till ri'm beò; thug na coin tri nuallain an raoir's cha do bhrèugnach-ear riamh iad. O Chuinn, a Chuinn!" ar's ise an sin 's i a' fàsghadh a lamhan le dòruinn, "cha till thusa co dhiu, oir ma leagar aon de d'bhraithrean ri làr diolaidh thusa iad le d' bheatha féin. Ach nach ann mar sin a bu chòir agus a bu dual dhoibh a bhí," ar's ise an sin 's a shìl a lasadh le uailhear, "an aghaidhean air naimhdean an dùthcha ri gualainn an Ceann-cinnidh gu éirigh no tuiteam leis. 'Buaidh no Bàs,' 's e sin féin e agus cha'n iad ri fhear-sa no mo thríuir mhac a dhi-chuimhniceas na tha an earbsa riutha."

Tha an dà shluagh a nis aghaidh ri aghaidh. Tha am Brusach 'na shuidhe air a stéud-each le chòta cruadhach ioma agus le chlogad stailinne m'a cheann. Tha coltas an tréun-fhíor gaisgeil fhéin air aghaidh, agus sealladh an Rìgh fo shùil. Tha ceatharnach donna-dhubh air a dheis laimh agus tha 'aogas agus a ghnùis ag innseadh cò e. Tha diorras sgriobhta na ghiulan àrdanach agus tha àile nan iomad còmhrag air a bhathais; a nis fhéin tha e eadhon air bhiribh gu bhí an greim. 'S e an Dùghlasach, an tréun-fhear iomraiteach, curaidh nan ceithir dùthchannan, a tha an so dà rìreadh agus cha'n fhear eile, agus mo thruaigh-sa an nàmhaid mhi-dheiseil ris an tog e a lann neo-chearbach. Ach tha Iain Og 's a luchd leanmhainn eadhon mar an leoghan a tha gabhail aite 'na shuaicheantas, garg gu bhí an greim agus le sgál nam fichead feadan agus fo nuallan nan dos, mar an

Cuan Mór fo bhruaillein air a sgiùrsadh fo ghaillinn geamhraidh a' bristeadh gu càirghealach thar chladaichean an dùthcha, tha na laoiach a' leum gu chèile le'm fuil uaibhreach air bhoile, agus gun dàil tha iomad lann gle dhearg agus iomad fuirbirneach na shineadh gun éirigh.

Tha Iain Og mar bu dual a' deanamh iomad gnìomh gaisgeil agus bu lionmhor ceann uailbheach a leag e féin agus clann an Dorsair gu làr, ach tha e a faicinn gu'm bhoil gairdean tréun a Bhruasaich a' deanamh millcadh dòruinneach air 'fheachd, agus tha claidheamh an Dùghlasach mar an tein-adhair air gach laimh. Tha Iain Og a' leum an aghaidh a' Bhruasaich agus a' tarruing na buille, ach cha'n eil meang an eideadh an Rìgh agus mu'n d'fhuair Mac Dhùghaill an ath bhuille a tharruing, bha e ion's fo chasan an eich agus claidheamh mór gionach neo-thruacanta na fola ag eiridh os a cheann, ach b'e com Eoghain Mhic an Dorsair anns an do rinn e nead, oir leum esan san eadraiginn agus thug e fuasgladh d'a cheann-cinnidh le bheatha féin. 'Nuair a chunnaic Donnachadh athair air a leagail sios am preathal a' bhàis, léum e air a' Bhruasach, ach mu'n d'fhuair e an astar na biodaige dha rug claidheamh mór nan trom bhuillean ahsan mar an céudna agus bha a dhruim ri talamh ri taobh athar. Tha Conn a nis a' léum air aghaidh agus faigheadh e cothrom na Féinne, glùn ri glùn is dòrn ri dòrn air an achadh réidh le lann as le targaid agus cha b'fhearas-chuifeachd eadhon do'n Bhru teannadh ris. Tha colg na còmhraige agus na fola na ghnùis agus e a' deanamh slighe dha féin troimh gach lann a bha eadar e 's am Brusach oir dh'fhéumadh dioladh a thoirt a mach airson beatha 'athar 's a bhràthar neo e féin a bhí sinte ri'n taobh. Léum e mar an iolair gu bhí na bhad, ach bha an stéud each air an robh an Rìgh 'na shuidhe cho ealamh ri a mhaighstir, agus an aite am maraiche fhaotainn 'na ghleacaibh cha d'fhuair Conn ach an fhallainn a bha m'a ghuailibh, ach an greim a fhuair e ghleidh se e, agus theann e ri inntreachadh suas air druim an eich gu an Rìgh a shladadh a nuas.

Co a nis a tha dol a thoirt na buaidh, oir is cinnteach nach retieachar a' chùis gun bàs aoin de'n dithis? Tha a' mheidh 'na seasamh air a' chnaisg, agus am beatha le cheile air na sligean.

Ach tha barrachd na am beatha-san air na sligean; tha ceistean tromra orra; tha beatha, dàn is fortan na linn a thig nan déidh orra;

tha saorsa Albainn orra; tha eadhon eachdraidh Bhreatainn agus na h-Eorpa orra!

Tha Conn aig sgòrnan an rìgh, agus tha a làmh dheas ag iarraidh na biodaige a th'air a leis, ach eadhon a nis féin tha am Bàs a' sgaoileadh a sgiathan thairis air. Tha an tuagh a bh'aig a' Bhrusach an crìos na diollaide ag éirigh an airde agus a' tighinn a nuas, is buille bàis 'na cois air ceann Chuinn, ach eadhon 'na bhàs bha e dileas agus ghleidh e ghreim, agus gu faotainn cuidhte 's e b' éiginn do 'n Rìgh fhallainn agus am braisd a bha 'ga ceangal m'a mhuineal fhàgail an glacaibh a' mhairbh agus spuir a chur ri a stéud an dèidh a' chorra d'a armailt, oir bha a' bhuaidh a nis le fir nan targaid 's nan claidheamh mòra agus na deasaich a gabhail na ruaig a mach an t-aonach.*

Bha a' bhuaidh da rìreamh le sliochd Shomhairle Mhóir, agus 's ann dhoibh bu dual, ach bha fhathast neul air sùil Dhiarmaid Ruaidh Thaibhshear Mhic Eocha agus cha b'e call fear agus dà mhac a pheathar, agus sin ged a bha an corr air sàiltean Phara mhoir le iolach na buaidh-làraich a' deanamh air Dòstaigh-innis agus esan a' séideadh a chiùil thar bharrailbh nan dos le farum, a bha toirt air Cruchan freagairt do Bheinn Laoigh agus air eilid nam beann tår as le geilt suas an creachan. Bha Dùghall og Mac an Dorsair, eadhon ged a dh'fhag e athair agus a dhà bhràthair air an tom, a' togail na seirm le càch agus fallainn is braise a' Bhrusaich Mhóir aige mar chreach-caithe ga'n toirt dhachaidh gu a cheann-cinnidh.

"Tha neul air do ghnùis, a Dhiarmaid, agus tha do shùil dorcha," arsa Iain Og Mac Dhùghaill.

"Tha," fhreagair Diarmaid, "tha latha eile

* Tha ainmean an trìuir fhear a thug an ionnsaidh fhuilteach ud air a' Bhrusach air an cur sìos an da chuid am béul-aithris agus an eachdraidh air caochladh dhoighean. Am beul-aithris Chloinn-Dùghaill 's iad Clann Eocha no Clann Fhithcheachain a their ear ri; ach 's iad Clann an Dorsair (*Mackyn drosser*) a tha *Barbour* ag radh a bh' anna. Their ear *Durward*, *Porter*, no *Paterson* ri an ainm sin 'sa Bhéarla, agus theirte Clann an Osair is Clann a' Phortair ri 's a' Ghaidhlig mar an ceudna.

Tha iomradh air an ainm Mac an Dorsair, cho tràth ri linn Chalum Chille nuair a chuir an Diadhair sin, ri linn cron eigin a rinn iad, mar bhannaibh air an teaghlach nach robh os ceann ochdnar ri an ainm a gabhail dhoibh féin aig aon àn. Chaochail bean de 'n ainm—an t-aon ma dheireadh de 'n teaghlach tha e air a radh—an I Chalum Chille beagan bliadhnaich mu'n do ràinig *Pennant* an t-eilean (1772).

a' tighinn, tha uamhas eile an dàn. Chi Caol a' Bràrdhar agus Abhainn Ogha nithean déisneach agus còmhrag ghailbheach, oir cha bhàl blàr ach am blàr anns an caill fir nam beann's nam breacan; cha bhàl blàr gus an téid an targaid's an claidheamh mór a chur fo na sàiltean. Cha bhàl e far am bheil ciad bras-leum is ciad buille àrdanach nan sonn a' cosnadh buaidh agus a tionndadh frionas an nàmhaid, cha'n eil an sin ach ruaig—claidhean Gàidheal air sàiltean Ghall. Ach an blàr fuilteach—se sin far am bheil an làmh-an-uachdar aig na Deasaich an toiseach a' chatha, oir cha gheill gaisgich nam beann. Creid mise, a Mhic Dhùghaill, tha latha eile a' tighinn."

Bha ceòl agus aighear, bròn agus caoidh taobh ri taobh an oidhe sin an Lathurna. Bha bhantrach a' caoidh a céile, bha a' mhàthair a' deanamh bròin os ceann a mic agus a' ghruagach ri tuireadh uaigneach air a leannan nach tilleadh a chaidh, ach bha an fheadhainn nach do chaill an cuid-eachd a' moladh agus ag aithris gach éuchd a rinneadh, agus ag iomradh air gach gairdean tréun a' leag Gall ri talamh. Ach b'e caoidh agus gul a bha an tigh bhantrach Mhic an Dorsair. "Thoir leat iad is fàg aig Mac Dhùghaill iad," arsa' ise ri Dùghall Og nuair a sheall e dhi braise agus fallainn an Rìgh, "Chaill mise mo dhaoine agus cha'n aigis iad sin air an ais iad. Ach tha mi a' faicinn fad air falbh troimh réis nam bliadhnachan. Tha an t-uamhas mór féin air toiseach, agus tha mo dhùthaich 'na fàsach, tha 'na dhéidh sin mo cheann-cinnidh a tighinn dhachaidh le mhnai air laimh aige. Co i? Tha nighean nighinn a' Bhrusaich a chuir as do'm dhaoine, oir thug esan buaidh air a naimhdean, agus tha e a nis 'na shuidhe air Rìgh-chaitir Albainn agus sith is saorsa aig a dhùthaich, ged nach fhaic a mhac oighe a dhìreas i 'na dhéidh.

Chi mi ni's fhaide air aghairt, agus tha Mac Dhùghaill 'na fhògarach air son a dhil-seachd do ghineil a' Bhrusaich nuair a tha crùn an sinnearachd air a spioladh bharr an cinn le lamhan choigreach. Chi mi ni's fhaide air falbh, agus tha sith feadh nan rioghachd 's nam fine, tha an claidheamh air a chur a leth taobh agus innealan sith a' gabhail' aite. Tha an làmh a ghlaic claidheamh mór a Bhrusaich 's a chuir gu iomad éuchd e na smùr, agus an gairdean a ghleidh an greim bàis air fhallainn agus air a' bhraisd air a di-chuimhneachadh; ach tha mi'g am faicinn-san le choile 'san aon seomar, an claidheamh agus am braise, an

teis-meadhon baile nam mìle sràid a th' air a thogail far nach 'eil an diugh ach fasach is coille. Tha iad a' tighinn thar a' chuain a dùthchannan nach eil fios an diugh gu'm bheil iad ann, agus iad a' gabhail iongantais nuair tha eachdraidh nan èuchd co-cheangailte riu sin air a h-aithris 'nan cluasan. Tha rìghrean is ceannardan-airm a' beachdachadh orra, agus tha samhladh dhiubh 'g an toirt gu dùthchannan cèin mar nithean measail luachmhor.

Ach chi mi a rithist cha mhór thall aig ceann tim—"Ach dh'fhosgail mise mo shuilean mar gu'n d'fhuair mise a' bhradar. Bha 'ghrian a' cromadh ris a' Chaol, bha na luingeis a mach's a stigh fhatthast gun tàmh gun dìobradh, bha an aon sìubhal fo dhruim an t-strutha cùl nan rudha, bha carbadan is coisichean a' sìor fhalbh air an rathad-mhór air mo chùlthaobh ach bha an caisteal a bha an ceart uair ann am mhac-mheannmna a' toirt aite do'n cheann-cinnidh's da luchd leanmhainn, le'n òrain's le'n ceòl, le'n sròil's le'm pis agus le'n lannan gorma a' dealradh an grèin an fheasgair air ais a rithist do'n t-samhchair iargalta anns an d'fhuair mi e, na sheasamh leis fèin gu fuar, fàs mar theachdaire as an aimsir chòin ag ràdh an cluasan na h-inntinne a dh'èisd-eadh r'a bhriathran, "Dh'fhan mi fèin ach dh'fhalbh mo ghloir, dh'fhalbh mo ghloir!"

—:o:—

JUVENILE MOD AT KYLE.

SUCCESSFUL PROCEEDINGS.

The first local Mòd on a large scale was held at Kyle on Friday, 10th May. The competitions were open to children from the parishes of Strath (Skye), Lochalsh, and Kintail, and each district turned out a large number of eager competitors. The Kyle Institute was crowded all day, and the spectators evinced the greatest interest in the proceedings, which commenced at 10 a.m. The competitions went on till after 4, with half-an-hour's interval. Two sets of judges enabled greater expedition to characterise the work.

The competitors acquitted themselves well, so much so, indeed, that the judges, men of wide experience of Mòds, were quite surprised at the quality and the general high level of the work done. This shows that the movement is making headway, and that

there are able and willing workers in the district, and this is typical of the Highlands as a whole. The judges were Rev. Mr. Munro, Taynait; Rev. Mr. MacNaught, Lochluichart; Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness; and Mr. Macnab, teacher, Kilmuir.

The following are 1st and 2nd awards:—
Reading—1, Mary Kate Macrae, Dornie; 2, Katie Ann Gillies, Earbusaig.

Recitation—1, Neil Maclean, Broadford; 2, Mary Katie Macrae, Dornie.

Solo Singing for Boys (open)—1, James Campbell, Dornie; 2, Allan Macdonald, Broadford.

Solo Singing for Girls (open)—1, Annie Macrae, Kyle; 2, Lizzie Mackinnon, Kyleakin, and Margaret M. Matheson, Dornie.

Solo Singing, Boys and Girls (Broadford)—1, Mary Cameron; 2, Maggie Maclean.

Solo Singing, Boys and Girls (Kyleakin)—1, Cathie Grant Mackay; 2, Lizzie Mackinnon.

Solo Singing, Boys and Girls (Lochalsh)—1, Annie Macrae; 2, Isabella Macrae.

Solo Singing, Boys and Girls (Kintail)—1, Eliza Macrae, Dornie; 2, Margaret M. Matheson, Dornie.

Duets—1, Kyleakin, Chrissie and Cathie Mackay; 2, Lochalsh, Annie Macrae and Lizzie Macleod.

Choral Singing—1, Broadford; 2, Dornie.

Unison Singing—1, Dornie Choir; 2, Broadford Choir.

CONCERT.

In the evening a concert was sustained by the combined choirs, the winning choirs, the various prize-winners, and Messrs. Mackenzie (of Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture); Hugh Maclean, singing master; and Roderick Macleod. Again the Institute was crowded, and in spite of the discomforts of overcrowding the large audience made every effort to prolong the sitting by frequent encores.

Rev. M. N. Munro presided, and his remarks on the Gaelic movement, on Gaelic song and music, and on the history of the Gaelic race, were listened to with the deepest appreciation.

The success of this Mòd is largely due to the unwearied services of Mr. J. N. Macleod, teacher, Dornie, and Mr. Urquhart, teacher, Kyle. The Gaelic cause has no more loyal workers than these. Keen interest is being manifested in the Kyle district. In addition to this it should be noted that the services of Mr. Maclean, singing master, very largely contributed to the success of the gathering, and it was a wise step on the part of the Comunn to continue his services. They should not lose sight of him.

Ar deadh dhùrachd do mhuinntir a' Chaol agus na'n crìochan eile. Buaidh agus piseach leo ann an obair chiatach a ghabh iad as laimh.

FAILTE MOR-FHEAR GHLINN-URCHaidH.

Words by JOHN MACCALLUM, TIGH-NAM-BARR, TAYNUILT.

GLENS Aḃ.

{ s₁ :- .l₁ :s₁ | m :- .r :d | l₁ .f₁ :- :l₁ | d :- .t₁ :l₁ | s₁ :- .l₁ :s₁ | s₁ :d :r }
 { Fail - te do'n fhiuran deas; Mor-Fhear Glinn Ur - chaidh : Caimbeulach uasal nan }

{ m :- .r :d | r :- :- | s₁ :- .l₁ :s₁ | m :- .r :d | l₁ .f₁ :- :l₁ | d :- .t₁ :l₁ }
 { cruaidh lannan geur. 'Dhearbha 'sa bhlàr chath a bhi math ri uehd cruad - ail. }

{ s₁ :- .l₁ :s₁ | s₁ :d :m | r :- .m :r | d :- :- | m :- .r :m | s :m :d }
 { 'S minic 'thug buaidh le dheagh chlaidheamh air tréin. Dh' fhalbh e gu cur - an - ta. }

{ r :- .m :r | r :- .t₁ :s₁ | m :- .r :m | s :m :d | l₁ :- .r :r | r :- :- }
 { 's thug e gu tuath air 'S lasgairean fuasgailt 'Bhraid. Al - bairn 'na dheigh }

{ m :- .r :m | s :m :d | l₁ :- .f₁ :l | d :- .t₁ :l₁ | s₁ :- .l₁ :s₁ | s₁ :d :m }
 { 'Dhaingneach 'a chòirean air mórlanachd Ghall - thaobh 'S bodaich nam briogaisean }

CODA.

{ r :- .m :r | d :- :- || l :- :s :s | m :- :r | l :- :s :s | m :- :r }
 { thabhairt fo ghéill. Buaidh leis na treun - fhir. Gill - ean an fhéil - idh }

{ s₁ :- .d :m | s :- :f :m | r :- :m :r | d :- :- || }
 { Buaidh leis 'na Gaidh'l anns gach aith - e do'n teid. }

Choinnich na feachdan air leac Allt-nam-meirleach;
 Slìochd Mhic-na-Cearda fo'n ceannard, Fear Cheis.
 Suanacht' nam briogaisean, liobasda, cearbach;
 Sud an droch earradh, 'sa bhlàr, no 'san réis.
 B'eutrom, deas, lùth-chleasach Gillean an fhéilidh,
 Sgeadaicht' san éideadh is spéiseal' fo'n ghréin,
 Thug iad teth-ghreadadh dhaibh, 's theich na rag ghliogairean
 Bodaich nam briogaisean ghabh an *ratréud*.

'S fada an éigh bho Loch-Otha 's bho Chruachan.
 'S fada tha cobhair bho ghallain Chlann Duibhn'.
 Ach cha robh feum ac' air cobhair no fuasgladh,
 B' ullamh a ruag iad Fear Cheis 'us a shuinn.
 'S iomadh buaidh-laraich bh' aig Gillean an fhéilidh
 'N iomairt gach àraich bho linnean Na Feinn.
 'S tric air na Goill thug iad laimhseachadh sgiobalta,
 'S bodaich na 'm briogaisean ghabh an *ratréud*.

AN SGOIL BHEAG.

TRANSLATION.

"Tha mi 'cluinninn geumnaich a' chruidh. Tha. Agus am bheil thu 'mothachadh geum na bo riabhaich na's cruaidhe na càch? Sud agad i 'na ruith air thoiseach, mar gu 'm biodh i 'na cabhaig." Tha i 'g ionndrain an laigh. C' uin a rugadh an laogh? Air an t-seachdain so chaidh.

Co 'tha dól g' a bleighann? A Bhanachag. Ma tà feumaidh i buarach a chuir oirre an nochd.

C' arson? Bhreab i i feasgar an dé. Agus dé 'thachair? Shróichd i 'h-aparan 'o 'mhullach gu iochdar!

An do dhoirteadh am bainne?

Dhoirteadh; 's chuir a' bhò car a' mhuilt-ein de 'n chuman. Nach b' i 'bhiast, cha b' àbhaist di 'bhith cho fiadhaich sin. O, cha 'n 'eil i fiadhaich idir, 's ann a tha i cho sèimh ri uan, ach bha na sinnean aice gort, agus cha robh an laogh faisg oirre. Is deadh mhart-bainne a h-innte. An gabh thu deoch-bhainne?

Gabhaidh, 's mi 'ghabhas, ma bheir a' bhanachag seachad e. 'S i 'bheir; tha i ro chòir.

Thig a' steach do 'n bhàthaich.

A, bhòh! nach h-i 'tha glan.

Co 'chuir an t-aol rithe? Chuir an sgagal.

Cha 'n fhaic mi mir de bhuachar air an ùrlar.

Tha iad ga 'cartadh a h-uile la.

Seall cho glan 's a tha sléisdean agus luirgnean a' chruidh. Cha b' àbhaist sin a bhith mar seo.

Cha b' àbhaist, ach tha cùisean a 'dol am feabhas.

Gu dearbh, 's i 'ghlaine fhéin' tha ciatach.

Faic cho glan 's a tha 'n cuman-bleighann, agus cho sgiobalt 's a tha 'bhanachag.

Gheibh thu deoch anns a' chopan seo.

Olaidh mi a h-uile dileag.

Tapaidh leat, a Sheonaid. B' e 'n stuth e, 's cha b' e an tea dubh. 'S e do bheatha, a laochain, 's cha 'n ann ga mhaoidheadh ort. Feasgar math leat; innseadh mi do Choinneach Giobair cho ealanta 's a tha thu air bleighainn. Uist, bi falbh, air no spùtaidh mi bainne na d'aodann!

Ma tà bu mhór am beud sin a dheanamh, 's e cho maith.

"I am hearing the lowing of the cattle. Yes (you are) and are you taking notice that the lowing of the brindled cow is louder than the rest? There she is, running in front, as if she were in a hurry. She is missing (feeling the want of) the calf. When was the calf born? Last week (on the week that is past). Who is going to milk her? The milkmaid. Well, she must put a cow-fetter on her to-night. Why? She kicked her yesterday evening. And what happened? She tore her apron from top to bottom. Was the milk spilt? Yes (it was spilt) and the cow tumbled the milking pail (she put a somersault on the pail). Was not she a (wild) beast? She was not usually as wild as that. O! she is not wild at all, she is as gentle as a lamb, but the teats were sore, and the calf was not near her. She is a good milk cow. Will you take a drink of milk? Yes (I will take it, it is myself that will take) if the milkmaid will give it (forward). It is she that will, she is very kind. Come into the byre. Oh! dear me, how clean it is (is she not clean). Who washed it with lime (who put the lime to her)? The farm-servant. I do not see a particle of dung on the floor. They clean it daily. See how clean the haunches and the shanks of the cows are. That used not to be so. No (it used not) but matters are improving. Indeed it is cleanliness itself that is pleasant (admirable). See how clean the milking-pail is, and how smart (tidy) the milkmaid is. You shall get a drink in this cup. I will drink every drop. Thanks, Janet. That's the stuff, and not black tea (lit.: may you be a heroine—a common expression in many parts of the Highlands, "tapadh" means a clever feat or action, "gu robh maith agad" is another expression). You are welcome, my lad, and I don't grudge it. (This line is all idiom—lit.: it is thy life, my lad (hero), and I do not grudge you it. Maoith—to threaten). Good evening with you; I will tell Kenneth the Shepherd how smart you are at milking. Hold your peace, begone, or I will squirt milk in your face! That would be a great pity, and it (the milk) so good.

Cha 'n 'eil beud air—there's nothing the matter with him. Cha d' éirich beud da—no harm has happened to him.

LEASAIN GHAIHDHLIG.

XVII.

SAMHCHAR A' CHLACHAIN.

Thug mi sgrìob gu ruig Clachan boidheach 'o chionn ghoirid. Chaidh mi' shealltuinn air fìor chàirdean dhomh anns an fheasgar agus chum iad mi gus an robh e glé anamoch; 's e bu cheart dhomh a' radh gu'n d'chum iad mi (1) *gu uairean 's a mhaduinn*.

Bha mi, mar sin, sgìth cadalach a' dol a luidhe agus 'o nach robh cabhag òirigh orm anns a' mhaduinn bha a' ghrian gu maith àrd anns na speuran mu'n d' dhùisg mi.

(2) *Agus b'e sud an dùsgadh*, a dhuine! Cha'n fhaca, 's cha chuala, 's cha d' dh' fhairich mise a leithid a riamh.

Bha a' mhaduinn cho ciùin, sèimh; bha a' ghrian a' dearsadh gu h-òrbhuidhe agus a gathan glòrmhora 'dortadh a steach troimh na h-uinneagan; bha gach nì cho samhach, tosdach, (3) *cneasda*, cha mhòr (4) *nach cluinneadh tu am fear a' fas*.

"Nach maith a bhith beò," arsa mise rium fhéin, "a chum sealladh cho glòrmhor 'fhaicinn."

Dh'eirich mi air (5) *mo shocair fhéin*, agus a nuair a chuir mi (6) *umam* mo chuid aodaich chaidh mi a mach agus shuidh mi air stòl beag aig taobh an doruis.

(7) "*Tha cùl gaoithe agus aghaidh greine agad an so*," arsa fear-an-taighe, 's e a' tighinn a nuas chugam.

"Cha'n 'eil gaoth ann an diugh, a dhuine chòir," fhreagair mise, "cha'n 'eil (8) *deò oirre*," cha'n fhaca mi riamh maduinn cho ciùin."

"Thig thusa a dh' fhuireach do'n Chlachan agus chì thu iomadh maduinn cho àluinn ris an tè so."

(9) *'S mise am mac a dheanadh sin na'm b' urrainn mi—*"; ach cha robh an àth shealladh agam air, bha e'n deidh a dhol a steach.

"Thig a steach gu do (10) *bhracoist*, a dhuine," arsa esan 's e 'cur a chinn a mach air an uinneig.

"'S leòir am biadh-maidne dhomhsa," arsa mise, an sealladh boidheach a (11) *tha mu*

mo choinneamh an drasda." Agus b' fhìor dhomh-sa sin.

Bha gach craobh trom fo dhuilleach 's fo bhlàth; bha gach flùr a' sgaoileadh 'fhaillidh chùbhraidh air feadh a' ghàraidh, bha gach bileag feoir (12) *le a gucag deallt* a' boisgeadh 's a' dearsadh (13) *mar chloich daoineain*.

Sheall mi mu'n cuairt agus dhunnaic mi gach duine agus creutair gu socair, sèimh ag obair air son an lòin, agus mar sin a' tabhairt gloire do (13a) *'n Tì a chruthaich iad*.

Ghlacdh fear-an-taighe orm a rithist chun a bhidhe. Chaidh mi' steach ach cha d' dh' ith mi mòran; bha mi' cheana làn—; bha m' inntinn 's mo chridhe air an lionadh le moladh do Dhia a thug dhomh cothrom a leithid sud do shealladh 'fhaicinn (14) *agus a shealbhadhachd*.

Anns an fheasgar chuir mi m' aghaidh air mo dhachaidh fhéin, ach gu bràth cha dì-chuimhnich mi àilleachd agus samhchar a' Chlachain.

AM BUACHAILL.

- (1) Lit.: to hours in the morning—till the small hours, etc.
- (2) Lit.: and that was (indeed) an awakening, i.e., a pleasant one.
- (3) *Cneasda*—canny (sensible, calm, unperturbed).
- (4) Lit.: (it was) not much that you would not hear the grass growing—therefore, "you could almost hear the grass growing."
- (5) Lit.: on my own easiness—at my sweet will.
- (6) *Umam*—about me; on me. Cp. *umad*, uime, etc.
- (7) Lit.: the back of wind and face of sun—shelter from wind but enjoying the sunshine.
- (8) *Deò*—breath (cp. not a blink of wind).
- (9) Lit.: I'm the son that, etc.—I'm the *lad* would do, etc.
- (10) Lit.: breakfast. The one is an Anglicised or rather Gaelicised form of the other: I have heard it used often. (Have you any other terms for *breakfast*?)
- (11) Lit.: which is *about* my (meeting or front), i.e., which is right before me.
- (12) Lit.: with its 'bud' of dew—"bead of dew."
- (13) a stone of diamond.
- (13a) An Tì—the 'One,' the Almighty, the One who created them.
- (14) Lit.: and to possess (i.e., in the sense of 'to enjoy').

[About a hundred years ago Perthshire people called "breakfast" *trasg-bhriscadh*, also *biadh-maidne*.—Ed.]

HIGHLAND HOME INDUSTRIES.

The Annual Sale of Highland Home Industries organised by An Comunn Gaidhealach will take place on September 17th, 18th, and 19th, in the old university town of St. Andrew's under the convenership of Mrs. Macdonald, 11 Howard Place, and a strong and very representative local committee. It was originally intended that this sale should be always associated with the big Mòd, but as a sale of Highland Home Industries under other auspices has been held for many years at Inverness during September, it was necessary for An Comunn to find another outlet, and it is believed that such a sale at St. Andrew's is likely to prove very successful. Not only do many tweed-wearing sportsmen come there on their way further north, but the celebrated golf links attract crowds of summer visitors of both sexes, who require homespun, not to speak of a large resident population. The Scottish Home Industries Association, in which Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland takes so active an interest, had planned to have their sale at St. Andrew's this year also, but they very courteously gave place to An Comunn, and have now arranged to hold their sale at Helensburgh. The more sales that are held every year, the wider the interest that will be aroused in Highland Home Industries, and the better it will be for the Highland Home workers. Leaflets giving all particulars of the Sale, and of the competitions can be obtained from the General Secretary. Very sincere thanks are due to Mrs. Macdonald, the local convener, for the trouble she is taking to ensure the success of the Sale.

—:O:—

LINES BY ALASTAIR MACLAREN, CRINALARICH.

I have met thee on the hillside
In the nook, where dwells the primrose,
By the burnside, where the blackcock
Startled, wings from off the birch tree,
On the loch, where leaping troutlets,
Send the widening ripples shorewards,
In the paved, threatening gullies,
With their circling rock walls towering.
In the summer-scented corrie,
On the lone peak's sun-bathed forehead,
In the pine wood's dim recesses,
Where the sunbeams shyly enter,
By the banks of mighty rivers.
Where the tall reeds nod together,
On the broad expanse of moorland,
When the lark sang high above me,

On the Coolins' hoary ridges,
Or 'mid Coruisk's cliff-girt dimness,
On the crests of Norway's mountains,
With her glaciers blue beneath me,
Where Arolla's frowning ice cliffs
Send their avalanches thund'ring,
In the cloud and in the sunshine,
Where the bee plays his soft bagpipe,
Where the eagle soars majestic,
At the haughty sun's uprising,
Or the velvet close of evening.
When the night lay close around me,
And strange thoughts were borne upon me,
As the stars unwearied twinkled,
Where the lowering clouds disclosed them,
Oftenest in my own dear Highlands,
But at times 'mid other mountains,
Never though amid the plain lands,
Only 'mid the hills, I meet thee—
Thee the best part of my nature,
Thee the spirit o'er me watching,
Grieving when my footsteps wander
From the flinty path of duty,
Smiling, if my poor endeavour
Sometimes tells of something nobler,
Better than my usual 'faring.
I have met thee, felt thee striving
'Gainst the grosser clay that binds me
Ever to the things around me.
May I ever feel thee stronger,
More insistent, better heeded,
Till my footsteps reach the Mistland,
The Dream Mountains of my longing.

ALASTAIR MACLABHRAINN.

—:O:—

COMMUN NEWS.

NEW BRANCHES IN SKYE.—Rev. Neil Ross, Rosemount Parish, Aberdeen, has formed the following six new branches of An Comunn Gaidhealach in the Island of Skye. About 200 new members, including office-bearers, have been added to An Comunn.

KILMUIR BRANCH.—President, Rev. Neil Macphail (Parish); vice-president, Rev. Mr. Macdonald (U.F.); secretary and treasurer, Mr. Andrew MacNab. Committee—Miss F. Ross, district nurse; Miss Christina Maclean, teacher; Miss A. Macdonald, teacher; Mr. J. MacNab, headmaster. Twenty-one ordinary members were enrolled.

UG BRANCH.—President, Dr. Grant Macdonald; vice-president, Major Cameron, Cuidreach; secretary, Mr. D. Macdonald, teacher; treasurer, Mr. Angus Nicholson. Committee—Mr. William MacInnes, builder; Miss K. Graham, teacher; Miss Mary Graham, do.; Mr. Norman Beaton, Mr. Angus Ross, merchant. Twenty ordinary members joined this branch on the evening of its formation.

DUNVEGAN BRANCH.—President, Macleod of Macleod, C.M.G.; vice-president, Mr. John Mackenzie, estate factor; secretary and treasurer, Mr. R. F. Matheson, late estate factor. Committee—Dr. Stewart, Miss Mackenzie, Greenhill; Miss Mackenzie, teacher; Mr. D. Graham, M.A., teacher; Mr. Wm. Merkin, teacher, Vatin; Mr. John Macdonald, joiner; Mr. John Macdonald.

gamekeeper; Mr. Donald Budge, Hotel; Mr. Donald Maclean; Mr. Neil Ferguson, Skindir; Mr. Thomas M'Neil. There are also twenty-one ordinary members on the roll, and the Workman's Club has been affiliated.

ARDVASAR BRANCH.—President, Colonel Martin Martin of Ostaig; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Donald Ross, teacher. Committee—Mr. Malcolm M'Coll, Home Farm; Mr. Alex. Kennedy, merchant; Mr. Macfadyen, missionary; Mr. Norman Campbell, Mr. John Macleod, Tormore; Mr. Hugh Macdonald, Mr. Angus Macinnes. There are also sixteen ordinary members.

ISLEORNAY BRANCH.—President, Mr. Robert Graham, merchant; vice-president, Dr. W. B. Hastings; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Neil Macleod, teacher. Committee—Mr. John M. Anderson, post office; Miss Fraser, teacher, Drumfearn; Mr. Malcolm Anderson, inspector of poor; Mr. George Macdonald, Mr. Hugh Fraser, Miss MacIure, teacher; Mr. John Macinnes, Drumfearn. There are also thirty ordinary members in this branch.

PORTREE BRANCH.—President, Sheriff Campbell; vice-president, Mr. J. G. Mackay; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Alex. Murchison, Caledonian Hotel. Committee—Miss Macdonald Viewfield; Miss Toonie Macdonald, Mr. Ronald Macdonald, solicitor and banker; Dr. Fletcher, Mr. Wm. Robertson, solicitor; Dr. Stewart, Mr. A. D. Mackinnon, solicitor; Mr. Wm. Ross; Mr. Alex. Campbell, Mr. Nicolson, teacher, Braes. There are twenty ordinary members in this branch.

PROPAGANDA WORK.—Under the auspices of the Inverness Branch of An Comunn, a successful meeting was held at Rothiemurchus. The hon. secretary, Miss Alice Henderson, Mr. R. Macleod, Rev. M. N. Munro, Taynuilt (who is at present in the district), and Mr. A. Morison motored to Rothiemurchus for the occasion. Rothiemurchus occupied the chair, and was accompanied by his son, Mr. Ian Grant, yr., of Rothiemurchus. There was a large and most enthusiastic audience, and the proceedings were interesting and successful throughout. At the outset, Mr. Ian Grant gave a fine rendering of a pibroch on the bagpipes, of which he is an excellent exponent. Thereafter the Chairman delivered a short address, dealing with the objects of An Comunn. Mr. Ian Grant then addressed the crowded audience on the advantages of forming a branch, and expressed his entire sympathy with the objects of An Comunn. Rev. M. N. Munro spoke at some length on the importance of the Gaelic language as a medium of culture. The hon. secretary followed with an interesting address, in which she gave a short outline of the practical work which a newly-formed branch should undertake, such as the holding of ceilidhs, Gaelic classes, a reading circle, Gaelic singing classes, and the holding of Mods and competitions from time to time, to which the Comunn would be prepared to render assistance in the shape of prizes, etc. Mr. R. Macleod spoke stirringly in English and Gaelic, referring particularly to the beauty of Gaelic music, and his address roused the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. During the evening Gaelic songs were rendered in highly artistic fashion by Miss Henderson,

Mod gold medallist (1911), and Mr. Rod. Macleod, while Mr. John Mackintosh, a local singer, added to the enjoyment of the evening by his excellent contribution of four Gaelic songs, sung in capital style. In moving a vote of thanks to Rothiemurchus, Mr. R. Macleod referred to the great success of the Inverness Branch during the six years of his presidency. Rothiemurchus, in acknowledging, moved a cordial vote of thanks to the party who had come from Inverness to help them, which was heartily responded to. After the National Anthem was sung, the formation of a branch for Rothiemurchus and district was proceeded with, the following being the office-bearers:—President, Rothiemurchus; vice-president, the Rev. D. Macdougall; hon. secretary, Mr. James Smith, Achnahatnich. Committee—Mr. Ian Grant, yr., of Rothiemurchus; Mr. Hector Mackenzie, Glenmore; Mr. John Mackenzie, Tullochgrue; Mr. Norman Mackenzie, Aviemore; Mr. John Mackintosh, Dalnavert; and Miss Fraser, Aviemore. In all 50 members were enrolled. The following is a list of branches established through the Special Propaganda work undertaken by the Inverness branch.

CORRIEMONY, GLENURQUHART.—Hon. president, Colonel Grant of Hazelbrae; vice-president, Mrs. Campbell of Kilmartin; secretary, Mr. Fiddes, teacher, Balnain; treasurer, Miss Fraser, Schoolhouse, Corriemony.

DRUMNADROCHIT, GLENURQUHART.—Hon. President, Earl of Seafield; president, Rev. Rodrick Mackenzie, Manse, Glenurquhart; vice-president, Bradley Martin, Esq., of Balmacan; secretary and treasurer, Angus Grant, Drumallin, Drumnadrochit.

KILTARLITY.—Hon. president, Lord Lovat; president, Rev. Archibald Macdonald, Manse. Kiltarlity; vice-president —; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Macrae, teacher, Kilbirnie, Baulry.

INVERMORISTON.—Hon. president, Ian Murray Grant, Esq., of Glenmoriston; vice-presidents, Rev. Archibald MacNeill, and Mr. Dean, merchant; secretary and treasurer, Mr. William Grant, teacher, Invermoriston.

CONTIN.—Hon. president, Sir Arthur Mackenzie, Bart., of Coul; vice-presidents, Rev. Mr. Maclean, Manse, Contin, and Mr. John Macrae; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Donald Munn, orester, Contin, Strathpeffer.

ROTHIEMURCHUS.—President, J. P. Grant, Esq., of Rothiemurchus; vice-president, Rev. D. Macdougall; hon. secy., James Smith, Achnahatnich, and a committee of six including Mr. Ian Grant, yr., of Rothiemurchus, to whose exertions the formation of this branch is largely due.

MALLAG.—A branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach has been formed, and the following have been appointed office-bearers:—President, Rev. M. S. Maclean; vice-president, Mr. A. M'Leellan, J.P.; secretary, Mr. J. Macmaster. The branch meets periodically for the study of and conversation in Gaelic.

TAOBH NA LEARGAIDH.—The above branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach met for the first time in Tayinloan Reading-room, under the chairmanship of Rev. D. J. Macdonald. The first part of the meeting was mainly devoted to business, and the following resolution was carried:—"That the meetings of the Branch be held

during winter, commencing in October; that the places of meeting be Tayinloan and Muasdale alternately, and that the subjects taken up be Gaelic reading and debating." Thereafter a number of members were enrolled. The second part of the meeting was taken up with instruction in Gaelic reading and translation, given by the Rev. D. J. MacDonald, who brought the proceedings to a finish with an interesting Gaelic reading.

LOCHABER.—The annual business meeting of the Lochaber Comunn took place on Monday, when the following office-bearers were elected:—President, Miss Juliet Macdonald; vice-presidents, the Rev. A. Shaw, Mr. A. Campbell, Mr. D. Macleish, Provost Young, and Rev. Canon Mackintosh; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Duncan MacLachlan, 76 High Street, Fort William; representatives on Central Association, Provost Young, ex-Provost Mackenzie, Rev. J. Walker Macintyre, and Mr. A. Campbell, solicitor; representative on Executive Council, Miss Juliet Macdonald. The financial report was read by the treasurer, and was considered satisfactory. It was remitted to a committee to consider means to enable a ladies' choir to compete at Inverness Mòd. Unanimous expression was given to the feeling of indebtedness due by the Comunn and community to Mr. Donald Macniven, choir conductor, for his unwearied labours in connection with both choirs for the last five years. It was resolved to send a deputation to invite the Comunn Gaidhealach to hold the Mòd of 1913 in Lochaber, the foot of Ben Nevis being the appropriate place for a great gathering of the Gael.

THE MÒD: NEWS AND NOTES.—The Inverness School Board have written the local secretary intimating their patronage to the Mòd. This should be an encouragement to teachers to grant reasonable facilities for the training of choirs and individual competitors that may be desirous of entering. Already quite a number of school choirs are under training or in process of formation. There will be two from the High School, two from Farraline Park, and probably two from the Merkinch School. A children's choir from Sutherland is also expected. In all probability the Contin Choir, which is under the leadership of Mr. John Macrae, and which made such an admirable appearance at their concert this week, will enter for competition. We understand they have now taken up the study of the test music. Sir Arthur Mackenzie, Bart., of Coull, is president of the Contin Branch of the Comunn, and he is ably backed up by the vice-presidents, Rev. Mr. Maclean and Mr. John Macrae.

ATHOLL GAELIC ASSOCIATION.—At the annual meeting of the Atholl Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, at Pitlochry, on Thursday night, 9th May, it was reported that 4 life and 259 ordinary members had been enrolled during the year, the total membership being now 12 life and 328 ordinary. The finances showed a credit balance of £40 2s. 6d. The chairman, Mr. J. Macnaughton, expressed satisfaction with the success of the Branch. The following office-bearers were elected:—Patron, the Duke of Atholl, K.T.; president, Mr. J. Macnaughton, J.P.; vice-presidents, Miss Murray Macgregor of Macgregor; Miss Robertson, Dundonnachaidh;

and Rev. H. Maccallum, Blair Atholl; delegate to Executive Council and general secretary, Lady Helen Stewart Murray, Blair Castle; treasurer, Mr. James Robertson, Pitlochry. It was agreed to appoint local secretaries for Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, and Ballinluig sections of the Branch. Lady Helen Stewart Murray suggested the enrolment of children in a juvenile branch; and, supporting a proposal to contribute a donation of 5 guineas to the Mòd prize-list for a special subject, the Rev. D. Lamont, Blair Atholl, said he thought the prizes given at the annual Mòd were rather small, with the result that in the literary competitions, for example, the quality of the competitions was not what it might otherwise be.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH MHALLAIG.—The local branch held their first Ceilidh under the chairmanship of Rev. M. S. McLean, the president. There was a very good attendance. The Chairman expressed satisfaction at the number present at that, their first meeting, and intimated that at the next ceilidh he would put before them for consideration that the Glenelg, Arisaig, and Mallaig branches petition the Executive Council to send them a Gaelic teacher during the winter months. The following were elected members of the committee:—Messrs. D. MacDougall, D. McLennan, C. MacDonald, Alex. MacKenzie, John McLellan, D. MacDonald, D. Gillies, and Archibald McLellan, builder. It is satisfactory to note that everyone present joined this branch of An Comunn, and it is hoped the number of lady members will be increased at the next meeting.

GAELIC NIGHT AT ABERFELDY.—A successful Ceilidh, under the auspices of Aberfeldy Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, was held in Aberfeldy Town Hall on Wednesday, 1st May. A large and representative attendance was presided over by Mr. Donald MacDiarmid, F.S.A.A., president of the branch. After tea a lengthy programme of Gaelic songs and readings was submitted. Mr. Stewart Campbell contributed selections on the bagpipes, and an address was given in Gaelic by Mr. K. MacLeod, M.A., Strathloch to whom with the support he received from Dr. MacArthur and Mr. Smart, Gaelic teacher, the present satisfactory position of the branch, which has already over a hundred members, is due. The usual votes of thanks were accorded. All the proceedings of the evening's entertainment were exclusively conducted in Gaelic. Special mention should be made of the ladies who provided the tea:—the Misses Stewart Robertson, Mrs. Galloway, Dirgarve; Mrs. MacDiarmid, and the energetic secretary, Miss Menzies, Rannochlea.

EILEAN A CHEO: COMUNN GAIDHEALACH SAN T-STRATH.—Tha coltas beò, beathmhor air a' Chomunn seo, agus ma leanas rompa nì iad feum. Bha trì choinneamhan mòra aca air a' mhìos a chaidh. Aig a' cheud choinneamh, ann an Tigh Sgoile An Àth-Leathain, thug an t-Uasal C. A. Cheabheasa B.A. Uisgephort òraid bhrìghmhor, chomasach air "Brìgh agus feum na Gàidhlig (a) do Ghaidheil (b) innte fhein, (c) do Ghoill, (d) agus do choigrich." Bha an t-Uachdran an t-Urramach Callum Macleod, M.A., agus a chathair agus bha an tigh luma-lan sluagh dheth gach seorsa a dh'èisd le ro-aire ri briathran filcanta, foghlumte a' laoiach a thainig a

nuas a teis-meadhon nan Sasunnach, chum a chairdean ann an Alba a bhrosnachadh gu feum mhath a dheanamh dheth na sochairan a tha iad a nis a mealltainn; agus gu bhith air am bonnaibh ma's bi iad air an ciosnachadh gu h-iomlan le cleachdaidhean agus cuilbheartean Sheòn Bhuidhe. Coigeis an deigh so bha cruinneachadh 'math eile aig a Chomunn ann a Spoil Bhreacais far an tug Mgr. Cheabhessa òraid eile do'n t-sluagh air "Tairbhe agus feabhas na Gaidhealtachd." Anns an òraid so nochd e cìod iad na dòighean anns a' faodte cor na Gaidhealtachd sa latha 'n diugh a leasachadh gu mòr; agus, le gearr-chunntas air eachdraidh rìoghachdan eile san Rùn-Eorpa, thug e dearbhadh air mar a tha ath-bheothachadh agus neartachadh teanga a cuideachadh le aghartas agus saobhreas tìre. Beagan 'us seachdun an deigh na coinneamh so bha Cuirm-Chiùil air a cumail ann a Spoil An Ath-Leathain airson beagan airgid a thional airson cosg air a' chloinn a thoirt do'n Chaol gu Mòd na Cloinne air an deicheamh latha do'n Cheitein. Rinneadh sin; 's chaidh a Choisir thun a Mhòid far an do choisinn iad a chiad duais. Faodaidh sinn innseadh nach do labhradh smid Beurla aig gin de na trì cruinnichidhean soirbheachail a bha so.

:o:

OUR BRETHREN OVERSEAS AND ELSEWHERE.

THE GAELIC SOCIETY OF VANCOUVER.—The Gaelic Society of Vancouver, B.C., held one of their periodical ceilidhs in April, when the secretary, Mr. J. Grant, was presented with an address and a purse of gold. Mr. Lachlan Maclean presided over a crowded audience. After a programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs was finished, the Rev. Ronald Macleod of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, made the presentation and Mr. Grant suitably replied. The ladies of the Society then entertained the audience with tea and cake. The meeting closed by singing "Oidheche mhath leibh 's beannachd leibh."

A SUGGESTION FROM ONTARIO, CANADA.—A Gael residing in Ontario writes that he is a regular reader of an "Deo-Grèine, and takes great delight in its pages. He adds that it is greatly appreciated in what he calls "Bridge Camps." A suggestion is made that a Gaelic corresponding club might be instituted, so that Gaels overseas could have the opportunity of keeping up and improving their knowledge of Gaelic by getting into touch with their brethren on this side. The suggestion is a good one, and we shall be pleased to help any correspondent in this direction.

THE SUTHERLAND CELTIC SOCIETY.—A meeting of the Rogart Committee of the Sutherland Celtic Society took place last month; Rev. C. Macdonald in the chair. The Chairman expressed his gratification that Miss Margaret Finlay and Miss Struchan, both of Inverness, had been appointed for the purpose of teaching Gaelic and singing in the county. While, he said, there was a falling away in the knowledge and use of the Gaelic language in Sutherlandshire, he saw signs of hopeful vitality in various parts. It is understood that the Inverness Mod will have competitors from the district, and Miss Finlay is making arrangements accordingly. We hope that the signs of revival in Sutherlandshire may result in abundant fruit, and that the people will

return to a study of their old language—the language of Rob Donn and the "Men."

WIMBLETON AND DISTRICT SCOTS ASSOCIATION.—Miss M. Grant, late Secretary of this Association, sends a short account of their third Annual Meeting. The Annual Report records over twenty meetings held during the year, and in addition, the various circles (including a Gaelic circle) have met weekly or fortnightly throughout the winter session. We notice with pleasure that our Scottish friends in London recognise the claims of Gaelic, and the Comunn Gaidhealach are always interested in the efforts of all who seek to promote the advancement of the language of the Gael.

COMUNN NAN ALBANACH.—This Comunn held its annual Gaelic festival in London last month, and although it was the "thirteenth," they declared themselves determined to rob Fate herself of her laurels and turn the hoary-headed superstition connected with that number into a magnificent blaze of Gaelic song, Gaelic speech and story—eclipsing Glasgow, Edinburgh, Inverness, and Oban! Mr. Iain Macpherson, M.P., presided over a very large and representative audience. It is needless to say that Mr. Macpherson's speech was characterised with that Celtic fervour which appeals to all true Gaels. The language can only live through the efficient teaching of the children in school. Time was on their side and the movement was destined to grow and to conquer. At the concert the star of the evening was Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness, who was in excellent form, and justified his reputation as the leading exponent of Gaelic song in our time. This Comunn is engaged in the same work as ourselves, i.e., "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." We therefore wish them "Buaidh agus piseach."

:o:

DONATIONS TO INVERNESS MOD FUND, 1912.

Amount already intimated, ...	£90 18 3
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Mrs Fraser MacKintosh of Drummond, per Kenneth MacDonald, Solicitor, Inverness, ...	2 2 0
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Gaelic Society of Glasgow, ...	1 1 0
Glasgow Mull and Iona Association, ...	3 0 0
	1 11 6

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS.

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Sir Alexander Bosville Macdonald of the Isles,
Duntulm, Isle of Skye.

Lady Alice Bosville Macdonald of the Isles, Duntulm, Isle of Skye.

Donald Mackenzie, Esq., Glasgow.

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Miss Laura G. Tennant, Fairlie.

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AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

Lincoln College, Oxford.

Glasgow Islay Association.

—:O:—

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Ordinary Members of the Association are respectfully requested to note that the Annual Subscription for Session 1912-1913 is *FIVE SHILLINGS*, not Four Shillings, as formerly; and that the Subscription becomes due on 1st June, 1912, and should be paid to the Treasurer as soon as possible thereafter.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed to Mr. DONALD MACPHIE, The Schoolhouse, Cumbernauld, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, Annual Subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

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For further information apply to the General Secretary, 108 Hope Street, Glasgow.



AN DEO-GRÉINE

Leabhar VII.]

Treas Mìos an t-Samhraidh, 1912.

[Earrann 10.

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SGOIL-SHAMHRAIDH NA GÀIDHLIG.

Bu mhiann leinn gu'n d'thugadh ar luchd-leughaidh fainear rùn a Chomuinn a thaobh an Sgoil Shamhraidh a tha iad suidhichte a' chumail ann an Ile Bhòidheach—Ile ghorm an fheòir—toiseach a cheud mhios de'n fhoghar. Chaidh a cheud Sgoil Shamhraidh a chur air bonn anns an fhoghar, 1910, aig an Drochaid Ruaidh; agus, mar a tha fios aig mòran a tha gabhail tlachd ann an soirbheachadh na Gàidhlig, 's ann an intinn bean uasail àraidh a tha gle mhioghaile air ar cànan a tharmaich an rùn. 'Nuair a tha cuid de'r luchd-duthecha, a tha co-cheangailte ri oileanachadh dheth gach seòrsa, dripeil an àm an t-samhraidh 's an fhoghair a' stèidheachadh sgoilean de'n t-seòrsa seo mu thiomhaill an stèidh-teagaisg sin a tha iad a creidsinn 'ni fèum doibh féin's do'n co-chreutairean, e' arson a bhiodh na Gaidheil air dheireadh a chum a bhi'g àrdachadh an cànan fhéin, a tha cho buadh-mhor ri cànan-eile gu fosgladh na h-intinn, agus ga h-àiteachadh air a leithid a dhòigh 's gu'm

bì i comasach ann an tomhas sealbh a ghabhail air litreachas na tire air fad. Cha 'n'eil neach aig am bheil spéis do'n Ghàidhlig nach bi 'guidhe gu'm bì oidheirpean a Chomuinn soirbheachail, agus gu'm bì a rùntan air an coimhionadh gu pailt a thaobh na cùise seo. 'Se easbhuidh na's leòir a sgoilearan, an aon rud a chumas gnothaichean air ais. Ach tha sinn an dòchas gu'm meas a mhuinntir a tha làn déidh do'n Ghaidhlig, cuideachd ris an dream a tha 'mhiann a h-ionnsachadh, mar dhleasdanas an ainmean a chur a steach a dh'ionnsuidh Run-Chleireach a Chomuinn gun dàil. Tha luchd-teagaisg ealanta air an taghadh cheana leis a Chomunn,—daoiné 'tha cleachdte, do bhrìgh an drèuchd, ri bhi'g ionnsachadh òigridh. Bì òraidean ga'n toirt seachad le uaislean a tha min eolach air cùisean na Gaidhealtachd, a litreachas agus a cànan. A thuileadh air seo gheibhear ceòl,—bha ceòl a leantuin na Gàidhlig riamh. A nis tha e glé fhreagarrach gu'm biodh an Sgoil Shamhraidh 'ga' cur air bonn ann an Ile, an t-eilean anns an d' rugadh am bard Mac an Leigh, agus Niall Mór Mac Ailpein, ughdar foclair Gàidhlig taitneach, air am bheil a h-uile sgoilear Gàidhlig eòlach. Cha 'n'eil teagamh nach fhaighear ar eaint na gloinead ann an Ile Bhòidheach fhathast, a dh'aindeoin buaidh fasan na Galltachd. A bharrachd air seo cha 'n'eil eilean eile anns a' Ghailteachd a bheir bàrr air Ile ann am bòichead agus toradh. Mar sin is math a thoill e "Ile bhòidheach an fheòir." Bidh eòlas agus slainte air a bhuileachadh air gach neach a cheanglas e féin ris an sgoil shamhraidh, oir bidh ullachadh air a dheanamh air son an comhartachd air gach dòigh.

ARD SHEANADH EAGLAIS NA H-ALBA AGUS A GHÀIDHLIG.

Air a mhìos so a chaidh thuirt sinn focal na dhà anns a chainnt eile mar fhuargairt do'n sgrìobhadh—ath-ghearr a chuir Ard Sheanadh na h-Eaglaise a mach mu thimcheall tearcad oileannaich òga anns na colaisdean, a tha rùnachadh a bhì 'deanamh deiseil air son searmonachadh an t-soisgeil anns a Ghàidhlig, agus cha do dh'aontaich sinn ris na rèusanan a thug na ministearan seachad. Beagan an dèidh sin chumadh coinneamh ann an Dun-Eideann, agus thugadh barail eile air a phuing. An deidh na dinnearach—bhliadhnaid a bhitheas a 'g ullachadh gu sonruichte a chum na ministearan a chruinneachadh air son a bhì 'toirt faineas suidheachadh na h-Eaglaise anns a Ghaidhealtachd, am measg chùisean eile, thachair gu'n tug Diadhaire còir òraid seachad, agus bha e 'caoidh cho teare 's a bha anns a Ghaidhealtachd ministearan òga comasach a Ghàidhlig a shearmonachadh le taitneas. Chomharlaich e do na h-oileannaich òga a dhol a dh'fhuireach ràidh no leth-bhliadhna cuide ri seann chibair a chum fìor seol-labhairt na Gàidhlig ionnsachadh. Sud agaibh modh ùr na h-Eaglais! Co chuala riamh a leithid? Ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig am measg mìoilich chaorach agus comhartaich chon ann an leth-bhliadhna! 'S gann gu'm faigh neach ciobair an diugh, as urrainn fead a dheanamh, nach bì a leigeadh 's a stuigeadh a choin ann an cainnt is gann a thuigeas e fhéin na 'chù mar seo:—"Cam ear ahent." "Ger away back oot pye." "Laidh toon there." "Cam in to my fught"—agus griasadan eile de'n t-seorsa seo. Sin agaibh, a chuideachd, am modh ùr air son ionnsachadh Gàidhlig a chum a bhì searmonachadh an t-soisgeil shiorruidh air feadh na Gaidhealtachd! Nach e chulaidh-mhulaid e? Am bheil e neo-chomasach do Dhiadhairean ar n-Eaglaisean a thuigsinn, ma tha iad idir a creidsinn gur airidh na Gaidheil an Soisgeul a chluinntinn 'nan càinain fhéin, gu féin an t-ullachadh tòiseachadh ann an àm na h-oige, anns an sgoil? Cha'n 'eil rathad eile ann. Am beagan a dh'fhiach an seòl eile, cha d' rinn iad ach cuis-bhùrta dhoibh féin a stréup ri bhith a cur fa chomhair an t-sluaigh nithean naomh ann an Gàidhlig nach d' thugadh ach fiamh a ghàire air an luchd-èiseidheachd, mar a thug ùrnuigh Shutair a rèir beachd 'Illeas-buig Aotroim:—

"'Nuair a theid thu do'n chùbaid
Nì thu ùrnuigh bhios gleusda
Bìdh cuid di' na Gàidhlig
Is pàirt di' na Béurla.

'S a chuid nach tuig càch dhi
Bheir i gair' air Fear-Gheusdo."

Coinneas fear de'n t-seorsa seo ri aon de Dhiadhairean Móra na Gaidhealtachd, a tha nis aig fois shiorruidh. "Be'n t-srathair an àite na diollaide e." Cha bu mhisde ministearan òga a bhith an dràsda 's a rithist 'comhradh ri ciobair, no tàillear, no seann ghriasaiche. Mar is tric 's ann aig fear-na-snàthaid, no aig fear-a-mhinidh a tha an t-eòlas is cuimite 's is eugnaidh air a chainnt. Tha eagal oirnn mur a toir na h-Eaglaisean faineas na thràth na cuisean seo, nach bì ann an deireadh a ghnòthaich ach Béurla a mhàin anns gach cùpaid far am b' abhaist cainnt dhrùiteach nan Gaidheil a bhith riaghladh. Ma 's e seo an dileab a dh'fhàgas na h-eaglaisean na'n deidh, mu thruaighe! Abramaid aon uair eile nach 'eil ach an aon doigh gu seo a chumail air ais—a Ghàidhlig agus a litreachas anns gach sgoil. Mar a their na ministearan féin a comhdhunadh searmoin, "Fàgaidh sinn agaibh e."

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THE LATE DR. A. CARMICHAEL.

Through the courtesy of the Editor of the "Glasgow Herald," we have been permitted to publish the following appreciation of this distinguished Gael, who did more in his lifetime for Celtic matters than any man living. The article, which is well worthy of reproduction, appeared in the "Herald" of the 8th of June.

THE LATE DR. A. CARMICHAEL.

AN APPRECIATION.

There passed away on Thursday morning—on St. Columba's Day as he himself would have wished—one of the most distinguished sons of Gaeldom, the one who loved and understood her best, and interpreted her inner life most fully to the outside world. Alexander Carmichael was born nearly 80 years ago in the island of Lismore, a place famous in Western story from the day St. Moluag, running a boat race with his brother monk St. Columba for the spiritual possession of the isle, won by the quaint device of cutting off his finger and throwing it ashore, to the more recent day when the parish minister, the Rev. Donald Macnicol, launched his philippic against Ossian's

detractor, "that vile Cockney, Dr. Samuel Johnson." That Alexander Carmichael was influenced by the atmosphere of the place shows in the fact that while yet a mere boy he began collecting such ancient traditions and poems as still survived among the older generation—things which the younger people despised or at any rate were unable to appreciate. Later on, having entered the Inland Revenue service, he was given an appointment in Cornwall, but, to use his own words, "The song of the isles was with me by day and by night, and it ever called me home"; nor did he rest content until he got himself transferred to a more congenial though less lucrative post in the Western Isles. Years after, the Board of Inland Revenue, who appreciated his ability, offered him high office at headquarters, but neither gold nor position could tempt Alexander Carmichael away from the Isles, with their remarkable remains of an ancient Celtic world of tale and croon and rune. When in the course of time he did return to the mainland, he brought back with him from the Hebrides material such as no other Celt has ever collected or ever will collect.

Dr. Carmichael was a collector of folklore and of folk-literature for the long period of 57 years—literally to the day of his death; what he published forms, according to himself, but a small part of a large mass of oral literature written down from the recital of men and women throughout the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, from Arran to Caithness, from Perth to St. Kilda." And yet this "small part" is a literature in itself. To "Nicolson's Gaelic Proverbs" and to Campbell's "Popular Tales of the West Highlands" he contributed some of their most valuable material. For Skene's "Celtic Scotland" he wrote an article on the "Land Tenure of the Highlands," which so impressed Lord Napier of Magdala that he got Mr. Carmichael to contribute to the "Report of the Crofters' Royal Commission" an elaborate treatise on "The Agrestic Customs of the Outer Isles," the publication of which is now regarded as the most important piece of work done by the Commission! Apart from those, his articles in the transactions of various learned societies—anti-quarian, geographical, archaeological, and Celtic—would alone have made his reputation, though he had written nothing else. One of these contributions, "The Tale of Deirdre," now published in book form, is notable as being the only version orally collected of a

romance, which is contained in at least two manuscripts in the Advocates' Library, and which in ancient Celtic lore was known as one of the "Three Sorrows of Story-telling." This oral version, which has been translated into French and into German, is generally regarded as one of the gems of Celtic literature.

HIS "MAGNUM OPUS."

Dr. Carmichael's "magnum opus" was, however, his "Carmina Gadelica," that unique collection of "Hymns and incantations, with illustrative notes on words, rites, and customs, dying and obsolete: orally collected in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and translated into English, by Alexander Carmichael." The publication of these two volumes marked out the author as not merely the most interesting personality in Gaelic Scotland, but as the foremost figure, from a literary and artistic standpoint, in the European Celtic movement. No other book expresses so well the inner life of the Celtic race, and, according to an eminent German professor, no other race has produced such a book. In a review of "Carmina Gadelica" which appeared in the "Nineteenth Century" magazine Dr. Carmichael was aptly described as "the last great chronicler of the Gael," but he was far more than that. Great collector though he was, he was greater still in interpreting the material collected. It could hardly be said of him that he was strictly scientific in his methods; his success in dealing with the past really lay in the fact that he was more of the bard and of the seer than of the scientist. Intellectually and spiritually he was himself of the Gaelic aristocracy of the past, of the same company as St. Columba, the Lords of the Isles, and Flora Macdonald, and hence the irresistible charm both of his character and of his work. Hence, too, the widespread influence of his work, which has not only given material to, and made the reputation of, other writers, but has cast a glamour all its own over the whole Celtic movement.

One of the most delightful traits in Dr. Carmichael's character was his acute consciousness of the value and beauty of the work he had done, and his unconsciousness of his own share in it. The credit was given to the folk. And when appreciation and honours came to him, such as a Civil List pension and the degree of LL.D. from Edinburgh University, his remark invariably was, "I am so glad the work of my dear people is being appreciated." In this con-

nection one cannot but recall his closing words in the beautiful Introduction to "Carmina Gadelica"—"These notes and poems have been an education to me. And so have been the men and women reciters from whose dictation I wrote them down. They are almost all dead now, leaving no successors. With reverent hand and grateful heart I place this stone upon the cairn of those who composed, and of those who transmitted the work." At the time of his death Dr. Carmichael was engaged in seeing through the press two further volumes of "Carmina Gadelica"; these, too, will be a stone in the cairn of those who composed and transmitted, and of him who preserved and interpreted.

K.M.

—:O:—

THE PRESENT PROVISIONS FOR THE TEACHING OF GAELIC.

The Scotch Education Code, which regulates the management and conduct of schools in Scotland, prescribes in Article 19 a list of the subjects that *must* be taught in each division of every school. When the requirements of these compulsory subjects are met, any other subjects of instruction may be introduced at the discretion of the Managers. Thus it is perfectly competent for any School Board to include the teaching of Gaelic in the curriculum *if they are so disposed*.

In Article 19, B. 7, of the Code, it is provided that, when in the Counties of Inverness, Ross, Sutherland and Caithness, the children in the Infants and Junior Divisions are partly taught by a Gaelic-speaking teacher, whose services are not required under Article 32 (c) (*i.e.*, apart from this teacher the School must be staffed up to the minimum requirements of the Code), the rates of grants will be increased by 1/- per child.

The Code contains a footnote to Article 32 which states that part of the salary of a teacher of Gaelic, employed by the managers of several schools (a visiting teacher presumably), may be included in the approved expenditure of the School.

Section 10 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1908, expressly empowers School Boards in Gaelic-speaking districts to provide *Continuation Classes* for the instruction of young persons above fourteen years of age in the Gaelic language and literature. When such classes are formed with the approval of the Department, grants may be earned up to an amount not exceeding *three-fourths* of the

total expenditure. In the counties of Inverness, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, and Argyll (Burghs excepted), this proportion is increased to *seven-eighths*.

GRANTS FOR GAELIC-SPEAKING TEACHERS.

The £10 grant, paid by the Department in respect of each school having a Gaelic-speaking teacher who makes use of the Gaelic as an aid in the teaching of English, is dealt with in the Act of 1908, and the position with reference to it now is that the County Secondary Education Committees may continue the grant, or they may discontinue it and distribute the money otherwise. The grant is paid for the purpose of enabling School Boards to secure and retain the services of Gaelic-speaking teachers, and School Boards are thus at liberty to offer higher salaries to Gaelic-speaking teachers.

The Governors of the Trust for Education in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland pay to teachers of Public or State-aided schools within the area of the Trust's operations, Capitation Grants not exceeding 5s. per child for teaching Gaelic, but no teacher may receive a sum exceeding Ten Pounds in any one year. These grants are paid for children attending such class in the Senior Division as corresponds most nearly to Standard V. The Secretary of the Trust is C. C. Nisbet, Esq., W.S., 11 Alva Street, Edinburgh.

The Gaelic Society of London give a Capitation Grant of 2/6 to teachers in respect of Pupils in Standard IV, who pass an examination in Gaelic. The Hon. Secretary of the Society is J. A. Macrae, Esq., Scots' Corporation Hall, Crane Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

A Diploma in Gaelic is granted by An Comunn Gaidhealach to members of Gaelic Classes who have acquired a proficient knowledge of the language, and pass an examination conducted by examiners approved by the association.

—:O:—

Is e a's glise saoghal a thuigsinn, na an saoghal a dhiteadh. Is e a's fearr an saoghal ionnsachadh na a sheachnadh. Is e a's urramaich' an saoghal a ghnathachadh na a mhi-bhuileachadh. Agus is i obair shonraichte an duine an saoghal a ùleanamh ni's fearr, ni's maisiche, agus ni's sona. Chum na eriche seo, ma tà, deanadh gach duine a dhìchioll.

COIR SAMHNA AIR LEANNAN.

(Chaidh seo a chur air leth air son a' cheud duais aig Mòd Inbhir-nis am bliadhna. Le EACHANN MACDHUGHAIL.)

DEALBH-CHLUICH.

AN LUCHD-CLUICHE.

Lachann Bàn—Fear an tighe, duineachan beag còir.

Sìle—Bean Lachainn.

Anna—Nighean Lachainn, cailin òg ghrinn shuairceil, an gaol air Niall Mac Ailein Oig.

Seonaid—An t-seanmhair (mathair Sìle).

Mairi Lachainn—Nighean brathar-athar do Lachainn (tha i a' tarruing beagan suas am bliadhnachan, 's nàdur spéis aice do Uilleam Lògabhaig).

Niall MacAilein Oig—Iasgair, gille òg sgairteil, an gaol air Anna.

Uilleam Lògabhaig—Leth sheana-ghille, mar an ceudna an gaol air Anna.

Gilleasbuig Buachaille—Propanach balaich. Iain Ruadh, Seumas Bàn is gillean is nigh-canan eile.

An t-aite. Tigh Lachainn Bhàin.

A' CHIAD SHEALLADH.

TIGH LACHAINN BHAIN.

(*Tha Anna aig cuibhill-shniomh agus a' gabhail an òrain* "'Se mo cheist an gille donn"—a' Choisir chiuil, 29.)

SÌLE—So tog dheth Anna! Na'm b'e sin maraiche a bhiodh a' tighinn faineard dhuit, ach seorsa de dh'iasgair! Niall Mac Ailein Oig, maraiche bun a' ruic. Iasgair san t-samhradh is druim-ri-balla 'sa gheamradh!

ANNA—O, chiall! am faod mi idir ceathramh òrain a ghabhail gun Niall Mac Ailein Oig a bhi air m'intinn 's na chuspair do 'm luinneig; ach is fhearr dhuibhse, a mhàthair, leigeil le Niall, cha'n 'eil e a' cur dragha oirbh-se, agus tha e daonnan a' toirt an aire air fhéin is air obair, 's cha'n 'eil e an taing fear san eilean, 'fhad 's a chumas am Freasdal a shlàinte ris, agus a' "Chuthag" gu daingeann dìonach fo chosaibh; agus ma chumas doineann geamhraidh còrr uair ri port e, cha'n e sin iarrtas-san. Cha'n i an leisg a chumas e co-dhiù agus cha mhò is e an t-eagal.

SÌLE—O, cha'n 'eil ni agamsa an aghaidh Neill bhoichd, tha e gun teagamh a' toirt an aire obair, ach dè an math a tha an

sin, cha ghille e a tha a' freagairt' ortsa Anna, agus mar sin se mo chomhairle dhuit gun mhòran gnothaich a bhi agad ris. Is ole a fhreagradh e ort a bhi air t'fhàgail ri aghaidh cuain agus gun fios co-dhiù a thig-eadh am fear a bhiodh a' cothachadh bèo-shlàint dhuit fhéin 's do d'phàisdean air ais bèo nuair a dh'fhàgadh e thu sa mhad-ainn. Faic fhéin Uilleam Lògabhaig an sin, ged a tha e suas am bliadhnachan gun teagamh, nach—

SEONAIÐ—Seadh agus e do dh'eaglais is fhiach, a bhàrr air sin!

ANNA (*a' gàireachdainn gu cridheil*)—O, Mhuire! nach sibh a tha sealltainn fada roimhibh. Mi fhéin 's mo phàisdean, O, Mise, Mise!

SÌLE—Seadh thu fhéin 's do phàisdean, ma dh'fhaoidte gle bheag agad gu' chur 'nam béul, no mu'n druim còmhla ris a' sin. Is ann an sin a chi thu cò bha glie, thu féin no mise, 'nuair a chi thu Mairi Lachainn, no te-eigin eile air a deadh dhòigh aig Uilleam Lògabhaig agus a clann mu'n cuairt oirre làn bidh is aodaich, agus air an là air am bheil an diugh nach eil agad-sa ach 'seadh' a ràdh, agus gur a tu Bean Lògabhaig.

ANNA—A mhàthair, is mise bhuir nìgean agus tha còir agam air urram a thabhairt dhuibh, agus air bhuir toil a dheanamh cho fad is a tha sin réusanta, ach thug mi dhuibh freagradh air an ni sin cheana, agus do Uilleam mar an ceudna. Cha'n 'eil mise döl a ghabhail Uilleam Lògabhaig, oir cha'n 'eil ni agam mu choinneamh, ged nach eil ni agam na aghaidh, agus a bhàrr air sin uile, tha mo ghealladh aig Niall Mac Ailein Oig mar tha.

SÌLE—O matà, leig thusa dhuit fhéin Anna, ach bidh an t-aithreachas ort is creid nise, ach (*ri the féin*) cha leig sinn leis a sud e fhathast.

LACHANN (*a' tighinn a stigh*)—Tha coltach leam gu'm bheil an taobh tuath làn sgadain; chunna mi bàta Fineach shios an sin an ceart uair, thaghail i a stigh air son uisge 's i air an t-slighe do na lochan. Tha mi ciunteach gu'm bi a' "Chuthag" i fhéin air falbh gun dàil, chi mi gu'm bheil i aca muigh cùl na Sgeire Guirme far nach tràigh i.

SÌLE—Matà tha an t-àm aca car air choireigin a chur dhù. Tha mi fhéin seachd sgith 'g am feitheamh a' dol mu'n cuairt diomhain.

LACHANN—Nach ann mar sin a nis a thà, tha an t-iasgair boichd mi-fhortanach anns an t-seadh sin. Cha'n fhaic na nathanan

agus luchd-tìre e ach 'nuair a tha e diomha ain, 's cha'n 'eil am barail air ach bochd gu leòr. Ach 'nuair a tha an t-iasgair 'na uidheam 's na éideadh, cha'n 'eil na chòir ach eunlaith na mara, agus tuinn is doineann, cuan is iarmailt. Sin far am faicear e 'na dhuine. Faicibh e leis na trì sreathan san t-seol mhór, an ailm gu teannach-chruaidh na achlais, a churrac gu teann dlùth m'a 'mhalaiddh, sa shùil ri taobh an fhuaraidh, ris an àirde n-jar-thuath, agus cìod leamsa bodach a' chroinn seach e; bodach a' chroinn a bhios 'na shuain 'na leabaidh agus an t-iasgair 'na chaithris air druim an t-sruth.

SILE—A dhuine gun tàr, nach toir thu an aire de tha thu ag ràdh. An leòr idir i fhéin bhi air a' chuthach gun thusa bhi a' cur fùidair rithe. Gu dearbh fhéin b' e an coimeas e, slaodaire de dh'iasgair ga chur os ceann fir baile le phaidhir each 's le bhuaile chruidd-laoigh. A dhuine as do rian, 's ann air nighinn m' athar a thainig e.

SEONAIÐ—Agus b' e sin an duine, t' athair-se, seach daoine an là-'n diugh; balaich bhuachaillean, sin na fir-thighe a th' againn 'san t-saoghal a tha an so; agus ged nach biodh ann ach an eaglais de'n robh e.

LACHANN (a' toirt aghaidh air an dorus 's a' togail a dhà làimh)—O, cailleachan na dunaich, na cailleachan a thachair ormsa! (Tachraich Niall air 'san dorus le chòta na achlais 's a bhotainnean mòra tarsainn air a ghualainn.) O, stigh a Nèill a laoch-ain. Tha mi féin an dùil gur ann a tha thu a' togail ri cuan; tha mi cluinntinn gu'm bheil sgadan gu leòr mu thuath.

NIAL—Tha e coltach gu'm bheil, agus tha sinne a' dol a tharruing ris a' Chaol an ceart uair. Tha mi dìreach a' feitheamh ris na fir, 's thug mi léum a stigh.

LACHANN—Gun teagamh, agus 'se do bheatha tighinn a stigh an so na h-uile là no oidhche a thig e ad' cheann, ged a b' ann aig gairm nan coileach a thigeadh tu gu cala.

SILE—Humh! nach b' e cion a' mhothaich e gu dearbh, mar nach biodh a thigh fhéin aige idir gu dol chuide.

SEONAIÐ (a' cur a boise ri sùilean)—Gille gun taing gu dearbh, cha'n e fear de na balaich bhuachaillean a thachair ri m' nighinn-sa. Ach cha'n 'eil fios dé an eaglais de'm bheil e.

ANNA (a' deanamh gàire is ag éirigh 'na seasamh). Nach iad a tha trom ort a Nèill, ach coma leat iad, bidh tu far an aodainn a nis car greis. Cha'n 'eil fios cuìu a chi sinn a rithist thu, tha mi cìnteach gur e an

geamhradh a chuireas dhachaidh sibh, ma bhios ni ri fhaotainn.

SEONAIÐ—Agus co bhios 'g an ionndrainn?

SILE—O, nach bi ceann an tighe aig Iain Dhùghail; tuitidh e mu'n tig iad.

NIAL (a' deanadh air an dorus 's e a' gàireachdainn)—Nach iad na mnathan a tha sgaiteach an diugh, 's ann orra tha am faobhar gionach, ge air bith dé rinn sibh orra a Lachainn. Tha mi féin a' smaointinn gu'm bheil cho math a bhi thar an aodainn. 'S ann is fhearr dhuibh fhéin falbh leinn.

LACHANN—O, Fhreasdail! Nach robh sin agam-sa comas nan cas, ach bha làtha dha sin, ged a tha mi an diugh air m' fhàgail mu na dorsan.

NIAL (ri Anna gu beag)—Matà tha mi a' creidsinn gur e an geamhradh a chuireas dhachaidh sinn gun teagamh, ach bidh mi a' leigeil fios chugad.

SILE—O, chagardaich a' chagardaich! is coma leam féin a' chagardaich mhosach sin.

LACHANN—O, na cailleachan na cailleachan! is coma leam féin an caobadh mosach sin. Theid sinn a mach feuch de an coltas a th' air an fheasgan a Nèill. 'S fhearr dhuit tighinn is na laogh a chur a stigh Anna (ach cha'n 'eil sealladh air na laogh).

(Thig Anna a mach is gabhaidh Lachann leisgeul gu am fàgail leo féin.)

NIAL—Chi mi nach eil gean ro mhath air mnathan an nochd.

ANNA—Cha'n 'eil a Nèill; cha leig iad tàmh dhomh a nis gus an till thu. Cha'n 'eil ach Uilleam Løgabhaig, Uilleam Løgabhaig, an ceann mo mhàthar, 's gu'm b' fhearr leam mi bhi air m' fhàgail cùl a' Bhogha Mhòir na an ceann a thighe.

NIAL—Leig thusa leo bhi bruidhinn, na leig ort gu'm bheil thu 'g an cluinntinn, oir air a fad, cha bhi an uine fada agus cuiridh sinn cùisean a leth taobh nuair a thilleas mi.

ANNA—O, matà, cha'n 'eil sin furasda dheanamh, ach 's fheudar nach eil dòigh eile, air; co dhù bidh mi a' cluinntinn bhuait is cumaidh e suas m' inntinn.

NIAL—Is tusa bhiitheas sin, na h-uile cothrom a gheibh mi ged a b' ann air mo dha ghluin a sgrìobhainn, ach chi mi na fir a' tarruing sìos agus is fheudar dhomh a bhi falbh. Slàn leat a ghaoil.

ANNA—Slàn leat 's am Freasdal a bhi leat 's ga' d' gheidheadh. (Falbhaidh Niall is e a' gabhail an orain, "Anna Mhìn Mheall-shuileach"—Modern Gaelic Bards, an t-seist agus ruinn 1, 2, and 4).

(*Dh'fhaodadh Anna an so rann no dèithis de òran freagarrach air bith eile a ghabhail*).

Leigear a nuas am brat.

AN DARA SEALLADH.

TIGH LACHAINN BHAIN.

(*Seonaidh is Sile a stigh; Anna is Gilleasbaig Buachaille aig ceann an tigh*).

ANNA (*is à a' faicinn Uilleam Lògabhaig a' deanadh air an tigh*.) Nis 'Illeasbaig bidh ceannach geal agad ormsa nuair a thig an sneachd, agus ugh-càsg mar an ceudna, ma gheibh thu a stigh fo'n leabaidh agus gu'n cluinn thu de bhios eadar na mnathan is Uilleam Lògabhaig, ach air do bheò, na faiceadh 's na cluinneadh iad thu (*fàgaidh i an sin an rathad air Uilleam a chum is nach fàic e i*).

(*Tha Uilleam a' gnogadh aig an doras*).

SILE—Cha'n'eil fhios co tha so a nis.

SIONAID—Ma 's e coigreach a th' ann biodh fios agad dè an eaglais de'm bheil e, mu'n leig thu steach e!

SILE (*a' fosgladh an dorais*)—O, Uilleam an tusa th'ann; thig a stigh a laochain n feuch am faigh sinn do naigheachd. Agus ciamar sin a tha sibh an diugh?

UILLEAM—O, tha gu gasda; ciamar sin a tha sibh féin air fad, ciamar a tha an t-seana-bhean?

SEONAIID—O, tha mi air ghluasad a cheist, mar bhith an 'neuralat' mhosach so (*neuralgia*). Ach bidh mi daonnan gu math 'nuair a thig neach is toil leam ga m' shealltainn. suidh a stigh ris an teine a mhic an deadh athar.

(*Thig am buachaille a stigh gu fòil is theird e a stigh fo leabaidh gun neach ga fhaicinn*).

UILLEAM—Cha'n'eil Anna a stigh; shaoil mi gur i a chunna mi aig ceann an tigh. Cia mar a tha i an diugh?

SILE—O, tha i 'nu n' cuairt an àit-éigin, ach cha'n'eil gean còir oirre. Cha'n'eil iomradh a' tighinn air an fhleasgach ud 's e nis air falbh seachd seachduinean; co dhùh 'se sin a beuchd-sa. Thainig litir eile an raoir ged tha, ach (*an guth beag*) chaidh i an taobh a chaidh an còrr. Esan gu dearbh, 'nuair a bhiodh de chridhe aige litir a chur gu mi n'ghinn-sa.

SEONAIID—O, eùl mo laimhé ris ged nach biodh ann ach e bhi de dh'eaglaise nam P. Q's.

UILLEAM—Ach dé mar a tha cùisean ri bhi a nis! Am bheil ni aice ri ràdh na'm bheil dad ùr agaibh fhéin?

SILE—Cha'n'eil dìreach ach gu'm féum i sgur de a gòraiche, agus de a cion moth-aich, 's an gnothach a chur a leth taobh cho luath 's a ghabhas e deanadh. Tha a h-athair ga milleadh co dhùh, ach chuir mise sin a leth taobh air madainn an diugh; dh'fhàg e mo làthair mu dheireadh 's rinn e cleas a' mhuilt aig Dòmhnall Ruadh, thug e am monadh air, 's cha'n fhaca mi a shùil bhuaithe sin, agus cha'n fhàic gus an cuir oidheche dhachaidh e.

UILLEAM—Seadh, agus ciamar a bheir sinn an ath ionnsaidh?

SILE—Nach i bidheche Di-mairt so tighinn Oidheche Shamhna?

UILLEAM—is i.

SILE—Matà cha'n fhaca tusa riamh leithid Anna gu cumail ris na seann chleachdainnean sin a bhiodh aig na Gàidheal, agus an rud nach creid i féin, bheir mise oirre a chreidsin ma bhios tusa aig laimh an oidheche sin.

UILLEAM—Tha mise deas gu ni sam bith a dheanamh a chuireas sibh romham, a mhàin ma gheibh mi 'gealladh bho Anna ri linn, mu'n till an ceòthallan ud.

SILE—So agad e matà. Bidh tusa mu'n cuairt, ach cha tig thu a stigh 's cha nochd thu thu féin ni's lugha na gu'n teid mise mach gu d' sheoladh. Ach 'nuair a theid Anna mach a chriaradh gulma na mona, nochd thu féin cada' i 's a' ghealach làn, agus feuch gu'n aithnich i thu; no ma's ann do'n t-sabhal a theid i a chriaradh an eorna, gabh troimh seachd oirre gun ghuth a ràdh, agus ma theid i a spìoladh suip as a' mhulan choirce 'nuair a their i,—*'Tha Anna an so a' spìoladh suip á sguuib, sguab chruinn chraobagach an taobh a' mhulain, freagair thusa mi a rogha céile ma tha thu 'n so a nochd,* an sin their thusa,—*'Tha Uilleam Lògabhaig an so a' spìoladh suip á sguuib chruinn, chuimir, chraobhagaich mo leannain, is mi do rogha céile 's mi ort an geall?*

UILLEAM—Gasda, gasda! nach sibh féin mo ghalad.

SILE—Agus ni mi féin 's a seanamhair an còrr, agus creididh Anna gur tusa th' air a chur a mach dhi 's ni féin leagta ris a chùis agus—, ach so fear an tigh mu dheireadh 's na abair an còrr. Cha do bhàthadh e an luirg mairt, an déidh na h-uile rud.

(*Thig Lachann a stigh agus eallach fraoich air a dhruim*).

UILLEAM—A laochaina Lachainn! 'S ann annaibh féin a bha an spiorad. Is ann a chuireas sibh tàmailt air na fir òga leis na h-eallaich. Ach nach neònach leam féin

sibh 'g ar marbhadh a' tarruing fraoich air bhur muin agus eich a' bhaile a falbh diomhaoin, agus a mach gu ruige an t-àm so dh'fheasgar!

LACHANN—Matà 's tusa dh'fhaodadh sin a radh, ach an cuala tu rianh de thubhairt Donnachadh Bàn?

SKONALD—Dé an eaglais de'n robh esan? Cha chuala mi iomradh—

UILLEAM—Cha'n eil fios agam a Lachainn; is ioma rud a thubhairt an duine coir.

LACHANN—Nach d' thubhairt e 'gur maing air na thachair bean bhéumach aig am bheil am béul gun fhaitheam? sin agadsa dé chuir mise do'n mhonadh.

SILE—So, tog de d' Dhonnachadh Bàn, b' fhearr dhuit gu mór tighinn dhachaidh an àm gun do dhinneir a bhi am poit an oir an teine an sin fad an fheasgair.

(*Suidhidh Lachann sìos gu h-aithghearr*).

LACHAINN—Seadh Uilleam, agus dé do naidheachd? Ciamar a tha iad agaibh no de tha sibh trang ris?

UILLEAM—Cha'n'eil ni is fhiach a' dol air aghaidh, 's tha sinn uile gu math. Bha sinn caran trang aig buain buntata gu so fhéin. Cha'n'eil na lánhan ach gann ged tha, 's tha mo mhàthair cho deireasach.

LACHANN—Tha am boirionnach coir, ach dé nach faic thu mi féin ged is òg mi seach ise, an lóidh brath mo mharbhadh. Cha tig an aois na h-aonar Uilleam.

UILLEAM—O, gun teagamh, nach e sin agaibhe; agus tha mise cur roumha gu'm bi nithean air bonn ni's fhearr mu'n tig bliadhna eile. Tha mi féin a' streap a suas a nis agus cha'n'eil mi a' smaointinn gur urrainn dhomh ni is fhearr a dheanadh na bean-tighe fhaotainn.

LACHANN—Matà gu dearbh na 'm biodh tu glie tha an t-àm agad. 'S fhada bho'n a chomhairlich mise sin dhuit. Tha nighean brathair m' athair fhéin, Mairi Lachainn, thall laimh riut an sin, agus rud aice cuid-eachd (*ni Sile casad*). Tha mise ag ràdh riut nach b' urrainn dhuit ni a b' fhearr a dheanamh; cha'n'eil i òg 's cha'n'eil i sean, ach dìreach an aois ghlic gu pòsadh.

SILE—Agus is ise bhios gu nath dheth, ge air bith có i, Uilleam. Is ise gheabh am fear tighe, agus cha d' thubhairt mi sin a chionn thu féin a bhi 'san éisdeachd.

SKONALD—Ged nach biodh ann ach an eaglais de'n bheil an gille coir.

UILLEAM—Matà a Lachainn, bho'n tha

sinn mu'n chùis, gun teagamh sam bith 's i nighean ghasda thà am Mairi Lachainn, agus bha aon uair rud beag eadrúinn, 's tha mi a' creidsinn gur toil leatha mi fhathast, ach is i 'Anna do nighean air am bheil mi an geall, agus tha dòchas agam nach cuir sibhse cnap-starradh air bith 'san rathad orm.

LACHANN—Matà gu dearbh fhein cha chuir mise cnap-starradh 'san rathad, agus cha mhò a bheir mi as e. Tha i aig a saor thoil fhéin, agus deanadh i a roghainn. Cha'n e nach eil a leòr ùine aice fhathast.

SILE—Cha bhi i air a saor thoil fhéin idir, 'nuair a thig gille measail ga h-iarraidh. Bheir mise an deadh aire nach eil i dol ga *insultadh* le dhuiltainn.

LACHANN—*Resultadh* ann no as, cha ghabh mise an còrr gnòthaich ribh air taobh seach taobh. Thug mi fad an làtha an diugh anns a' mhonadh air tailleabh bhur gnòthaichean, agus gun na chuirinn fo m'chùlaig, no anns a' phìob, de'n tombaca am phòca, gu suainhneas a thoirt domh, agus leis a' sin bithibh dìreach a' cagnadh a cheile.

(*Thig Anna a stigh is i seinn lùinneig agus beiridh i air laimh air Uilleam. Siolpaidh am buachaille a mach gun fhios.*)

SILE—O' àite ghalad an robh thusa? Tha Uilleam an so bho chionn uair a dh'ùine agus thusa feadh a' bhaile.

ANNA—Tha mise gun teagamh toilichte Uilleam fhaicinn a mhàthair, ach nach cumadh sibh fein is mo sheanamhair an sean-achas e.

SILE—Chumadh, ach 'sann ga do shealltainn-sa a thainig e Anna, agus is tu a dh'fhaodadh a bhi nór asad fhéin, Uilleam Lógabhaig a thiginn a nall an so a dh'aon obair ga d' fhaicinn.

SKONALD—Ged nach biodh ann ach an eaglais de'm bheil e.

SILE—Seadh, agus tha e a' tighinn a nall gu goirid 'nuair a gheibh e gach ni air dòigh, agus a' dol a thoirt tairgse dhuit-se Anna nach faigh thu na h-uile làtha. Tha 'na bheachd bean a chur an ceann a thighe, agus is tusa an aon té air am bheil a chridhe an geall.

ANNA—Matà thug mise freagairt air a sin cheana a mhàthair, dhuibh féin agus do Uilleam.

SILE—Gu dè tha thu ag ràdh! (*ri Lachainn.*) Seadh briuidhinn rithe a nis.

LACHANN—Matà gu dearbh cha bhruidhinn, tha mise ga fàgail aig a toil fhéin.

SILE—A dhuine! nach ann agamsa tha am fear-tighe.

SEONAIÐ—O, fir-thighe an t-saoghail a tha an so! Balaich bhuachaillean; sin na fir-thighe tha an diugh againn.

UILLEAM (*ag eirigh*)—O matà, bidh mi a falbh an dràsda co dhiù, ach thig mi a rithist gun dàil agus faodaidh gu'm bi saod ni's fhearr air an nighinn.

LACHANN—Am bi thu againn Oidheche Shamhna? Di-mairt so tighinn, nach i?

UILLEAM—Um—well—, cha'n'èil mi ag ràdh gu'm bi a Lachann, ach chi mi, co dhiù, cha bhi mi fada gun tighinn. Oidheche mhath leibh an dràsda.

UILE—Oidheche mhath, oidheche mhath Uilleam.

(*Falbhaidh Uilleam. Theid Lachann am mach gun dàil.*)

SILE—Agus 'si oidheche Di-mairt so tighinn Oidheche Shamhna! (*Ri Seonaid*). An cuala sibhse riamh gillean is nigheanan a dh'fhaicinn an cùile pòda Oidheche Shamhna 'nuair a rachadh iad a mach leo féin do'n t-sabhal, no do'n chruaich mhona, agus teannadh ri criaradh?

SEONAIÐ—Gu dearbh chuala agus chunn-aic—ged nach eil e uile gu léir a réir teag-asg eaglaise.

SILE—Chuala mi sibh ag ràdh nach biodh e rathail dol an aghaidh an nì a bhiodh air fhoillseachad do dhaoine an oidheche sin. Nach biodh e dìreach mar gu'n cuireadh neach an aghaidh an Fhreasdail fhéin.

SEONAIÐ—Cha'n'èil e sin, rathail, no freagarach; agus cha deach le aon a dh'fheuch ris riamh. Tha e air a ràdh nach eil nì coltach ri cur le nì sam bith a chithear an oidheche sin.

SILE—O, matà, is fasan e a tha gle ghòrach, ach tha fios nach bi an òigridh 'nan òigridh, mur a bi iad ris.

ANNA—Cha'n'èil mi fhéin a' faicinn nì ceàrr ann, agus cha'n'èil mi an dùil gu'm faca mi nì as an rathad rianh, ged is iomad bun càil a spion mi a' garadh, is sop a spion mi a' mulan.

SILE—Matà is mise tha làn chinnteach gu'n spion thu iad mar an ceudna, air an t-Samhain so cho math ri Samhnaibh eile.

ANNA (*le gaire cridheil*)—Matà gu dearbh 's mise a spionas.

SILE (*ri the fhéin*)—Agus chi thu Uilleam

Lògabhaig eadar thu 's a' ghealach làn, no cluinnidh tu e taobh eile a' mhuilain, agus ni mi fhéin is do sheanannhair an corr an lath 'r na mhaireach.

Leigear a nuas am brat.

(*Ri leantuin*).

—:o:—

THE "ORAN-MOR" COMPETITION

No. 41.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE MÒD AND MUSIC COMMITTEE.

It is recommended to competitors by the Mòd and Music Committee, that the following verses of these songs be selected and practised for the competition.

No. 1.—"Brataichean na Féinne." Omit verses 4, 5, and 6. That is, after singing the repetition of verse 1 as a third verse (line 8), pass to "Manus" on 2nd page, line 3, and so on to the close.

In No. 2, note that the "i" over "s tric" should have the low octave mark (l.).

In No. 3, "Laoidh Oisean do'n Ghrèin, sing verses 1, 2, and 3.

—:o:—

HANDSOME GIFT TO INVERNESS MOD.

While Miss Kate Fraser was conducting the weekly practice of the children in Farnline Park School, preparing them for the Children's Mòd, she had a visit of Mr. Stewart, a native of Assynt, Sutherlandshire, who is at present in this country on a holiday. Mr. Stewart was so much struck by what he saw and heard that he presented Miss Fraser with a Bank of England note for £100 as a contribution to the expenses of the coming Mòd.

Mr. Stewart suggested that a portion of the money should be used for entertaining all the children attending the Mòd to tea and luncheon. Mr. Stewart mentioned that he desired to do something, by way of bur-sary, to perpetuate Gaelic and Highland music. Last year Mr. Stewart gave £100 to the Duchess of Sutherland to assist Celtic work in the county.

—:o:—

A chlann nan Gàidheal bithibh cuimhneach Air 'ur cainnt a chur an cleachdadh, Cha'n iarr i iasad air cànan, 'S bheir i fhéin do chàch am pailteas.

INVERNESS MÔD, 1912—COMPETITION NO. 63.

CEITHIR IAINÉAN NA H-ALBA.

(THE FOUR JOHNS OF SCOTLAND.)

KEY E♭, OR TO SUIT VOICE.

Words from "Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness."

{ . r	r, m : f : l. f	m, r : r :— . d'	t, l : r' : l. d'	t, l : s :— . }
{ 1. Tha	*Uilleam cliuiteach an	diugh fo chàs, Tha	'chridhe brùite 's beag	ioghnadh dha; }

{ . s	l, d' : r' : l. d'	t, l : s : l. r	r, m : f : l. f	m, r : r' : }
{ Bu	ghlan ar n-àigridh o'a	thog e'n tòs iad, 's gach	bratach bhòidheach a	bhuineadh dha. }

{ $\frac{p}{r}$	r :— . r : r	f :— . f : l. l	l :— . l : l	\widehat{r} :— . \widehat{r} :
{ Ceithir	Iainéan	na	h-Alba; Ceithir	Iainéan na h-Alba !

2. 'S ann á Ciun-tàile so dh' fhalbh na suinn,
 Cha robh an àicheadh fo bhratach Fhinn,
 Na fìr bha dàicheil, 's iad sgaiteach, làidir,
 Gur e mo chràdh-lot mar thàrladh dhuibh.

Ceithir Iainéan, etc.

3. Gu'n thuit an t-òganach anns an t-sreup,
 An t-Iain o Chonchra, 's bu mhòr am béud,
 An curaidh làidir le neart a ghàirdean,
 A' cur nan àghannan diubh gu fèur.

Ceithir Iainéan . . .

4. Bha fear Uchdarir ann, 's bu rìgh air sluagh;
 B'e sud a' fìor-ghaisgeach fìor-ghlan, cruaidh,
 B'e leòghan garg e a bha ro chalma,
 Air thùs na h-armailt e rompa suas.

Ceithir Iainéan . . .

5. Bha Mac Iain òig ann, 's bu mhòir am béud;
 B'e sud an t-òganach foinnidh, tréun,
 Le' chlàidheamh cruadhach o neart a ghualainn,
 Gur iomadh gruag a chuir e gu fèur.

Ceithir Iainéan . . .

6. Bha 'seobhag shuaire ann Fear Bhaile-chnuic,
 Am fùran uasal, 's e làidir, bras,
 A' gearradh bhighean nan eacha crùdhach,
 Bu mhillt' a shùgradh, 's bu shearbh a ghreis.

Ceithir Iainéan . . .

* Mackenzie of Seaforth, under whom the "Four Johns" were officers at Sheriffmuir (1715) and where they were killed—hence the Lament.

COMPETITION No. 69.

*ALLT AN LOCHAIN UAINE.

(THE STALKER'S DREAM.)

KEY E^b OR F.

{	: (s ₁)	d :- .d r : m	l :- s :- .f	m :- .d l ₁ :- .t ₁	d :- - }
1. Aig	Allt an	Lochain	Uaine,	a bha mi	nair a tàmh,

{	: s ₁	d :- .d r : m	d' :- t :- .d'	l :- .s m : s	l :- - }
Ged	bha an	t - àite	fuair domh, Bha'n	fhàrdach fua'sach	blàth,

{	: (s)	s :- .m s : l	d' :- t :- .d'	l :- .s m : s	l :- - }
Ged	thigeadh	gaoth o	thuath orm. Is	cathadh luath o'n	àird,

{	: s	s :- .l s : m	l :- s :- .f	m :- .d l ₁ :- .t ₁	d :- -
Bha	Allt' an	Lochain	Uain - e, Le	fhuaime 'gam chur gu	pràmh.

2. Mo chailin bhòidheadh chuach-bhuidhe,
 Na biodh ort gruaime no greann,
 Ged tha mi 'dol as m' eòlas
 Ma's bèò dhomh thig mi ann;
 'S nuair bhitheas damh na cròice
 Ri bòilich anns a' ghleann,
 Cha toirinn's blas do phòige
 Air stòr nan Innsean thall.

3. Oidheche dhomh 's mi m' aonar
 'S mi 'comhnuidh anns a' ghleann,
 Am bothan beag nan sgòda,
 Far an cluinnear bòilich mheann;
 Air leam fhéin gu'n cuala mi,
 An fhuaim a dol fo m' cheann,
 Ag innseadh dhomh 'bhi seòlta
 Gu'n robh an tòir 's a' ghleann.

4. Shiubhail mi gach caochan,
 O Laoigh gu Carn-na-Mhaim,
 Is bheachdaich mi gach aon diubh,
 Nach bitheadh daoine ann';
 Mu'n d' éirich grian 's na speuraibh,
 'S mu'n d' fheuch i air aon bheann,
 Ghrad dh' aithnich mi san uair sin,
 Am "Madadh Ruadh," 's a' ghleann.

5. Dh' éirich mi le buaireadh,
 Is thog mi suas mo cheann,
 Gach badag 'bha mu'n cuairt domh,
 Chuir mi mu m' ghuailibh teann;
 Bha "Nigh'n a' chóirneil" shùas uam,
 A choisinn buaidh 's gach am,
 Is thuir i "Na biodh gruaime ort
 Ma 's ruaig e na bi mall."

6. Labhair mi le céille,
 Is dh' éisd mi ris gach allt,
 Mar fhreagradh iad d' a chéile,
 Is iad gu léir gun chaint;
 Labhair mi ri m' Uachdaran,
 'Thug uillt a' cruas nam beann;
 Le còbhair Fhir' chaidh cheusadh,
 Cha bhi mi féin am fang.

NOTE.—At the Mòd, Competitors will sing the first four verses of "Ceithir Iainean na h-Alba"; and the first three verses of "Allt an Lochain Uaine."

* In Competition 69, competitors will also sing a Strathspey district song—Strathspey is the valley of the Spey from the Craigellachie of Aviemore to the Craigellachie of Banffshire.

CHILDREN'S MOD IN OBAN.

A SUCCESSFUL GATHERING.

The Children's Mòd was held in the Argylshire Halls, Oban, on the 8th ult.

From every standpoint the meeting was of outstanding success. Oban is the birthplace of Mòds, and it is most satisfactory to note that the entries on this occasion reached a record. The judges had no hesitation in bestowing warm commendation on the efforts of the children, who came from places so wide apart as Morvern, Ledaig, Lochaline, Easdale, Jura, Barra, and Ballachulish. There was a large and representative attendance of the public present, and the Rev. D. J. Martin delivered a most appropriate and interesting address.

At the close the prizes were distributed by Mrs. MacCallum, Duntroon. Mr. MacCallum referred in a sentence to the success of the Mòd, and expressed the hope that next year the entries would be even larger.

The hon. secretary then announced the prize-winners in the various competitions as follows:—

PRIZE LIST.

Recitation of about 40 lines of Gaelic Verse from a poem of literary merit. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s; 4th, book—1, Bessie MacDonald, Lochaline Public School; 2, Anna Bella M'Vicar, do.; 3, Chr. MacDonald, Oban High School; 4, Malcolm MacNeil, Barra.

Reading, with good pronunciation and expression, of a piece of Gaelic Prose, previously prepared by competitor. Prizes—1st, £1 1s, presented by Miss Munro Fraser, Glasgow; 2, 10s; 3, 5s; 4th, book—1, Katie Margaret M'Vicar, Lochaline Public School; 2, Bessie MacDonald, do.; 3, Agnes MacDougall, Easdale Public School; 4, Jane MacLaren Campbell, Kinloch, Ledaig.

Examination in Gaelic Names. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s; 4th, book—Anna Bella M'Vicar, Lochaline Public School; 2, Mary Campbell, Easdale Public School; 3, Mary Ann Macpherson, do.; 4, John Douglas, do.

Gaelic Conversation. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s; 4th, book—1, Malcolm MacNeil, Barra; 2, Katie M. M'Vicar, Lochaline Public School; 3, Ewen Fraser, Oban High School; 4, Mary Campbell, Easdale Public School.

Choral Singing, in two or three-part harmony. Prizes—1st, £5; 2nd, £3; 3rd, £1; 4th, 10s—1, Oban High School Gaelic Choir; 2, Easdale Public School Choir.

Solo Singing, Boys. Prizes—1st, gold medal and 15s; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s—1st, Don. MacCulloch, Oban; 2nd, Clifford Kennedy, do.; 3, Ivor Campbell, do.

Solo Singing, Girls. Prizes—1st, gold medal and 15s; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s—1, Cathie MacDougall, Oban; 2, Grace Livingstone, Lochaline Public School; 3, Sarah Bell, Oban.

Duet Singing. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s—1, Sarah Bell and Mary Cumming, Oban; 2, Jessie M. MacDougall and Mary MacCallum, Oban.

Playing of Highland Marches, Strathspeys, and Reels on the Pianoforte. Prizes—1st, £1—1, Don. M'Culloch, Oban.

Playing of Gaelic Song Airs, Strathspeys and Reels on the Violin. Prizes—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s—1, David M. Forbes, Oban; 2, Dhul Alasdair M'Cowan, Oban; 3, Wm. MacPherson, Lochneil Lodge, Ledaig.

Playing of Highland Marches, Strathspeys, and Reels on the Bagpipes. Prizes—1st, gold medal and £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s—1, Dugald Scouler, Acharanich, Morvern; 2, Malcolm M'Neil, Barra; 3, John Scouler, Morvern.

The result of the translation competition has not yet been announced, the judges not having finished their adjudication.

—:O:—

LEASAIN GHAIHDHLIG.

XVIII.

ROIN-TAOBH-AN-T-SÀILE.

Bha cailleach ann am baile mòr àraidh a roimhe a bha greis aois, ach gidheadh cha robh i air am muir 'fhaicinn a' riamh.

Bhris a slàinte a' bhliadhna a bha 'n sud ann an deireadh an Earraich, agus bha i (1) *anabarrach ìosal*.

Thug na lighichean a chomhairle air a mac, a mhàthair a thabhairt car ùine ghoirid gu baile beag air choir-èigin far am faigheadh i (2) *fàileadh, fàlaimn na mara*.

Rinn an gille mar a dh'iarradh air, agus aon latha bòidheach chunnacas iad a' leigeil an anail air suidheachan grunn 'os cionn na tràghad ann am baile beag uaigneach.

Bha 'n t-seana bhean air (3) *toigail oirre gu math* a nis, agus bha e coltach gu 'n robh an t-àite a còrdadh rithe.

Bha mòran nithean anns a' bhaile a bha (4) *àmfhiosach* dhith, agus 's iomadh rud a bha i a' faicinn 's a' cluinntinn a bha a' deanamh toigail air a h-inntinn.

Bha rad an làtha so, ma tà, mar a thubhairt mi, nan suidhe an cois na tràghad. Bha Domhnall a' cluinntinn èigheachd agus gàir-eachdaich (5) *air cùl an rudha* a bha mu 'n coinneamh, agus thuig e gu 'n robh feadhainn air choir-èigin a' snàmh.

Cha d'thubhairt e focal, ach ann am beagan ùine chunnaic e dithis ghillean a' tighinn air an t-snàmh mu thimehioll an rudha. (6) *Cha bu luaithe* a chunnaic esan iad na mhothaich a mhathair dhoibh cuid-eachd.

(7) "*Mo chreach 's a thainig, a ghràidh,*" ar's ise, "seall air na ròin. Nach mise (8) *ceann an anfhortainn!*"

'Uist, le do ròin, ort," ar's esan, "cha'n 'eil an sud ach gillean a mhuinntir a bhaile a tha ri snàmh."

'O, cha'n e! Cha'n e! (9) *Cha b' urrainn sin dhoibh.* Cha'n 'eil ach na ròin dhubha. (10) *Cinn an uile.*"

"A mhathair! mur a h-éisd thu tilgidh mi thuca thu," arsa Domhnall, 's e, (11) *mar gu'm b' eadh, a' fas feargach.*

"Cha mhòr nach co math dhuit, a nis, a ghràidh; cha bhi fortan (12) *ri linn mo thurais-sa.* 'De eile ach gillean a bhaile! Och! Och! (13) *'S fhada ma's iad.* Ròin dhubha an uile."

Bha na snàmhachan a nis air (14) *teannadh cho faisg air tir agus gu'n do ghlaodh Domhnall riutha.*

"Thigibh (15) *a steach 'illean, thigibh a steach, am bheil an t-uisge fuar?*"

"Cha'n 'eil," ar's iadsan, 's iad a nis a' seasamh air an tràigh bhuig ghainmhich, "tha e cho blàth ris a' bhainne."

Sheas suilean na caillich 'na ceann leis an ioghnadh. Sheall i ri Domhnall 's e a' còmhradh ris na gillean, ach bha i fhathast ann an (16) *ana-chreideamh* gu robh an gnothuich enasda.

Sguir an comhradh, leig Domhnall làtha math leis na Balaich, agus ann am prìobadh na sula leum an dithis (17) *an coinneamh an cinn* fo'n mhuir.

"O, mo chreach!" arsa 'chailleach, (18) *"gu'n còmhradh Sealbh mise!"* A Dhomhnall, a ghràidh, thugainn dhachaidh; cha'n 'eil an gnothuch so enasda.

Dh'fhalbh iad dhachaidh air gàirdein a cheile, ach mu'n d'rainig iad an tigh, bha Dòmhnall air a' mhàthair a chur ann am fonn math a ris, agus 's iomadh uair an déidh dhith a thighinn gu baile a dh'innis i do fheadhainn eile mun na ròin dhùbha (19) *a thug a car aise* aig Taobh-an-t-Sàile.

AM BUACHALL.

(1) Lit.: very low (c.p. far gone).

(2) " the health-giving sea-breezes.

(3) " lifting on her; i.e., picking up well—rallying.

(4) " not known (to her), therefore—new and interesting.

(5) " at the back of the point—behind the headland.

(6) " 'twas no sooner he saw them than she, etc.

(7) " My plunder (misfortune) is mine—" *voe is me.*"

(8) " head of misfortune, i.e., in the sense of "the butt of misfortune" (c.p. No. 10).

(9) " it is not possible for them, i.e., they could not be there.

(10) " "heads of evil," here in the sense of "the sources (causes) of evil or misfortune," because to see seals on such an occasion was regarded as unlucky.

(11) " as if it were.

(12) " in connection with my visit; i.e., as a result of my trip.

(13) " (it is) far from being them; "far from it"; therefore "not at all."

(14) " drawing (near): c.p., teann ris; "come near."

(15) " in—shorewards.

(16) " unbelief; "suspicious."

(17) " in the direction of the head—headlong (diving, of course).

(18) " may Providence help me; "goodness preserve us"—one of the many forms of exclamation in Gaelic.

(19) " which deceived her: c.p., Thug e a char as —"he outwitted him."

—:O:—

COMMUN NEWS.

MEUR CHEANN LOCH LUICHEART.—Chuir a mhèur so crìoch air coinneamhan cumanta an t-seisein le "Ceilidh" anns an Tigh-Sgoil air an 17 de'n Ghiblean. Bha an Ceann-Suidhe an t urr. Iain Mac Neachduinn anns a' chathair. Bha roinn mhòr slugh a làthair agus chaidh oidhche thoilichte chur seachad. Air a' 15 de'n chéitein chumadh a' choinneamh gnothuich bhliadhnail aig an d'fhuaras o' luchd-dréuch cùnnas air an obair a rinn a' mhèur air an t-seisein a chaidh seachad agus aig an do thaghadh luchd-dréuch ùra air son an ath-sheisein. Tha cùisean ann an staid shoirbheachail.

INSH AND ALVIE.—Hon Patrons, The Mac-Kintosh, Sir J. Macpherson Grant, Bart.; presidents, Rev. J. Anderson, Alvie, Rev. G. M. Munro, Insh, Rev. Mr. Morrison, Kincaig; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. William M'Bean, Dunachton; committee, Peter Stuart, John Mac-Kintosh, Peter Grant, D. MacBean, jun., Wm. Bell, Mrs. MacBean, Dunachton, Miss Wilson, and Wm. Kennedy.

COMMUN GAIDHEALACH GHIGHA.—New branch formed at Gigha, 25th April, 1912, by D. W. Mackenzie, Kothesay;—Hon. president, W. G. York Scarlet, Esq., of Gigha; president, the Rev. Donald Macfarlane, The Manse, Gigha; vice-president, Mr. John Wotherspoon, Gigha; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Hector Smith, Gigha; committee, Miss Macfarlane, The Manse, Gigha; Miss Shaw, teacher, do.; Duncan Mackenzie, do.; Malcolm Wotherspoon, do.; Hector Macquillen, do.; Arch. Blue, do.; Duncan MacGeachie, do.; John Ronald Macdonald, do.; Donald Smith, do. Representative for Central Executive—Rev. Donald Macfarlane, The Manse, Gigha.

COMMUN GAIDHEALACH TAOBH NA LEARGAIDH, KINTYRE.—New branch formed in Kintyre, on Tuesday, 23rd April, 1912, by D. W. Mackenzie,

Rothsay :—Hon. president, J. R. M. Macdonald, Esq., of Largie; hon. vice-president, J. M. Hall, Esq., yr. of Tangy and Killcan; president, the Rev. D. J. Macdonald, The Manse, Killcan; vice-president, Mr. Neil Mackinnon, Tayinloan; secretary and treasurer, Miss Livingstone, teacher, Rhunahorine; representative for the Central Executive of An Comunn Gaidhealach, Mrs. Macdonald of Largie; committee, John Thomson, John Taylor, Neil MacFater, Mrs. Macdonald of Largie, Neil MacDougall, Angus Conachie, Miss May MacCallum.

LAGGAN, KINGUSSIE.—Chief, Cluny Macpherson of Cluny; president, Dr. Macdonald, Laggan; vice-presidents, Rev. D. S. MacLennan, Rev. Archibald Macleod, and Rev. Father MacMaster; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Archibald MacDonald, Cluny Gardens, Kingussie.

—:O:—

REVIEWS.

GUIDE BOOK TO ISLAY. Price 1s. A. Sinclair, Celtic Press, 47 Waterloo Street, Glasgow.

THIS is the age of guide books, and it is surely in accordance with the fitness of things that "Ile ghoran an theoir" should have its charms adequately put before the public. This has been done by Mr. L. MacNeil Weir, who has produced a book which is indispensable to visitors about to visit the "Queen of the Hebrides." The way to it, the places of interest in it, and the tours which may be had while there, have been so methodically and graphically written that the tourist may consider himself independent of any other aid. The golf courses receive adequate treatment, so do the antiquities and folk-lore of the island. Further, it is beautifully illustrated, and the printing is excellent. Those who mean to go to the Summer School should procure a copy.

CAMERON'S HAND BOOK TO SKYE. Price 1s. A. Sinclair, Celtic Press, 47 Waterloo Street, Glasgow.

MANY have gained their knowledge of "Eilean a Chèò" through Alexander Smith's delightful book, "A Summer in Skye," and a later publication, Canon MacCulloch's "Misty Isle." But these, while interesting to the general reader, are not exactly what the average tourist needs. His requirements are more likely to be met in this hand-book, which is pretty much on the same lines as the *Guide to Islay*. The writer does not hide his sympathy for the people, and some graphic paragraphs are given relating to their manners and customs, and records of the military prowess in other days. Antiquities receive due treatment, and the nature of the crofting system is briefly explained. Interesting old world tit-bits are met with throughout, and the illustrations are very artistic.

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THIS booklet, in artistic covers, is the work of a

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—:O:—

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—:O:—

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Ordinary Members of the Association are respectfully requested to note that the Annual Subscription for Session 1912-1913 is *FIVE SHILLINGS*, not Four Shillings, as formerly; and that the Subscription becomes due on 1st June, 1912, and should be paid to the Treasurer as soon as possible thereafter.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed to Mr. DONALD MACPHEE, The Schoolhouse, Cumbernauld, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, Annual Subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

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AN DEO-GRÉINE

Leabhar VII.]

Ceud Mios an Fhogharaidh, 1912.

[Earrann II.

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A' CHLANN BHEAG AGUS AM MÒD.

Cha bhiodh Mòd sam bith ach glé neo-chridheil as aonais na cloinne. Cha 'n'èil fuaim inneal-ciùil air thalamh cho taitneach, no cho bòidheach ri co-sheirm chloinne, ionnsuichte ri seinn. Cha deach an ribheid sin riamh a d'heanadh, coimeas ris na téudan a th'ann am muinealan na h-òigridh. 'S mór an toileachadh ma tà gu'm bheil a leithid de dh' àireamh de Chòisrean-Oigridh a' cur sìos an ainmeannan air son na comh-strigh a tha rompa. 'S fhiach fear-teag-aig gach Còisir taing air son a sheirbhis ag ionnsuchadh na cloinne, co dhiùbh "bhuinnigeas iad duais no nach buinnig. Gu dearbh rachamadh na b' fhaide na seo; 's e sin (nan gabhadh a d'heanadh) duais shònruichte do gach fear, oir tha iad a cur comain air a' Chomunn, agus air an dùth-aich.

* * * *

Tha pàirt eile de dh' obair a' Mhòid a tha ro thaitneach cho maith ri seinn; 's e sin bèul-aithris na h-òigridh. Bu chòir do na h-uile fear-teag-aig a bhi meas mar dhlead-nas sònruichte an òigridh ullachadh air a leithid a dhòigh agus gu'm biodh iad com-asach agus ealanta a' chaint mhàthaireal aithris gu tlachdmhor, air an socair, agus gach neart-ghuth 'na àite fhéin, a chum brìgh an rosg' fhoillseachadh. Bheir seo toileachas do'n luchd-èisdeachd agus do na britheamhan. Tha a' chomhairle cheudna so-fhreagarrach do dh' earran nan Inbheach.

* * * *

Tha 'n t-Uchar (am mìos buidhe) a nis air dol seachad, agus bithidh an Lunasdal ann mu'n teid an ath àireamh de 'n "Deo-Gréine" a' chlobhualadh. Ged a tha sinn a

AM MOD.

Tha am Mòd a' teannadh ruinn, agus tha sinn a' cluinntinn deadh iomradh mu'n ullachadh a tha a'dol air adhart. Cha 'n'èil muinntir Inbhir-nis 'nan tàmh, agus a rèir a h-uile coltas, bidh Mòd ciatach againn mu dheireadh an fhogair. Cuiridh Gaidheil na h-Airde Tuath agus crìochan eile, meas-orra fhein agus air prìomh-bhaile na Gaidhealtachd, ma bhios iad 'nan ciadan an làth-air. Tha sinn a' tuigsinn gu'm bheil mòran luchd-farpuis as gach àite suidhichte ri 'bhi aig a' Mhòd—gach neach làn dòchais duais a'chosnadh. 'S cinnteach nach cluinnear facal ach Gàidhlig air sràidean Inbhir-nis an làtha sin. Co dhiùbh 'chluinneas no nach cluinn, bu chòir a' Comh-Ghaidheil bòid a' ghabhail nach bruidhneadh iad lideadh nam measg fhéin ach cànan na dùthcha. Ma ni iad sin, bheir coirigh faineair nach eil nàire sam bith oirnn a bhi ag àrdachadh na Gàidhlig is a toirt di a còir fhéin. Bith-eamaid eudmhor ma tà anns a' chùis seo.

tàmh am measg nan Gall's a ghuail, tha ar smaointean an dràsda's a rithist air ar càirdean 's a' Ghàidhealtachd. Tha aig an àm seo gach neach, 'tha idir comasach, trang a' buain 's a' tiormachadh na mòna, agus an dèidh sin 'ga cruachadh air an t-sliabh, no 'ga tarraing dhachaidh a chum cruach mhòr a thogail aig ceann an tighe, air chor agus gu'm bi nis leòr de chonnadh aca ma choinneamh a' gheamhraidh. Is obair ghoirt, fhad 's a mhaireas i, a th'ann a bhi 'buain mhòna. Ach ma bhios an side fàbharach, cha bhi cridhealas gann, oir cha'n eil maighstir no grèidhear os cionn nan gillean no nan caileagan ga 'n cumail ris. Ma thachras do dh'fear-turuis a bhi 'teachd mu'n cuairt mu mheadhoin làtha brèagh grianach, ma dh'fhaoidteadh gu'm faic e dithis no trìuir ga'm blianagaich fhéin am measg an fhraoich 's an roid, neo air bruach na h-aibhne ag eisdeachd ri torman an uillt agus ceileireadh nan èun, a' feitheamh agus an dean na caileagan an dineir deiseil ri teine fo bhun creige. Ach tha iad air fas cho Gallda an diugh's nach dean an gnothach ach *lemonade* is briosaidean ged is e an *tea* is bitheanta. Ach chithear fhathast air feadh na tìre na breacagan briagh coirce, am bonnach-cruinneachd tiugh, agus plasd de dh' im ùr air. Agus ma bhios cuisean eile ceart aig an tighe, cò nach taghadh caitheamh-beatha de'n t-seòrsa seo an àite straightlich, is upraid, is gleadhraich Ghlaschu mhoir nan stiopall, far nach faic thu ach cabhsair cruaidh gun urrad agus bileag de'n fhéur; agus an uair a dh'èireas tu 'sa mhaduinn, an àite do shùilean fhosgladh air sléibhtean is muir, cha'n fhaic thu ach ballachan fuar. Tha na goill ag ràdh mar ghnath-fhocail:— 'S e an Cruithfhear a rinn an dùthaich, ach 's e an duine a rinn am baile mòr.

* * * *

Tha sinn a creidsinn gu'n deachaidh là na fìor-bhochdainn seachad far na Gaidhealtachd, agus bha'n t-àm aige. Tha an sluagh a nis air tomhas mòr de'n còraichean fhaighinn troimh na laghannan a chaidh a chur air bonn 'o àm gu àm, agus is mòr an toil-inntinn a chuireas e air fear-turuis a bhi 'g amharc air a leithid de fhàrdaicean sgiobalta, comhfhurtail, air an togail, mar a bha Domhnall nan òran (am Bàrd Sgiathanach) a' ràdh mu aitreabh Ruairi, "le aol 's le clachan, cho geal ri sneachda na garbhlaich." Tha cothrom a nis aig ar luchd-dùthcha pàirt de'n tìr a mhealtuinn air dhòigh nach gabhadh a dheanadh dà-fhichead bliadhna roimhe seo. Gu'm bu fada beò iad agus

ceò dhe'n tighean. Tha sùil na Pàrlamaid air tionndadh ris an duine-bhoichd ma dheireadh.

—:o:—

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT PERTH.

The Executive Council of the Comunn met in the Royal British Hotel, Perth, on the 27th of July, Mr. William Mackay, President, in the chair. There were also present—Lady Helen Stewart Murray, Blair Castle; Miss Macgregor of Macgregor, Perth; Mrs. Burnley Campbell; Mrs. Christison, Glasgow; Miss Kate Fraser, Inverness. Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Yoker; Rev. M. N. Munro, Taynult; Rev. G. W. Mackay, Killin; Rev. W. Macphail, Kilbrandon; Rev. John M'Lachlan, Govan; Mr. Alistair M'Laren, Crianlarich; Mr. J. Abrach Mackay, Dundee; Mr. Malcolm C. Macleod, Dundee; Mr. Angus Robertson, Glasgow; Major Menzies, Edinburgh; Dr. Watson, Edinburgh; Mr. John Bartholomew, Edinburgh; D. Macphie, Cumbernauld; R. Macfarlane, treasurer; John Maclean, general secretary. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The President at the outset made appropriate reference to the loss of two such distinguished men as Dr. Carmichael and Dr. Henderson to the Gaelic cause. He moved that the Executive should record in its minutes a sense of their great loss, and that suitable expression of their condolence should be sent to the relatives of both. The President, the Secretary, and the Rev. G. W. Mackay were appointed to do this.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The minutes of meetings of the Standing Committees held since last meeting of the Council were submitted. The first one considered was that of the Finance Committee. In the absence of the convener, the minute was read by the Secretary. It was pointed out, that the purchase of Patrick Macdonald's collection of music was completed, and that the book would be available for reference at the Comunn's office, 108 Hope St. The Treasurer reported, that he had invested a sum of £500 with the Corporation of Glasgow at 3½ per cent. for three years, also that he had lodged a temporary loan with the Corporation of a further sum of £250 at ½ per cent. per annum above the deposit

rate of the Scottish Banks. This latter sum can be uplifted on one month's notice. These investments have been made on the recommendation of the advisory Committee, who advised that half the amount of the Clachan surplus, already paid to the Association, should be invested in this way. The report was approved.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

The Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Yoker, submitted the report of the Publication Committee. Mr. Norman Macleod, he said, was going on with a revision of Reid's Elementary Course of Gaelic, which would be completed shortly. An important part of their work was the question of suitable Gaelic text-books for schools, and this they had under consideration. They were extremely fortunate in having the services of a man of such distinction as Dr. Watson, Edinburgh, as general editor for this purpose. They prepared, under his guidance, a classified list of Gaelic text-books, and this list would appear in the August number of the Magazine. Besides, they prepared it in leaflet form for distribution, and copies may be had from the general secretary at 108 Hope St., Glasgow. On this proposal, they had the views of educational experts including inspectors of schools. Their scheme meant a considerable sum of money, and while he would not at that time go into details, he believed that over £400 would be required. Dr. Watson, who went into the matter carefully, thought that this sum would be sufficient. Books of the nature under consideration were urgently needed, and while nothing definite as to price was as yet settled, it would be as low as possible, and within the means of every child. The Committee recommended that the editors of the seven text-books should each receive an honorarium of £15, and in addition, in the case of books where scholarship and original research were required on the part of the editor, that a royalty should be paid on the number of copies sold, this amount to be afterwards determined. He regretted the deficiency in the Magazine Account, though he supposed it was inevitable as things were, but he thought something should be done to stop these deficits from occurring year after year. It was the duty of members to support the Magazine, and use every means for increasing its sale, where new branches were formed. It should be suitably advertised throughout the Highlands. Members should not forget that it was a propa-

gandist organ, and in that way was necessary for bringing a knowledge of the work of the Comunn before the people. In conclusion Mr. Macpherson reported, that the Advisory Committee recommended the appointment of a legal advisor to the Comunn. This announcement caused a good deal of discussion. Mr. J. Abrach Mackay, Dundee, said that it would be better not to recommend any special legal adviser at this stage. The chairman pointed out that it would be well that they should have some competent person to appeal to in cases of difficulty. Mr. J. A. Mackay replied that the matter should be left to the Annual Meeting. The Rev. W. Macphail, Kilbrandon, asked, if it was necessary to have a legal adviser. The chairman answered that it would be wise, and he thought the Executive might settle it. The discussion was further continued by Mr. Angus Robertson, Glasgow, and Mr. Macphail. Major Menzies, seconded by Mr. Alexander Fraser, moved that we should go outside the Comunn in making the appointment. Mr. J. Bartholomew, Edinburgh, suggested that authority be given to engage a legal adviser, but that no preference be given to a member of the Comunn. This was the finding of the meeting, and the minutes of the Publication Committee were adopted.

PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE.

In connection with the Report of the Propaganda Committee, Mr. Angus Robertson, who spoke in Gaelic, held that any person engaged in propaganda work should address meetings in Gaelic only. Mrs. Burnley Campbell agreed that everything should be done in Gaelic, if possible, but it would be a mistake to make a hard and fast rule. It would not be advantageous. Mr. Robertson then gave notice of the following motion for the Annual Meeting:—"That Gaelic alone should be used by propagandist agents of the Comunn in their work in the Highlands." The minutes of the Propaganda Committee were adopted.

MOD AND MUSIC COMMITTEE.

The Rev. M. N. Munro submitted the report of the Mòd and Music Committee. There appeared to be some difficulty felt by some competitors on what constitutes a "Mull and Iona Song." It was decided that the interpretation should be that of membership of the Mull and Iona Association, as laid down in Rule 3 of their constitution. The judges for the various competitions at the Inverness Mòd were fixed. Some altera-

tions were necessary on account of the inability of some of the gentlemen, asked, to be present. Miss Fraser, Inverness, reported that the subscriptions to the Prize Fund had now amounted to about £264. In this was included £100—the gift of Mr. J. W. Stewart, a native of Assynt but now resident in Canada—which is not entirely available for prize money. Part of it is earmarked to provide suitable refreshment for the children on the day of the competition. Rothiemurchus has consented to preside at Wednesday's concert, Lord Lovat at Thursday's, and the Mackintosh of Mackintosh at Friday's. The chairman referred in warm terms to Mr. Stewart's handsome donation, and said if prominent Gaels in Canada only knew the nature of the work of the Comunn Gaidhealach, they might be disposed to imitate Mr. Stewart's good example. Canada was worth tapping. Arising out of the Mòd and Music Committee's report was the remit from the Council to consider the question of giving grants to Junior Choirs in aid of their travelling expenses to the Mòd. The Committee reported that while they had drawn up no definite scheme, they would be prepared to consider each case on its merits. They hoped, however, that choirs making application for assistance, would endeavour to raise as large a fund as possible locally. The Rev. T. S. Macpherson gave notice of motion for next Executive Meeting, "that bye-law No. 21 in Rules and Byelaws be altered" so that all conveners of Standing Committees may be paid travelling expenses.

Mr. Alistair MacLaren reported on his visit to the Irish Oireachtas last month. His impressions appear in this number of the Magazine.

Towards the close of the meeting, the President intimated that he was retiring. The announcement was received with expressions of regret, but Mr. Mackay pointed out, that he had not the time necessary for continuing the duties of president. On the motion of Miss Macgregor of Macgregor, a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to the President.

—:O:—

Na trì ràdhan is grinne 's a' Ghàidhlig—
Mo chuid fhéin;
Mo bhean fhéin;
Theid sinn dachaidh.

The three finest sayings in Gaelic—
My own property;
My own wife;
Let us go home.

COIR SAMHNA AIR LEANNAN.

(Chaidh an dealbh-chluich seo a chur air leth air son a' cheud duais aig Mòd Inbhir-nis am bliadhna. Le EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.)

AN TREASA SEALLADH.

TIGH LACHAINN BHAIN. OIDHCHE SHAMHNA.

(*Tha muinntir an tìghe gu léir a stigh, Mairi Lachainn, Gilleasbaig Buachaille, Seumas Bàn, Iain Ruadh is gillean is nigh-eanan eile. Tha am bòrd ga shuidheachadh, an fhuarag ga deasachadh is ùbhlun is cnodhan air an cur air a' bhòrd. Theid dà fhàinne, putan, mèuran is bonn trì sgùilean a chur anns an t-soitheach 'sa bheil an fhuarag ga deasachadh agus cuirear mu'n cuairt i.*)

SILE—Suidibh a stigh mu'n fhuarag, feuch co chiad aon a bheir dhuinn banais.

LACHAINN—Cha rachainn fhéin an urras ged a gheibheadh am Buachaille agus mi fhéin na fàineachan.

(*Gheabh Anna an ciad fhàinne.*)

ANNA (*a' sealltainn dhoibh an fhàinne*)—Sin agaibh e, ach cha'n 'eil fios co tha ri chur air mo chorraig.

MAIRI—Chi thu sin gun dàil, agus cha'n fhada gus am faic sinne e mar an ceudna; chi thu am béul na cruaidhe mòna, no cùl a' mhulain e an ceart uair.

(*Gheabh Mairi an dara fàinne.*)

ANNA—Seadh, agus nach faic thu féin e cuideachd, agus tha dòchas agam gu'm faic thu am fear air am bheil do chridhe an goall. 's e sin—(*rithe fhéin*) Uilleam Lògabh-aig.

(*Gheabh an sin aon an deidh aoin am putan, am mèuran agus am bonn airgid, agus theid iad uile gu aighear is gàireachdainn, Eiridh iad bho'n bhòrd.*)

ANNA—So nis, losgadh nan cnodhan! (*a' faotaim dà chnò*) so Iain Ruadh is Mairi Eoghain.

MAIRI—So Uilleam Lògabh-aig is Anna.

IAIN RUADH—So Niall Mac Ailein Oig is Anna (*ni Sìle casad*).

GILLEASBAIG—So Uilleam Lògabh-aig is Mairi Lachainn.

NIGHEAN—So am Buachaille is Fionnghal na Tobhte (*seann chaillich*).

SEUMAS—So mi fhéin 's mo sheanamhair (*B' i Mòr a bh' air a sheanamhair 's ò' i Mòr a bh' air a leanan*).

(*Gabhadh cuid de na cnodhan, gu sòn-raichte Niall is Anna agus Uilleam is Mairi,*

theid cuid as a thiota is cuid a thuiteas thar cloich an teintein).

(Gheabhar an sin ceithir trinnsearan 's leagar iad air an ùrlar, cuirear uisge glan an aon, uisge salach an aon, gràine saluinn an aon, is fàgar aon falamh. Theid aon an dèidh aoin de'n òigridh a thoirt a nall le neapaigin mu'n sùilean, agus iarrar orra an làmh dheas a shìneadh feuch de th'aig an Fhreasdail air an cionn. Cuiridh cuid am meòir 'san uisge ghlan 's tha iad làn riarachta, cuid 'san t-salann 's cha'n'eil iad idir cho toilichte, ach 's fhearr leo bhì falamh buileach na am meòir a chur 'san uisge shalach.)

SEUMAS—So, co tha dol a mach a chriaradh an eòrna an toiseach?

ANNA—Nach falbh thu fhéin a Sheumais feuch am faic thu do sheanamhair, no (an guth beag na chluais) Mór Eachainn.

(Falbhaidh Seumas agus an ceann tiota tillidh e).

UILE A BEOIL A CHEILE—Seadh a Sheumais, dé chunna tu?

SEUMAS—Matà cha'n fhaca ach uisge cur sad as na creagan, tha meall searbh ann an ceart uair, agus droch fhaighe air a' chladach. Tha a' ghealach dìreach a' cur roimpe.

ANNA—Cha chreid mi fhéin gu'n deach thu còig ceumannan bho'n ursainn. Cha'n fhaigh thusa te ri d' bheò a Sheumais mur a gabh mi féin truas dhìot.

SEUMAS—O, nach deanadh tusa sin Anna!

ANNA—Seadh, co an ath aon; nighean a nis, nach teid thusa mach a Mhàiri.

MAIRI—O Shiorruidh, 's an t-uisge cho trom!

ANNA—Cuir ort mo chòta-sa 's cha fhliuchar thu.

SILE—'S fhearr dhi an t-seacaid dhubb agamsa 'chur oirre.

MAIRI—Cha chuir mise seacaid caillich orm am bliadhna 'dhol a dh'iarraidh fir.

SILE—'S fhearr dhuit fhéin dol a mach matà Anna bho'n tha i sìleadh.

LACHANN—Cha'n fhaodar sin a dheanadh aon uair is gu'n do dh'èirich Màiri. Feumaidh i falbh.

GILLEASBAIG—So, ort còta Anna, 's bi falbh 's thoir ort an sabhal.

SILE—'S fhearr dhi dol a dh'ionnsuidh a mhulain.

LACHANN—Nach gòrach leam fhéin thu Shìle, nach leig thu leotha ged a dh'fhalbhadh iad gu mullach Meall na h-Iolair.

(Cuiridh Màiri uimpe còta Anna is falbhaidh i mach do'n t-sabhal agus teannaidh i

ri criaradh an eòrna. Chi Uilleam i a' tighinn is saoilidh e gur i Anna th'ann, agus coisichidh e troimh an t-sabhal gu foil. Teichidh Màiri a stigh is glaoth cruaidh 'na ceann).

UILE GU LEIR—O Mhàiri, Mhàiri! De idir a chunna tu?

MAIRI—Chunna mi coslas fir a' dol troimh 'n t-sabhal, agus dh' aithnich mi e. Cha teid mise dhachaidh leam féin an nochd.

ANNA IS AN CORR—Co bh'ann a Mhàiri?

SILE—Gus an ruith seachd seachduinean na innis co bha ann air do bheò, ach gabhaidh mo leisgeul-sa an dràsda, feumaidh mi dol a mach a shealltainn air an laogh.

GILLEASBAIG—An teid mi mach leibh a bhean Lachainn?

SILE—Cha teid, cha teid, fuirich far am bheil thu.

(Falbhaidh Sile feuch am faic i Uilleam, ach cha'n'eil sealladh air-san agus tillidh i stigh gun dàil).

GILLEASBAIG—Cha 'n'eil e deoghall, a bhean Lachainn?

SILE—Uist a thacharain! 'S gun thu fhéin ach gann bho dheoghal.

ANNA—Is tusa nis Iain Ruaidh, falbh feuch am faic thu Màiri Eoghain.

IAIN—Matà is duilich dhomh-sa an truagh-an fhaicinn, is farsuing an caolas a tha eadruinn.

(Falbhaidh Iain Ruaidh is an ceann tacain tillidh e).

UILE—Seadh, am faca tu i, Iain, no de chunna tu?

IAIN—Matà cha chreid mi nach fhaca mi an donas is oilskins air. Mur e bh'ann cha 'n fhios domhsa co eile bh'ann.

SEONAD—De an eaglais—

SEUMAS—Hà, hà, hà! chunna tu an gamhainn buidhe aig Dòmhnall Mac Eachainn; cha do chuireadh a stigh fhathast e, 's chunna mi am muigh an sin an nochd e.

IAIN—Gamhainn no laogh, no an seann laoch fhéin, bha e a' falbh air dà chois co dhù.

LACHANN—Matà cha chuala mi riamh cot-aichean-ola 'bhi aig an duin-uasal sin, ach tha e coltach leam gu'm bheil deadh dheise chruadhach aige.

ANNA—Coma leibh an duine bochd sin, tha deadh Shamhain aige far am bheil e, ach co nis a tha dol mach?

MAIRI—Nach eil thu féin Anna. So mach, feuch am faic thu Uilleam Lógabhaig, no (an guth beag) Niall Mac Ailein Oig, oir is cinnteach gu'm bi a nis Uilleam Lógabhaig aig am fhéin.

ANNA—Agus dé ma chi mi am fear a chunnaic Iain Ruadh? (*cuiridh i uimpe a còta is falbhaidh i mach. Theid i a dh'ionnsaidh a' mhulain is spiolaidh i sop ag radh*).—Tha Anna an so a' spioladh suip a' sguaib chruinn chraobhagaich an taobh a' mhulain, freagair thusa mi a rogha ceile ma tha thu an so an nochd? Eisdidh i is cluinnidh i a' tighinn oirre thar an taobh eile am freagradh,—Tha Niall Mac Ailein Oig an so a' spioladh suip a' sguaib chruinn chuimir chraobhagaich mo leannain. Is mi do rogha ceile 's mi ort an geall.'

(*Bheir Anna glaoth aise, agus bheir i a h-aghaidh air an tigh, ach leumaidh Niall na dèidh*).

NIALL—'S e mi féin a th'ann a ghaoil Anna (*glacaidh e na ghairdeanaibh i*).

ANNA—O Nèill, an tu da riridh a th'ann, 's ann a theab mo cridhe m'fhàgail.

NIALL—C'arson nach do sgrìobh thu chugam Anna, 's mi ag innseadh dhuit c'àite an robh mi anns na h-uile litir a sgrìobh mi chugad?

ANNA—O Nèill, coma leat a bhi bruidhinn an dràsda. Cha d'fhuair mise litir bho 'n a dh'fhalbh thu, ach fhuair mi mach gu'n robh iad a' tighinn, agus gu'n robh mo mhàthair ga'n losgadh. 'Sann a theab mi mo mhiseach a thoirt suas gus an d'fhuair Gilleasbaig Buachaille mach mar bha cùisean.

NIALL—Hà! Sin agad mar bha mi féin, ach tha mi a' tuigsinn a nis mar bha cùisean, Anna (*pògaidh e i*). Tha thu dileas dhomh fhathast matà.

ANNA—Tha, agus bithidh, a Nèill, ach theid sinn a stigh an dràsda; cha bhi fios aca de thainig ruinn.

(*Theid iad a steach air achlasan a cheile, na còtaichean-ola air Niall*).

MÀIRI—Mo ghalad thu Anna, cha'n e mhàin gu'm faca tu e, ach thug thu dhachaidh e.

IAIN RUADH—A mhic an fhir ud! An tusa bha deanadh falach fead orm-sa cùl an stàb-uill, 's mi a' smaointinn gur e an Donas a bh'annad.

LACHANN—Mo laochan a Nèill, an tu th'ann, cia as air an t-saoghal a thainig thu an dràsda, 'sann a theab nach tilleadh tu idir?

NIALL—Matà thainig sinn gu cala an ceart uair, agus thainig mise an so an deadh àm mar an ceudna; nach d'fhuair mi Anna, bhur nìghean, agus i ag iarraidh fir aig a' mhulan choire, agus mur am bheil làn chòir agam oirre a nis, cha'n fhios dhomhsa co

aige tha.

LACHANN—Gun teagamh sam bith, chuir am Freasdal féin ort i, agus tha còir Samhna agad oirre.

SILE—A, nach beag tùir a th'agaibh, nach eil fios agaibh fein—

ANNA—Tha fios againn gu math a mhàthair. Tha fios agamsa de bha sibh féin 's mo sheanamhair ag radh rium an là roimhe mu'n cheart ni. Nach d'thubhairt sibh rium am fear no an té a chitthe oidhche Shamhna, aig cruaidh mhòna, aig mulan no an sabhal, le aon a rachadh a mach air son a' ghnothaich, nach bu mhath do neach dol eatorra.

SILE—Agus nach gabh sibhse an taobh a thogras sibh mar a ghabhas sibh co dhui.

LACHANN—O gu dearbh, se sin a ni iad a cheist a Shìle, ge air bith de their thusa na mise; 'se sin a rinn thu féin agus is e rinn mise (*bheir Sile sùil mhi-cheutach air*). Ach cò chunna tusa ghaoil a Mhàiri?

SILE—Na innis dhoibh a Mhàiri.

GILLEASBUIG—Is math a tha fios agam-sa cò a chunnaic i, ged nach do dh'fhàg mi an teine.

UILE—Seadh!

GILLEASBUIG—Mur a biodh còta Anna oirre cha'n fhaicheadh i e.

LACHANN—Mo laochan thu!

GILLEASBUIG—Agus mur a biodh e féin ann cha'n fhaicheadh i e.

LACHANN—Seadh, seadh, 'Illeasbuig.

GILLEASBUIG—Agus shaoil e féin gur i Anna bha 'san t-sabhal agus dh'fhalbh e dhachaidh.

ANNA—So, dùin e nis.

GILLEASBUIG—Agus 'sann agad-sa bha choire 'nuair a dh'iarr thu Mairi do chòta chur oirre.

SILE—A, nach tilg sibh fàd mona air an tacharan feuch an dùin e chraos.

GILLEASBUIG (*agus e a' léum a dh'ionnsaidh an doruis*)—Agus na'n do chuir i oirre seacadh dhubb na caillich, cha'n fhaicheadh i Uilleam Lùgabhaig an nochd.

UILE GU LEIR—Hà, hà, hà! Mo laochan thu féin. 'S tu fhéin da riridh an gille.

LACHANN—Is math a rinn sibh gu dearbh; thug an t-Samhain ò barr air gach Samhain a chunna mise riamh.

IAIN RUADH—Agus nach cuir sinn a nis crìoch oirre anns an t-seann dòigh.

LACHANN—Matà their iad a' chiad sgéul air fear an tighe 's gach sgéulachd gu làtha air an aoigh, agus tha mi cinnteach gu'm biodh na h-òrain mar a bha na sgéulachdan. Gabhaidh mi fhéin òran an toiseach.

MAIRI—Sin sibh a Lachainn, cuiridh sibh cath air na gillean òga.

SILE—O, an cluinn sibh cò tha dol a ghabhail òrain; is mór a b' fhearr a thig-eadh e dhomh fhéin na dhuitse le d' ghuth curraçaig.

LACHANN—Seadh agus le m' churracag fhéin 'nuair a bhiodh tusa laimh rium, ach gheabh thu cead do thiompan a ghlèusadh 'nuair a bhios mise deas (*gabhaidh Lachann òran eutrom*). (*Ri Sile*) So a nis gabh fhéin fear, ach air do bheò na gabh na ruinn a rinn thu dhomh-sa nuair a bha sinn a' leannanachd no saoilidh a' chuideachd gu'n robh thu a' dol thar do bheachd.

SILE—Bha an dà chuid ceòl is bàrdachd anns na daoine againne.

SEONAIÐ—Seadh agus deadh phearsachan eaglais mar an ceudna.

IAIN RUADH—So a bhean Lachainn, gabh-aibh an t-òran.

(*Gabhaidh Sile an t-òran "Hó Mo Bhod-achan, gabhaidh aon no dhà do'n chuidh-eachd òrain fhreagrach. Thig gnog san dorus*).

UILE—Cha'n 'eil fios cò tha so (*thig Uilleam Lógabhaig a stigh*).

LACHANN—Direach a cheart fhear a bha dlith oirnn, teann a stigh a laochain Uilleam.

UILEAM—Muire! 's ann agaibh a tha an còmhlan grinn.

LACHANN—Ach na'm biodh tu an so ni bu luaithe, 's tu a gheabhadh an spòrs.

UILEAM—Seadh de bha dol?

LACHANN—Nach deach Màiri agad a mach do'n t-sabhal a chrìaradh an eòrna, agus chunnaic i coslas duine, 's tha i fhéin ag ràdh gu'n do dh'aithnich i e.

GILLEASBUIG—Agus 'se còta Anna chuir i uimpe bho'n bha an t-uisge ann, ach bha Sile air son i chur na seacaid dhubb aice fhéin oirre.

UILEAM—Dé! Nach! Cò! C' àite—!

GILLEASBUIG—Agus nuair a chaidh Anna fhéin a mach, co a thainig oirre aig a' mhul-an ach Niall Mac Ailein Oig—

UILEAM—Dé! Cuin! Cia-mar—!

MAIRI—Coma leat an t-àrsair balaich sin Uilleam, dean suidhe.

UILEAM—Matà cha robh thu riamh ach le deadh chomhairle agad a Mhàiri.

MAIRI—Tha cathair an so laimh rium féin is dean suidhe.

UILEAM (*a' suidhe sìos*)—S tu féin a bu dòcha a Mhàiri, ach nach tu tha còimhead math an nochd; 's ann a tha thu toirt am

chuidhne nan seann làithean nuair a bha sinn a' suidhe!

LACHAINN—Nach e sin a thubhairt mi riut bho chionn iomad làtha agus cha chreideadh tu mi. Cha b' urrainn dhuit nì a b' fhearr a dheanadh na a faicinn dhachaidh a nochd, 'se sin 'nuair a ni sinn righil dannsadh, agus gu dearbh tha mi fhéin coma ged a bheirinn aon righil eile do m' chaillich fhéin bho'n is Oidheche Shamhna i co dhù, agus sinn uile eridheil càirdeil am measg a chèile.

UILE—Gasda, gasda Lachainn! So suas a' phìob a Raonail na rinn thu riamh e!

(*Nithear dannsadh no dhà, Niall is Anna cuideachd, Uilleam is Màiri agus Lachann is Sile*).

(*Leigear a nuas am brat*).

A' CHRIOCH.

—:O:—

THE LATE DR. GEORGE HENDERSON.

A DISTINGUISHED CELTIC SCHOLAR.

It is with profound regret that we note the death of the Rev. George Henderson, Ph.D., B.Litt., Lecturer on Celtic Language and Literature in Glasgow University. We spent a profitable and pleasant hour with him at his residence in Rutherglen only ten days before his death, looking over his rare books and manuscripts, and discussing the present position of the Gaelic Movement as represented by the Comunn Gaidhealach, which he heartily supported. He was about to prepare for our Special September Number an article on "the progress of Celtic Studies during the last twenty years," and, although he did not look well at the time, we little thought that our parting was the last good-bye. That a career of such distinction and promise should be ended at the early age of 47 years, causes profound sorrow throughout Gaeldom. The loss of two such men as Dr. Carmichael and Dr. Henderson is a serious blow to the Celtic world, and to the Gaelic language in particular. The former left us at a ripe old age, in possession of that which accompanies a distinguished man—"honour, love, obedience and troops of friends." The latter was rapidly gaining deserved honour and attracting "troops of friends," for he was large-hearted, unassuming, and straight as a lance in character. Though his life was short, his place among Celtic scholars is securely established. No man ever made more patient, or more searching preparation for what was to be his chief work in

life. For his equipment as a Celtic scholar, he may be said to have ransacked the greater part of Europe as well as the whole of his native country, and the knowledge thus gained was adorned by a charm of manner, that made one forget that he was in the presence of so great a scholar. When the scientific instinct, the instinct of the philologist, predominates in a man, it is not usual to find the poetic feeling asserting itself. The one refuses the strait-jacket of the other. It was otherwise with Dr. Henderson. Real Gaelic poetry appealed to, and drew eloquent expression from, him. We listened to him comparing the pen pictures in some of our fine Gaelic lyrics with those of English writers, and he concluded that the Gaelic picture, in point of art, was at least equal to the English, and in some cases superior. While he had great admiration for the work of Neil Macleod, he preferred to remain silent on much of present-day Gaelic poetry.

Dr. Henderson was a native of the parish of Kiltarlity, Inverness-shire, and received part of his education in Raining's School under the late Dr. MacBain. He graduated M.A. at Edinburgh University, and distinguished himself in Celtic studies, and in philosophy in which he was medallist. He held the Sir J. A. Macpherson scholarship in Gaelic language and literature for three years, and was examiner in Celtic. At Oxford he was admitted as an honorary scholar of Jesus College, and received the degree of B. Litt. At Berlin, Vienna, and Leipzig he studied philosophy, and took the degree of Ph.D. While minister of Eddrachillis, Sutherlandshire, he was appointed to the Lectureship in Celtic Language and Literature in Glasgow University in 1906. A few years later he resigned his ministerial charge, and gave his whole time to the duties of his lectureship. In 1910 he produced an important work on "The Norse Influence in Celtic Scotland," and in 1911, "Survivals in Belief among the Celts." Among other contributions to Gaelic literature may be noted, "Dain Iain Gobha"; "Leabhar nan Gleann," containing transliteration of one-half of the Fearnag Gaelic M.S., 1688, into modern Gaelic; "The Gaelic Dialects of Scotland," contributed to *Celtische Zeitschrift*, and designed to form a grammar of the Gaelic language on a phonetic basis; "Memoirs of a Highland gentleman," being reminiscences of Evander Mackay of Scourie. He also contributed to the "Celtic Review" a series of

articles on the "Fionn Saga." He identified himself with a number of Highland Societies in Glasgow, and took a warm interest in anything that made for the advancement of the Gaelic Cause. The large and representative gathering of mourners at his funeral to Morningside Cemetery, Edinburgh, was evidence of the great respect in which he was held.

—:O:—

LEASAIN GHÀIDHLIG.

XIX.

AIR BARR A' CHLADAICH.

A chionn nach robh mòran agam ri dheanadh an diugh, smaoinich mi gu'n gabhainn cuairt tiomcholl a' chladaich (1) *ach dè bha ri fhaicinn 's ri chluinntinn*.

Nuair a rainig mi'n cladaich thilg mi mi-fhèin air (2) *mo bheul's air mo shròin fodham air a' ghlasaich*, 's ann an uine ghoirid rinn samhchadas an fheasgair mo thàladh na m'chadal. Cha'n 'eil mi 'dol a dh'innseadh dè cho fada 's a chaidil mi, ach coma co-dhiubh, bha mi glè riaraichte nuair a dhùisg mi.

B' àluinn an sealladh a bha (3) *fo' m' chomhair*, nuair a dh'fhosgail mi mo shùilean. Bha 'n (4) "*Cuan Sgith*" dubh-ghorm, 's e cho ciùin, stòlda, (4a) *ag iathadh an fhearainn mu'n cuairt* (5) *gu chearcull dìon*; bha beanntan na (6) "*Mòr-Thìr*" ag eirigh suas air cùl a' chuain gu binneach àrd, agus (7) *curraichdean de cheò ghil a' comhdach an* (8) *ciomhagan liath-ghlas*; bha bàtaichean iasgaich luchdaichte le sgadan a' feitheamh ri osag ghaoithe, a lionadh na siùil a bha (9) "*glagadaich*" mu na croinn, agus a ghiulaineadh iad gu (10) *caladh a' mhargaidh*.

Ach ged tha gach nì dhiubh sin taitneach agus maiseach ann fhéin, (11) *'s e b' aoibhneach leam-sa gu mòr*, agus bu mhòtha a thug do shòlas do m'chridhe, na balaich agus na nigheanagan fallain sunndach a bha' ruith 's a' leum air gach (12) *piurra*, 's a' (13) *gearradh shùrdag* troimh gach lòn 's linne feadh gainmheach na tràghad.

Bu bhinn, milis leam an còmhradh' oir 's ann aca' bha a' Ghaidhlig gun thruaill-eadh, a' chaint a' fhuair iad le bainne-naciche, 's a bha fhathast glan bho (14) *luath* na (15) *Beurla Shasunnach*.

Thòisich mi ri seanachas ris na balaich, mar a b' fhearr a b' urrainn mi, air gach nì bu toil leotha; maorach, portain, faochagan a' chladaich, bha iad colach orra gu

leir; eìsg na mara—b' aithne dhoibh mòran na b' fhearr na b' aithne dhomh-sa. 'S ann a bha eagal orm gu'n toisicheadh iad 'gam' cheasnachadh, 's gu'm faicheadh iad cho ain-eòlach 's a bha mi.

Bha na nigheanan (16) *car* socharach an toiseach ach nuair a dh'fhàs sinn car càir-deil chunnaic mi nach robh iadsan puine air dheireadh air na balaich.

Leig mi feasgar math leotha, agus dh'fhalbh mi leis an smuain so. "Dh' fhaodadh gu'm bheil sibh bochd ann an (17) *crann-chur* ach tha sibh làn ann an eòlas, saobhir ann an intinn, agus farsuinn ann (18) *an léirsinn* oir 'si (19) *Nadur fhéin 'ur Muime Eideachaidh*."

Thug mi suil as an deidh agus thubhairt mi—mar gu'm biodh iad 'gam' éisd-eachd.

(20) "*Sealbh 'gar' beannachadh!* 's fheaird mi air son bliadhna 'ur còmhraidh milis, simplidh, (21) *canach*, blàth ann an cainnt nio mhathar 's mo sheanar."

AM BUACHAILL.

- (1) Ach dè—but what—in order to see, etc.; cp' Sheall mi ach dè bha 'nur air—I looked to see what was the matter.
- (2) Lit.: on my mouth and nose under me on the green—lay face downwards on the grass
- (3) Lit.: Under my front (view)—before me.
- (4) „ the tired ocean—name often applied to "The Minch."
- (4a) Lit.: encircling the land (round about).
- (5) „ like a protecting hoop.
- (6) „ the mainland.
- (7) „ women's caps (i.e., mutch); cap of mist.
- (8) „ their gray (grassy-green) locks (slopes).
- (9) „ flapping (uselessly)—in the calm.
- (10) „ the port of the market; the herring mart
- (11) „ it is what was most pleasant to me—what I enjoyed most.
- (12) Lit.; crag, or peak.
- (13) „ cutting jumps—prancing, and racing.
- (14) „ ashes (i.e., in sense of soiled or tarnished).
- (15) "*Beurla*" really means "language," not "English," therefore "*Beurla Shasunnaich*" is not a "pleonasm."
- (16) Lit.: a little; somewhat.
- (17) „ destiny, fate, but here it means rather "circumstances."
- (18) Lit.; in vision—mental vision.
- (19) „ Nature herself is your "education mother."
- (20) „ Providence keep you
- (21) „ sweet-flavoured, lovable, attractive.

—:o:—

Ged is math an gille cam, cha fhritheil e thall 's a bhos.

Good as the one-eyed lad is, he cannot attend here and there.

THE MACLEANS AND DUART CASTLE.

The 24th of this month will be a red letter day for the Macleans, when the banner of the clan will be unfurled by their chief, Colonel Sir Fitzroy Donald Maclean, Bart., on Duart Castle. This ancient stronghold was built in the thirteenth century, and for more than 400 years figured largely in the making of Scottish history with all its romantic associations. While every Maclean will "look far back into other years," and feel a pardonable thrill of pride in the vicissitudes and glory of his ancestors, the fact that Duart Castle has again come into the possession of the Chief appeals to him. The last chief who occupied it was Sir John Maclean, who was compelled to surrender it in 1691. The story of the clan is an interesting one, but too long to give even an outline of it in our pages. It may be mentioned, however, that the Macleans played an important part in our national story during the sixteenth century. They took their share like other clans in the well-known Highland feuds. They were always found on the Royalist side. Maclean of Duart took part in Henry the Eighth's plan of getting Prince Edward married to the unfortunate Queen Mary, and he, with Maclean of Lochbuy, was among those who accompanied Donald Dubh to Ireland. Lachlan Maclean at the head of his clan greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Glenlivet. It was this chief that succeeded in getting the Act of forfeiture against him removed in 1596 by submission to the king. Sir Lachlan took part in the battle of Inverlochy, and his son Sir Hector, with 800 of the clan, fought against Cromwell at Inverkeithing. It was at this battle that the well-known instance of the attachment of the Macleans to their chief happened. In the heat of the fray several of his clansmen formed round their beloved chief, and as each fell he shouted:—*Fear eile air son Eachainn* (another for Hector), and as a fresh hero stepped into his place he answered:—*Bàs air son Eachainn* (death for Hector). But, like King James at Flodden, Sir Hector was slain. The estates were now heavily in debt, and the family of Argyll succeeded in acquiring the greater portion of them. The Macleans fought also at Killiecrankie under Dundee, and under Mar, "bobbing John," in the ill-fated rising of 1715. Although Sir Hector was a prisoner in London when the "Forty-five" took place, Maclean of Drimnin fought

on the side of Prince Charlie at the head of 500 of the clan. The present chief, who is 77 years of age, is the son of Sir Charles the ninth baronet and succeeded to the title in 1883. The restoration of Duart Castle is being now carried out under the direction of Mr. Burnet, architect, and the necessary excavations have revealed many interesting "finds" such as old coins, cannon pieces, vases, dice, candle snuffers, and other articles.

The entry of the Maclean into his ancestral keep will be hailed with every good wish by every true Gael. Buaidh agus piseach do cheann-feadhna Chloinn Ghilleathain a bhios, tha sinn an dochas, a' ghabhail còmhnuidh fhathast ann a' luchairt a shinnisrean.

—:O:—

THE OIREACHTAS IN IRELAND.

The Rotunda in Dublin resounded with Irish on the first of July. According to the Rev. Canon Connell, lecturer in Celtic in the Queen's University, Belfast, the Irish language, as a spoken tongue, was in a very bad way. There was no use in concealing the truth. If everybody in Ireland could speak Irish as he could speak it, and if there was no community of Irish speakers who did not speak English, then the Irish language was as dead as the ancient language of Rome." On the other hand Dr. Douglas Hyde, in welcoming Mr. Alistair MacLaren as representing the Comunn Gailhealach, said it was true that the old people were dying, but the language was holding its own in other ways. It was advancing in the educational system of the country. It had not yet got its proper place in the National Schools, but it was advancing splendidly in the Intermediate schools. The number of students taking Irish in the Intermediate Examinations was 8,500. In the National University Irish would be compulsory from next May, and from that time forward nobody would be allowed into the Colleges in Galway and Dublin who did not know some Irish, big or little. Mr. Alistair MacLaren, who was received with loud applause, spoke in Gaelic as follows:—

"Fhir na catlach, a' mfnathan-uaisle agus a' dhaoine-uaisle, 's e coinneamh-chiùil a tha 'ann seo, agus air an aobhar sin, cha bu chòir dhòmhsa mòran a' ràdh. 'S mòr gu dearbhl an urram: a th' agam a bhi an seo an nochd aig 'ur Coinneamh Mhór, agus tha mi a' toirt taing chridheil air a shon. Tha e a' toirt tollinntinn mhór dhomh, teachdair-

eachd chridheil a thoirt bho Ghaidheil na h-Alba a dh'ionnsuidh ar bràithrean—Gaidheil na h-Eireinn. Mar 'tha fios agaibh, tha sinn dlùth ri cheile, ann am fuil, agus nà uaisleachd, 's uqno eapmā e iur eap 'bheil gaol blàth againn oirbh ann an Albainn. 'O bhun mo chridhe, mo chàirdean, tha mi a' guidhe buaidh leibh, agus gu'n soirbhicheadh leibh."

The chief event of the day was the concert, when traditional Irish Songs were sung.

Gaelic song was represented by Miss Annetta C. Whyte, Glasgow, and Mr. Alistair MacLaren, Crianlarich. Their singing was received with hearty applause. Another interesting feature of the evening was the recital of the Oireachtas Ode by Mr. Piaras Beaslai. It dealt with the most serious problem before the members of the Gaelic league, the continued decay of living Irish. It made a stirring appeal to the young men and women of Ireland to throw themselves into this last effort to save the historic Irish nation, and urged them, while giving no quarter to schemers, to tolerate the greatest possible liberty of individual opinion, and make allowance even for ignorance.

—:O:—

AN T-OIREACHTAS, 1912.

During the week June 29th-July 4th, I had the honour of attending the Oireachtas in Dublin as delegate from "An Comunn" and of singing at their concerts. Much to my regret, my friend Mr. Roderick MacLeod was, at the last moment, prevented from accompanying me. A detailed account of the work of the 1910 Oireachtas, from the able pen of Mr. John MacLeod, Dornie, appeared in "An Deo-Gréine," and the following year Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Govan, gave an excellent general sketch of its proceedings, so beyond endorsing most heartily what they said of the cordial welcome always extended to Highland delegates, there appears to be little left for me to say. Our Editor, however, has laid his august commands upon me, so I must, it seems, give a few of the impressions made by a most pleasant week. As a singer, I am naturally hardly in a position to criticise the musical part of the Oireachtas quite so freely as I might otherwise. I hope, however, any of my recently made friends in Eirinn, who may chance to read this, will forgive me if I say that, while approving heartily of their desire to keep the old airs and style intact, I think

they are making a mistake in so rigorously banishing instrumental accompaniment, especially as they have, in Mr. Hardebeck, a first-rate musician at their disposal. The absence of part-singing too surprised me, and I think any Irish Gael attending our Mòd and hearing the fine singing of our choirs would realise what they are losing. On an afternoon I had the pleasure of judging the Pipe Bands Competition, along with Mr. Rose, Pitlochry. The Irish have within the last year or two taken to our *piob mhor*, and the cult is rapidly spreading. Altogether we passed eleven bands through our hands. Next to the heartiness of my welcome, what impressed me most was the absolute disuse of the vulgar tongue (Am Beurla) *all through*. If in certain musical directions we have progressed further, they are far ahead of us in their thoroughness in using their language, and their determination to *get there*. By the courteous invitation of the President, Dr. Douglas Hyde, I was privileged to attend the Ard Fheiss, which was of course entirely conducted in Gaelic. Dr. Hyde and his lieutenant—Mr. O'Daley the General Secretary, are two of the right men in their right place and are ably backed up by their subordinates. The Ard Fheiss, when I attended it, were discussing the question of non-Gaelic-speaking Government officials and their removal! Also the matter of a teacher in a Gaelic-speaking district but who had no Gaelic. A Commission had some time ago been appointed by the Gaelic League to enquire into the case and reported to the Ard Fheiss, that, when approached by them, the teacher had promised to learn Gaelic, but had it seems failed to fulfil that promise. They were at once to bring pressure to bear on that particular district and school. I confess it made me rather envious. Why can't we do the same? The clergy seem to be taking a more active interest in the Gaelic cause in Ireland, than ours, with a few honourable exceptions, do in this country. There is a stronger bond than fear binding the Catholics of Ireland to their priests. If our ministers in the Highlands would take the stand they should, for national life and language, they might possibly find a cure for the slipping away of their people, and their loss of influence and prestige.

One other point, which I am sure will interest the ladies—the beautiful dresses worn by their sisters in Eirinn, made in Celtic designs of simple but artistic pattern.

They were charming—both dresses and wearers!

ALASTAIR MACLABHRAINN.

—:O:—

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

The arrangements for the Summer School which opens at Bowmore on the 1st of the month are now complete. Mr. Donald MacDonald, Easdale, who acted as principal of the Summer School at Oban in 1910 will again be in charge, and will have as his assistant Mr. Archibald Maclean, M.A., who has taught the Gaelic Evening Class in the High School of Glasgow with much success for some years. The music classes will again be under the tuition of Mr. Neil Orr, Edinburgh. Mr. Orr, in conjunction with Mr. James MacKillop, Eallabus, will undertake the arrangements for the Ceilidhs which have always been a highly popular feature of the School. Proposals for admitting local people, who are not students of the School, to the music classes are under consideration. A bookstall, where Gaelic and other books may be purchased, will be under the management of Miss Lettice Macnaghten. The following lectures have already been arranged for, and it is hoped that additional lectures may also be secured.

"Feum, Maise, agus Teachd-Gearr na Gàidhlig," by the Rev. D. J. Robertson, The Manse, Jura, on Friday, 2nd August.

"Gaelic and its Relations to other Languages," by the Rev. Charles M. Robertson, U.F. Manse, Jura, on Thursday, 8th August.

"Oraid Ghàidhlig," by the Rev. Neil Maclellan, Bowmore, Islay, on Wednesday, 21st August.

The School will meet in the Bowmore Schoolhouse kindly granted for the purpose by the School-board of Kilarrow and Kilmory.

Lt.-Col. Mactaggart of the Royal Bank, Bowmore, secretary of the Islay Branch of An Comunn, has given most valuable assistance in connection with the local arrangements.

—:O:—

Tha ceann air a h-uile rud, is a dhà air maraig, is toiseach air sin.

There is an end (head) on everything, and two on a pudding, and a beginning on that.

GAELIC TEXT-BOOKS.

The Publication Committee of An Comunn supply the following classified list of Gaelic text-books now available in the hope that it will be found of service by teachers of Gaelic classes and by private students. The list does not profess completeness, and the prices do not include postage. The books included provide a fairly adequate course of secular prose reading for all stages from the elementary up to the Intermediate Certificate. The Committee are arranging for a series of text-books designed to fill such gaps as exist within these limits, especially in respect of Gaelic poetry, and also to supply the pressing need for more advanced text-books.

FOR JUNIOR CLASSES.

Aⁿ. Treoraiche, 40 pp. illustrated, by Malcolm Macfarlane (Eneas Mackay, Stirling), 3d.

An Comh-threoraiche, by Malcolm Macfarlane (Eneas Mackay, Stirling), paper covers 6d., cloth 1s.

Companach na Cloinne, by John MacFadyen (Eneas Mackay, Stirling), paper covers 6d., cloth 1s.

Elementary Course of Gaelic, 117 pp. with vocabularies, by Duncan Reid (Archibald Sinclair, Glasgow), 1s.

FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AND CONTINUATION CLASSES AND INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE COURSE.

Dàin Thaghte, 48 pp., selected by Malcolm Macfarlane (Eneas Mackay, Stirling), paper 3d.

Elementary Lessons in Gaelic, 6th ed., 68 pp., by Lachlan MacBean (Eneas Mackay, Stirling), 8d.

How to learn Gaelic, 96 pp., with vocabulary and grammar, by A. MacBain, LL.D., and John Whyte (*Northern Chronicle*, Inverness), 1s. 3d.

Macleod's Gaelic Reader, 66 pp., with vocabulary, by Rev. Malcolm MacLennan (John Grant, Edinburgh), 1s.

Uirsgeulan Gaidhealach (four Mòd prize papers), (Eneas Mackay, Stirling), 6d.

Na Daoine Sidhe is Uirsgeulan eile, Gaelic Fairy Tales, with translation and illustrations, gilt cloth 1s. 6d.; the Gaelic only, with the illustrations, paper cover 6d.; edited by Winifred M. Parker (Archibald Sinclair, Celtic Press, Glasgow).

Arabian Nights in Gaelic, three parts, paper covers, 1s. each, by Rev. J. MacRury (*Northern Chronicle*, Inverness).

The Tale of Deirdre, with translation by A. Carmichael, LL.D. (T. & A. Constable, Edinburgh), 3s. 6d.

Reading Book for the use of Students, 261 pp., selected and edited by Professor MacKinnon (John Grant, Edinburgh), 3s. 6d.

Higher Grade Readings, with notes and Scholarship Examination papers, by A. MacBain, LL.D. (*Northern Chronicle*, Inverness), 1s. 6d.

Leabhar nan Cnoc, 280 pp., by Dr. Norman Macleod (*Northern Chronicle*, Inverness), 2s. 6d.

GENERAL.

MacEachen's Gaelic-English Dictionary, 417 pp., edited by A. MacBain, LL.D., and John Whyte (*Highland News*, Inverness), 2s. 6d.

Gaelic Grammar, new edition, 164 pp., by Duncan Reid (Archibald Sinclair, Glasgow), 1s. 6d.

Elements of Gaelic Grammar, by Dr. H. C. Gillies, 3s. 6d.

Guide to Gaelic Conversation and Pronunciation, by L. MacBean, 1s. 6d.

Notes on the Study of Gaelic (Hints and Courses of Study), with Intermediate Certificate papers by W. J. Watson, LL.D. (*Northern Chronicle*, Inverness), 6d.

Ossian and the Ossianic Literature, A. Nutt, 6d.

Cuchulainn the Irish Achilles, A. Nutt, 6d.
The Story of early Gaelic Literature, Douglas Hyde, LL.D., paper 1s., cloth 2s.

—:o:—

THE OLD BRETON LANGUAGE.

RECOGNITION BY THE UNIVERSITIES.

On the Continent the study of Celtic continues to make progress. According to "Le Clocher Breton" (Kloc'hdi Breiz) for March the Faculty of Letters of the University of Rennes continues to claim and to obtain for Celtic literature the position which belongs to it in that ancient Breton University. A lower and a higher diploma is now granted there in Celtic. Since 1907, Celtic could only be taken in the oral examination as an optional subject. For the Doctorate of the University the thesis could be written only in French, German, English, or Latin, but now Celtic recovers its position. In May, 1911, Celtic was permitted as a medium for the thesis put forward in connection with the Doctorate, and in October following Diplomas in Celtic were created and were sanctioned by ministerial decree.

LORD SEAFIELD ON THE GAELIC TONGUE.

"The ancient heritage of our Gaelic tongue, the picturesque dress of our country, our Highland poetry and music, are all dear to my heart, and I shall do what is in my power to perpetuate the traditions which they enshrine." These were the noble words which the Earl of Seafield used in his reply to the enthusiastic Highland welcome which the Clan Grant gave him on the occasion of his home-coming to Castle Grant, his ancestral home, on the 27th July. That such sentiments should be uttered by the head of a distinguished clan, is a sign of the times, and a source of much gratification to Gaels who are striving to preserve our ancient Gaelic tongue, and its traditions. We have reason to believe that other Highland chiefs are in cordial agreement with such sentiments, and we thank the noble Earl for giving such distinct expression to them. We would add "Stand fast Craigellachie," in such a noble cause. The great function, held at Castle Grant on that day, marked the first public appearance of the Earl of Seafield in the Highlands. His lordship succeeded to the ancestral home on the death of the beautiful Caroline Countess Dowager of Seafield, a lady of whom one might fitly say, as King George IV. said of Lady Anne Margaret, "truly she is an object fit to raise the chivalry of a clan." The muster of 500 Grants in honour of this event formed an impressive sight, different in appearance, no doubt, from the times of which Sir Alexander Boswell writes:—

"Next the Grants of Rothiemurchus,

Every man a sword and durk has,

Every man as proud's a Turk is."

All of them had a bit of Clan Grant tartan, or a sprig of *giuthas* (pine tree), the badge of the clan. Rothiemurchus was in full Highland garb, and presented to his Lordship the address of welcome from the clan. They were, he said, maintaining in changed times the old tradition of unchanged loyalty—the loyalty of their fathers to their chief. The address was signed by 700 clansmen. It is interesting to note that an old Highland practice was followed on the occasion of this function, viz., summoning Castle Grant. Ballindalloch asked the assembled Grants, if it was their will and pleasure, that he summon the Castle Grant, to which they all heartily assented. Knocking at the door, he inquired if his Lordship was within, and

on Lord Seafield appearing, said he had summoned him, because a large number of clansmen had come to the door to show their respect to the house of Grant, and to give him a welcome to the banks of the Spey. Lord Seafield, who was arrayed in the Highland garb, immediately appeared, accompanied by Lady Seafield and Lady Nina Grant. Loud cheers from clansmen and clanswomen greeted them. Rothiemurchus, in a short speech, said that their numbers testified that the spirit of clanship is yet a real and living thing. He instanced two examples of the traditional loyalty of their clan to their chief. The one was known as the oath of Cromwell; the other, the raid of Elgin in 1820. The story of that raid is still told on winter evenings by the firesides of Strathspey. Some discourtesy was shown to the ladies of the House of Grant at Elgin. On this becoming known, 600 men from Strathspey marched to Elgin, and speedily secured to the ladies the respect that was their due, and that without any disorder or injury to person or property. That such things were possible in the days of George IV. is a matter of surprise, and almost incomprehensible to those who do not understand clan feeling. The clan Grant holds an honourable place in Highland history, and while they have, like other clans, their records of "unhappy far-off things and battles long ago," they were among the first to settle down to peaceful pursuits in the settled days. The present inhabitants of Strathspey are reaping the benefits of the wise rule of the Grants, and Strathspey is now noted for its agricultural prosperity. The seventh Earl of Seafield was a nobleman who made extensive improvements on his estates for the material and moral benefit of his people, and his memory is deeply enshrined in their hearts. How great a place he occupied in their hearts is shown from the fact that nearly 10,000 mourners were present at his funeral. Gaels, who are not of the Clan Grant, will join them in wishing long life and prosperity to their noble chief, who gave utterance to such a patriotic expression on behalf of their ancient language and customs.

Buaidh agus saoghal fada do'n Iarla chòir ann an lùchairt nan Granndach.

—:o:—

Cleas na goibhre'g itheadh na nathrach—sior itheadh is a sior thalach.

Like the goat eating the adder—aye eating and aye complaining.

DORLACH DE SHEAN-FHACAIL.

Bha na sean daoine a' creidsinn gu'm bheil fearthan a tha co-cheangailte ri cuirp is inntinn dhaoine a' ruithe 's an fhuil, no mar a their sinn anns a' Bheurla, *Hereditry*. Mar sin tha na h-uibhir de shean-fhocail cumanta na'm measg. So agad d'orlach beag dhuibh:—

"Mac mar an t-athair."

"Dh' aithnich mi gur meann a bheireadh a' ghobhar."

"Cha tig o'n mhuic ach uircein."

"Cha tig as a' phoit ach an toit a bhitheas innte."

"An rud a chinneas 's a' chnàimh, cha tig e as an fheòil."

"Cha d' thainig ubh mór riamh o'n dreathan-donn."

"Bu dual do laogh an fhéidh ruith a bhi aige."

"Bu dual tòchd an ime 'bhi air a bhlàth-aich."

"Ciod a dh' iarradh tu air bó, ach gnòsadh."

"Theid dubhag ri dualchas."

"Cha d' thainig eun glan riamh a nead a' chlamhain."

"An galair a' bhitheas 's a' mhathair, is gnàth leis a bhi 's an nighinn."

—:o:—

"AN DEO-GREINE."

Our September issue will be a Special Majority Number. The Comunn Gaidhealach is now 21 years old, and the "Deo-Gréine" was started in October, 1905. The banner still waves, notwithstanding some cross currents, and it will continue to do so. It is perhaps necessary at this time to repeat that the Magazine is published under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach, that its aim is to further the interests of the Gaelic language, its literature and its music, besides the Arts and Industries of the Gael. It is a propagandist organ, but its pages are open to contributions from all Gaels who love their language and their country. May we point out that, as it is the only magazine of its kind, and the cheapest, in Scotland, it deserves a wide circulation. Those who are in sympathy with the Gaelic movement should help in making it known throughout the Highlands. We shall be pleased to receive any suggestions regarding the way it might meet the wants of the people more fully.

COMUNN NEWS.

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH BHÒID.—Air feasgar Dihaoine, 4 là 'n Ogmhios, dh' fheith buidheann de Luchd Riaghlaidh a' Chomunn seò air Bean R. A. Mhic Fhionnlaidh na tigh fhéin ann am Bealach a' Ghaioith, agus ghifteadh dhith' ann an ainm a' Chomuinn lann-fhail òir mar chumhneachan dhith air dhith bhi falbh, le a fear-céile 'sa teaghlach, thar cuangu Canada. Thug Capitein Mac Uraig an tabhartas dhith ann am briathran ciùin, measail; agus neartaichadh sin le labhairt Mhgrn. M. Mhic Coinnich Ghilleasbuig Chaimbeul, agus Iain Mhic Phail; gach aon a toir meas, onoir agus cliù dhith' air son an obair mhòr agus an cuideachadh làidir a thug i seachad na run chléireach do 'n chomunn fad sé bliadhna. Thug Bean Mhic Fhionnlaidh agus an duine coir as céile dhith an taing seachad ann am beagan fhacal a nochd an gràdh a bh'aca do Chomunn Gaidhealach Bhòid. Le slor-ghuidhean o' mhòran, air son an beatha, sònas agus saibheas, sheòl iad 'o Chluaidh air an 8mh làtha, 's tha fuighar againn gu 'm bheil iad sabhailt thall.

—:o:—

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—:o:—

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Rev. Donald Lamont, Broadford, Skye.

Miss Mary Cameron, Broadford, Skye.

AFFILIATED SOCIETY.

Highland Society of Melbourne, Australia.

—:o:—

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Ordinary Members of the Association are respectfully requested to note that the Annual Subscription for Session 1912-1913 is *FIVE SHILLINGS*, no Four Shillings, as formerly; and that the Subscription becomes due on 1st June, 1912, and should be paid to the Treasurer as soon as possible thereafter.

NOTICE.

All literary contributions, accompanied by the name and address of the writer, should be addressed to Mr. DONALD MACPHIE, The Schoolhouse, Cumbernauld, and should reach him not later than the 18th of each month.

The Editor takes no responsibility for rejected MSS.; but will be careful to return such as are accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

Communications regarding the Sale of the Magazine, Annual Subscriptions, and Advertisements, should be addressed to Mr. John Maclean, Secretary, 108 Hope St., Glasgow. A Scale of Charges for Advertisements will be sent on application.

The Magazine will be sent post free to all countries in the Postal Union for 1/6 per annum. Single copies will be sent by post for 1/4d.

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Leabhar VII.] *Darna Mìos an Fhogharaidh, 1912.*

[Earrann 12.

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COMTEN GAIDHEALACH AIR ACHD GU ÌRE.

Rugadh e 'san Oban, agus chaidh àrachadh 's a thogail gu inbhe le Gaidheil air feadh Alba. Cha robh an naoidhean fada gun bhanaltrum fhaighinn, agus dh'fhàs e a suas ann an deadh-ghean a luchd-duthcha anns gach àite, air chor agus gu bheil e nis air teachd gu ìre bliadhna-air-fhichead. Tha e 'guidhe air a chairdean a bhi dileas do 'n t-sean chanain, a bhi a' dluthachadh ri choile mar 'o sheann. Chitèar o 'n chùnnas a tha Siorram Caimbeul a' toirt seachd anns an àireamh seo de 'n *Deo-Greine* na h-oidhirpean a rinn an Comunn Lathurnach ma's deach aca An Comunn Gaidhealach a thoirt gu bith, agus 's dòcha gur beag a shaoil iad aig an am, gu'm biodh a' bhuil cho buadhach. Ach nach h-iomadh soilleir-achadh a th'againn o mhòran de ghnòth-

aichean an t-saoghail air nithean toirteil a' fàs o rudan beaga. 'S amhuil sin An Comunn Gaidhealach. Chi sibh aon uair eile air an duilleig seo dealbh nan seòid a chuir air bonn e. Ged do fhaicear e ann an *Deo-Greine* 1905, 's fhiach e àite fhaighinn a rithist, agus gu h-àraidh aig an àm seo.

'Nuair a bheir sinn fainear staid na Gàidhlig 'san àm ud, cha 'n urrainn sinn ach cliù a bhuileachadh air a' bhuidheann bheag a dh'fhoillsich a leithid de dh'èud 's de mhisneach, ged nach robh an rathad a bha rompa gle shoilleir. Ach dhearbha na thachair na dhéigh sin nach robh iad air am mealladh 'n an dòchas. Thainig muinntir eile fo bhuaidh a' cheart èud, agus sgaoil e air feadh na Gaidhealtachd, air chor agus gu'n d'fhairich neach an sìod 's an seo a chuisle bualadh na bu threise air dha 'bhi a' faireachadh bàigh agus gràdh do dhùthach 's d'a càinain. Dhùsgadh 'na chom na h-èibhleagan a bha, cha mhòr, air dol as, agus las teine nach teid a mhùthachadh air chabhaig. Thòisich an t-ath-leasachadh. Bha 'n t-atharrachadh aithnichte, agus bha a' chuid d'am b'abhaist a bhi caoin-shuarach mu thimehioll a' chainnt mhàthaireil a nis a' gabhail tlachd innte, agus shrioched iad ris a' bhuaidh-tharruing a th innte mar chanain, agus thainig rudeigin de 'meas a' stigh orra. Gun amharus tha i air fàs fasanta 'nuair a tha na h-uaislean ga h-ionnsachadh cho math ris na h-islean. Bha luchd eolas-chainntean o chionn fhada a' rùdhrach innte air son an gnothuich féin, agus 'ga rannsachadh air son na nitibh luachmhor a th'innte a chum soilleireachadh a chur air càinain eile. Tha iad a' co-dhunadh gu'm bheil i dlùth ann an daimh

ris na cànairean is aosmhoire air an talamh. Mu choinneamh seo tha beagan 'n ar measg a' leigeil orra nach 'eil Gaidheil a tha dealaidh mu'n Ghàidhlig ach fo bhuaidh nadur de smuain, no faireachadh inntinn a dh' aomas neach fo uachdranachd nithean nach seas mu choinneamh riaghladh réusain. Ach tha a' chuid is mò de bheath' a' chinne daonna ann an tomhas mòr no beag fo chumhachd an fhàireachaidh seo. Réuson ann no as, chuir e cuid de chinnich na Rionn-Eorpa 'an claignn a cheile gu cogaidhean fuilteach ionnus gu'n do dh' iomain e na miltean gu bàs gaisgeil, agus bhrosnaich e na Gaidheil anns na linnean a dh' fhalbh. Tha e fillte agus tointe ann an gnè a' Ghaidheil, tha e 'san inneach 's anns an dlùth, co dhiubh 'dh' a' deachas e e, no nach aoidich. Ma chuidicheas am faireachadh inntinn seo Ath-Leasachadh ar cainnt, a chum agus gu'm bi an t-sean chànan, oighreachd nan seòid a dh' fhalbh, 'g a cumail bèò, agus an comharraidhean cinnideil air an teisrigeadh o 'bhi g' am bàthadh anns an t-sruth Shasunnaich, cò 'tha cho dàna 's a ghabhas air a radh gur e faoiseas a th' ann. An e rud faoin a th' ann gu'n rachadh na Gaidheil fodha ann an dig na di-chuimhne, agus nach biodh an aium agus an trèubhantas ach mar sgeul a chaidh seachad, 'nuair a bhios an ath ghinealach air teachd gu ire? Chan e, chan e! Cha teid an t-sean chainnt fodha fhad 's a bhios sradag de dh-uail agus àrd-aighe a' ghineil o na thàrmaich sinn 'ga cumail bèò. Tha sinn am measg a' chuid a tha 'creidsinn gu'm bheil spiorad neo-shùimealachd mu chomharraidhean cinnideil na mheadhoin crionaidh no seargaidh air fàs tairbhear-tach a' chinnich sin.

'S cinnteach gu'n do chuir a bhi beachdachadh air obair Chomunn nan Cuimreach (Eisteddfod) smuain ann an inntinn nan Lathurnach obair coimh-ionann fheuchainn. Co-dhiubh, chuir iad an gvaillibh ri cheile, agus chaidh An Comunn Gaidhealach a chur air bunait air an la ma dheireadh de 'n Ghiblein, 1891. Cha robh luchd-taigean, agus cha robh e duilich luchd-dreuchd fhaotainn; chaidh gairm fholluiseach a chur a' mach ann am Beurla 's an Gàidhlig a' leigeil fhaicinn do'n t-sluagh an rùn agus a chrìoch a bha 'n an inntinn, agus am féum a bha air cuideachadh airgid agus bàigh a thaobh na h-oidhirp. Curidh muinntir 'tha làn de mhisnich, geilt an dàrna taobh. Sin mar a bha 'chùis seo. Cha robh bacadh no tionndadh air ais ann 'nuair a bha creid-

eamh agus dòchas a' riaghladh a' ghnòthach. Chumadh a' chéud Mhòd anns an Oban o chionn bliadhna-air-fhichead, agus bha an dara 's an treas fear ann, do bhrìgh 's nach faighte àite eile a ghabhadh os laimh e. 'S e Mac Diuc Earra-Ghaidheal a bha na cheann-suidhe. 'Na dheigh sin chumadh e anns na bailtean is mò air Galltachd 's air Gaidhealtachd. Cha robh clar-iomairt a' cheud mhòid ach beag, cha d' thainig ach mu leth-cheud air adhart a chum pàirt a ghabhail anns na co-fharpaisean; ach mar a theirear, 'S ann uidh air 'n uidhe a thogar an caisteal, agus mar a bha na bliadhnanachan a' dol seachad, bha 'n clar-iomairt a' fàs na bu mhòda air chor agus gu'm féum e nis trì laithean a' chum an obair a chrìoch-nachadh. Tha seo a' foilleachadh méud agus farsuingeachd a' Chomuinn an diugh.

Chuidich a' chuibhrionn a thainig air a' Chomunn leis an Fheill mhòr, a mheanglanan a sgaoileadh na b' fhaide. Nach do nochd a' Bhan - Phrionnsa fhéin agus Diuc Earra-Ghaidheal, àrd-uaislean eile, maithe agus maithean Ghlascho cuide ri na h-uidhir de Bhaintighearnan, gu'm b' fhaich an Gaidheal agus a chànan an t-àite a bha dligheach doibh fhaotainn am measg chinnich na Rìoghachd? An deigh sin thainig an "Clachan" a' leasachadh a stòrais. Tha féum air uile, ged a bhiodh an còr ann, mar chul-taig do na h-Ealdhain agus na Lamh-Oibre, gun ghuth air nithibh eudthromach eile, a tha fo riaghladh a' Chomuinn.

Bithear a' cur as leth nan Gaidheal an dràsda 's a rithist gu'm bheil iad buailteach a bhi a' gabhail an rathaid fhéin, agus nach eil am bith, no 'n g'loir-mhiann, a th' anna toilichte a' bhi a' dol a sealladh am measg a' mhor-shluaigh, agus nach gabh iad ris gu'm bi obair sam bith toirteil mur 'bi iad fein air a stiùir. Cha 'n urrainn a h-uile fear a bhi air an stiùir, agus tha féum air spiorad neo-fhéineil a chum gu'm bi cùisean a' dol air adhart gu socrach aig gach comunn is còisir. Bho shean cha robh mòran de spiorad an aonaidh anns a' Ghaidheal, agus bu mhòr am beùd, oir chaill e gu trom air a shon ann an iomadh dòigh. 'S cinnteach gur toigh le cuid de Ghaidheil a bhi a' griobadh a cheile. 'S dòcha nach 'eil dad de stà ann mu dheireadh, ach cùl mo làimhe ris an tiolpadair 's an gille-biogarra. Bitheamaid aonaichte ann an dilseachd do 'r cainnt 's do 'r duthaich. Seasamaid ri gvaillibh a cheile.

THE BEGINNINGS OF AN COMUNN.

The progenitor of An Comunn Gaidhealach was the Lorn Ossianic Society. Each September in the seventies and the early eighties the Society conducted Highland

song with musical culture had not yet been accomplished, and the singing was severely traditional—but the earnestness of the competitors made up for the lack of musical training, and the gatherings served well to keep alive the expiring flame of Gaelic



SHERIFF J. MAC MASTER CAMPBELL. EX-PROVOST DUGALD MAC ISAAC.

EX-PROVOST MAC COWAN.

THE LATE MR. JOHN CAMPBELL.

FOUNDERS OF AN COMUNN.

Games, and, on the evening of the day of the games, contests in Gaelic singing and recitation; and, so long as the Society continued its work, the games and evening competitions were a highly popular feature of the Oban week. The association of Gaelic

sentiment. Not because of any failure to attract support, but because rather of some administrative difficulty, the Lorn Ossianic came to an untimely end, and about ten years elapsed before it was succeeded by An Comunn—and when the wider organisa-

tion took the field its promoters were much encouraged by the counsel and personal aid of several of the surviving members of the older Society.

The first overt step towards the institution of An Comunn was taken in October, 1890, when a small meeting was held at the residence of the late Mr. John Campbell, solicitor, Oban. My recollection is that there were seven of us all told, but we were indebted to the local and city press for ample reports of the meeting and our proceedings were thus widely published.

This preliminary meeting resulted in the appointment of a committee of four to confer with the authorities of the Welsh Eisteddfod with reference to the preparation of a constitution, and the committee, upon which I had the fortune to serve, was also charged with the duty of ascertaining what financial support the projected movement would probably secure.

Our Welsh friends, gratified with the promised revival of patriotic ideals among a sister Celtic people, willingly extended their guidance, and the first constitution of An Comunn followed closely the lines of the great Welsh Association. Messages of encouragement soon flowed in from the Highlands and the Lowlands of Scotland, and there were not wanting stimulating communications from London Highlanders and others of our countrymen scattered throughout England. Of the leading Gaelic Societies, the Glasgow Gaelic Society was the most definite—as it also was unanimous—in its approval of the scheme for a Gaelic Eisteddfod—for so the movement was at first denominated. The London Gaelic Society contained an unfavourable minority, but there was a considerable majority which blessed the project and pledged the countenance and support of the Society, a pledge which was fully redeemed. The minority, it was regrettable to find, carried their opposition to the length of formulating and publishing their reasons for dissent. These reasons make interesting reading now; and it is pleasing to realise that their prognostications of failure belong to the category of unfulfilled prophecies, and that the only objection with any substantial foundation is the one which accentuates the obscurity of the temerarious individuals who ventured the rescue of the Gaelic Ark! The attitude of the Gaelic Society of Inverness was most discouraging. It was from them we looked for the most certain support,

and we were depressed by the intimation that they had decided to leave us alone. I cannot help thinking that the Inverness Society must have misunderstood the real aim of the Oban Committee—that their impression evidently was that the work was to be in rivalry rather than alliance with their own—and it is good to reflect that as the years of An Comunn's history gradually unfolded themselves the members of what is, after all, the premier Gaelic Society recognised, and recognised to some purpose, that the humble Oban Committee were actuated by motives far removed from the local and the personal.

Among the individual declarations of support and approval were those from Professor Blackie, Lord Archibald Campbell, Professor Masson, Rev. Dr. Stewart (Nether Lochaber), and that grand old Highlander, still fortunately with us, Mr. Peter McLeod. Mr. McLeod, indeed, was one of our most useful auxiliaries. He is a staunch Gael himself, and Mrs. McLeod is a Welsh lady, and it was largely by the offices of Mr. and Mrs. McLeod that we were enabled so largely to profit from the experience of the promoters of the Eisteddfod.

By the month of April, 1891, the committee had so fully completed their preliminary work that they felt ready to submit their proposals to a public meeting of those in sympathy with the movement, and such a meeting was summoned for the evening of 23rd April. To lend his support to the committee, the Glasgow Gaelic Society deputed their Secretary, Mr. (now Professor) Magnus McLean, to attend the meeting, and Mr. McLean gave invaluable aid. The committee had collected a number of suggestions for the name of the Association, and of its Annual Gathering, and up to the evening of the public meeting the name most in favour for the Association was, "The Highland Bardic Association," with the Gaelic rendering of "Comunn airson leasachadh eòl agus litreachas nan Gaidheal." And for the Annual Gathering the name which found its way into the draft constitution was "Comh-fharpais nam Bard." The members of committee had the feeling that these names might be improved upon, and it was decided to refer the final choice to Mr. McLean. To the name already mentioned the committee added "The Highland Association"—in Gaelic, "An Comunn Gaidhealach"—and for the Annual Gathering, "Féis-eòl," and "Mòd-ciùil," and the two leets were submitted

to Mr. McLean with the result that the designations which have since made some noise in the world became the ultimate selection of a Highland gentleman distinguished in the domain of science, and has done himself credit as well as an exponent of the literature of his race.

The public meeting was quite enthusiastic. Dr. Stewart was the principal speaker, and An Comunn Gaidhealach was launched with every earnest of the successful career which, in the event, crowned the scheme. A constitution was adopted, and an executive committee was elected which, so far as the promoters were able at the time to judge, comprised the leading supporters of the infant cause.

The work of organisation completed, the Executive Council proceeded to the important duty of finding money. They soon enrolled a considerable membership, but means had to be discovered for realising without delay a much larger amount than could be obtained from the fees of members; and an admirable concert at Oban by the Glasgow St. Columba Choir was so successful financially that the Council were able to face the demands of the first Mòd with an easy mind. The non-existence of any published Gaelic choral music presented a difficulty for a time, but this impediment was overcome when Mr. Ferguson of the St. Columba Choir put out in book form the harmonies used by his choir. The Coisir Chiul appeared just in time to facilitate the formation of a choir at Oban and the reorganisation of other two choirs—one at Ballachulish and another at Glencoe. There were thus four Choirs ready for the contests at the first Mòd, and it was felt that the Council had not done badly. But when the last day for individual entries had almost approached, and it was found that these were, for all subjects, to be numbered on the fingers of one hand, there was something approaching dismay among the local members. Stock was taken of all possible competitors throughout the districts of Lorn and Mull and the names of several of these were entrusted to each member of the local executive, who pledged themselves to exert what influence they could to secure further entries. The expedients to which these zealous committeemen had to resort to capture competitors were both curious and amusing, but these must be told of some other day. It is sufficient to know that when the morning of the first Mòd dawned, the Association was

in a position to challenge the world with a respectable number of competitions and an equally respectable number of competitors. But it was nevertheless with extreme trepidation that we posted the officials at the door—a trepidation which the performance of the first few competitors did not perceptibly allay. It was not till, in the tartan of his clan, Neil Ross stepped upon the platform, that our courage began to grow; and when, by-and-bye, the audience rose like one man to his bold declamation of “Cha’n fhaigh an Ghàidhlig bas,” we felt that our first Mòd was saved. Mr. Ross, then a young student, gave the tone to all the subsequent competitions and competitors, and at the close of the day the new venture was universally voted successful beyond our hopes.

It would be a mistake to say that the first Mòd was freer than any other from the troubles of the organisers following the dis-appointments of competitors. And it may well be confessed that the members of the first Executive bore their buffetings less philosophically than the Mòd and Music Committee of the present day have learned to deal with protests and complaints. With one notable exception, however, we soon forgot the hard sayings against ourselves and our nominated judges. The Town Council of Oban donated a sum to be applied to the purchase of a gold medal, and left it to the Executive to award the medal to the winner in such competition as the Executive might select. Among several members of the Executive there was the desire to encourage the composition of new music for the pipes, and it was resolved at their instance that the Oban Burgh Medal should be the prize for the best original composition. Suitable judges were appointed, and in due course issued their award. But the tune which secured its composer the medal must be nameless, for the whole Worshipful Company of Pipers, except, of course, the prize-winner, pronounced the award a mistaken one,—they used stronger language, but let that pass. Nor would the dissatisfaction of the pipers matter so much did not the aggrieved ones, or some of the more articulate of them, continue for months to harass such of the unoffending committee as ill-luck threw in their way, taunting them with all sorts of designs to lay low the legitimate successors of the McCrimmons. With pipers in mufti these encounters did not hurt much, but when a bespectacled member had, time

and again, to confront an angry gentleman panoplied with the awesome armour of the Celt, little wonder it was unanimously agreed to part company with the pipers. And from the second Mòd onwards the Gold Medal, originally destined for the encouragement of Pipe Music has, split into two smaller medals, formed the leading prize for solo singing, and is rightly regarded as the blue riband of the Mòd.

How the Mòd lingered in Oban for three further years, how at the end of that time Inverness at last awoke and welcomed the merry throng, how An Comunn has developed on many other sides of Gaelic life and culture, and how it has grown to be the greatest Highland organisation of modern times,—all these phases and many others belong to another history. What I have sought to record is the humble beginnings of the movement, and in closing these notes I think it the barest justice to the memory of a loyal Highlander to express the indebtedness of An Comunn Gaidhealach to the late John Campbell, Oban, who for the first seven years of An Comunn—the Association's most difficult years—acted *con amore* and with assiduous zeal in the conjoined offices of secretary and treasurer. Cut off in his prime, Mr. Campbell did yeoman service for Gaelic and An Comunn Gaidhealach.

J.M.C.

—:o:—

O LEANABAS GU FEARALAS.

LE COINNEACH MACLEOD.

Tha bliadhna air fhichead ann o'n chuir-eadh air chois An Comunn Gaidhealach; tha e nis air tighinn gu ireachd duine; is ma tha an smior a reir na h-aoise, tha na laithean leanabail air dol seachad, tha na laithean fearail air tighinn. Bu chaomh le ar daoine riamh, gu sonraichte aig a leithid so a dh'am, a bhi sealltuinn as an déidh; am bitheantas, is fheadar aideachadh, le suil na h-ionndrainn, ma bha no nach robh gath de'n bhreitheamh innte. Is gun teagamh tha obair an la an diugh air a dealbh is air a snasadh trid sgàthan an la an dé, is cha dhìomhanas idir stad a chur air ar ceum an drasda is a rithidh, is a radh ruinn fein: "An robh sud ceart, no am faodadh e bhi na b'fhearr? an robh so cearr, is an gabh e leasachadh?" Ach anns a' cheart uair is buannachdaile gu mor

dhuinn sealltuinn romhainn na as ar déidh. Ma rinn sinn deagh-obair anns na laithean a dh'fhalbh, molaiddh an obair sin i fein; ma rinn sinn obair chearbach, is leoir an dteadh a miosad. Foghnaidh aon fhacal, mata, a thaobh an la an dé. Cha bhiodh e iomchuidh, is cha leigeadh ar meamhair no ar cogais leinn, di-chuimhne dheanamh air na braithean a shaothraich anns a' Chomunn anns na laithean a dh'fhalbh. Tha cuid dhiubh nach maireann a nis, is tha cuid eile dhiubh a' saothrachadh, le an dich-eall àbhaisteach, an iomairean eile. Chuir-eamaid clach an càrn nam braithean nach maireann; chuireamaid fàilte na h-urraim air ar braithean anns na h-iomairean eile.

Is am dearbhaidd an t-am so, an dà chuid do'n Chomunn is do na Gaidheil gu coitcheann. Cha do chruthaicheadh an anail a shéideas gu dearg-theas an teine sin a tha dubh as, is ma tha ar duthaich air a duthchas a thilgeadh, is ma tha ar sluagh air an cinneadalachd a chall, is dìomhain do'n Chomunn a bhi séideadh nan eibheal fuar. Ach cha'n fhad e bhith, is cha chòir a chreidsinn, gu bheil ar daoine air fàs caoin-shuarach a thaobh an cànaire, is a thaobh na h-ulaidhe sin a ta folaidhe innte. B'e doigh ar sluagh riamh a bhi coma co-dhiu am feadh a bhiodh an cunnart fad air falbh, ach ruith-leum chuire, is bras-bhuillean a fhrasadh m'a cheann, an uair a thigeadh an cunnart dlùth. Gu'm b'ann mar sin a bhitheadh e anns an la an diugh, is an cunnart-mullaich am fagus, eadhon an t-amhusg sin d'am far-ainm Solus, a ta feuchainn ris gach nì a dhubhadh as nach gabh reic no ceannach, is ris an òr-cheard a chur 'na shuidhe an cathair Chaluim-chille!

Cha'n ann anns a' Ghaidhealtachd a mhaìn a ta an gleac so as leth an duthchais 'ga chur. O'n Aird-an-ear gus an Aird-an-iar tha cridhe nan sluagh air theine, ag ionndrainn nan laithean a dh'fhalbh, a' bruidar air na laithean a thig, is anns gabh cearnaidh cluinnear an glaoch so: "Is cinneadh sinn, is sluagh sinn; tha duthaich air leth againn, cànan air leth, nòs is dualchas a ghineadh is a dh'fhàs 'nar muinntir fein—c' arson, mata, a leigeamaid am bàs oirn fein? no c' arson a reiceamaid fuil is cridhe ar sluagh chum sinn fein a chòmhdach le earradh-iasaid nach 'eil freagarrach no duthchasach dhuinn?" Agus nì nach duilich a thuigsinn, ma tha dualchas am fuil is an eachdraidh, tha glaoch-cinnidh an sliochda sin d'am buin sinn fein dian goirt os cionn chàich gu leir. Thuig ar

dàimhich an Cuimridh is ar braithrean an Eirinn seal na bu luaithe na sinne gu robh iad, an dearbh-fhirinn is an dealbh-fhirinn, 'nan seasamh air fìor-oir na Doimhne, is na 'n toireadh iad aon cheum eile air an ais, gu'm b' uigh dhaibh na h-uisgeacha fuara. Is tha iad a nis, cas an greim is làmh air thapadh, ag ath-chosnadh an duthcha is an duthchais, is a' gabhail a' chothrom air a' chothrom gu cothroman ùra a dheilbh. An nì sin, mata, a rinn ar dàimhich is ar braithrean cheana, is na nithe sin a ta 'nan rùn a dheanamh, is brosnachadh-catha gach aon diubh do Ghaidheil na h-Alba.

Ma leanas fàs is toradh na bliadhna so, cha'n fhada gus am bi ciad meur de 'n Chomunn air bhonn againn an Albainn. Ciod a ni sinn leotha? Am foghainn an t-ainm gun an tairbhe? Am bi sinn làn-riaraichte ma chuireas sinn a' Ghaidhealtachd air cheilidh no a sheinn dhuanaig? B' fheabhas eadhon sin, is b' fhiach saothrachadh air a shon, mur b'e gu'n deanar "ceilidh" le Gaidhlig-dhiolain, is gu'n seinnear duanaig le Gaidhlig-iasaid. Ciod, mata, a ni sinn leis na meoir ura? no ciod a ni iad dhuibh fein? Ma's fir na fir, is e an la an latha. Ciad meur, iomadh mìle ball, gun dìth toile no eanachainn—nach b' fhuasda iorghuil a dhùsgadh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd a ruigeadh cluas is a ghluais-eadh cridhe nan usal sin ris a bheil cùisean foghlum an earbsa! Co-dhiu, gun dol a nunn no nall, is e ciad dleasdanas a' Chomuinn an smal so thogail dhiu, ar cuid cloinne bhi ag eirigh suas 'nan coirich is 'nan coimhich 'nan duthaich fein. Gun teagamh, cha bu bheag an call e, mur biodh ar n-òigridh mion-eolach, a reir an cothrom, air na nithe sin a rinneadh is a sgrìobhadh, a sheinneadh an duthchanna eile; ach an lugha an call e, iad a bhi tur-aineolach air na nithe sin a rinneadh, a sgrìobhadh, a sheinneadh, aig bonn an cuid bheann fein, is ri taobh an cuid chuan? Is ann anns na sgoilean a ta a' Ghaidhealtachd a' cnàmh; is ann anns na sgoilean a ni a' Ghaidhealtachd fàs.

Their lagh is ceartas an cothrom, ach cha toir lagh is ceartas buil as a' chothrom—sin ar cuid-ne de 'n obair. Mus faigh a' Ghaidhlig a h-àite fein anns an sgoil, tha iomadh bealach r'a dhùnadh is iomadh uireasbhuidh r'a leasachadh. Cha'n urrainnear a radh gu bheil An Comunn buileach leisg anns a' chùis so an diugh, ge b'e air bith mar bha e an dé. Tha leabhraichean-sgoile freagarrach a nis 'gan ullachadh, is

tha luchd-teagaisg d'an aithne an gnothuch a' beairteachadh uidh ar n-uidh an inneil sin leis an oileanaichear an òigridh. Ach is beag na rinneadh seach na tha r'a dheanamh; na's trian oibre toiseachadh, tha beul ri dà thrian gun deanamh fhathast. Tha e iomchuidh, co-dhiu, gu'm biodh fios againn ciod a ta sinn ag iarraidh, is ciod a dheanamaid leis na'm faigheamaid e, a chum gu'm faigh. Ma tha meas againn oirnn fein, sguridh sinn de bhi ag iarraidh rud-eigin a dh' fhaodas cuid-éigin a chur uair-eigin gu buil an àit-eigin. Is fhada sin o'n chomharraich ar n-aithrichean an doigh iarraidh so le faite-gaire. "Tha an t-acras orm, a Rìgh, ars' am balach, 'ghabhainn rud-eigin.' 'Gheibh thu sin, a laochain,' ars' an Rìgh, is thug e dha gille-mirein. 'Tha an t-acras orm, a Rìgh,' ars' an curaidh, 'gabhaidh mi am bonnach eorna a chi mi air do chùlaibh.' 'Is ciod a dheanadh tu leis, a laochain, na'm faigheadh tu e?' 'Le'r cead, a Rìgh, tha beul is fiacall is slugan 'ga fheitheamh—agus is e mo chuid am bonnach.' Thug an Rìgh sin dà, is mar ris a' bhonnach cuach fhiona.' Nach mithich do na Gaidheil, mata, is gu sonraichte do 'n Chomunn, rud-eigin a chur a dh' àit-eigin—mur 'eil an suil anns a' ghille-mhirein!

Ma dh' iarras sinn le teagaidh is le laimh a' churaidh, gheibh ar canain gun teagamh a h-àite fein anns na sgoilean, is gheibh ar cuid cloinne fradhare shùl gu bhi faicinn, is gleus cridhe gu bhi tuigsinn ciod dileab a' Ghaidheil, am meannma, an litreachas, am beulachas, is ciod am feum gus an còir an dileab sin a chur. Ach cha tig as an sgoil ach an t-oilean a chuirear innte, is bidh an t-oilean sin air an aon ghleus ri oor ar cànaire is ar litreachais. Anns a' cheart àm tha an t-earra-dhubh air bruidhinn, is gu sonraichte air sgrìobhadh, na Gaidhlighe; ma tha no nach 'eil an sgamhan innte, cha'n 'eil co-dhiu an craiceann min boidheach oirre bu chaomh leis na h-aithrichean. Tha guth na Beurla ann am beul na Gaidhlighe; tha ar smuain gun salann, tha ar cainnt gun bhlas gun ghrineas. Gaidhlig an la an diugh, a' mhòr-chuid di co-dhiu, cha'n 'eil mo dhuthaich no mo dhaoine innte; cha do ghul i le Deirdre an Gleann-Eite; cha d' aslaich i le Calum an I; cha do shuidh i air Cnoc-na-comhairle le Buachaille nan Eilean; cha tug i seul riamh a crann na luinge sin a sheol gus an Eilean Uaine an dé, is a sheolas air a h-ais am màireach. Is nach 'eil a bhuil air ar

cainnt is air ar litreachas! tha iad le chéile dol an diosg, is le cion a' bheathachaidh tha fuil is aigheadh ar daoine sior-dol am fuarad. Nach fàchan air a' Chomunn, mata, ar cànan altrum air a leithid de dhoigh is gu'n toir i deagh-thoradh uaipe, a reir a gnè is a reir a dualchais. Fhad 's a ta plog ann a' chridhe, cha reodh an fhuil Ghaidhealach buileach; is na nithe sin a rinn i, nà i, is theagamh na's fhearr—ma rosgar i.

Tha an Comunn an déidh bliadhna air fhichead de cheol a thoirt duinn—nach toir e dhuinn a nis bliadhna air fhichead de Ghàidhlig! Mur tabhair, is guileag-bhàis ar ceol, is fàs ri uaigh ar fàs. Tha iad ann, treubhan a ta cho adhartach am malairt is cho teoma an ealain is nach ann de an cànan, no idir de an litreachas, am fàs is am feart. Cha chaill iad sin an dualchas fhad 's a sheolas long air cuan, no fhad 's a bhios sgillinn ruadh aig duine dubh no buidhe. Ach cha'n ann de na treubhan ud na Gaidheil; ma's beatha malairt, cha bheo sinne; is an latha sin a theid ar cànan is ar litreachas fo le, is a chailleas sinn na subhailean a bhuineadh do ar daoine, ar n-uaisle, ar teoghalachd, ar dilseachd, ar fearas-fo-thuinn, is e an dearbh latha sin deireadh ar sgeoil. Gun teagamh, theirear gu tric nach ann de ar cànan ar subhailean, is ged dh' fhalbhadh ise, gu maireadh iad-san. Mhaireadh—na'm bu mhaireann—rud nach b' eadh. Cha thoirear cànan de shluagh a dh'aindeoin; co-dhiu, fhad 's a bhios an toil a chumadh cho dian rag ris an toil a bheireadh air falbh. Cha b' urrainn, mata, gu maireadh ar n-uaisle, ar dilseachd, ar duinealas, na'm b'e dith nam feart sin, rud a b'e, a chuireadh as, na'n cuirteadh as, do ar cànan. B' aon riamh an Gaidheal is a' Ghàidhlig; is aon iad fhathast; ach cha'n aon ro-fhada mur 'eil de leigheas againn d'an creuchdan ach oileireadh is fìdileireachd.

An uair a bha I mar a bha, deir seann sgeul, is e thainig ri latha ach gu'n do shaobh fear de na manaich, is e air tìr-mor, o'n chreideamh naomh, is ar leis gu'n d' fhuair e faothachadh nach bu bheag ri linn da sin a dheanamh. Ach oidheche de na h-oidhechean, is e a' bruidh, co chunnaic e cromadh os cionn a leapa ach fear a b' eol da, is a dhà shuil cho blàth is gu'n toir-eadh iad tiomadh air cridhe cloiche. "Eirich," arsa Calum, oir is e a bh'ann, "eirich—tiugainn dachaidh—cha'n 'eil slat an dorus I." Seal mus do bhlais an t-eun

an t-uisge, bha am manach is a chuid ghillean shios air a' chladach, is leis an deifir, is eadar-dha-sholus fhathast ann, is e rinn iad ach bàta thoirt leotha a chumadh treun-fhear 'ga sior-thaomadh leis mar a bha i air a sgreagadh le gaoith is le gréin. Mu thrath-noin, fo stiuradh an Fhreasdail, bha iad siar air Muile, is eruth an lionaidh-leotha. "Fheara mo ghaoil," ghlaodh am manach an ceann treise, "fheara mo ghaoil, chì mi I, chì mi I—ach, O, a Dhia nan Gràs, tha am bàta dol fodha!"

Is maith dh' fhaoidte gu bheil làithean ar saobhaidh-ne seachad a thaobh ar duthchais is a thaobh ar cànaire; ach thoireamaid an ceart aire gu bheil ar bàta fallan, a chum gu ruig sinn I, is nach deireadh-sgeoil dhuinn an t-aigéal fuar sin far an lionmhor sligean failmhe is taibhsean nan daoine bha ann.

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THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH AND WHY THEY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

By WILLIAM MACKAY.

The Editor has called upon me as President of An Comunn to write a short article on its aims and objects, and to give some reasons to the uninitiated why they should be encouraged. It is with pleasure that I obey the command. I touched on the subject at the opening of the Edinburgh Mod in September, 1910, and some who heard me then may find an echo of my words in this paper. That may not matter much, for the membership of the Association and its branches has since 1910 risen from about two thousand to about four thousand, and my words will be new to the new comers. And, besides, human memory is so short in these days of toil and turmoil, that the truth is not likely to suffer through being repeatedly stated and insisted on.

The objects of the Association, as set forth in its constitution, are to encourage and promote (a) the teaching and use of the Gaelic language, (b) the study and cultivation of Gaelic literature, history, music and art, and (c) the native industries of the Highlands of Scotland, and the wearing of the Highland dress. The constitution provides that, in pursuance and furtherance of those objects, the Association shall hold an annual Mod at which competitions and exhibitions shall take place, and prizes be

awarded; and there is a declaration that "the Association shall be non-political and non-sectarian." With regard to that declaration I am happy to state that, during my connection with An Comunn since its inception twenty-one years ago, I have not seen or heard of a single breach of it. Men and women of all political creeds, and clergy and laity of all churches, have worked together in our common cause with a loyalty which was not affected by their political and church opinions. It affords me no small satisfaction to be able to say, as I am withdrawing from the presidency, that, although during my three years in the chair, we had warm and wholesome discussions and sharp differences of opinion, no expression ever reached my ear which indicated to what political or church party the speaker belonged. Long may that wise and loyal policy prevail.

In dealing with our aims, I shall first refer to the promotion of the native arts and industries of the Highlands. That object was introduced soon after the great Feill put us in funds in 1908 which enabled us to extend in new directions the scope of our operations; and the encouragement of the Highland dress, which is closely associated with, and indeed embraced by, the promotion of the industries, was expressly added last year. No one who knows the condition of the people in many remote districts; no one who has seen what deft and willing workers Highland women are, if only the fruit of their industry finds a fair market; no one who saw the exhibition and sale of tweeds, plaids, stockings, rugs, wicker work and other work, held in connection with the Edinburgh Mod in 1910, or the larger exhibition and sale in the Glasgow "Clachan" last year, is likely to think that An Comunn made a mistake in bringing the encouragement of Highland industries within its scope. "During the six months of the 'Clachan's' existence," says the report of the Arts and Industries Committee to be submitted to the general meeting of the Association this month, "over £1,030 was realised by the sale of Highland Home Industries, and, as most of this money went direct to the workers in the Highlands, the 'Clachan' was of undoubted benefit to them." Recently a lady of experience, influence, and zeal was temporarily and experimentally appointed travelling organiser in connection with this branch of work. It is to be hoped that she will receive so much encouragement

from all classes that the appointment will be made permanent, and of permanent benefit to the people. The Arts and Industries Committee do not work in opposition to other agencies with similar objects. On the contrary, the desire is to co-operate with them in a field which is very wide, and in which there is room and work for all.

But I must come to the object for which the Association was first instituted, and which is still its principal object—the encouragement and promotion of the teaching and use of the Gaelic language, and the study and cultivation of Gaelic literature, history and music. Is that object worthy of encouragement, and especially is it worth the while of the busy men and women of this age of stress and struggle to devote time to it? As a business man, who has during the last forty years not known many idle hours, I unhesitatingly answer these questions in the affirmative. And why? For many reasons, of which only a few can be referred to here. I need hardly say that it is good for man to have mental change and recreation. For myself, I have since my boyhood sought such recreation chiefly in the study of the language, literature, poetry, history and traditions of the Highlands, and I can say with truth that it is a fascinating study, from which much profit and pleasure may be derived.

To take the language itself, it is worthy of study for its own sake. It bears close affinity to the ancient Latin, and to the modern French, Italian, and Spanish; and is a real help to the student of any of those languages. Apart from that, it is a true if trite saying that the man who knows two languages is intellectually better equipped than the man who knows only one. Then to the Scotsman, as well as to the Englishman who makes his home in Scotland, Gaelic ought to be of interest as the key to the great bulk of Scottish place-names. Further, our Highland tales, and legends, and poetry have come down to us in the ancient tongue, and must be read in that tongue if their beauty is to be fully seen and appreciated. It is true that many of these have been excellently rendered into English, but it is also true that a translation seldom or never conveys the exact meaning and full charm of the original. Dr. Dugald Mitchell, in his delightful "Book of Highland Verse," just published, quotes the eminent Irish scholar, Dr. Douglas Hyde, as stating with regard to the Gaelic poetry of the last two

centuries, that it is probably the most sensuous attempt to convey music in words ever made by man, but that it is absolutely impossible to convey in another language its lusciousness of sound, richness of rhythm, and perfection of harmony. In this view every student of Gaelic song will acquiesce. Although not to the same extent, the same difficulty is met by him who would render into English our ancient tales, many of which are in truth poems in prose.

Our Gaelic literature, if small as compared with that of certain other languages, is rich, and richly deserves to be cultivated. That, however, is a subject on which volumes could be written, and on which, indeed, many excellent volumes have been written, and all I can here say for the encouragement of my readers is, that its wealth and interest are proved in the works not only of Irish and Scottish scholars, but also in those of such Germans as Professors Kuno Meyer and Ernest Windisch; of Frenchmen like Renan, Gaidoz, and De Jubainville; and of Englishmen like Matthew Arnold and Alfred Nutt. Renan and Arnold especially bring home to us the great measure in which French and English poetry and romance are indebted to the Celt. That, although a truth only recently realised, is an old one. No student of history now believes that in the various invasions to which France and Britain have during the last two thousand years been subjected, the old Celtic populations of those countries were removed or exterminated. What happened was that the invaders, who were mainly men, intermarried with the old inhabitants, and that in each country the foundation of the race remained Celtic.

A sentimental and patriotic reason for preserving the language is that it has for long ages been the language of our fathers, and that it is now the oldest tongue spoken in Europe. It was brought from some part of the mysterious East, perhaps four thousand years ago, by the Celts who conquered Italy, France, Britain, and a portion of Asia Minor, and gave their name to the Galatia of St. Paul, to the Gallia of Caesar, and to the Gaeldoms of Scotland and Ireland. The language of our race is thus interwoven with its history. That history has been a stirring and interesting one for more than thirty centuries, and there is much in it, and especially in the story of our own Scottish Gaidhealtachd, of which we have every reason to be proud.

And inseparable, too, from our history and language, is our music—those songs and melodies which have come down to us from the past, and which so strongly move us with feelings of pleasure as we listen to them. That these are not likely to be neglected in our time is evident from the large increase that takes place year after year in the entries for the vocal and instrumental competitions in connection with our Mod.

I believe we can with truth say of our Association, in this the year of its majority, that it has accomplished much—how much can only be fully realised by those who remember the state of matters in connection with Gaelic and Gaelic music twenty-one years ago. We are now a strong society, having, including branches, upwards of four thousand members of all classes from the highest to the humblest. Our desire is that all Highlanders, and all interested in the Highlands, and in the language, literature, music, history and industries of the Highland people, should join and give their support. But we must not rely on mere numbers. It is good to be strong numerically and to possess the moral and material influence and power which attach to such strength; but it is better still that every member should take a living interest and an active part in the work for which we are banded together. In a big business a sleeping partner is often useful, but infinitely more so, always, is the partner who is awake and working.

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MR. RODERICK MACLEOD.

A desire has been expressed among members of An Comunn that we should, in this special number of our magazine, give the portrait of Mr. Macleod, and we have pleasure in doing so. During the twenty-one years that have passed since the institution of our Society, Mr. Macleod has been closely associated with it, and it is not too much to say that to him above all others is due the popularity to which our Gaelic songs and melodies have now attained. Mr. Macleod has, for all these years, ungrudgingly devoted time and talent to the work so near his heart, and has shown by his own singing and interpretation how rich our inheritance of song is. He is looked upon to-day as the chief exponent of Gaelic song living. He

is well known not only in Scotland, but also in Ireland, as well as in London and other English cities. From Canada and Australia he has received invitations which the demands of his own proper business have

and again in 1911, the Mod's highest prize—the Tullibardine-Lovat Shield. Mr. Macleod's work in connection with the Association is not confined to music. He has, especially during the past year, done great service



MR. RODERICK MACLEOD.

not yet allowed him to accept. In Inverness he has formed, and has for years led, a Gaelic Choir which has won many prizes at the Mod, and which carried home in 1910,

to the Propaganda Committee by assisting to form several branches in the county of Inverness. *Gu ma fada beo e, agus gu ma fada a mhaireas cèol ann!*

AN COMUNN AGUS A' GHÀIDHEALTACHD.

Tha e na aobhar ghàirdeachais do chàirdean a' Chomuinn gu'm bheil e nis air ruighinn bliadh'n- air- fhichead a' dh'aois, agus gu'm bheil a h-uile coslas gu'm bi a bhliadh'n- air- fhichead a tha tighinn, na's pailt ann an saothair, agus na's torach ann a' soirbheachadh na na bliadhnachan a chaidh seachad. Tha'n Comunn fhathast ann an treine na h-òige, ach tha e fada 'o bhi aig aird a neirt. Thainig piseach ion-gatach air ré an leith-dusan bliadhna bho dheireadh. Chaidh a' bhuill a mheudachadh o chiadan gu miltean anns an àm sin, agus gheibhear a mhéuran anns gach cearn de'n Ghaidhealtachd. 'S ann air taobh a stigh crìochan na Gaidhealtachd a tha'n cinn-eachadh seo air tachairt, agus tha sinn toilichte gur h-ann. Chleachd cuid a bhi a' tilgeadh oirnn gu'n robh tuilleadh 's a chòir de ar saothair air a chosg am measg Ghaidheil an taobh deas, agus gu'n robh sinn a' deanamh dearmad air na Gaidheil, agus air cor na Gaidhlig, aig an tigh. Ach ma bha a' chasaid sin a riamh fìor—agus cha 'n 'eil mise ag aideachadh gu'n robh —cha 'n 'eil e fìor a nis. 'S ann anns a Ghaidhealtachd a tha fàs a' Chomuinn ri fhaicinn anns an tomhas na mòrha aig an àm seo. 'S math gur h-ann mar sin a tha 'chùis.

Ma theid a' Ghàidhlig a dhith anns a' Ghaidhealtachd, tha a latha seachad. Air an aobhar sin 's e cheud crìoch air am feum sinn ar suilean a chumail, a bhi brosnuchadh nan Gaidheal aig an dachaidh gu bhi a' gabhail tlachd 'nan cainnt, gu bhi 'toirt an spéis dhi air am bheil i a' fàidh, 's a bhi a' deanamh an dìchioll gu bhi 'ga cumail ann am bèo-chleachdadh le bhi 'ga labhairt, 'ga léughadh, 's 'ga sgrìobhadh. Tha barrachd 'ga sgrìobhadh an diugh, tha mi a creidsinn, na aig àm sam bith roimhe seo, agus tha mi a' deanamh dheth gu'm bheil sinn a' faicinn ann an sin, cuid de bhuaidh na h-obair a tha air a chur air aghart leis a' Chomunn. Tha iad lionmhor an measg buill a' Chomuinn, a sgrìobhas a' Ghàidhlig gu cothromach, agus ma cheadaicheas sibh dhomh comhairle bheag a thoirt dhuibh, 's i seo i; gu'm faigheadh sibh greim gun dàil air cuid dhuibh sin, agus gu'n cuiridh sibh impidh orra a thighinn a chuideachadh leibh ann a bhi a' togail an "Deo Greine" gu inbhe na's airde, 's na's urramaiche na rainig'e fhathast, mar mhiosachan Gàidh-

lig. Cha 'n 'eil An Comunn fhathast ach aig tùs a thuruis, tha latha fada air thoiseach air, agus cha 'n 'eil na chaidh a dheanadh leis gus an seo, ach na chomharradh 's na eàrlais air an obair a tha 'n dàn da a chomhlionadh anns an am 'tha teachd. Aig an àm seo, 's còir dhuinn a bhi a' cumhneachadh 's a' moladh nan Gaidheal, dhileas, thapaiddh, a nochd am meas air a Ghàidhlig, agus an iartus gu'm bitheadh an luchd-duthecha a toirt spéis dhi mar an ceudna, le bhi cur a' Chomuinn air bonn bliadh'n-air-fhichead air ais. 'S e ar dùrachd gu'm bi an comhnuidh 'nar measg, fir is mnathan a bhios a strì, fo bhuaidh an spioraid a ghluais luchd-steidhichidh a' Chomuinn, gu bhi a' cuideachadh le 'n uile chridhe leis an obair ionmholta a tha 'n Comunn a cur air aghart.

CALUM MACLEOD.

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AN COMUNN—ITS MEMBERSHIP.

By MRS. BURNLEY-CAMPBELL.

It seems to me that the membership of "An Comunn Gaidhealach" may be roughly divided into three classes.

In the first place, there are those who, though not speakers of Gaelic, and sometimes not even of Highland descent, yet love the Highlands of Scotland with its beautiful scenery, its splendid sport and its historical and antiquarian associations, and realize, perhaps only in an abstract kind of way, that the old language of the people is worthy of study, although they themselves may have neither time nor inclination to devote to it. The Comunn extends a warm welcome to these sympathetic adherents who, although their interest at present may be rather superficial, will, it is hoped, with better opportunities for knowledge, become keener partisans, but who in the meanwhile, are often useful to the movement in unexpected ways and who help especially to quench any embers of prejudice that may be found to smoulder among their various and often very extended circles of acquaintance.

Then there is another and usually a very enthusiastic class of member who, although not resident in the Highlands and perhaps not native speakers, nearly always come of Highland stock. They have usually seen something of the world and lived most of their lives in cities, but are interested in Highland matters politically and socially, and are keenly anxious for the preservation

of Gaelic, which, may be, they are trying to re-learn themselves, and their experience and intelligence has taught them to appreciate the intellectual value of a bi-lingual education.

To members of this class An Comunn owes a deep debt of gratitude for they can be relied on to give time and useful service in furthering the cause for which it stands.

Then there is the third and by far the most important class of members, whose numbers are increasing daily through the formation of new branches. I mean our own Gaelic-speaking Highland people, who after many decades of suppression in all that concerns their Gaelic nationality, are at last finding an opportunity of voicing the feelings which have so long lain dumb and dormant in their breasts. It is good to see them rejoicing together when at a Comunn branch Ceilidh or local Mòd, they hear Gaelic spoken and praised by those in authority and Gaelic music rendered not only in the old traditional style, but also by modern trained singers. It is an inspiring experience to be present at a country meeting such as this in a Gaelic-speaking district, and to note the uncontrollable enthusiasm which often bursts forth, the depth of feeling so long hidden under the surface in deference to the opinions of many whom they had been taught to respect and who had made them believe that the best way to know English was to forget Gaelic, and that the only road to worldly gain was not only to speak English but to pretend if possible to be English, and that parents could best secure their children's advancement in life by always using to them the tongue of the all pervading Sassenach! Shame on the Celtic race! As an Irish writer says, "No people have had such high imaginings, such splendid ideals, and have allowed themselves to be so browbeaten and overpowered in the practical affairs of life . . . and now after many years their old language is coming to its own again and finding its place among the classics of the world."

Yes, there is no doubt that the new branches of An Comunn, which are giving an opportunity to thousands all over the Highlands to become members of the Association are not only forming a strong body of public opinion, but also giving it expression in a way which in due time will carry much weight.

Let these members of Highland branches consider seriously the duties that devolve

upon them, and their responsibilities towards the society they have joined. If the language we love is to be kept alive it is in the hands of the native speakers themselves in the glens and islands of the Gaidhealtachd. It is for them to decide whether it is worth the trouble to speak Gaelic to the children, when perhaps from long neglect it feels rusty on the tongue. It is for them to express their desire, which is also their right, that the language of their country shall be given a place in the schools and that the rising generations shall have the advantage of a bi-lingual training, which it is now generally agreed is the greatest aid to intellectual sufficiency.

A moral atrophy has too long overshadowed the Highlands and placed a bar on the progress of the people. Let us all, members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, rise up and do our fair share in placing stones on our national cairn on which shall be inscribed not "R.I.P." but "Resurgam," and let us pray for the dawn of a brighter day when Celtic individualism may assert itself afresh, and dull uniformity to the standard of another race be regarded with the contempt it deserves. When restored self-respect shall have killed the unwritten law which proscribes Gaelic in public places, and the language which for so many decades has been banned and outlawed as a mark of inferiority shall once more assume its pride of place in the education and in the lives of the Gaels of Alba.

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AN CAOCHLADH A THAINIG AIR COR NA GAILIG BHO CHIONN FICHEAD BLIADHNA.

Air do'n Chomunn Ghàidhealach tighinn a nis gu làn aois agus inbhe, tha e iomchaidh agus buanachdail a bhi 'gabhail beachd air an atharrachadh a thàinig air cor na Gàilig bho'n am anns an do chuireadh an Comunn air chois. Is iomadh caochladh a bheir fichead bliadhna mu'n cuairt; agus ghiulain an aimsir sin iomadh cainnt agus cinneach nis dlùithe air crìoch an turuis. Ach a thaobh na Gàilig, feumar aideachadh gu bheil tuilleadh mòr de chùram agus de ghradh air an taisbeanadh d'a thaobh, na bha coitcheinn an uair a chumadh a' cheud Mhòd anns an Oban Lathurnach. Bho 'n am sin thainig aghart sònruichte air fògh-lum na Gàilig. Thug sgoilearan anns an

dùthaich so fèin, agus ann an dùthchanan eile, mòran de'n t-seann litreachas Ghàilig gu solus; agus tha luchd fiosrachaidh a cur an cèill gu'm bheil i air aon de na canain is aosmhoire a tha 'n diugh air an labhairt. A thuilleadh air sin, tha iad a nochdadh gu 'm bheil dlu-chàirdeas aice ris na cainntean is beartaiche agus is clùtaiche air an eualas iomradh ann an eachdraidh an t-saoghail. Agus mar thoradh air an fhiosrachadh ùr so, bha 'n Comunn a soir-bheachadh ann a bhi dùsgadh suas nan Gàidheal gu bhi 'toirt fairear ciod e luach agus maise na dileab a dh'fhàgadh aca le 'n sinnsir.

Annas na bliadhnaichean mu'n do thòisich An Comunn bha a' Ghàilig air a' dearmad gu mòr. Cha robh mar bu trice, muinntir a' seasamh gu duineal airson an cainnt mhàtharail. An uair a rachadh cuid gu Galldachd, is ann a bhiodh nàire orra, gu'n saoilleadh na Goill gun robh Gàilig aca. Bha mòran de'n aineolas thruagh so a toirt ana-cothrom air leth do'n t-seann chainnt. Ach a nis tha earrann mhaith de'n aimeadas sin a' dol bàs. Buinidh an t-urram do'n Chomunn, gu'n do neartaich e a' Ghàilig an uair a bha i a dheasbhuidh neirt agus meas; gu'n do thog e suas a h-aobhar gu foghainteach fo chomhair an t-saoghail, air chor is nach eil iad ach tearc an diugh a chromadh an cinn le nàire airson cainnt an dùthcha, no idir a dh'àicheadh gun robh iad comasach air a labhairt. A' leantuinn eiseamlair nan Eirionnach agus nan Cuimreach, tha na Gàidheil a tòiseachadh ri uaill a dheanadh as an cainnt; agus ged a b'ann air sgàth an fhasain a mhàin a dheanadh iad uaill, gidheadh is taitneach gu'm bheil muinntir a' deanamh eadhon an urad sin fèin a leth na Gàilig.

Cha robh An Comunn ach glè òg, an uair a mhothaich e gu feumte sealltuinn ris an òigridh airson buaidh agus beatha na Gàilig anns na ginealaich ri teachd. Ann a bhi 'leigil taic àraidh air an nì so, nochd An Comunn fìor ghliocas. A nis is mòr an feum a rinn Buird nan Sgoiltean anns a' Ghàidhealtachd. Tha e ro iomchaidh gum biodh an òigridh Ghaidhealach a' togail na Beurla cho cothromach 's is urrainn iad. Ach nam biodh a' Ghàilig air a' cleachdadh mar mheadhon, thogadh a' chlan eòlas na Beurla fada na b' fheàrr agus na bu luaithe. Is bochd an dearmad agus an mearachd a rinneadh an uair a chumadh a' Ghàilig am mach as na sgoiltean. Cha ruigear a leas a' nochdadh aig an am so ciod e cho duilich

's a tha e do leanabh aig nach eil smid Bheurla a bhi 'togail foghlum ann an cainnt air am bheil e tur aineolach. Tha e na aobhar iongantais gu'm bheil a' chlan Ghaidhealach a' faotainn idir thairis air duilicheadas so, an uair nach tuig iad an toiseach facal de na tha am maighstir-sgoile a' cantuinn anns a' Bheurla. Agus an uair a tha Buird nan Sgoiltean agus pàrantan a' cur cho beag meas air a' chainnt a thuigeas na leanaban a cheana; a' cur cho beag luach air a' Ghàilig agus nach b' fhiach leo gu'm biodh i air a labhairt anns na sgoiltean, cia mar a bhios iad an dùil gun cuir na leanaban fèin meas na luach air an cainnt mhàtharail, an uair a dh'fhàsas iad suas? Cha robh iongnadh uime sin ged a bhiodh a' Ghàilig a' call a greim air an òigridh, agus a' dol bàs gu luath. Ach dh'èirich An Comunn ann an àm freagarraich, agus chuir e casg ann an tomhas, air an dearmad chianail so. Thug e fairear gu'm biodh misneach as ùr air a toirt do mhaighstirean-sgoile Gàidhealach gu bhi 'cleachdadh na Gàilig ann an teagasg na cloinne; gu'm biodh an òigridh a' faotainn cothrom agus eòlas air a' chainnt a leughadh agus a sgrìobhadh; gu'm biodh a' Ghàilig air a sònruchadh mar mhéur anns am biodh foghlum air a chrìochnachadh anns na Sgoiltean-Arda; agus gu'm biodh i mar an ceudna air a' gabhail anns na h-Oil-thighean mar aon de chuspairean an àrd-fhoghlum.

Le bhi 'cumail Mòid bhliadhnail ann am bailtean mòra na h-Albainn mu dheas agus mu thuath far am bheil Gàidheil a' tàmh, thug an Comunn brosnachadh do cheòl nà Gàilig, agus mar sin do'n Ghàilig fèin. Tha a' chuid is binne de litreachas nan Gàidheal air a thasgadh suas ann an seann òrain; agus le bhi 'cur comhfharpaisean ciùil air an cois, agus a' toirt seachad dhuaisean airson seinn agus labhairt na Gàilig, rinn na Mòid feum anabarrach do'n t-seann chainnt. Cha 'n e 'mhàin gu'n tugadh dùsgadh sònruichte air alt na seinn agus nan còisean, ach thugadh mar an ceudna beothachadh air na seann fhluinn. Am mòr-shluagh a bha roimhe sin tur aineolach air na h-ionmhasan ciùil a bha anns a' Ghàilig, fhuair iad sealladh nuadh air beairteas a' chùil, agus ghabh iad annas agus tlachd as ri dheth. Mar an ceudna chaidh saothair nam bàrd a thoirt fo chomhair nan coinneamhan bhliadhnail ann an comhcheangal ris a' cheòl. Ma tha sinn a' miannachadh a bhi 'cumail briathran blasda, mìlis, air chuimhne, cha 'n urrainn sinn meadhan is èifeachdaiche a

chleachdadh gu sin a dheanamh, na na briathran a chur ri fonn ciùil a ghluaiseas na h-aignidhean, agus a thàlas an cridhe. Sin mar a thachair do'n t-seann bhàrdachd a chluinnear air a' seinn aig a' Mhòd; tha i air a cumail air chuimhne fada ni's cothrom- aiche, a chionn 's gu'm bheil i a' gabhail greim air na h-aignidhean. Ach cha'n ann a mhàin aig na Mòid bhliadhnail a tha obair a' Chomuinn air a faicinn. Chaidh iomadh meanglan ùr a shuidheachadh air Tìr-mòr agus air feadh nan Eileanan. Tha na meanglain sin a deanamh saothair mar an ceudna ann an spiorad a' Chomuinn, agus a' teagasg an t-sluaigh gu bhli' gabhail suim de'n Ghàilig agus de 'ceòl. Tha na meanglain a' cumail Mòid bheaga, far am bi an òigridh a strì ann an comhfharpuisean air son seinn, lughadh, agus beul-aithris. Ann a bhi 'g an deanamh fèin deas airson na deuchainn, tha'n òigridh aig a' cheart am 'g an uidheamachadh fèin anns a' Ghàilig, agus cha d'chuimhnich iad ri'm beò na nithibh a dh' iunnaicheas iad mar sin le dealas agus dhihioll.

Faodaidh gu bheil Gàidheil ann a tha cho mi-dhùthchasail is gu'n can iad "Cìod am feum a bhi 'cumail beò na Gàilig? Ma gheibh an Gàidheil air aghart nis feàrr leis a' Bheurla, carson nach leigeadh e seachad a' Ghàilig, bho nach cuir i fòghlum 'n a cheann, na sgillin 'n a phòcaid?" A nis tha e soilleir gu'm bheil am beachd so saoghalta gu leòr. Cha deanar deagh Ghall de dhroch Ghàidheil; agus tha'n Gàidheil sin bochd agus dona gu leòr, a chaill a mheas air spiorad agus cainnt a shinnsir. Na nithibh is ionmholt a bhineas do ar nàdur, fhuair sinn iad mar a chaidh an tasgadh dhuinn ann an cainnt agus an ceòl ar sinnsir. Cha 'n ann le 'bhi' reic a' chòir-bhreith airson greim bidh, na eadhon airson aird, a choisneas an Gàidheil ionad urramach ann an eachdraidh nan sluagh. Is cinnteach gur e gràdh do'n dùthaich agus meas air cliù an sinnsir am bann is treise a tha ceangal ri chèile nan Gàidheil ann an tìrean cèin. Nach bu taitneach nam biodh eòlas aca mar an ceudna, feadh farsuinn-eachd an t-saoghail, air an t-seann chainnt a chaidh a labhairt uaireigin le Rìghrean agus Maithean na h-Albainn. Agus bu taitneach ri smuaineachadh gu'm biodh spiorad a' chàinain rioghail air a dhùsgadh nan uchd gu bhli' cuimhneachadh air an t-sìochd bho'n d' thàinig iad. Is e dùrachd agus dòchas gach fìor Ghàidheil an duigh ann a bhi 'guidhe soirbheachadh do 'n Chomunn

Ghàidhealach, gu'n tig an latha, agus nach 'eil e fad as, anns am bi An Comunn mar chraoibh aig am bhì a meanglain air sgaoileadh feadh an t-saoghail; anns am bi an "Deo-Grèine" mar ghath soluis, anns gach cèarn air an dealraich a' ghrian. An sin an uair a chruinnicheas na càirdean ann an tìr choigreach, ni iad luaidh air an dùthaich 's an d'fhuair iad an àrach; bidh a h-eachdraidh 'n a misnich agus 'n a h-uail dhàibh an còmhnuidh; bidh a h-òrain 's a ceòl taitneach nan cluais; agus bu bheag an t-iongnadh ged a lassadh an cridheachan le aoibhneas an uair a fhuair iad ris a' chàinain rioghail anns an robh mòran de na nithibh sin air an tasgadh.

NIALL Ros, B.D.

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THE CHURCHES ON GAELIC.

It will be remembered that recently a deputation from the Comunn Executive waited upon the Highland Committee of the Church of Scotland, the United Free Church, and the Free Church, to solicit their sympathy and support in behalf of the teaching of Gaelic. The deputation met with a cordial and most friendly reception from all three Churches, and it is pleasing to know that the Highland Committee of the U.F. Church have now addressed a communication to its Highland ministers bringing the claims of the language under their notice. Ministers are reminded of the deliverance of the Assembly expressing its sense of the importance of having the young people of the Highlands taught to read the Scriptures in Gaelic. The facilities that already exist for the teaching of Gaelic are indicated, and ministers are asked to do what they can to encourage Gaelic teaching among the young people of their districts, and to use their influence to ensure that full advantage is taken of all available facilities. The belief is expressed that such work would meet with a very real reward both educationally and spiritually. Ministers are asked to reply, stating what steps they purpose to take to further this important matter. This action on the part of the U.F. Church is very gratifying. We have not learned what steps are being taken by the other Churches, but we believe they are equally ready to help.

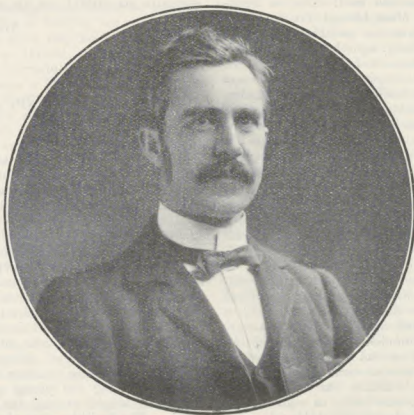
MR. ALISTER MACDONALD.

We have much pleasure in introducing as the subject of our sketch on this occasion one who is not nearly so well known to our readers outside Inverness and district as he deserves to be.

Mr. Alister MacDonald is the youngest son of the late Mr. Angus MacDonald, Glenmoriston, whose death recently at the age of 97 years, removed an interesting personality. It will be remembered that Mr. Angus MacDonald was but third step in

But Mr. MacDonald has always been a man of unusual activities. He has contributed to various newspapers and periodicals, articles on numerous subjects—historical, traditional, antiquarian, and critical; while as a reviewer and essayist he has done some good work. Anthropology in all its branches is a study which claims much of his attention, and it will perhaps be remembered that some years ago he carried off the prize offered by the Caledonian Medical Society for the best paper on "The Ethnology of the Scottish Gael."

But in the midst of all this Mr. Mac-



MR. ALISTER MACDONALD.

direct descent from Alexander MacDonald, Aonach, one of the famous men of Glenmoriston, who protected Prince Charles at a critical period of his wanderings after Culloden. Mr. MacDonald thus comes of one of the MacDonald families who, as vassals and tacksmen under the Lords of the Isles, ruled in Glenmoriston for centuries.

After being educated in Invermoriston School, he entered the service of the Highland Railway Company, and now occupies the position of chief accountant.

Donald has found time to keep in touch with the Gaelic language, its history, literature, and romance. He is an authority on Gaelic story and song. No better proof of his knowledge of the language need be put forward than that he gave valuable assistance to the late Dr. MacBain when engaged upon the "Reliquiae Celticae," Mr. MacDonald having checked the whole transliteration of the Fernaig MS., while he did much good work upon the texts of some of the others.

In 1895 he published a small book of original songs and poems in Gaelic entitled "Coinneach is Coille," which was well received. Since then he has contributed articles to various newspapers and magazines, and has now ready for the press a work which is to deal with Lochness-side district, historically and traditionally. He has also in hand an interesting collection of unpublished Gaelic airs.

A man of broad and advanced ideas Mr. MacDonald holds that the preservation of national tongues and their associations of sentiment and romance would be advantageous to the nation as a whole.

In one way or another Mr. MacDonald has maintained connection with the Comunn from its commencement. First, as a competitor and prize-winner, later as an Auditor and judge, and now as judge, and Chairman of the Inverness Local Mod Committee, a position which he fills with distinction. He is also an influential member of the Inverness branch of An Comunn. The Gaelic Society of Inverness is another organisation of which he has long been a valued member. Here he has worthily filled various offices, being Chieftain and member of Council for years, and for a time Assistant Secretary and Secretary. His contributions to the Society's "Transactions" are thoughtful and informative, as indeed is every thing that comes from his pen. Another institution which claims his support is the Inverness Scientific Society and field Club, to whose proceedings he contributed an important paper last spring on "Some Knotty Points in British Ethnology." He is a vice-president of Comunn an Fhèilidh, and an hon. member of the Highland Railway Literary Society.

E. J. T.

ARTS AND INDUSTRIES ANNUAL SALE, 1912.

The Annual Sale and Competitions in Highland Home Industries organised by An Comunn will, as already announced, take place in the Volunteer Hall, St. Andrews, Fife, on the 17th, 18th, and 19th curt. In the capable hands of Mrs. MacDonald, the Local Convener, the arrangements are well advanced, and this event promises to be a greater success than ever before. The Sale is being held in St. Andrews so as not to interfere with the Sale of the Northern Counties' Arts and Industries Society in Inverness during the Mod week, which is an annual event there.

AM MOD.

(*Le Niall MacGilleSheathanaich, Baile Bhoid*)
Choisinn na rannan a leanas a' cheud duais aig Mod 1911.
Gu'n deach mi maduinn mach air sràid,
Am baile dh'fhàg mi as mo dhèigh;
A dh'fheuch am faighinn fois is tàmh
O chaitream ghraigs, 's o chlàbar brèun.

A gabhail mach an rathad cùil,
Dh'iarr mi'n dùthaich, agus fhuair,
An làn a'mais' fo dhealt nan dùil,
'S gach lus g'a cùirneach ùrar uain'.
Ar leam gu'n robh mi'n tir nan stùchd,
A' gearradh shùrdag agus lèum;
Mar's tric a bha mi'n Glais an Tùir,
Le bata 's cù air chùl an trèud.

Bha osag chaoin tigh'n bhàrr an fhraoich,
Mar mhill a' taòmadh as a' chuach;
'S air bhàrr gach blàth-lus àillidh maoth,
A tional maoin bha 'n seillean ruadh.

'S a' choille dhùth bha sùnd is aòidh,
Am bàrr nan craobh bha mìle duan;
Bha fonn is aiteas air an t-saoghal,
Gu'n d' thill an gobhlán-gaoith 's a' chuach.

'S ann shuidh mi sìos air tolmán uain;
A' dh'èisdeachd fuaim na ceòlraidh bh'ann,
'S e seirm a chiùil ud ann am chluais,
A dhùsg mo dhuhan 's a ghluais mo rann.

O c' àite? thubhairt mi rium fhéin,
An cuala mise gleus thug bàrr?
Cha b'ann air chuairt an dùthaich chèin,
Tha pong an téud gun ghléus do m'chàil.

Am feadh 's a bha mi'n doimhneachd smuain,
Is cruth mo dhuhan a dol na b' fhearr;
Gu'n d' thàinig cagar ann am chluais,
Co as ? co bluaith ? cha'n fhios do'n bhàrd !

Bho shùilean m'imtinn shialadh sgleò
Mar sgaoileas ceò roimh ghaoth nam beann.
Am prìobadh bha mi'n talla 'Mhòid,
Ag èisdeachd ceòl bho òig nan gleann.

O! thusa sgrùdas fonn 'nan dàn,
'S a ni trom-chàineadh air ar ceòl;
Nach tig thu leam do chùirt an àigh,
Is cuir gu bràth fo d'shàil do spòrs!

An nighneag òg sin 'g èirigh suas
A' dh'aithris duan mu shluagh a Tir;
An gnìomhan treun air fonn is cuan,
Am blàirabh cruaidh, 's air chuairt 's an fhrìth.

Tha smuain an dràs 's an linn a thrèig,
Cha 'n ann air mèud an t-sloigh tha cruinn;
Gach cuise 's fèith, tha 'ruith na crè,
A mire lèim mu èuchd nan sonn.

Nach b'aluinn breithneachadh a' bhàird
A chuir an dàn sin dhuinn air dòigh;

Mar bhiodh a thàmh measg bheanntan àrd,
Cha bhiodh a chàil cho glan gu ceòl!

Nach cluinn thu nis an t-òran gaoil,
Tha dùsgadh aibh an cridh' nan òigh;
Cainnt cho saòr, air teangaidh dhaoibh;
Cha 'n 'eil ri fhaotuinn 's an Roinn Eòrp'.

Gu'n smal, gu'n smuir, ach cliu 's gach rann,
Cha sruth an t-allt cho glan gu traigh;
Mar fhuaran fìor-uig' Leac nam Fiann,
Do m' aigne riamh bha briathran bàird.

Tha guth na h-òigh na shòlas leam,
'Se chuireas fonn as ùr an chridh';
Mar leannan-sith ri briodail caoin,
'S le tàladh caomh ga'm aomadh rith'.

Tha ceilear smeòraich tùchte, trom,
An uisgeach chrom i anns a' chiòb;
'Nuair chualas leò a' chailinn donn,
A' cleachdadh fhonn airson an strìth.

'Nuair dh'eireas còisir òigridh suas,
Gur lionmhor cluas a dh' eisdeas riu;
Bidh aiteas air na bheil mu'n cuairt,
Oir nis, a' chluinneas fuaime a' chiuil!

An anail ruith gu sìubhlach reidh,
Gach pong cho eibhinn, suas 'sa nuas;
An dràsd le neart—'s a ris gu seimh—
Cuir seadh am meud, a reir an duain.

Mar ribheid chiuil air rogha gleus;
Mar fhuaimnean teud na clàrsaich bhinn;
Tha 'n guth maraon, as eugmhais beud,
Fo bhata-dreuchd a' Ghaidheil ghrinn.

O 's mòr mo ghràdh do 'n chàinain aosd',
A chleachd na laoiach bho shaoghal cian;
'S a dh' fhuiling tair fo smàg nam maor,
Airson an gaol do chainnt nan ciar.

An deigh gach aimhleas agus spid;
Tha 'n diugh i prìseil aig an t-sluagh;
An caisteil Dhiue, 's an cuirt an Rìgh,
Air muir is tìr gu'n cluinnt' a fuaime.

A Ghàidhlig, thog' i ceann a suas,
Is dh' fhàs i buadhach anns an tìr;
Tha sròl ri crann, 's cha tig e nuas,
Gu mair a suaicheantas gu sìor.

Airson A' Chomuinn chuir' air bonn,
A dhùsgadh lunnadairean gu feum;
Tha iomradh air a' mhaith a rinn,
'S gach uile roinn fo shoillese grèin'.

Gach éilean, 's innis 's a' chuan siar,
Gach baile, 's clachan air Tìr-mòr;
Tha 'n teachdaireachd a' dol air sgiath,
Iad chuir an iarmad thun a' Mhòid.

Mar bhlàthan beag fo dhealt nan spur,
'S le teas na grèine dh'eireas suas;
An Comunn thug do 'n Ghàidhlig frèumh,
Tha sgaoileadh gheugan, deas is tuath.

Tha 'nis a' chraoibh a tigh'n'n fo bhlàth,
Is bidh gun dàil an toradh trom;
Gu'n cluinnear gair, 's gach coire 's àird,
'Nuair bhios a' Ghàidhlig air a bonn.

A Chlann mo ghaoil, an Tìr an fhraoich,
Is sibhse 'sgaoileadh thar a' chuain!
Na biodh an daors' a' chàinain aosd',
Bheir gnìomh is maoin air saoghal buaidh.

Mu 'n cuairt a brataich fanaibh dlùth,
Le claidheamh rùisg' air chùl bhur sgèith;
Is seasaibh còir, bhur cainnt 's bhur ceòl,
Mar ghaisgich òg, an cèth nan treun.

O! cha tig Mòd, ach mi bhi beò,
Nach dean mi seòl air a bhi ann;
'S gu 'n cluin mi 'n fhuaim, a' ghal' mi òg,
'S is tric thug sòlas dhomh 's a' gheallann.

Gu 'n robh gach buaidh ag eirigh suas,
An cois nan uasal air a chùl;
'S an linn a thig, le caithream bhuaidh,
Bhi 'deanadh luaidh orr' le mòr-chliu.

Falluinn Oisein, no 'n "Fhir Chiuil,"
Na 'n deanadh tuirling orm a nuas;
Gu'n seinnian dàn a b'airidh cliu,
Air cuspair 'tha cho dlùth 'nam smuain.

A Ghàidhlig chaomh, a Ghàidhlig bhlàth
'S ait lean an là sa bheil mi beò;
Ga d' fhaicinn tigh'n'n air ais gu d' àit',
'S An Comunn Gaidhealach dol am mòid.

—:o:—

INVERNESS MOD, 1912.

The entries for the various competitions at this year's Mòd which will be held in Inverness on the 25th, 26th, and 27th inst., have not only surpassed all records but all expectations also. Over 1,000 entries have been received; more than one half of these are in the Junior Oral and Vocal Music Competitions, and in one vocal music competition alone there are nearly 150 entrants. To carry through all this work in time will require the most whole-hearted and strenuous effort on the part of every official. The Junior competitions on the first day will be held in the Town Hall, Caledonian Hotel, Queensgate Hotel, and the Music Hall; with the exception of the Caledonian Hotel, the same halls will be used for the Senior competitions on the two remaining days. Concerts will be held each evening in the Music Hall, and as the attendance at these is expected to be phenomenal early application for tickets is advisable. A Grand Highland Ball will be held in the Northern Meeting Rooms after the Concert on Friday night: Tickets—Competitors, 5/6 per pair; Non-Competitors, 10/6 per pair.

Gaelic as an Instrument of Culture.

REV. M. N. MUNRO, M.A.

It is hardly necessary to say that by the word "Culture" we do not wish to suggest that deteriorated meaning which popularly implies affectation, or pose, or pedantry, conjoined with a contempt or neglect of the practical affairs of life. True culture is practically synonymous with that higher education which implies the steady cultivation of every faculty of the mind, with the result of a full development of the whole nature. Special emphasis is laid on the value for this purpose of noble literature, in prose and poetry; and generally, culture implies refinement and elevation of taste, and ripening of those capacities which enable us to appreciate all the best and most precious things in nature and human life.

Many studies co-operate to this desired end. The foundation of all culture is a good sound education. Not only is this a necessary equipment for the battle of life, and an essential for success, but it is also true that without a good elementary education there will be no ripening in later years, and mental culture will as a rule be meagre and barren. Many have asserted that the Gaelic language is a hindrance rather than a help to success in life, and have scorned the idea that Gaelic can possibly be an instrument of culture. It appears to such that a knowledge of Gaelic has no value, and therefore, in a severely practical spirit, they object to the fostering of a study which yields no apparent return. We venture to say, though to some the assertion may seem heroic, that the study of Gaelic, if wisely conducted, may help, both directly and indirectly, the material advancement of young Highlanders, and, besides, that Gaelic is an effective instrument of a rich and many-sided literary culture, apart altogether from any question of pounds, shillings, and pence.

It must, of course, be admitted that English, through the energy and business enterprise of the British people, has become the leading commercial language of the world. Therefore it is most necessary to teach it, but, to teach it effectively to Gaelic-speaking children it must be taught through the medium of their own tongue. This is a truism, but it is strange that it is being recognised as such so slowly and grudgingly. It is a cruel injustice to Highland children

to teach them English in parrot fashion without the use of Gaelic to make clear to their intelligence the meaning of the words they read. Soon all they learn is forgotten and they are left to face the world with the merest smattering of education. Under this system children were practically taught, by the ignoring of Gaelic, that the tongue that enshrined their religion, their traditions, and their racial history was so utterly barbarous as to be unworthy even of the trouble of learning to read it.

But it is a degradation of a noble and venerable language like Gaelic to make the claim for its place in our schools depend on its value as a handmaid of English. We must never treat our language as if it were a mere crutch for the lame, to be thrown away when it has served a purpose. It is well worth knowing for its own sake. It is only in the later years of High School and student life, that its true worth for the higher culture begins to appear. When a Highland lad begins to study Gaelic systematically as a literary language, it has a remarkably stimulating effect on his mental faculties; the valuable habit of intelligent observation and keen perception develops, and his interest in linguistic studies increases. An introduction to the riches of Gaelic literature quickens his innate literary sense and feeling for style. Instead of causing provincialism or narrowness of outlook, this new interest widens his ideas. Linguistic study becomes fascinating, and the desire to know other European tongues grows into an ambition. The double standard of judgment he possesses through a good knowledge of English and Gaelic proves a valuable possession in the critical study of other literatures. The man who has a good knowledge of two languages seems to me to have the advantage that the man with two eyes has over the unfortunate with only one. He has an infinitely better sense of proportion and perspective.

At Raining's School, Inverness, under the teaching of the late Dr. Macbain, whose death was such a heavy loss to the cause of Gaelic, this quickening intellectual influence of Gaelic in the hands of a skilful teacher was seen at its best. He was fond of using Gaelic as a stimulus in the study of philology, leading us from the known to the unknown. To many pupils (as for example the late Dr. Henderson), philological science became a life-long pursuit, because of those afternoons when the Rector would talk of Dumnorix and other Celtic names embedded

like fossils of the past, in such an unlooked-for place as the Commentaries of Julius Caesar. It was a time of intellectual awakening, of wonder and surprise. "After all, the Gaels had a history," we said to ourselves. Other instances occur to one, in the reminiscences of school life, when a Gaelic dictation exercise, from some masterpiece of the poets, could light up the whole day, and leave a deep impression for years, when loads of other learning were forgotten. By thus using the native tongue, in the impressionable days of youth the wise teacher finds the surest way to the minds and hearts of his pupils. He opens up to them kingdoms of delight for which they will be grateful in after days.

But perhaps some superior critic will say, "Of what practical use is all this?" Is there no practical use in literary culture? If not, why have schools or colleges. But the true Gaels have always been fond of literature from St. Columba onwards. The bi-lingual missionaries of Iona (Latin and Gaelic speakers), had two enthusiasms, a love of literature and an intensely active and practical religious zeal, and the one enthusiasm did not injure the other. So even in the early Celtic Church it was found that literary culture and practical work were not antagonistic. But there are some Gaels of to-day who have no literary culture themselves, and see no value in it for others. These ultra-practical people would say if they dared, that to study Shakespeare is a waste of time. With such it is useless to argue.

Our native literature is an instrument of culture of no mean value. To deprive a Highland lad of the privilege of acquaintance at first hand with the religious and secular poetry, the tales and traditions of his fathers, is to rob him of his birthright. It is nothing less than a mutilation of his mental life.

The nature poetry of the Gael helps us to cherish the love of the Beautiful, and Victor Hugo has said that "The Beautiful is as useful as the Useful!" The fascinating folklore and tales of the Gaels, if intelligently studied, will lead to a larger interest in the folklore of other countries—a rich field for the student, throwing light as it does on the early history of human civilization.

Knowledge of Gaelic is of great value to the student of Highland or Irish history, and also for explaining the meaning of

British and Continental Place-names. It is well known that to know Gaelic is of service in acquiring other languages. As a vocal gymnastic merely, it is a useful equipment for getting at the correct pronunciation of Continental tongues. It contains the gutturals of German, the nasals of French, and the open vowels of Italian.

The knowledge of two or more languages gives a quickness and flexibility of mind, a mental vigour, a bright intelligence, that makes for success in the practical affairs of life.

—:o:—

AN SGOIL SHAMHRAIDH.

Tha an sgoil shamhraidh a bha air a cumail am Bogha-mór, an Ile, a nis air tighinn gu crìch agus bha soirbheachadh mòr leatha. Is gann gu'n gabhadh àite eile na bu fhreagraiche a bhì air a thaghadh air son na h-oibre so, a chionn cha'n e mhàin gu'n d' fhuair iadsan a thainig a Tìr-mór, agus bho Thìr na Beurla, a dh' ionnsachadh na càinaine làn chothrom air a bhì 'ga cleachdadh, ach ghabh muinntir Ile fhein mòran ùidh anns an obair.

Cha robh an da chòmhlan a bha coinn-eachadh anns na maduinnean ro mhór ach bha iad anabarrach dìchiollach agus dian. Thug iad ionnsuidh fhoghainnteach air briathrachas na càinaine, agus bha mòran dhiubh aig nach robh facal dhith 'nan òige a bhruidhneadh i gu sìubhlach. Gu'n cinneadh leo!

Anns an sgoil agus aisde is i daonnan a bhatar a labhairt agus chaidh gu leòir dhith a sgolteadh ri luchd nam bùithean. Rinn an eiseimpleir mhath so fèum, dh' fhàs a' Ghàidhlig bho chd fasanta, agus car tamull thog i a ceann. Mar a bha an ciobair a rugadh agus a thogadh anns a' Ghleann Mhòr, cha d' thug e an aire riamh cho lurach bòidheach 's a bha 'aite tàmh gus an cuala e coigriche a dùthchannan céine 'ga ard mholadh.

Anns na feasgrachan bha oileanachadh air a thoirt seachad ann an ceòl agus òrain Ghàidhlig, agus thionail òigridh a' bhaile chuige gu lionmhor. Tha e na ni brònach nach 'eil mòran an Ile fo dheich bliadhna fichead dh'aois a leughas no sgrìobhas an càinain agus is e so aon rud math a rinn an sgoil, gu'n d' fhoillsich i gu'n robh an òigridh dèidheil air fòghlum fhàotainn anns na nithibh so. Agus tha so fìor mu Ile air

fad. Chaidh, ma ta, an siol math a chur am fad agus am fagus feadh an eilean agus tha dearbhadh againn nach do thuit mòran dheth air talamh dona. Ma ghabhas Bùird nan Sgoiltean an obair os laimh bithidh gach ni ceart.

Cha 'n 'eil a' Ghàidhlig aig maithean an eilean gu léir [is truagh r'a inn-seadh e], ach rinn iad na b' urrainn dhaibh air son ar cuideachadh, agus gu sònruichte dh' ainmicheamaid an t-usal Mghr. Moireasdan agus a Bhan-tighearna; as an eugmhais tha sinn a creidsinn nach biodh sgoil idir air a gleidheadh am bliadhna.

Bha a chuid a bu mhotha dhinn 'nar coig-rich agus tha e toirt toileachadh mor dhuinn a bhi cuimhneachadh air a' choibhneas a chaidh a nochadh dhuinn leis gach h-aon. Rinn iad ar beatha air fad.

A.M.

—:o:—

Is ionann aithreachas-criche agus a' bhith a' cur sìl mu Fheill Màrtainn.

B' fhearr a bhi gun bhreith na bhi gun teagasg.

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