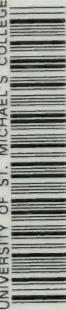


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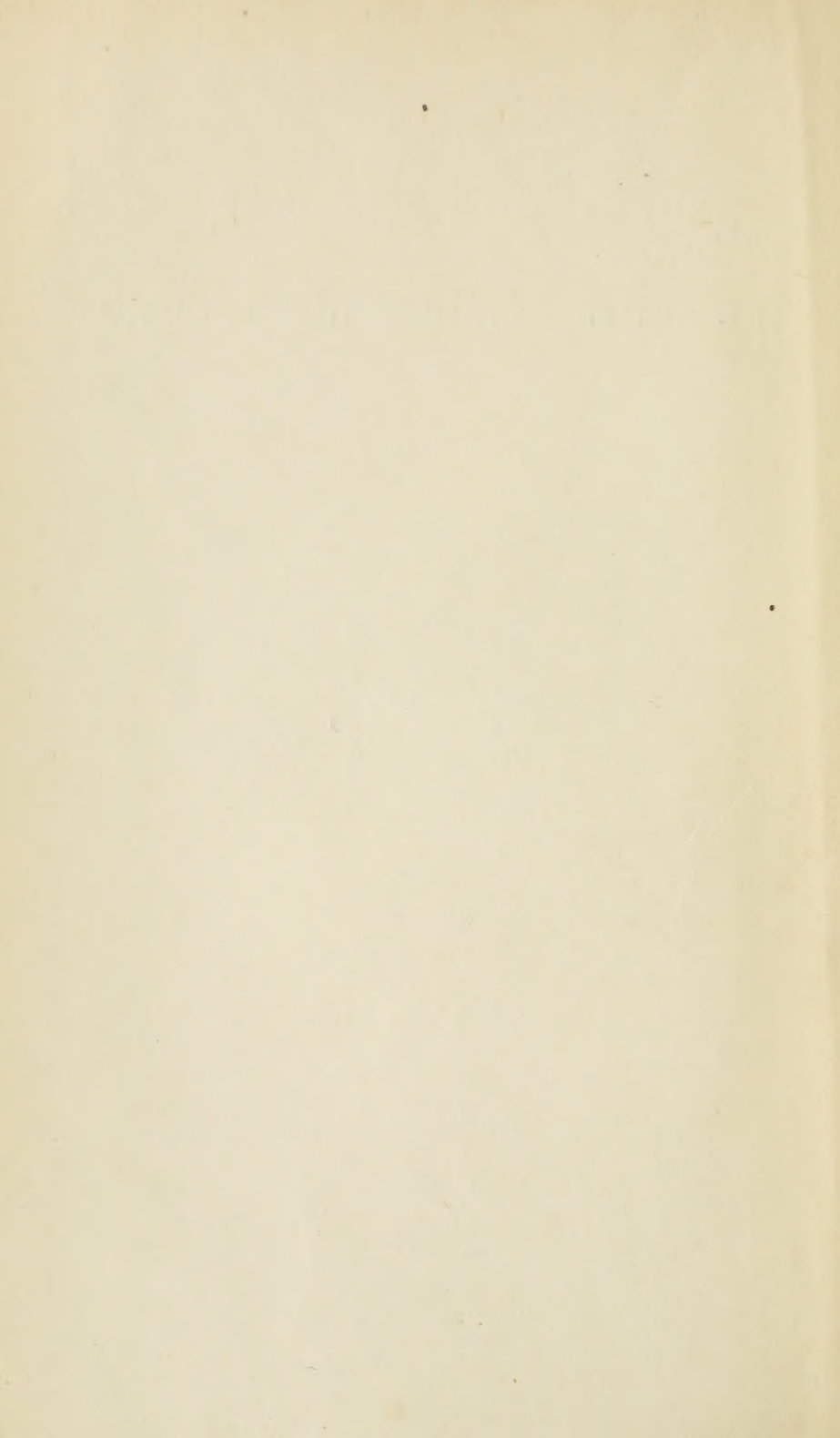
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ἸΟΜΑΡΒΩΣ ἢ Ἄ ὈΨΙΛΕΑΘ

THE CONTENTION OF THE BARDS

EDITED

WITH TRANSLATION, NOTES, GLOSSARIES, Etc.

BY

REV. L. MCKENNA, S.J., M.A.

PART I.

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FOREWORD.

IRISH Scholars and Irish Historians have been long wishing for a critical edition of the *Contention of the Bards*. They felt it a shame and a loss that no considerable body of Bardic poetry should exist in print, and they thought it especially desirable that the *Contention*, which caused such a stir in the Ireland of the early 17th century, should be rescued from the precarious keeping of manuscripts.

In 1911 Mr. Thomas O'Nolan, M.A., undertook the task of publishing the *Contention*, but his early death prevented him from carrying out this, one of the many noble purposes of his life. His widow, Mrs. O'Nolan (Maire de Butleir), very kindly put the notes of her husband at my disposal, as I was one of his closest friends. Very gladly—though perhaps rashly—I availed myself of the opportunity of testifying my affection and esteem for my dear friend, and of completing, as far as my powers would permit, the work he had begun.

Mr. O'Nolan had already done much of the tedious spade-work, having collated many MSS. of i.-ix., xiii.-xvi., xx., xxi., xxiii., xxiv., xxvii.-xxix., and having written a tentative translation of i.-v. 98.

I owe a very special debt of gratitude to Miss Eleanor Knott, who not merely read very carefully all the proof-sheets, but in numerous instances—more numerous even than those where “(K)” indicates her suggestions—gave me the benefit of her wide and accurate scholarship. To her is due practically the whole Appendix (page 255), which, except for considerations of printing expenses, would have been incorporated in the body of the book.

To the Celtic Faculty of the National University, and in particular to Dr. Douglas Hyde and Dr. O. J. Bergin, I am indebted for their kind permission and even encouragement to publish the book, which was presented in the first instance as a Thesis. Also I am indebted to Father J. McErlean, S. J., for many helpful suggestions.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Abbreviations	vi
Introduction—	
Part I. Origin of "Contention"	vii.
„ II. The Poets	ix.
„ III. The Manuscripts	xiii.
„ IV. Metre and Grammar	xviii.
„ V. Books, Poems, Poets, Battles, Trees referred to	xxix.
I. Μο τά θάλατάν νιορραο υίνι ... Τορνα ...	2
II. Θάιλ καέα τωρι Κορε ιρ μάλλ ... Τορνα ...	4
III. Ολε το έαζμαρ α έορνα ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	12
IV. Α έαρός ná καέαιοιρ Τορνα ... Λυζαρό Ó Cléιμυζ ...	18
V. έιρσ α Λυζαρό μεμ λαβρα ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	28
VI. Ρο έυαλα αμ έαζμαρ α έαρός ... Λυζαρό Ó Cléιμυζ ...	54
VII. ná ηρορο μιρε α ηιιε Θάιρε ... Λυζαρό Ó Cléιμυζ ...	92
VIII. Α Λυζαρό λαβραμ ζο πέμ ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	96
IX. Αη ζελιμε μέ α ηιιε Θάιρε ... Λυζαρό Ó Cléιμυζ ...	102
X. ná καζαιλ λαβρα α Λυζαρό ... Ρεαρ Ρεαρα όη έάντε	108
XI. Ορέαο pá τεά Ταός ιρ Λυζαρό ... Μαέζμάνιν Ó ηιρεαρνάιν	114
XII. Αη τωιρρεάε ταοι α Λυζαρό ... Εοζαν Mac Ραιε ...	118
XIII. Μεαρα α έαρός το έαζμαρ πέμ ... R. Mac Αητύη, O.S.F.	120
XIV. Ζο ζεεαο υοσ ζαρημ α ηιιάεαιρ ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	126
XV. Μεαρα το έαζμαρ α έαρός ... Δοσ Ó Τομνάιλ ...	136
XVI. Ζέ ίαοιτε α έαρός nac θεαρηαρ ... R. Mac Αητύη, O.S.F.	148
XVII. ηί ζυαιρ λιομ τ'ηιρέαρ α Δοσ ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	176
XVIII. ηί ηιειέ ορημ το ηιειέ α Δοσ ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	178
XIX. Α Δοσ Óζ na η-εάε Λυαιε ... Τοιηρέαλβαε Ó ηημαιν	202
XX. Μαηζ θαραβ πέιτεαηι Ρεαρ ζαοιλ ... Βαοέζαλαε Ρυαό Mac Δοσάζαη	204
XXI. Α όυιηε λαβραρ αη λαοιό ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	206
XXII. Ρεάε ορημ α έηη na λαοιό ... Ρεαρ Ρεαρα όη έάντε	210
XXIII. Ρυιμζ μεμ έαζμα-ρα α έαρός ... Βαοέζαλαε Ρυαό Mac Δοσάζαη	216
XXIV. ηί έοιόμ με ταζμα μβαοιέ ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	220
XXV. Ιρ αιε αη οβαιρ-ρε αμ έαός ... Αηλυαν Mac Δοσάζαη	224
XXVI. Το βέαρημαιοιρ τά η-αιηόροιν πέμ ... Mac Τοαρημυα	227
XXVII. Α έηη έαζμαρ αη έάντε βαοέ ... Αηε Óζ Ó Εαοηι	228
XXVIII. έιρσιό α έιζρε Βανθα ... Σεάν Ó Cléιμυζ ...	232
XXIX. Ραζαημ κεαρτ α έλανη έιθηη ... Ταός Mac Θάιρε ...	240
XXX. Μαηζ υαιρλιζεαρ αη έιζρε ... ?	248
Corrigenda	254
Appendix	255
Glossary	265
Index Nominum	279
Index Locorum	282

ABBREVIATIONS.

Acall.	= Acallam na Senórach (Ir. Texte, Ser. iv., Heft. i.).
Contrib.	= Contributions to Irish Lexicography by K. Meyer
O'R.	= O'Reilly's Irish Writers.
K.	= Keating's History (Ir. Texts Soc.).
Z.C.	= Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie.
K.Z.	= Kühn's Zeitschrift.
M.C.	= O'Curry's Manners and Customs.
4 M.	= Four Masters (O'Donovan).
P.H.	= Passions and Homilies (Atkinson).
B.R.	= Book of Rights (ed. O'Donovan).
Magh Rath	= Battle of Magh Rath (O'Curry).
C.C.C.	= Caithreim Ceallachain Caisil (Bugge, 1905).
C.A.	= Cóir Anmann, Ir. Texte, iii. Ser., ii. Heft.
O'Dav. Gloss.	= In "Three Irish Glossaries" (Stokes).
Fled Bric.	= Fled Bricrend (Ir. Texts Soc., 1899).
A. Clonmac.	= Kilk. Arch. Soc. Jour., N.S.I., 444-460.
Serg. Cuch.	= Serglige Conculaind (Windisch. Ir. Texte).
Mese. Ul.	= Mesca Ulad (Hennessy, Todd Lect., 1889).
Tec. Corm.	= Tecosca Chormaic (K. Meyer, Todd Lect., 1909).
Toch. Em.	= Tochmarc Emire (K. Meyer, Rev. Celt. xi., 434).

The other abbreviations will be easily understood.

INTRODUCTION.

PART I.

ORIGIN OF "THE CONTENTION."

IN the beginning of the 17th century Tadhg McBrody, chief poet of Thomond, published a poem "Olc do thagrais a Thorna," in which, by way of a criticism of two poems of Torna (fl. 5th century), he challenged the pretensions of the Eremonian clans, especially those of the North, and extolled the Eberian dynasties. A controversy arose between the Court poets of the North and those of the South. This controversy, generally known as "Iomarbhaidh (or "Coinntinn") na bhfileadh" caused, to judge from the multiplicity and variety of the MSS., a lively interest everywhere in Ireland.

It is not easy to explain why so many poets joined in the controversy, nor why the dispute caused such a stir through the land. Tadhg's poem cannot have been its cause, but at most its occasion. We know of many earlier poems equally capable in themselves of exciting such a contention. We know of other such controversies which apparently excited little or no stir. (Cf. "Reliquiae Celticae," II., pp. 291-297.)

O'Curry (M.M. 141) says that the contention arose "apparently in consequence of a preconcerted arrangement," and that "its object was to rouse and keep alive the national feeling and family pride of the native nobility." Dr. Hyde ("Lit. Hist." 517) and Miss Hull ("Text Book of I. Lit.," 168) are of the same opinion. It seems hard, however, to read this exalted motive into the poems. The poems of McBrody, notably his Elegy on the 4th Earl of Thomond, would suggest that he had no conception of a national policy of resistance to the foreigner. He mentions approvingly the Earl's exploits at Kinsale! Even supposing that he did perceive the necessity of uniting the Irish chiefs it seems unlikely that one, who in his professional eulogies went out of his way to deny his political convictions, would have been the leading preacher in a poetical crusade for the defence of the old Irish polity. Again, the general tone of the poems does not suggest that the uniting of the country was the motive of their composition. It is true that the poets (for instance, Tadhg, xviii. 5) protest that they do not wish to set tribe against tribe; it is true, too, that a feeling of the essential

union of the Children of Mil is everywhere present, but in nearly every poem the feeling of racial unity is quite subordinate to the desire of extolling one set of Irishmen as against another. McArthur (xii. 29) and O'Donnell (xxv. 3) alone protest against the controversy as being a disservice to the country. Nowhere in the controversy do we find that scorn and hatred of the foreigner which glows in the writings of many of the poets who lived at the same time. Moreover, the poets expressly state (vi. 273; ix. 25, 26, etc.) that it was loyalty to their particular chiefs which urged them to write, and they see the same motive in their adversaries, calling it, of course, by a harsher name (x. 11; xxii. 15). The verses, too, found in Egerton 161 (O'Grady, Cat., 617) would seem to show that some of the contemporary poets saw only a foolish local patriotism in the dispute.¹

I imagine that the reason why the controversy created so much excitement among the bards, and throughout the country, was that in the beginning of the 17th century there was established over Ireland a state of peace. This peace, though it was a peace of misery and despair coming after the long fierce turmoil of the Elizabethan times, forced the nation back on her own thoughts, and drove her to seek consolation in the only possession left her, her memories of the past.

O'Curry (MM. 142) attributes to the contention "the renewed study of our ancient literature," inferring this from "the important Irish works which soon followed it, such as those of Keating and the O'Clerys and McFirbis."

There are no means of accurately dating the various poems. The dispute is said by O'Curry to have started about 1604, but O'Donnell's words (xv. 5, 6) would seem to show that Tadhg's first poem was not published till after the death of the Earls, the second of whom died in 1616. It was over before 1624; for Tadhg, writing (xxix.) after the contention was over, speaks of Donnchadh, 4th Earl of Thomond (d. 1624), as yet alive.

¹ Luḡairé t'adḡ aḡur t'orna 'ollam oirdearca ar ucalam
com iad co n-iamad feara 'aḡ t'hoiré fan earair f'olam

PART II.
THE POETS.

TORNA (generally called "TORNA ÉIGEAS") probably belonged to the district which bears his name. Í Torna (part of which is now "Abbey O'Dorney"), in Co. Kerry. He is said to have there acted as foster-father and tutor to both King Niall of the Nine Hostages and Corc mac Lughaidh, King of Cashel. Five poems are attributed to him: (1) "Gabh mo theagasg a Néill náir" (T.C.D. H. 4. 22), addressed to Niall. (2) "Atá fótsa ri fir find Fáil" (L.U.), on Niall's death. (3) "Mo dhá dhaltán níorsad líúin," a lament for Niall and Corc. (4) "Dáil catha idir Corc is Niall," relating an incident in the careers of the two princes; and (5) "In tan théignis don dáil" (Y.B.L.), an address to the graveyard where lay King Dá Thí.

O'Curry (MC. ii., 59-71) considers the second and the fifth of these as certainly genuine. About the genuineness of the other three (at least in their present form) he expresses doubts, though he successfully refutes the chronological reasons which O'Flaherty had adduced to prove their spuriousness. O'Flaherty, led astray by a mistake in Keating's History, had argued that Corc must have died before A.D. 378, that he could not, therefore, have lamented Niall (*ob.* A.D. 405) or Dá Thí (*ob.* A.D. 428), and that he could not have been a Christian, as the poem represents him.

The third and fourth of the above poems are found in nearly all MSS. of the "Contention." On this account, and also because it was Tadhg McDaire's attack on them, especially on the latter of them, which occasioned the dispute, I have included them (i., ii.) in the poems of the "Contention." "Dáil catha . ." is sometimes ascribed to Torna O'Mulconry (*ob.* 1468). O'Grady (Cat. 345) suggests that McDaire prefixed it to his poem, not fraudulently, but as a suitable rhetorical argument.

TADHG MAC BRUAIDEADHA (*ang.* Brody, Brodin) generally called from his father's name, Tadhg Mac Daire, belonged to the family which had since 1563 provided the professional bard to the O'Briens of Thomond. He succeeded in this office to Domhnall McDaire, probably his brother (O'Curry, RIA. Ac. Cat., p. 393). O'Flanagan (Trans. Gael. Soc., 1808) states that Tadhg was born in 1570, that as bard of Thomond he held the castle of Dunogan (Bar. Ibrickin, Co. Clare), and that in 1652 he was murdered by a Cromwellian soldier who threw him over a cliff, saying, "ἀβάρ το γάρον ἀνοίρ ἄ φίρ ὄϊς." In a book entitled "Responso veridica ad illotum libellum cui nomen est Anatomicum Examen P. Antonii Bruodini Hiberni OSF. a Rdo. Domino Thoma Carve Tipperariensi Sacerdote et Proto-notario Apostolico Viennae commorante. Solisbaci, 1672," we find, p. 124, "Et ego hisce meis oculis viderim

Thadaeum Bruodinum filium Darii (Teigue Mac Dary) familiae caput (psoricum profecto) sine equo sine carro aut curru (nisi quod obvio cisio rustico vehebatur cum rustico lubebat), sine veste quae decem valeret florenos iter facientem, quod de O'Briennis cogitare nefas esset." (Cf. O'Grady, Cat. 388).

The above is all the information we have about McBrody's life. Of his poems, besides those here printed, we possess 16 others, about 2,000 lines. Their initial lines are:—"Δ μακαομνν̄ ρέαναρ μο ρεαρ," "Μόρ ἀτά αρ τεαζαρς ρλατα," "Μο εετρε ραινν̄ ουιτ α Όννεαρό," "Εαρζαρ ζαορδιολ εαζ εμ̄ρη," "Μαλλ αν̄ δετ̄βιρη αρ Όννεαρό." "Ανοιρ̄ οϊολαμ αν̄ δεακ̄μαρ," "Μι τρηατ̄ οσο̄ ουτ α Όαρμυο," "Παιζνεακ̄ ριν̄ ᾱ Οινν̄ Κοραό," "Ταιρησ̄ιό μο ρεακ̄ναό α ριολ̄ μ̄θρηαμ̄," "Ροιρηό μο̄ τειρηε ᾱ λεατ̄ Οινν̄," "Όεαναρ̄ κομ̄νυρ̄ ᾱ ετ̄ανν̄ Οινν̄," "Τεαλλαε̄ ρλατ̄ιρ̄ ρινε̄ Οαομ̄," "Οιοννυρ̄ ρρηοτ̄ ρεαρ̄ανν̄ Λυιζνε," "Α ερηο̄ Όε̄ οε̄ιμε̄ μο̄ τειρηεαρ̄," "Όεαναρ̄ ζο̄ ρυβαε̄ ριολ̄ ᾱθαμ̄," "Ροζᾱ ζαε̄ βεατᾱ βειτ̄ βοετ̄," "Οοβ̄ ρεαρ̄ρ̄ μο̄ ρεακ̄να ᾱ Σ̄ιτε." The first four are to, or about, his patron, the fourth Earl of Thomond. The second four are about the O'Briens. There is practically no information to be got from these poems as to the life of the poet, except that his cattle were seized by the Northern chiefs on one of their incursions into Thomond. Another poem, "Αορ̄οιζ̄ ο̄ Οαιρ̄ νᾱ ερηε̄ ρε̄ιν," is given in Eriu viii. 83 as being in the Book of the O'Conor Don.

LUGHAIÐH O CLERY belonged to the family which gave bards to the O'Donnells since 1492. In 1595 he succeeded, as head of his clan, and as ollamh of the O'Donnells, to his father Mac Con O'Clery. His mother was a Southern (xvi. 40, xx. 11). He, with his cousin Michael, was educated in the South by Baothghalach McAodhagain (Intro. to Michael O'Clery's Gloss. Rev. Celt., iv.), and possibly also by Tadhg McBrody (ix. 6). He died in 1630. His other extant works are:—The Life of Aodh Ruadh O Domhnaill (Rev. D. Murphy, Dublin, 1893), and a fragment of an Elegy on Baothghalach McAodhagain (Rev. Celt. iv.). For an account of his family v. Intro. to FM.

SEAN O CLERY, the author of poem xxviii., and also of "Cia do bhearras ar Bhreifne" (O'R. clvi.) is not further known to us.

BAOTHGHALACH MCAODHAGAIN's family was of the Cinel Fiacha, and was situated originally in W. Meath. Members of it are mentioned in FM. as ollamhs of Breifni, and as Brehons of O Conor Don and O Conor Faly. In the early 17th century they are found scattered over Cork, Limerick, Kerry, Wexford, Tipperary, King's Co., Queen's Co., Leitrim, Longford, Galway, Sligo, Roscommon. Elizabeth's Fiants mention a McEgan as brehon in Co. Galway. There were Bally-mac-Egans in Co. Tipperary, Queen's Co. and Co.

Longford. Our poet was master of the Bardic school in Ormond at which Michael and Lughaidh O Clery (as Michael tells us) received their poetic education. No other poems of Baothalach are extant.

ANLUAN MCAODHAGAIN, author of poem xxv., and of "Is breagach sin a bhean" (RIA.), is not further known to us.

MATHGHAMHAIN O HIFERNAIN (Mahon O Heffernan) is author of xi., of "Ceist cia do chimeochadh dán" (ed. and trans. by O. Bergin, *Irish Rev.*, April, 1913), and of two other extant poems, "caoin thu fein a dhuine bhoicht" (*Reliquiae Celticae* I., 126) and "a mhic na meabhruigh eigse" (O'Grady, *Cat.* 392; O'Conor Don's *Book*, cf. *Eriu*, viii., 82). He may be the Mahon O Hiffernan given in the *Fiants* as a "rimer," apparently in Co. Cork. Most of the name were to be found about Sronill, Co. Tipp.

DR. ROBERT MCARTHUR, O.S.F., is mentioned in Tadhg O Cianain's story of the Flight of the Earls as meeting the Earls at Douai (*Archiv. Hib.* II., App. 37). Fr. P. Walsh quotes (l.c.) from "Information of Sir Neale O'Donnell, 7 Aug., 1606." "Robert McArthur, S. J., is now in England, and doth from thence advertise the Earls of all occurrences." There was almost certainly no Jesuit of the name, and the man here referred to was probably our poet. All the MSS. of the *Contention* refer to him as Robert McArthur, O.S.F. and Doctor of Theology. One of them (RIA. St. B. iv. 4) superscribes Poem xiii. "Brathair Daitlitt, etc.," perhaps his name in religion. RIA. 23. G. 13 states that his poems were written in Louvain. In the "Report on Franciscan MSS. in Convent on Merchants' Quay" mention is made (in reference to the tumult at the Convent in 1629) of a Mr. Robert Arthur, but one would not gather from the context that he was a member of the community. There is no record of any Franciscan of the name of McArthur. Fr. E. Hogan, S. J., suggests that McArthur is an assumed name, and that our poet was Dr. Robert Chamberlain, O.S.F. This seems highly probable. Fr. Chamberlain was a Northern by birth (cf. xvi. 101), a Doctor in Theology (cf. xiv. 34), was well versed in the Irish language, lived in Louvain where he taught Theology for 18 years (1608-1626), and was devoted to the cause of the Earls (Report on MSS. in Merchants' Quay Convent, A.D. 1626, 27, 29, 30; Brennan, Vol. I., 285).

MAC DLARMUDA, author of xxvi., was Brian Og (xxvii. 11). He came of age in 1617, and was re-granted much of the land taken in 1603 from his father Brian. He married Margaret de Burgo, d. of Earl of Clanrickard, died in 1636, and was buried at Clonmacnoise (K. James' Army List, D'Alton).

ART ÓG O CAOIMH (O Keefe) says (xxvii. 10) that he is related to the O Briens. Beyond this we know nothing of him. Perhaps

he was the Art og (Mac Airt mhic Dhomhnaill) O Caoimh, chief of his name, inaugurated in 1583, who is mentioned in Fiants as living in Dromagh Castle (Bar. Duhallow, Co. Cork), mentioned in FM. 1582, 1583, and whom O Daly satirised (Tribes of Ireland, O'Donovan). No other poems of his are known to me. He is not to be confounded with Art (Mac Eoghain) O Caoimh who flourished at a later date.

FEAR FEASA ÓN CHAINTE may be the Farfassie O Canty, who with Katherine Ny Daly, his wife, is mentioned in the Fiants as living at Curribordy, Co. Tipp. (?), in 1601. Besides x. and xxii. some other poems of his are extant—"bean dá cumha epióc eallú," "Cionnup meipe a mhic eogáin," "Créas dá reabhairn dáin an dáin," "Mór an feróm veiltú an dána," "Mór roir na haim-pearaib," "A páoḡait ón a páoḡait," "Mór do nío daoine dá péin," "Leo péin cúipro etann íca"—all in RIA., and the two last printed in O'Grady, Cat., 555, and Miscell. of Celt. Soc., 1849.

EUGHAN MCCRAITH also belonged to a bardic family. In the Fiants, 1573, there is a pardon for "John McEnas McCragh rymer of Ballyogurty, Co. Wat.," who may be our man, but the name was common in Co. Tipperary and Co. Waterford. Besides xii. he wrote "Tuḡadó an t-ár-ra ar éirinn." Two poems, "Tuḡ dom aipe a innre an uaioḡ," "Teac carao do éirí potam," sometimes ascribed to him are more probably by Maolin Og Mac Bruaídeadha and Góffraidh Fionn O Dalaigh respectively. Another Eoghan McCraith, surnamed "an t-orrthoir," flourished 1400.

AODH O DOMHNAILL tells us that his father's mother was daughter of O Brien (xv. 41), and that when writing xv. he was an old man (xv. 11). He is addressed xxvii. 10, "Aodh og" (i.e., son of another Aodh) and "Ua" (i.e., head, or pretender to headship of clan). These indications fix him with fair certainty as Aodh brother of Manus, and therefore grand-uncle of the famous Red Hugh. His grandfather, Aodh Ruadh, married Fionnghuala d. of Connchobhar na srona O Briain, Lord of Thomond, 1466-1496 (cf. FM. 1474; O Donoghue's Hist. of O Briens, 146), and in 1598 he was living in his castle at Rathmelton, and "challengeth a title to the whole cuntrye" (Descript. of Ireland, 1590; Hogan: Fiants, etc.). As his father died in 1537 he would have been old in 1616. The FM. mention him 1564, 1592, 1600. For eulogies on him cf. Life of Red Hugh (Murphy, pp. 58, 187, 249). It was probably on him that the fine poem by Fearghal Og Mac an Bhaird, "Ní trath aithreachais d'fhuil Chonuill," was written, though O'Curry in describing this poem seems to gather, I know not whence, that the subject of it pre-deceased his father and would not therefore be our poet.

TOIRDHEALBHACH O BRIAIN of Cathair Mionáin (Bar. Coconroe, Co. Clare), was son of Murchadh, who was a younger brother of the 2nd Earl of Thomond (K. iv. p. 49; Fiants). No other poems of his are extant, nor is anything beyond a reference in FM. 1591 known to us of his life.

PART III.

MANUSCRIPTS.

The following are the MSS. consulted :—

MSS.	SCRIBE.	DATE.	REFERRED TO AS
Maynooth Cu.	B. O Cuirnin	1712	C
" B	? Co. Clare	1712	B ⁵
" K	?	?	K ³
" R	?	?	R ²
T.C.D. H. iv. 4	Aodh O Dalaigh	1725 (Dial)	T ¹
H. i. 17	?	(only xxviii.)	T ²
H. i. 7	Michael O Longain	(Dial)	T ³
H. iv. 15	?		T ⁴
Dr. Hyde's MSS.	? Dublin	1744 (Dial)	Y
Stonyhurst MSS.	O Caoimh		X
Univ. Coll. Dub.	?	(Dial)	Z
RIA. St. A. iv. 4	Dom. O Dubhgenan	1724	S ¹
St. A. iv. 3.	?		S ⁵
B. iv. 1	Dan. O Dubhgenan	1671 (Dial)	S ²
A. v. 1	Lughaidh O'Clery (?)	(Dial)	S ³
C. vi. 3	E. O Dubhgenan	1633 (?) or 1700 ? (Dial)	S ⁴
24 P. 24		1700	R.
24 P. 13	Niall O Cionga	1621 (only iv. viii.)	P
23 A. 30	Jas. Maguire	?	A
A 46	S. O hAoidh	1825	A ²
B 13	M. Mahony	1822	B ¹
B 16	Pat. Downey	1821	B ²
B 24		1837 (Dial)	B ³
B 37	M. O Curry	1822	B ⁴
C 31		(Dial)	C ²
D 5	Sean McSolam	1714 (Dial)	D
D 6	R. Tipper	1713 (Dial)	D ²
F 16	Fergal O Gara	1659	F
G 1	Art O Caoimh	1709	G

MSS.	SCRIBE.	DATE.	REFERRED TO AS
G 8	T. O Neachtain	1711 (Dial)	G ²
G 13	S. O Cleary, Co. Cavan	1836	G ¹
G 23	Mich. óg O Longain	1821	G ⁴
H 18	Will. Curtin	1702	H
H. 21	Varii	1752 (Dial)	H ²
H 25	Tomas McDomhnaill	1783 (Dial)	H ³
I 6			I
K 6	Mich. óg O Longain	1834 (Dial)	K ²
K 13		17—	K
K 45	Seamus McUidhir	1746	K ²
L 3	Sean O Connaill	1824 (Dial)	L
L 26	C. McDomhnaill	(Dial)	L ²
L 37	John Stack	1709	L ³
L 29	W. Christopher	1767	L ⁴
M. 22	P. O Conchobhair	1776 (Dial)	M
M 24	Ed. O Reilly's son	18—	M ²
N 11	Mich. óg O Longain	176—	N
N 13	Mich. óg O Longain	176- (Dial)	N ²
E 15	Mich. óg O Longain	1797	E
E 16	Mich. óg O Longain	1799	E ²

Not all of the above have been collated, but all have been consulted in searching for good texts.

Of the MSS. which can be dated, only two (and they of poor quality and containing only a few of the poems) date from the 17th cent., and nearly a half are as late as the 19th cent., while there is every reason to believe that the undated MSS. are not older than the rest. This is most unfortunate. All these poems are written in the old Bardic measures by men trained in the Bardic schools. Now, these schools were broken up in the 17th cent., when the old Irish civilisation was being crushed. After the break up of these schools the scientific and elaborate training which used to be given in them was nowhere to be had. In the later part of the 17th cent. the rules and traditions of Bardic poetry were beginning to be forgotten, and in the 18th cent. had become a vague memory, though even then isolated individuals still preserved some knowledge of them and some skill in their handling. Yet, though skill and knowledge were rare, good-will was abundant, and great numbers of men followed the Scribe's profession, anxious to preserve the literature of their race. Many families in various parts of the land devoted their members to this profession. These scribes not being scientifically trained in the old metres were careless of the niceties

of aspiration, eclipsis, accentuation, etc. Moreover, mere boys seem to have been put to copy MSS. Also, I think, there are traces of MSS. being written from dictation, as one sometimes finds two variants, one of which would if read sound almost the same as the other, but would give a different sense.

For these reasons, and for others given below, it is not strange that the MSS. of these poems should vary very considerably. A glance at the variants (of which it would have been impossible and needless to make an exhaustive list) will show how great liberties were taken by the scribes.

These differences are of various kinds.

A. As to the number of poems in the "Contention." Some MSS. give most of the poems here collected, others only some of them. There was evidently no recognised "canon." One sometimes meets in the MSS. a note, "I have not found the answer to this poem," as if the scribe had been gathering the different poems from various sources. Indeed it is not certain that we have here all the poems that were written in the "Contention." Some passages (e.g., in xxiii. and perhaps vii. 16) seem to refer to poems of which we have no record.

B. The MSS. differ in the length of a given poem. In certain poems, which are evidently answers to a preceding one, there are passages (vi. 263, etc.) whence one could infer that we have not the preceding one in its complete form. Of some of the poems, notably xv., there were evidently two rival versions.

C. The MSS. differ as to the order of the poems. The "Contention" as a whole consists of four distinct controversies—(a) Tadhg v. L. O'Clery, iii.-ix. (b) Tadhg v. McArthur, xiii., xiv., xvi. (c) Tadhg supported by O'Brien and O'Keefe v. O'Donnell and McDermott, xv., xvii.-xix., and xxvi.-xxvii. (d) Tadhg v. the McEgans, xx.-xxi., xxiii.-xxv.

There are, besides, four poems the relations of which are hard to establish. There are, then, the two poems of Torna and three concluding ones which do not strictly speaking belong to the "Contention" as such.

The poems belonging to the same controversy are generally placed together in the MSS., but the order in which these controversies are placed varies considerably. The four isolated poems occur in all kinds of positions, so that the MSS. are useless for determining their proper places.

A peculiarity of some MSS. is that in some cases where one poem answered another the two poems are written together, each point as it is made being immediately followed by its answer. The poems so arranged are—iv., v. ; xiii., xiv. ; xv., xviii. ; xxiii., xxiv.

Each of these pairs, where it occurs, reads like a dialogue, and I have placed " (Dial.) " after the MSS. in which this arrangement is found. (Cf. supra.) It is to be noted, too, that in each such pair of poems the Southern one comes after the Northern, and, moreover, that the Southern poem is always Tadhg Mac Bruaideadha's. Most of the late MSS. adopt this Dialogue order, but the best MSS., even though of fairly late date (such as 23 K 45), do not. This would suggest that the Dialogue arrangement was adopted by a Southern, who wished to bring out with extra force the Southern case against the Northern. As the choice of arguments thus juxtaposed, and the order in which they are placed, is the same in all the MSS. where the Dialogue arrangement is found, I infer that some one person adopted the plan, and that his plan was followed by the scribes generally. Probably this person was not Tadhg himself, as in that case it would be found in all the MSS.

D. There are, of course, in all MSS. numerous variants caused by the negligence or fatigue of the scribes.

E. There is constant diversity in the way in which the MSS. in the case of a given word employ the various forms of it which were the stock in trade of the professional *file* and were meant to be used by him as best suited his verse.

In this connection it is to be noted that the Debhidhe poems forming nearly the whole of the "Contention" are of two distinct classes. The first consists of those of an argumentative nature. In them the poets use a loose form of "Debhidhe" which allows them to write fast and at their ease. The second are in strict Debhidhe and present their thoughts in a condensed and involved fashion. The grammatical variants are naturally more numerous in the first of these classes. The loose metre allowed the scribe to substitute an easier phrase for a more difficult one, to substitute one name or epithet for another, perhaps in order to show off his learning, and to choose among the various grammatical forms familiar to him the one which he thought more correct or more antique, etc. The poems in stricter metre being more difficult to understand inspired perhaps somewhat of a hieratic awe, though they, too, have not escaped without some changes. Their metre, however, generally serves to show the correct reading.

F. There are the variants, more strictly so called, by which the sense is more or less materially altered.

The last two classes of variants caused much perplexity. On what principle was a text to be chosen?

Age was no guide. None of the MSS. are very old. Only two are 17th cent. MSS. and they are poor and avail only for a few poems.

Mere weight of numbers was of little importance either. Many of the MSS. are copies of others, or at least come from a common source and agree in evident blunders. I strove to establish the relationship between several MSS., but found this of little use.

The principle which appeared to be best was to examine the accuracy with which the strict-metre poems were written in the various MSS., and then to assume (though it was not a quite sure assumption) that the other poems would be treated with the same degree of conscientiousness. According to this principle C, K², A, seemed to be the best, and where they were available I have never, I think, departed from them in any important matter without noting the fact. Where these failed, I followed what I thought the next best.

G. There are the variants which affect mere spelling, that is, those in which no grammatical differences are involved. In this respect not merely do MSS. differ from each other, but each MS. differs from itself in the one page, or even in the one stanza. As therefore fidelity to the MSS. (differing from each other) was impossible, and as fidelity to a particular MS. would have led to a senseless and most irritating variety and to considerable difficulty in forming a glossary, I thought it advisable to aim at a certain uniformity in some points which were of no linguistic importance. Between the alternatives offered, namely the newer and the older form, I have thought it better, the authority of the MSS. being about equal on either side, to adopt the newer. To adopt the older would have been to add, at least in some slight degree, to the difficulties of those who are accustomed only to the modern forms of the language.

I have therefore written $e\Delta$ for io in short unstressed syllables, except when riming with accented io (though even then I might have done better to write $e\Delta$, as the sound is quite indeterminate). \acute{e} followed by a broad consonant I have generally written $\acute{e}\Delta$, though the MSS. use $e\Delta$, $\acute{e}u$, eu , \acute{e} indifferently. I have written the preposition $\text{ἰ}n-$ instead of $\Delta n-$, availing myself of the freedom offered by the MSS. I have written $\zeta\epsilon$, $\upsilon\tau$, etc., for ce , $\tau\epsilon$ where these forms represent *eclipsis*, and have substituted υ , ζ , υ , for $\tau\epsilon$, ce , pp , where the latter are mere archaic equivalents of the former.

PART IV.

METRE AND GRAMMAR.

There are three kinds of metres (all of seven syllables) used.—(1) Strict Debhidhe (vii.-xii., xx.-xxv., xxix.-xxx.). (2) Loose Debhidhe (i.-vi., xiii.-xviii., xxvi., xxviii.). (3) Rannaidheacht Mhor (xix., xxvii.).

N.B.—(1) Loose Debhidhe is not a degenerate form of Strict Debhidhe, but is found in the early 15th century.

(2) Many words, chiefly adverbs,¹ may be divided up to establish alliteration. An infixed Pronoun with its supporting particle is treated as *iarmbearla*, also the *Δ* of *Δ-θεϊριμ*, *Δ-τᾶ*, etc. Diphthongs in foreign words may be treated as dissyllables (ii. 54; iv. 15; v. 42; vi. 76; xvi. 5. 122).

In Loose Debhidhe, Rime is used as in the older poetry, i.e. :—

(1) Any of the following can rime with each other, *p*; *c*; *τ*; *pp*; *cc*; *ττ*: *p*, *c*, *τ*, joined with *φ*, *έ*, *έ*, *υ*, *ξ*, *υ*, *ι*, *η*, *η*, *η*: e.g., *ουιτ*, *ταβαριτ*; *λεατ*, *σεαριτ*; *οτε*, *οαonnaετ*; *κορε*, *λοετ*; etc.

(2) *b*, *ξ*, *υ*, *φ*, *έ*, *έ*, *υ*, *ξ*, *υ*, *ι*, *η*, *η*, *η*, *η*, *η* form only one class for riming purposes, i.e., any of them rimes with any other single or doubled; and any group of two rimes with any other group of two. (*b*, however, does not rime with *υ*, *ξ* with *ξ*, *υ* with *υ*, *η* with *η*.)

(3) *ρ* can rime with *υ*, *ξ*, *υ*, etc. (xiv. 22, xv. 11, etc.)

N.B.—Sometimes even the above rules are infringed (vi., 68, etc.). Even a vowel sometimes rimes with a vowel and consonant (xxviii., 5, 13, 49). Rime being so understood, the following are the chief rules in Loose Debhidhe :—

(1) Final words of *a*² and *c* rime with final words of *b* and *d* respectively.

(2) Final word of *d* (and sometimes of *b*) is a syllable longer than the final word of the preceding line. Rime in these cases begins with the last stressed syllable of *c* (or *a*), i.e., the final monosyllable of *c* (or *a*) rimes with the second syllable of the final dissyllable in *d* (or *b*); the final dissyllable of *c* (or *a*) rimes with the last two syllables of the final trisyllable in *d* (or *b*). Sometimes final stressed syllable of *a* (or *c*) rimes with final of trisyllable in *b* (or *d*). Cf. iii. 10, 19, etc

¹ e.g. *αἰνῶν*, *ἀνονη*, *ἀναλλ*, *ἀνορη*, *ἀρίρ*, *ἀρατε*, *μαλλε*, *μαρασον*, *ιομορηα*, *αμοσῶ*, *ἀνέ*, etc.

² *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, denote the four lines of the stanza.

(3) Alliteration, though sought after and common, is not necessary.

(4) There is no Internal Rime.

(5) The functions of *iarmbcarla*, eclipsis and aspiration are the same as in Strict Debhidhe.

(6) In each stanza the sense is complete. After the first couplet there is a pause in the construction.

N.B.—xvi. does not observe Rule 2 or 5.

In the two Rannagheacht poems the looser form of rime is observed. The rule that the final word of a poem must repeat at least a part of the first stressed word is not observed in xi., xii., xxiv., though these poems are in Strict Debhidhe.

SOME COMMON VARIANTS.

Vowels unstressed: o=á=u. amur, -or, -ar; canar, -ur. ai=ui=eí. oíroairc, -eí-, -ui-; éisre, -rí.

Vowels accented: o=á. tol, tal; pporác, ppa-; bois, ba-; oiséan, ai-; pośa, pa-; cośail, ca-; foia, fa-. o=u. oppa, up-; oppamad, up-, oppwonne, up-; soin, su-; oia, u-; pioám, piu-; etc. ó=á. ślóir, śláir; cóir, cá-; so córó, so cá-. ó=ua. rloś, rluas. ó=ú. cóiseadó, cúí-. ú=ao. túrśa, taoir-. í=eí. m(e)irge; b(e)inn; n(e)im. oi=eí. oite, eí-,

Consonants broad and slender: corśaim, corśim; cuirim, curaim; mannaim, mannim; coślaim, coślim; ró(i)r(e)air; fulaimśim, fuilngim, fulanśaim; foirbce, foirbca; l(a)igim; cr(o)rde; t(o)is; mionca, meince.

Consonants aspirated and non-aspirated: ionao, -ò; ácao, -ò.

Liquids, Single and Double: meairbal(t); coisil(t).

Varia: luac, -ś; teac, -ś; caic, -ś; comirce, -śe, -śe, -ce; féasaim, -é-, -ś-; anacail, -ś-; iomairbáró, -ś; blaó, -ś; rioct, -ó; tnuća, -óa; cumal, -b-; Émhir, -b-; ppoasó, -m-; ppeám, pp-; (f)uarán; (f)éilim; (f)éoir; (f)anam; (n)umir.

Nasalisation is very carelessly observed by the scribes. The following are a few examples of cases in which it was regularly used by the poets from the 13th to the 17th century, an éinni, xxi. 5; an ścáona, iv. 47; an oipeao, xvi. 120; an ścáim, vi. 236; an airpuiś, vi. 203; upéar n-iomruil, xxiii. 18; mair nloct, xv. 56; mór n-oioeasó, xxv. 9; fan poinn ścéilrú, xxii. 7; na ścpánn n-iomuir, xvi. 78; rúl ó śCuinn, xxv. 5.

Irrational nasalisation is very common, and probably for the most part due to the scribes.

NOUNS.

For variations in declensions of nouns, adjectives, vid. Voc. sub. : Ἀθά, ἄιτ, ἀίτη, ἀοῖθ, βάρθ, βράιτρεαρ, βρεατ, βυαῖθ, céατοφαῖθ, conélan, conφαῖθ, ὄάλ, Θεαῖθ, θεαῖθ, υἱαρ, ὀλιγε, εαζαί, εαρρ. Ἐίρε, εἰγρε, εἰρ, εοῦαῖθ, φέρθιμιῖθ, φαλα, φιαῦαῖθ, φιλε, ζηῖαῖθ, ιομαρῖ, lá, λεατ, λυζαῖθ, μεανμα, μεαρθάλλ, náρ. νυα, ρανν, ριαρ, ταοῖθ, Τεαῖαίρ, τολ, τοραῦ, τρυαζ.

The Nom. can be used for Voc. It also can be used for Gen. of Proper names, also sometimes for Gen. of Common nouns. Cf. v. 35, 57, 177.

ADJECTIVES.

Notice bimrit̄ir, xxviii. 43, "as sweet"; níor ó., "younger," xvi. 35 ; níor mó, ní ar mó, níφα mó ; móm (?) xxvii. 17. Predicate adj. with copula sometimes agrees with subject, i. 1 ; ii. 41 ; viii. 31.

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES.

Notice αρ ὄά ποάν, xix. 8 ; xiv. 70 ; α ὄά mbeαῦαῖθ, etc., v. 83 ; 122 ; xxviii. 37 ; but cf. vi. 50, 59 ; xiv. 34.

NUMERALS.

Ὅά masc. and fem. aspirates (in Gen. often no affection in MSS., v. 183 ; vi. 37) ; in neut. it eclipses. Notice ὄάνα, οἰβλιοναῖθ, οἰέθε, υἱαρ, α ὄό ὄιοῖθ, vi. 49.

Τρί n- (cf. Ir. Gr. Tr. § 18.) Notice α τρι, vi. 183 ; numήr τριρ, xiv. 27 ; τορμα, xv. 57 ; τριέθε. ζυρ αν θειέ, vi. 184 ; ρεατ̄ ποειέ πο . . , vi. 189 ; ὄά φιέτο, xv. 66 ; xxviii. 28 ; ὄά φιέατο, xvi. 120, 121 ; φα ὄό, ἐρί, etc.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS.

Ει-ρέιη, xxiv. 14, etc. ; ιρε, iv. 36 ; v. 93 ; ριηη, ιηη, ριονη, ιονη, ριῖθ, ιῖθ, ιαῖθ, ιαῖθ-ρέιη.

INFIXED PRONOUNS.

Sg. I. Ὅom ἐράῖθ, ii. 53 ; ποm αἰτ, xxiv. 7 ; ὄm ριοιηητεαρ, xxiv. 8 (?).

2. ποθ εῦιρ, xvi. 196 ; πορ ὄαἰ, xvi. 135 (?).

3. πορ ὄίεεανη, etc., vi. 134, 257 ; xvi. 163 ; xxv. 4 ; xxviii. 39 ; ποθ εῦιρ, v. 92.

Pl. 3. πορ ιγ, ix. 28.

PRONOUNS, PRONOMINAL ADJECTIVES, etc.

Vid. Voc. sub. αραιτε, αραιη, cé, ceατταρ, cρέατο, ζαῦ, ζιθε, ναῦ, νεαῦ.

RELATIVE.

Construction as explained in Three Shafts. Introd.

N.B.—*ἴρα*, xvi. 194; *ἀπορί με ἄ τινι ἔαρτα*, vi. 74.

SUFFIXED PARTICLES.

ει-ρέιν, *ἰατο-ρέιν*, *να ὕέρῳ-ρέιν*, xxii. 18; *ορμα*, *-ῖοε* (?), xi. 3. *-ne* (1 Pl.) palatalises preceding syllable.

ρο, *ρῶ*, *ῶο*, *ῦο*, *ροιν*, when stressed can retain these forms even after palatal endings.

VERBS.

Certain forms are used indifferently as suits verse or preference of poet, e.g. :—

Conj. and abs. forms of 3 Pl. Pres. Ind. or Subj., and of Passives, *αῖο*, *αῖο*, *εαῖο*, *ῖο*; *αιρ*, *αρ*, *εαρ*, *ῖρ*.

Short and long forms of 1st and 2nd. Pl. Primary and Secondary tense, and of 3rd. Pl. Secondary tenses, *μαιο*, *μαιοῖο*, *μιο*, *μιο*; *μαιρ*, *μαιρ*, *μιρ*, *μιρ*; *ῶαιρ*, *ῶαιρ*, *ῶῖρ*, *ῶῖρ*; *τα*, *ταοι*, *τε*, *τί*.

Conj. and Abs. forms of Pret. 3 Sg., 1st, 2nd, 3rd Pl. *ρταρ*, *ρταῖρ*; *μαρ*, *μαιρ*; *ῶαρ*, *ῶαιρ*; *ταρ*, *ταῖρ*.

REGULAR VERB.

Imper. Sg. 2. *φέαδ*. 3. *κυρραῖο*. Pl. 1. *ρκυρραεαμ*, ix. 11
2. *βεαναρῶ*, x. 8. 3. *αναρο*, xviii. 7. Ps. *εαομανταῖρ* (?), x. 8.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. *αναμ*, *φιλλμ*. 2. *λαβρα*, *λαβραι-ρε*, *ἀιρῖ(ε)ῖ-ρε*.
3. *ελαορῶ*, xviii. 119; *ελαοεῖλαρῶ*, xxix. 21; v. 114; vi. 16, 263;
xiii. 9; *-μαιρ*, i. 13; *-ερεο*, vi. 66; *-εαν*, xiii. 34; v. 43, 110; xviii. 141;
form in *-nn*, *-βεαναν*, vi. 65; xv. 15. Pl. 1. *μολμυρο*; *-εεεαμ*,
ix. 11; xxiv. 25. 2. *μαιοῖοτί*, xvi. 8; *-μεαρταοι*, xvi. 14; xviii. 118;
ix. 9; xvi. 53; *-λέιγρῶ*, viii. 4. 3. *αναρο*, *φιλλο*. Rel. *ῶεαρῶαρ*,
ἀιρῖεαρ. Ps. *ταιγτίρ*, *μολταῖρ*, *ῶιγτίεαρ*.

Imperf. Sg. 1. *ἀιρῖῖοιν*, *-λαβραῖοιν*. Pl. 1. *-λαῖομαιοῖρ*. Ps. *ῶο*
ρέανταοι.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 1. *μαιοῖεαρ*, iv. 57. 2. *τεανα*, *ερεοε*. 3. *λέιγε*,
-αγρα. Pl. 1. *-λαβραμ*, vi. 34; *-ταιεεαμ*, xvi. 199. 2. *-κυρταοι*,
vi. 137. 3. *φιονναρο*, xiv. 35. Ps. *-λέιγτεαρ*, v. 84, 121.

Subj. Past. Sg. 1. *-φέαδαιν*. 2. *-μεαρτα*, *-κυρτεα*. 3. *-μόραῖο*,
vi. 192. Pl. 2. *-κυρταοι*, v. 150. Ps. *-τεανταοι*, *λέιγτε*.

ρ Fut. Sg. 1. *αηραῖο*; *κυρραεο*; *-κυρῖοῖο*, xxvii. 17; *-τεαναῖο*,
vi. 260; iv. 4; v. 47; vi. 4; viii. 14; ix. 4; xiv. 34. 2. *ταιγρε*, *-ταιγρε*.
3. *μαιρῖρῶ*, xxix. 30; *-λέιγρε*, ix. 29; *-οιῖττα*. Pl. 1. *κυρραεαμ*,
vi. 268; *φιονηραμ*, xxix. 12 (both used relatively). 3. *-ταιγρο*,
-ταιγρεαο. Rel. *ραοηραρ*, *ρκυρραεαρ*. Ps. *ῶαῖοῖρῖοῖρ*; *ερεοῖρῖοῖρ*.

Redup. Fut. Sg. I. ἀίρεομάσ, xxviii. 41; κοιμέοιτασ, v. 184; θεαρβόεασ, v. 31; vi. 8; inneόρασ, v. 127; -ταιξέαρ, xxiv. 11; -εεάτ, xxviii. 28; -θειρμέασ, xxix. 13. 3. μέδαρσ, vi. 123; θεαρβόεα, vi. 259. Pl. I. θεαρβόεαμ (rel.), xvi. 126.

‡ Condit. Sg. I. -οιύτραιν; -cumοαιξρinn, viii. 26. 2. -ιαρρρά. 3. -τσιξρεσ. Ps. -οιξρρε, ρορρραρε.

Redup. Condit. Sg. I. -ἀίρέομινν, vi. 170. 3. -ἀίρέαμάσ, iv. 44. Ps. -τέαμταοι, xxii. 16.

Preterite. Sg. I. -λαμαρ. 2. -λαμαρ, -μάσοιρ. 3. τεαξραρ, ii. 6; βρρρρ, xxviii. 32; cf. ii. 10, 21; v. 178; xx. 9; xxviii. 20; -εταοι, etc., v. 178; xvi. 98; xv. 54; -μαρ, etc., v. 103; ii. 42; v. 110; vi. 28, 214; xviii. 13; xxiv. 1; xxix. 31. Pl. I. canama(ι)ρ; -canama(ι)ρ; -θεαρβραμ. 2. cuipeaba(ι)ρ, -cuipeaba(ι)ρ. 3. φάρασαρ, etc., x. 16; xviii. 80; xxix. 22; σο θεαρρασ, vi. 39, 46, 101; xviii., 158, 167; -έαξρασ, xv. 6; -caittρεασ, xvi. 133; Ps. -ατ, xxiv. 7; -ετόσ, xxviii. 55; -οτεαετ, vi. 273; -ορτ, iv. 66; vi. 212.

VERB-NOUNS.

Λσ, g. αρσ, -εα, -αεασ, -οεασ, -αξασ, -υξασ, -εαξασ, -ιυεασ, -ιυξασ, -εαεασ.

SUBSTANTIVE VERB.

Ind. Pres. forms without α- optional in Rel. construction, always after μαρ and usually after ξε, μά, σ.

Sg. I. ατύ; τυ; -ρuiim. 2. αταοι; ταοι; -ρuite. 3. ατά, τά; -ρui; -ρoi; ρι (rel.), v. 186; -τάρ, vi. 63; xx. 4; xxv. 13. Pl. I. ατάμασ; -τάμ; -ρuiimio. 3. ατάσ; τάρσ; -τάρσ; -ρuiio; -ρuiteασ.

Habit. Pres. Sg. 3. -βί. Pl. I. βίom. 3. βίσ; -βίσ. Rel. βίop.

Imper. Sg. 2. βί. 3. βίσσ. Pl. I. βίom.

Imperf. Sg. I. -βinn. 3. -βίσσ. Pl. 3. -βίσop, -βίσop.

Pret. Sg. 2. σο βάσαρ, xvi. 30. 3. (MSS. vary much), σο βuí, vi. 33, 40. βuí, xxviii. 27, 49. ρο βuí, i. 8; -βuí, vi. 227; ρο βái, vi. 190; σο βί; -ρaiβe. Pl. σο βάσαρ, v. 118; vi. 90; βάσαρ, xxviii. 12; -ραβρασ, vi. 204. Impers. -ραβαρ, v. 63.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -βé; -ρaiβ. Rel. βeαρ, viii. 28.

Subj. Past. Sg. 2. -βετeα, iii. 12. 3. -βεατ, vi. 259; x. 28; xviii. 35; -βετ. Pl. I. βeimρ. 3. βeσop; βeτσop.

Fut. Sg. I. -βiú. 3. βιαρσ; -βια. Pl. I. -βiam. Rel. βιαρ.

Cond. 2. -βετeα. 3. -βιασ.

Verb-noun, βeτ; βeτ.

Part. Necess. βeτeα.

COPULA.

Imper. Sg. 3. βαῶ, x. 25.

Ind. Pres. I. am, xiv. 10 ; nīom, nīam, viii. 27, 28 ; naám, xvi.

3. 2. 10, iv. 2, 10 ; ἤρῶ αὐ, xxi. 119 ; nīac, xiv. 22 ; ἤρατο, xvi. 42.

3. 1r, ar ; 1r', ar' (rel.) ; neg. nī n- ; noóa, ii. 23 ; noóa n- (noóan ?)

xvi. 14. Dep. Neg. ἤac ; εἰὸ naó, v. 38 ; ὀ naó, v. 184. + má. máρ(Δ).

+ mā + neg. muna, v. 88 ; xiii. 3 ; munab, viii. 4. + ὀ. ὀρ. + ἤο.

ἤοναῶ, xvi. 163 ; xxviii. 45 ; ἤρ(Δ)ῶ, iv. 14 ; vi. 12 ; ἤρ, xvi. 116.

+ ἤé. ἤρῶ, v. 135 ; vi. 17. + Prep. + Rel. té na n-, xxviii.

58 ; té n-, xxviii. 59. arA, v. 91 ; xxiv. 27. a5 ar, v. 53.

ῶán n-, v. 116 ; vi. 23. ῶarab, xx. 1 ; ῶar, xi. 16. ar pob, xviii. 28.

Fut. Rel. ῶρ, v. 3, 11. Condit. Sg. 3. ῶῶ, βαῶ ; ῶο ῶῶ, vi. 78 ;

ba, xix. 7 ; nī ῶῶ, v. 4 ; ῶomaῶ, ii. 4 ; v. 56 ; ἤρ ba, vi. 110 ; naó

ba(ῶ), xiv. 29 ; xvi. 25 ; narῶ, xvi. 24 ; té ῶῶ, xx. 13 ; xxiii. 2.

(Sbj. Pres. ?) ; te mbaῶ, xviii. 38 (Pr. Sbj. ?). Pl. 2. ἤρ βαῶ, ii. 41.

3. nabῶar, xv. 45.

Pret. Sg. 3. ra n- ; rá n- ; ba ; ba (rel.), xv. 42 ; xxix. 7 ; βαῶ',

ῶῶ' (rel.), xviii. 115. ῶο βαῶ, v. 66, 96 ; vi. 92 ; ῶο b', iii. 8 ; xiii.

21 ; ῶο b', ii. 29, v. 13 ; pob', ii. 35 ; pobA, xvi. 142 ; arῶ', v. 153 ;

xx. 12 ; nīorῶ', ii. 47 ; iii. 13 ; nīor', iii. 6 ; nīorῶo, vi. 183 ; narῶ',

vi. 104 ; nar', vi. 98 ; naóarῶ', v. 109 ; noóar', xxviii. 45 ; ἤρ(Δ)ῶ',

xv. 15 ; ἤρ(Δ)ῶ', v. 90 ; ἤρ', vi. 166 ; ἤérῶ', iv. 8 ; ἤérῶ', ix. 27 ;

ἤér, ii. 49 ; ἤérῶo, vi. 134 ; munaρ, v. 150 ; ῶar(Δ)ῶ', v. 37 ; ῶarῶA

n-, xviii. 46 ; ῶar', ii. 23 ; arA pῶ, xvii. 2 ; rérῶ', vi. 139. Pl. 1.

ἤéarρam. 3. nīorρaῶ, i. 1, 6 ; ἤéarρaῶ, i. 2.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. ἤρab, xv. 2 ; narab, xiv. 8 ; xvi. 33 ; maῶ,

vi. 2.

Subj. Past. Sg. 3. βαῶ, ῶῶ ; mar βαῶ, xvi. 46 ; ná ῶῶ, xiii.

26 ; acτ maῶ, xvi. 17, 86 ; munab, v. 4 ; ῶamaῶ, ῶámaῶ, iv. 26 ;

v. 87 ; ἤémaῶ, vi. 271. Pl. ῶiamῶar, xv. 45.

BEIRIM.

Imper. Sg. 2. beir. Pl. 2. beirῶ, ii. 13. Indic. Pres. Sg. 1.

beirim. 3. (rel.) beirar. Ps. beirar, beiréar, xvi. 109. Impf.

Ps. -beiréar, xv. 62. Sbj. Pr. Sg. 1. beirar, ix. 17 (or Pass. ?)

Subj. Past. Sg. 3. -beiréaῶ. Pl. 3. -beiróir.

Fut. Ps. beirar.

Cond. Sg. 2. -béarῶ. 3. -béarῶ. Pl. 3. -béarῶar. Ps.

-béarῶar.

Pret. Sg. 1. ruar. 2. ruar. 3. ru. Pl. 3. ῶo ruar, xv.

14 ; ruar (rel.), xviii. 125. Ps. ruar ; -ruar.

Verb-noun, beiré (g. beiré). Part. Nec. beiréa, xviii. 147.

ΤΟ ΘΕΙΡΜ.

Imper. Sg. 2. τυξ, ταβαιρ. 3. -τυξασθ. Pl. 2. ταβηραθ̄ ; τυξυρθ̄, τυιξρθ̄ (?), xviii. 31, η.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. το θειρμ. 2. το θ(ε)ιρηε ; -ταθρα. 3. το θ(ε)ιρ ; τιξ, vi. 195 ; -τυξανν. Pass. το θεραιρ ; -τυξταρ.

Impf. Pl. 3. -τυξοδοιρ.

Pret. Sg. 3. τυξ, vi. 99 ; το ρασ, ii. 25 ; iii., 4 ; vi. 37 ; -ταρω, vi. 249 ; x. 25. Pl. τυξαμαρ, v. 143 ; 3. τυξρασ, vi. 47. Pass. τυξασθ̄, vi. 52 ; το ρασασθ̄, xxviii. 9.

Fut. Sg. 1. το θεαρ. 3. το θεαρα ; -τιοβρα. Pass. -τιυδαρταρ.

Cond. Sg. 1. το θεαρμινν ; -τιυβραμινν. 2. το θεαρτα. 3. το θεαρασθ̄ ; -τιυβρασθ̄, -τιοβρασθ̄. Ps. το θεαρταοι.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 1. -τυξαρ, v. 48 ; xxix. 37.

Past. Sg. 2. -τυξτα. Pl. 1. -τυξμαοιρ. 3. -τυξοδοιρ. Ps. -τυξταοι.

ΔΘΕΙΡΜ.

[Forms without Δ- are used optionally as Rel., and after ζέ, μαρ, μά.]

Imper. Sg. 2. αβαιρ.

Pres. Ind. Sg. 1. (α)θ(ε)ιρμ ; -αβραμ. 2. (α)θ(ε)ιρηε ; -αβρα. 3. (α)θ(ε)ιρ. Pl. 2. αθειρτι, -τι, αθεαρταοι. 3. αθειρω. Ps. -αβαρταρ.

Impf. Pl. 3. αθειρωιρ, αθεαρταοιρ.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 2. θεαρα. Pl. 3. -αβρασθ̄.

Past Sg. 1. -αβραμινν. 3. -αβρασθ̄.

Fut. Sg. 1. (α)θεαρ ; -αιθεαρ. 3. (α)θεαρα.

Condit. Sg. 1. αθεαρμινν ; -αιθεαρμινν. 3. (α)θεαρασθ̄. Pl. 3. αθεαρταοιρ. Ps. αθεαρταοι.

Pret. Sg. 1. (α)θουδαρτ ; -θουδαρτ ; -εαδαρτ. 2. αθουδαρ. 3. (α)θουδαρτ ; -θουδαρτ ; -εαδαρτ. Pl. -θουδαμαρ. Ps. θουδασθ̄ ; -θουβρασθ̄.

Verb-noun, ρασ̄ ; ρασα, vi. 6 ; gen. ρασ̄, xviii. 46.

ΞΑΘΑΜ.

Imper. ξασθ̄.

Pres. Ind. Sg. 1. ξαθαμ. Pl. 2. ξαθταοι. Rel. ξαθαρ. Ps. ξαθταρ.

Subj. Pres. Ps. -ξαθταρ, xxviii. 71.

Subj. Past. Pl. 3. -ξαθταοιρ, v. 176.

Fut. Sg. 1. ξεαθασ, xxii. 23 ; -ξεαθ, xiv. 68.

Condit. Sg. 3. -ξεαθασθ̄, vi. 127 ; xiv. 33.

Pret. Sg. 3. ξαθαρ, xxviii. 20 ; ξειθιρ, iv. 59 ; το ξασθ̄ ; ρο ξασθ̄. Pl. 3. ξαθρασ, i. 2 ; -ξαθρασ, vi. 254

Verb-noun, ξαθαμ.

ՏՕ ՋԵԻԾԱՄ.

Imper. Sg. 2. բաջալծ, vi. 122.

Pres. Ind. Sg. I. -բաջամ. 3. յօ ՋԵԻԾ ; -բաջանն ; բաջ (rel.), xviii. 134. Ps. -բաջ(է)ար.

Impf. Ps. -բաջեալ.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -բաջա, ix. 30. Pl. I. (բ)աջամ, v. 64 ; vi. 33. Pl. 2. -բաջալծե, vii. 17. Ps. -բաջ(է)ա(լ)ր.

Subj. Past. Sg. 2. -բաջեա. 3. -բաջած. Pl. 3. -բաջուալր.

Fut. Sg. 2. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱ ; -բալջե, v. 71. 3. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱ ; -բալջե. Pl. 2. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱՅԻ ; -բալջի. 3. -բալջեա. Ps. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱ(լ)ր ; -բալջեար, -բալջեար, xiv. 31.

Cond. Sg. I. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱՆՆ ; -բալջնն. 2. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱ ; -բալջեա, xxvii. 2. 3. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱԾ ; -բալջեած. Ps. յօ ՋԵԱԾԱՅԻ, v. 118 ; -բալջի ; -բալջիբօ, v. 22.

Pret. (լո, նիօր, etc., not used) Sg. I. բալբար ; -բալբար. 2. բալբար ; -բալբար. 3. բալբար ; -բալբար ; -բալբարօար, xxix. 11. Pl. 2. բալբոար ; -բալբոար. 3. բալբրեա ; -բալբրեա ; -բալբաօար, vi. 33. Ps. բլի(օ)է ; -բլի(օ)է.

Verb-noun, բաջ(ծ)ալ.

ԲԱՋԾԱՄ.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 3. բաջծարօ, vi. 129. Rel. բաջծար. Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -բաջծա. Pret. Sg. I. -բաջծար. 3. բաջծար, ii. 34. Fut. Pl. I. -բալջեամ, xxix. 28.

ԸՈՆՋԾԱՄ.

Imper. Sg. 3. ըոնջած. Pl. 2. ըոնջարօ. Pres. Ind. Pl. 3. ըոնջարօ.

Pret. Sg. I. -ըոնջար. 2. -ըոնջար. Verb-noun, ըոնջալ.

ԸՕՋԾԱՄ.

Imper. Pl. 2. ըօնջարօ. Pret. Sg. 3. ըօնջար, ii. 32 ; -ըօնջալծ. Ps. -ըօնջած. Fut. Sg. I. -ըօնջեալ, v. 7. Verb-noun, ըօնջալ.

ՏՕ ՈՒՄ.

Imper. Sg. 2. ումե, x. 4 ; xxiii. 6. Pl. 2. ուեանարօ.

Ind. Pres. Sg. I. յօ ում. 2. ումե. 3. յօ ու ; -ուեանանն. Pl. 2. յօ ունի. 3. յօ ուա. Ps. -ուեանար.

Imperf. Sg. I. -ուումնն. 3. յօ ունօ.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 2. -ուարնա, xviii. 38. Pl. 3. -ուարնարօ. Ps. -ուարնար.

Subj. Past. Sg. I. -ուարնանն. 2. -ուարնա. 3. յօ ուեալ, vi. 247 ; -ուարնած. Pl. 3. -ուարնաօար. Ps. -ուարնալ.

Fut. Sg. I. ὄξῃαν; -οἰγῃαν. 3. -οἰογῃα.

Cond. Sg. I. -οἰογῃαιμιν. 3. ὄξῃανσὺ; -οἰογῃανσὺ. Pl. I. ὄξῃαιμαι. 3. ὄξῃανθοαιρ.

Pret. (πο, νίον, etc., not used) Sg. I. ὄξῃον; ὄξῃονηαιρ, xvi. 8; -θεαρῃαρ. 2. ὄξῃον; ὄξῃονηαιρ; ὄξῃονηαιρ. 3. ὄξῃονηαιρ; -θεαρῃα. Pl. I. -θεαρῃαμ. 2. -θεαρῃαθοαιρ. 3. ὄξῃονηαιρσ, ii. 47; -θεαρῃαρσ, vi. 148; -θεαρῃαθοαιρ, xviii. 126. Ps. ὄξῃ(ο)ηαιρσ; ὄξῃονηαιρ; -θεαρῃασ.

Part. Necess. ὄξῃαντα. Verb-noun, ὄξῃανθῃ, ὄξῃαιμῃ (dat. for nom.), v. 46, 49, III.

ΔΟ-ΪΜ, ΟΟ-ΪΜ.

Imper. Pl. I. ραισεαμ, xxii. 2; xxviii. 62.

Ind. Pres. Sg. I. ὄξῃ; -ραϊσμ. 2. ὄξῃ; ὄξῃ; -ραϊσε. Pl. 2. ὄξῃ; -ραϊσῃ. Ps. ὄξῃηαιρ; -ραϊσεαμ, xviii. 145. Subjunctive. Pl. I. ὄξῃηαιρσ, xxii. 22. Condit. Sg. 3. ὄξῃηαιρσ (rel.) ii. 52. Pret. (πο, νίον, etc., not used) Sg. I. ὄξῃηαιρσ; -ραϊσα. 3. ὄξῃηαιρσ; ὄξῃηαιρσ; -ραϊσα. Ps. -ραϊσαρ, vi. 82; x. 20. Verb-noun, ραισῃμ.

ΔΟ-ΪΜΙΜ, ΟΟ-ΪΜΙΜ.

Imper. Pl. 2. εἰμῃσ, xi. 4. Ind. Pres. Sg. I. -εἰμῃμ. 2. -εἰμῃ. Pl. 2. -εἰμῃηαιρ; ὄξῃηαιρσ. 3. -εἰμῃσ. Ps. εἰμῃηαιρσ (rel.); -εἰμῃηαιρσ; -εἰμῃηαιρσ. Subj. Pres. Ps. -εἰμῃηαιρσ, -εἰμῃ. Fut. Ps. εἰμῃηαιρσ. Pret. Sg. I. ὄξῃηαιρσ; ὄξῃηαιρσ. 2. -εἰμῃηαιρσ. 3. ὄξῃηαιρσ(σ); -εἰμῃηαιρσ. Pl. ὄξῃηαιρσμῃ. 2. ὄξῃηαιρσμῃηαιρσ. Ps. ὄξῃηαιρσ; ὄξῃηαιρσ; ὄξῃηαιρσ; -εἰμῃηαιρσ. Verb-noun, εἰμῃ; εἰμῃηαιρσ; εἰμῃηαιρσ.

ΤΕΙΞΙΜ.

Imper. Sg. 2. εἰμῃσ, vi. 262. Ind. Pres. Sg. I. τεἰξῃμ. 3. τεἰξῃ. Pl. 3. τεἰξῃσ, xxviii. 8. τεἰξῃσ, v. 107. Rel. τεἰξῃηαιρσ. Impf. Pl. 3. τεἰξῃηαιρσ. Ps. τεἰξῃηαιρσ, v. 87. Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -τεἰξῃ, ii. 8; xv. 18. Subj. Past. Sg. I. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ. 3. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ. Pl. I. -τεἰξῃηαιρσμῃ. 3. -τεἰξῃηαιρσμῃηαιρσ. Fut. Sg. 3. ραῖσα; -ραῖσα; -ραῖσα. Pl. I. -ραῖσαμ. Rel. ραῖσαρ. Condit. Sg. 3. -ραῖσασ. Pret. Sg. I. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ. 3. ὄξῃηαιρσ (εἰ-, εἰ-). 3. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ; -τεἰξῃηαιρσ; -τεἰξῃηαιρσ, x. 12. Pl. 3. τεἰξῃηαιρσ, xxii. 29. Verb-noun, οἰμ, οἰμ. Part. Nec. οἰμτα.

ΤΙΞΙΜ.

Imper. Sg. 2. τειξῃ, xxii. 2; xxiv. 17; τειξῃηαιρσ, τειξῃ, xxii. 19, 31. 3. τεἰξῃηαιρσ, ii. 37. Pl. 2. τεἰξῃηαιρσ, xvi. 75, 81. Ind. Pres. Sg. 3. τεἰξῃ; -τεἰξῃ. Pl. I. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ. 3. Ps. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ, xxiii. 7; -τεἰξῃηαιρσ, xxii. 4. Imperf. Pl. 3. -τεἰξῃηαιρσ. Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -τεἰξῃ, x. 27; xiv. 17. Subj.

Past. Sg. 3. -τιοραῶ, v 62; xviii. 129. Pl. 3. -τιγοῖρ, xxviii. 21; Fut. Sg. 2. -ταρξαιρ,¹ vii. 9. 3. τιορα; -τιορα; ταρξαιρ,¹ vii. 15. Condit. Sg. 2. -τιορα. 3. -τιοραῶ. Pret. (μο, νιορ, etc., not used). Sg. 3. τάνις; το άνις, viii. 10; -τάνις. Pl. 3. τάνξαιρ; -τάνξαιρ, Ps. τάνξαιρ, v. 35. Verb-noun, τοῖθαετ; τοιξαετ; τεαετ, τεαετα). v. 30; τοετ, xxviii. 7.

ΡΟΙCΙΜ, ΡΙΞΙΜ, etc.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. ριξιμ, vi. 95. 3. ροιέ, xv. 75; xxv. 12; (ρειέ also common). Subj. Pres. Sg. 1. -ρμ, ii. 31; 3. -ρό, vii. 5; xviii. 91; Pl. 3. ροιρρ, ii. 31. Fut. Sg. 3. -ρό (Subj. form), xxiii. 18. Pret. Sg. 3. το ροιέ, xxiii. 12; ράνις; -ράνις; το ρμ, v. 38; -ρμ, vi. 149. Pl. 2. ράνξαιρ.

ΤΥΙΤΙΜ.

Pret. Sg. 3. τυιτ, vi. 216; το τυιτ; το έαιρ, v. 182; vi. 132; αο ροείρ, vi. 136, 172, 213; τορείρ, iv. 65; vi. 218; το ροείρ, vi. 213 (v.l.), 172 (v.l.); -τορείρ, iv. 18; vi. 220. Pl. τορείρ, iv. 10; -τυιτρεαο, xviii. 165.

ΡΕΑΘΑΡ.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. το ρεαοαρ, vi. 123; -ρεαοαρ, vi. 176. 2. -ρεαοαρ (ρρρρ, v.l.), v. 186. 3. -ρεαοαρ, xviii. 91. Pl. 1. εαοαμαρ (rel.), xvi. 104. Subj. Pres. Ps. -ρεαρταρ, ix. 4. Subj. Past. Sg. 1. -ρεαραιμ. Pret. Ps. ρο ρεαρ, ix. 9; αο ρεαρ, xviii. 136; -ρεαρ, xxix. 11.

ΤΑΡΡΑΙΘ.²

Pret. (μο, νιορ, etc., not used) Sg. 1. -τάρραιρ, ix. 28. 2. -τάρρ(ρ)είρ, xii. 8. 3. τάρραιθ, iv. 20, 23; vi. 150; xxiii. 5; -τάρραιθ, iv. 20; vi. 63. Pl. 1. -τάρρεαμαρ, viii. 12m. 2. τάρρειθαρ, τάρρμειθαρ, viii. 12. Ps. τάρρεαρ, v. 83; -τάρραιρ, v. 16.

PREPOSITIONS.

ας. + Poss. Adj. Sg. 2. ςαε. 3. ςά. + Rel. ςά η-, vi. 11; ας ναέ, xvi. 103.

αιρ. [composite of OI. *air'* (dat. acc.) and *for* (acc.)]. Aspirates irregularly. ρορ, vi. 165. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 1. ορ(αιμ). 2. ορ(ε)τ.

¹Protot. form of το-ρμ, an *a*-Subj. used as Fut. of do-tiagu. 3. Sg. is used as theme for S.-Fut., thought by poets to be connected with ταρξαιρ.

²<to-ad-ro-reth or to-ad-air-reth. The Pret. Pass. τάρραιρ, τάρρμ, gave by false analogy a Pret. Act. 1. τάρρεαρ. 2. τάρρείρ. ταιρ, S.-Subj stem forms a new stem whence τάρρεαρ and fut. τάρρρεαο, etc.

3. M. *αρε*; *φαρ*, vi. 120. F. *αρηρε*. Pl. I. *οιρην*, *οιρηε*. 2. *ορατθ*, *οιρηθ*, xxii. 21. 3. *ορηα-ιθε* (?), xi. 3. + Rel. *αρ* *α* *η*-; *αρ* *αρ'*; *αρ* *ηαε*, xviii. 50.

αρ. [*α* *η*- before accented words, *αρ* before proclitics] + Rel. *αρ* *α* *η*-

ο by itself is always written *οο*; *οο* and *οε* are indistinguishable in composition with article, possess. adj., Relative, *οον*; *οομ*, *οοθ*, *οά*, *οια*; *οά* *η*-, *οάρ*. Before *ζαε* and *θαρ* *οο* is written *οα*. *ο* + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. *οαμ*. 2. *οιτ*, *οιρο*, *οειτ*, *οερο*. 3. M. *οό*. F. *οι*, *οι*. Pl. I. *οομ(η)*, *οοη(η)*. 2. *οαοιθ*, *οιθ*. 3. *οάιθ*, *οοιθ*, *οε* + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. *οιομ*. 2. *οιοτ*. 3. M. *οέ*, *οε*; F. *οι*, *οι*. Pl. I. *οιμν*. 2. *οιθ*, 3. *οιοθ*, *οιθ*.

φο (*φα*). *a*. *φο*'=under. *b*. *φά*'=in (about). *c*. *φα* in *φα* *φραε*. + Rel. *φα* *η*-; *φάρ'*.

ζαν aspirates irregularly.

ζο *η*- "with." + Poss. Adj. *ζο* *η*-*α*, ii. 34; ii. 41.

ζο *η*- "to." + Art. Sg. *ζυρ* *αν*, iv. 55. Pl. *ζυρ* *ηα*, xxviii. 19. + Poss. Adj. *ζο* *α*, vi. 239; xviii. 107. N.B. *ζυρ* *ανοιρ*, xvii. 1; xxiii. 9. + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. *εζαμ*. Pl. 2. *εζαιθ*. 3. *εζα*, *εζα*, xi. 10.

1 (*α*) *η*-, (*ι*)*ονη*, *ανη*, especially before *ζαε*, v. 48, 154, and *θαρ*, xvi. 120). + Art. *φαν'*, *φαν* *η*-, *ιρ* *αν* *η*-, *φα* *η*- (often no affection in MSS.), *ιρ*, *αρ* especially before *τιξ* and *τιρ*, cf. iv. 10; v. 102; vi. 73; xiv. 26. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 3. *ανη*; *ινη*, xvi. 63; *αμ(η)**ρέηη*, vi. 4. + Poss. Adj. Sg. I. *ιμ*, *ιμ*. 2. *αο*; *ιο*. 3. 1 *η*-*α*, *ιηα*. + Rel. 1 *η*-; 1(*ο*)*ηαρ'*.

1*αρ* *η*-. + Poss. Adj. Sg. 2. *αρ* *ηαο'*, xvi. 63. 3. *ιαρ* *η*-*α*, vi. 83.

(*ο*)*ιοιρ*, *εαοαρ*, generally aspirates. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 2. *εαοραο* xiv. 69*η*. Pl. I. *εαοραμν*; *εαοραμν*, xiv. 69.

ιμ, *ιμ*. + Poss. Pron. Sg. 3. M. *ιμμε*, i. 10; F. *ιμπε*. + Art *ιμ* *αν* *η*-; *ιμν*, ii. 47. + Rel. *ιμα* *η*-

ιε, *ια* (<OI. *la* and *fri*). + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. *ιιομ*, *ιεαμ*. 2. *ιεατ*, *ιατ*. 3. M. *ιαιρ*, *ιειρ*. F. *ιέ*. Pl. I. *ιιμν*, *ιιομν*, xxx. 23. 2. *ιιθ*. 3. *ιεο*. + Poss. Adj. *ιε* *α*; *ιε* *η*-*α* (?), xvi. 49. + Rel. *ιε* *η*-, iv. 10; *ιέρ'*; *ιειρ* *ηαε*. + Art. *ιειρ* *αν* *η*-.

ο. + Art. *οη*. + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. *οαμ*. 2. *οατ*, *οαρο*. 3. M. *οαο(ε)*, xvi. 89; *οαο(α)*, xxviii. 11, 45. Pl. I. *οαμ(η)*; *οαν*, xxx. 23. 3. *οαα*, *οαιθ*, xviii. 139; *οααιθ*. + Poss. Adj. *ομ*, *οο*, *ο* *α*, *ο* *αρ*. + Rel. *ο* *η*-, *ορ'*.

ορ, *οαρ* aspirates irregularly. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 2. *οαρ**αο*, v. 186; x. 26. 3. M. *οαρ**α*. F. *οαρτε*. Pl. 3. *οαροιθ*, x. 17.

Re *η*- (<OI. *fri* and *la*). + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. *ρ(ι)ομ*. 2. *ρ(ι)οτ*. 3. M. *ρρ*, *ρρεαν*. ii. 4; F. *ρια*, vi. 22; xxiii. 15. Pl. I. *ρ(ι)ιμν*. 2. *ρ(ι)ιθ*. 3. *ρ(ι)ύ*, xxvii. 19. (?) + Poss. Adj. *ρέμ*, *ρέο*, *ρε* *α* (*ρέ* *η*-*α*, xv. 49).

Re(μδ) n-, ρομή, xviii. 122. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 1. ρομήν ; ρεμήν ; ρόμ, vi. 96 ; 2. ρομάτ ; -τ ; ρεμήτ ; -τ ; ρότ, vi. 139 ; 3. M. ρομή, ρεμή, iv. 37 ; vi. 117. F. ρομπε, ρεμπε. Pl. 1. ρομήνν, ρεμήνν, ρόνν(e). 2. ρομάτ, ρεμήτ, ρότ. 3. ρόμπα, ρεαμπα. + Poss. Adj. μδ n-α, vi. 169. + Art. μαρ in n-, vi. 218 ; xvi. 54 ; xv. 34.

Seac. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 3. ρεάα. Pl. 1. ρεάαίνν.

Ταρ aspirates irregularly. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 1. ταρ(u)ν. 2. ταρτ. 3. M. ταιρ, ταιρ. F. ταιρε, xiv. 33. Pl. 3. ταρ(η)ρα, xi. 2 ; xviii. 153 ; xxi. 19. + Art. ταρ an n-. + Rel. ταρ narθ ; ταρ ναό.

Τρέ, τρι'. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 3. τριθ, vii. 6, 15 ; τρενν(e)ιτ, ix. 7. + Poss. Adj. τρέ n-α, xvi. 93. + Rel. τρέ ναό, xvi. 85.

ADVERBIAL AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES.

Vid. Voc. sub. αδα, αθβαρ, αζαθ, αμεοι, αιρ, αιτε, αιτρ, ατ, αμαό, αμυθα, αμυζ, αναι, αοι, βαρρ, βεαλ, βιτιν, βυ, εάρ, εέαθόιρ, εεανν, ειαν, κομήμαρ, κομάιρ, κομήρομ, κονέλανν, κορ, cúρ, cúλ, κορ, οάλ, οεαζαθ, οιαθ, οόιζ, ορουμ, έαζμαρ, εαρθαθ, εμεαό, έιρ, ραιλ, ραρραθ, ρεαότ, ρεαθ, ρεθόμ, ροάιρ, ζεαιλ, ζηάτ, ζηέ, ζηάθ, λάιμ, λάρ, λάταιρ, λεαρ, λεατ, λεαθάθ, λορ, μοθ, μυιτ, νόρ, οιρεαθ, ρεαότ, ριαν, ριαρ, ροαότ, ρζαότ, ρτιαότ, ρου, ρουηραθ, ρύιτ, ταοθ, τοραό, τραότ, τυαιρμ, τυιτεαθ, túρ, υαιρ, υέτ.

CONSTRUCTIONS WITH ABSTRACT NOUNS.

Notice ο'ρεαθαρ έ' εαλαθνα, iii. 1 ; xv. 8 ; οά έρερε, vi. 137, 188 ; xviii. 133 ; xxviii. 58 ; ιρ α υραότ α ταιζριν, xvi. 48 ; αέτ α ζοιρε οο βι, vi. 37 ; τρέ n-α μιονα . . αοειρ, xvi. 93 ; α μέαο vi. 244.

PART V.

BOOKS, POEMS, POETS REFERRED TO.

Vid. sub. αιρθεαν ; αιτεαρ ό λορκαίν ; αοθ αλβαναό ; Αρθό μάα, βρεατ, βροζαν ; βρυζεαν ; Καμιν, καιρτ, Καρεαλ, καναίμ, ceαρτ, Ciarán, Cionnaoic ó hAirtaζáin, Columb, Comθán, Comζαιλ, Κορμαε, Dinnφeanéap, Duθ Oá Ieite, έιρε όζ, φειρειρτε, φινζιν, φίτεαιλ, φιανν McLonáin, ζαβáiλ, ζαβáiλταρ, ζιολα Μοούρα, ζτεανν Oá Loá, ζυιτε, Imρ Caταζ, I. Cloéran, ιμρ, Mac Uiaζ, Μαζ Uaiζean, Μαοιμίρ, Moéυθα, Μορann, Μυερομή, Νέρθε, οθαρ, ρέιμ, ρολλα, τεαέτα, Τεαμάιρ, τοέμαρ, τοζαιλ, Tuaim.

BATTLES REFERRED TO.

Vid. sub. *Arto* Upeacám, Beann Cádair, Biotlann, Calgac, Coim Fopuipoma, Car Slinne, Ceall ua n'Uaisne, Ceall Ornao, Ceann Comao, C. Feabnao, C. Mašair, Cmasob Tolca, Cponna, Opuim Damšaire, Dublinn, Ear Ruao, Éirne, Feapca Nime, Šabar, Šéipill, Šuan Cliać, Loć Upeabail, Lumneac, Maš Adair, M. Upeaš, M. Iota, M. Lašean, M. Léana, Mucponne, Mune Urocán, Oileac, Rać Comar, R. Cmasaena, Šgiać Heačtan, Šiaš ŠCua, Š. Fuaro, Š. nealpa, Sulčoro, Teamair, Tpaš Li.

TREES REFERRED TO.

Bite an Maše, vi. 252; *EO Roppa*, etc., iv. 31.

ἸΟΜΑΡΒΩΑΣ̄ ΝΑ ὈΨΙΛΕΔΩ

THE CONTENTION OF THE BARDS

ΙΟΜΑΡΒΔΞ ΝΑ ΒΡΙΛΕΑΘ.

I.

ΜΟ ΘΑ ΘΑΛΤΑΝ ΝΙΟΡΑΘ ΛΙΨΜ. ΤΟΡΝΑ CCT.

- I. Μο θά θαλτάν νιοραθ λιΨμ¹ · Μιλλ Τεαμπα Κορε Καριλ εΐμν
υα θεογαιν μίορ, α μαε · υα κυνν μαρ κονν θέαθ-έαθαε.
2. Ξαβραθ έιρινν μίορ α μβρίοξ · βα κομκόρμυιλ α ζεκόμζνίομ
ζεΐραθ τεανν Μιλλ νεαρτ νγοιτε² · νιορ ρεαομ Κορε α ιονηροΐζε.
3. Ξέ το έυαρθ ζο ηδΰαμ άιν · Μιλλ μαε θεοέε Μυγζ-μεαθάιν
το ραέαθ Κορε ρεαθα ροιρ · μυνα μβεΐτ Μιλλ ρέ αζαθ.
4. Νι ραα ρεαρ άμαιλ Μιλλ · αζ ιονηραζε εαέτρανν ζο εια
νι ραα ρεαρ άμαιλ Κορε · θαρ λυαρθ άμν τανα ταοθ-νοέτ.
5. Νοέα ηραα θαρ βα ρεαρρ · ι οτιρ το έιμθ έιρεανν
βα ζέιρε ζαιρζεαθ ζονα · ιρ ελεαρραθ α η-απο-βοζα.
6. ΙομΨμν θερθε α θε το νμΨ · νιορραθ υαΐτε απεανναΐξ
Μιλλ ι ζευμ-θεαε κυνν θέαθ ηζαλ · Κορε μαε λυγθεαε
ρλαΐτ Μυμν.
7. Ιρ μέ Τορνα ράρεαρ ροιμν · μο θα θαλτα αν θίρ ράομ
τομ ρέιρ το έιζοιρ ζαε λά · μο θα μαε μο θα θαλτάν.
8. Το β'αοιβιμν θαμ ρο θυι ρεαλ · τοιρ Τεαμπαΐξ ιρ Καιρεαλ
ό Τεαμπαΐξ ζο Καιρεαλ εαμ · ότα Καιρεαλ ζο Τεαμπαΐξ.
9. Ταν το βίνν μαρ αον ιρ Μιλλ · μέ το βίοθ αζ ρναομ να ηζιαλ
ταν το βίνν μαρ αον ιρ Κορε · βα μέ α έομαρτεαε κομ-νορτ.
10. Ιρ υιμε το έυιρυνν Μιλλ · τομ λεΐτ θειρ ρα εαομ αν έιαλ
αρ υαΐτε αν λεΐτε θειρ υιλ · το μαε ρίοξ έιρεανν έαέταΐξ.
11. Ιρ υιμε το έυιρυνν Κορε · τομ λεΐτ έλι νιορ εαομθεαε τοέτ
αρ ροιζρε α έυιρρ τομ έρθε · το θεΐτ Κυρτε να έομνυρε.
12. Υέ ζαν Κορε υα θεογαιν άιν · υέ ζαν Μιλλ υα κυνν έομλάν
υέ ζαν Μιλλ να τίρε τοιρ · υέ ζαν Κορε εεανν-απο Καριλ.
13. Το θυρ μο έομν ιρ μο έιαλ · ό ναε μαρ αν ρι ροι-Μιλλ
το θυρ μο έιαλ ιρ μο έορρ · ό ναε μαρ αν ρι ρο-Κορε.
14. Λεαέ κυνν ρα έιορ ιρ ρα έάιν · ο'έιρ μιε θεοέε Μυγζ-
μεαθάιν,
ο'έιρ μιε λυγθεαε ναρ λυαρθ ζό · το έυαρθ λεαέ Μοζα α
μυθα.

ΜΟ ΘΑ.

¹ Cf. Windisch. Wört. lén. For vocalism, cf. Thurney. I., § 53. ² Cf. "μαε
ί έαομν εεαρθεα ζοιτε," F. όν έάιντε, RIA 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 20. ³ K. II.
372, 382-4.

1. My two pupils they were not idle.¹ Niall of Teamhair, Corc of quiet Caiseal. Great Eoghan's descendant, great was his fortune. Conn's descendant was like Conn the Hundred-fighter.
2. They ruled Eire, great was their vigour. Equal were their deeds. Though they (both) were strong Corc dared not attack Niall the battle-stay.²
3. Though Niall, son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhon went to splendid Alba, Corc would have gone further east had not Niall been against him.³
4. I have seen no man like Niall attacking foreigners afar. Of all who brandished the thin bare sword I have seen none like Corc.
5. In any part of Eire I have not seen a greater pair, keener in valorous deeds of battle and in feats of high-archery.
6. Dear were the two, O God of Heaven. They were not lonely chieftains (?) Niall in the ale-house of Conn of the hundred fights, Corc son of Lughaidh, prince of Mumha.
7. I am Torna who speak the verses. My two pupils are the pair I speak of. Every day they obeyed me, my two sons, my two pupils.
8. Pleasant to me once upon a time were both Teamhair and Caiseal, (going) from Teamhair to fair Caiseal and from Caiseal to Teamhair.
9. At times I used to be with Niall, and it was I who bound his hostages. At times I used to be with Corc and I was his strong counsellor.
10. I used to place Niall on my right hand—it was a gracious plan—so that my own right side should do honour to the son of the valorous King of Eire.
11. I used to place Corc on my left side—he was no surly companion—so that Corc might be at peace owing to his being near my heart.
12. Alas for the loss of Corc great Eoghan's scion! Alas for Niall scion of perfect Conn! Alas for Niall of the East! Alas, for high-headed Corc of Caiseal.
13. My wit and my sense are destroyed since the great Niall the King lives no more. Broken is my sense and my strength since great Corc the King lives not.
14. Conn's Half is under rent and tribute after the death of the son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhon. Mogh's Half is gone to ruin after the death of the son of Lughaidh who never spoke falsehood.

Ὁ ΔΙΛ ΚΑΤΑ ἸΩΗΡ CORE IS ΜΙΑΛΛ. ΤΟΡΝΑ ect.

1. Ὁ ΔΙΛ¹ κατὰ Ἰωήρ Core ἰρ Μιάλλ · ἰ ὕροζυρ νό ἰ η-Ἰωήρ-έιαν
βορδ Ἀ ἔρεατὰν ἀρ ζαέ τράιζ · Μιάλλ μαε Εαέαε Μιυζ-
μεαδῶν.
2. Μιάλλ μαε Θεάε τίς Ἀ ὄτυαῖο · φαίρρινζ τρεατὰν Ἀ ἔρρομ-
ῖλυαίζ
ρϋαίλλ ναέ ργοίττο νεοίλλ νίμε · Ἀ ἔρεοίμ ἀρ Ἀ ὄταιρρῖε.²
3. Νί μεαρά ριαν Ἐαίρἰλ Ἐυίρε · ἰ λειτ ῖε ὀεανὰμ ζαέ υίτε
ῖνε Ἐυίρε μίε Λιγδῶεάε λάν · μο έιον βίορ ζά η-ἰομζαδῶίλ.
4. Ἀ ὄυδαιρτ Core Ἐαίρἰλ έάιν · ζομαδ ἰ Ἀ έυλαέ Τεαμάιρ
'ρ ναέ ρζαρραδ ῖρεαν ῖε λίν · ná ῖε ρίοι Οἰλιόλλα Ὄλυμ.
5. Να κατὰ ὄο έυρ Ἀ-μαέ · Ἀ ὄυδαιρτ Μιάλλ μαε Εαέαε
'ρ ναέ ρζαρραδ ῖρεαν ῖε λά · ζομαδ λειρ Τεαμάιρ λυαέρα.
6. Ὁ ὀ'έυαλα Core ἀν ζυέ ζαρς · ὄο ράδ ὄο Μιάλλ ὀρεαέ-
νυαί-ὄεαρς
τεαζαίρ⁴ Core ὑμ ἔρὰέ νόνα · έειτρε κατὰ κομ-μόρα.
7. Ἀίρῖρδ Ἀζαμ Ἀ μίε · Ἀ Ἐυίρε μίε Λιγδῶεάε λάν-ζλιε
ζο η-αίγίλλιν Μιάλλ ζαν οη · έέρο ἀνν ζαέ ιαέ να ρυαέαρ.
8. Ἀίρῖρ Ἀζαμ Ἀ ῖλυαίζ · ἰρ ὄο ζέαδῶεαι υαμ Ἀ λυαίζ
ζο νδεαέ μ'οιυε ζλαν ζαρτα · ὀ'αζαλλὰμ μο έομδῶλτα.
9. ἰαρ-ῖνν τέίγίμ-ῖε ζο ὄοίνν · βαιλ ἰ ραίβε λεαέ Ἐυίρ έοίρ
ἰρ αίγίλλιν Μιάλλ ἀν ἀίζ · ὄοίτζε ὄαίρρα ná ζαέ ὄάιλ.
10. Φιαρρῖυίζἰρ Μιάλλ να ναοίργιάλλ · ἀν ρίορ ζο ὄουδαιρτ Core έίαρ
Τεαμάιρ ἰορϋαδ⁵ Ἐυίρ έαταίζ · ζο λείζῖνν ἰ ὀ'ἀηϋλαέαδ.
11. Νί έυαλα-ρα ῖνν Ὁ Core · Ἀ ὄυδαιρτ Τορνα ναρ ὄοέτ
Ἀ ὄειρῖο Μυμῖνίζ Ἀ μιυζ · νί ναέ λεαναρ Ἀ λαοέραδ.
12. ὄο ράδῖρεαδ λεαέ Ἐυίρ έεαδῶε · Core Ἐαίρἰλ ὄο βειτ βέαδῶε.
μαρ ἀρ ζηάέ ὄο μάεαομ ὄζ · λάν ὄο βαιορ ἰρ ὄο βαρρ-ζλόρ.
13. Ná βειρῖο Ἀ Νέίλλ Νάραίζ · βέίμ ἀρ μάε Λιγδῶεάε λάν-ζλαιν
μόρἰ ταιρμ Ἀ έίγε ρα νόίμ · ὄεααίρ κομμεαρ Ἀ έομ-όίλ.
14. Νί ηιονανν ὄαμ-ρα Ἀζυρ ὄδ · ὄο ράδ Μιάλλ ναέαρ έαν ζδ
νυαίρ ὄο βίοδ Core ὄρ έίονν έλάιρ · ὄο βίνν-ῖε ὄρ έίονν μο
λεαδῖράμ.
15. ἰρ μείρζε ρα-ὄεαρά ὄδ · Τεαμάιρ Ἐυίρ ὄο λυαδ ἰέ ἰό
'ρ ναέ ρυίγεαδ μῖρ ἀν μεαδ-όίλ · ζαν κατ ὄ έλαιν Ἐίρεαμῖον.
16. Νί έιυδραμν βαίλε ἰ Μυμῖν · ὄο Core ὄο έίμ ὄ λυαδῖο
ζαν έίορ ἀρ ὄο έλαιν Τυαέαίλ · νό ζλεο κατὰ ἰρ κομ-ρϋαέαίρ.

¹Cf. Dineen, sub δάιλ. ²Cf. "ὄο έρροένυιζρεαδ νιύίλ νίμε ῖε ὄειρῖε ἰρ ῖε ὄταιρρῖε." Poem by ῖλανν μαε ἰονάμ, T.C.D., 1281, v. 5. ³n. Castle Island, Co. Kerry. ⁴Cf. τεαζαρ, order, arrangement, "ἀέτ νί ἀρ εαζαί Ἀ ράδ ῖβ · ἰ ὄάν να τεαζαρ έυαίτῖλ." ρ. ὄν έάιντε, RIA 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 17. ⁵ἰορϋαδ < O.I. etsad, treasure, treasury, v. K. Mey. McConglinne's Vis Gloss.

1. As for the battle ¹ between Corc and Niall near or afar, bold on every shore was the fury of Niall, son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhoín.
2. Niall son of Eochaidh comes from the North. Far-flung are the tracks of his heavy host. His heroes almost split the clouds, such is their fury.²
3. Not inferior is the band of Corc of Caiseal in working all ruin. I approve him who avoids the race of Corc son of great Lughaidh.
4. Corc of fair Caiseal said that Teamhair would be his eminence, and that never would it part from him in his life, nor from the race of Oilíoll Olum.
5. Niall son of Eochaidh ordered the ranks to be led out and said that Teamhair should never part from him in his life, and that Teamhair Luachra ³ should be his.
6. When Corc heard the rough words of Niall of the fresh ruddy face he marshalled ⁴ at eventide his four equally great battalions.
7. "Stay, my son Corc son of wily Lughaidh, till I speak with blameless Niall who makes his onset on every land."
8. "Stay, my troops"! (says Corc). "You shall benefit by it, till my noble honourable master go to speak with my fellow-pupil."
9. Then I go to the Boinn where was fair Conn's Half, and I speak to valiant Niall. More grievous was it to me than any meeting.
10. Niall of the nine hostages asked "Is it true that Corc in the West said that I would let usurpers take Teamhair, the steading ⁵ of battling Conn?"
11. "I heard not that from Corc," said Torna gently. "The men of Mumha out there say things which their warriors do not approve."
12. Hundred-fighting Conn's Half said that Corc was insolent, as is the way of a young hero full of foolishness and vain-boasting.
13. "Find not fault, O noble Niall, with the son of glorious Lughaidh. Great is the uproar of his house at even-tide. It is hard to pass judgment on his revel."
14. "He is not as I," said Niall, who never uttered falsehood. "When Corc used to be at table (drinking) I used to be over my book."
15. It is drunkenness that made him in the daytime thus mention Conn's Teamhair, for he would never get the mead-drinking manor from Eireamhon's sons without a fight.
16. I would not leave a townland in Mumha to Corc descendant of Lughaidh, but he must pay rent for it to Tuathal's sons, or else face the din and shock of battle."

17. Dual do Ćorpe a Ćuro v'Ēirunn • a NĒill Ćat-buaōaig ĆĒib-
fĒinn
fuair Ćibeap fĒinn na b'fleat-ōl • leat Ēipeann ō Ēipeamōn.
18. Ait'peac v'Ēibeap a fĒineat • me nĒipeamōn mac Miteat
do tuit ōr vā luat linne • i gcat glōpac ĒĒirille.
19. Do tuit ceit'pe mic Ēibir • la nĒial b'pātō b'fĒinn-fĒinnrō
leit-bliadāim a b'flaitĒeap lōr³ • Ūr Ōrba fĒearĒna fĒarōn.
20. Do tuit Connāol mac Ēibir • fĒeap clāim-b'peatāc nac
cĒillrō
a tuitim ĩr beap' bāgac • le TĒĒeapnĒiāp t'pĒeān-lāimāc.
21. RoinnĒr EoĒan na vōaig fĒin • Ēipe fĒibe a NĒill nemĒniĒ
fuair an v'pĒeagan vōnn⁷ vātāc • ceit'p-leat ō Ćonn cĒeāv-
cātāc.
22. Ait'peac v'ĒoĒan fā v'Ēipeatō • comĒimeap me Conn na nĒemĒeal
ap v'pĒeāt vōib ap Maig LĒana • cĒian b'ur buan a ait'-mĒeala.
23. T'pĒ fĒiēv vār vual fĒiĒe • vō macāib t'pĒiāc vāp v'pĒe
vō tuit i b'pāpāō EoĒain • noĒa pātō fĒir āin-eolāig.
24. FĒice cĒeāv tāmĒe ō a tĒig • fĒpāōc fĒiōĒnapeac mac Ēibir
a b'pāgāil nĒi linne ap loĒt • fā cōpāib con ĩr c'uanorĒ.
25. Do pāō Ēoll ceann na Ēcupāō • vō cōlĒ i gĒeann pĒiōĒ
MuĒān
Ēur bloĒāō leit' c'āimā a cĒinn • Ēur liac an lār vā ĒcĒinn.
26. Nac cumĒniĒe cāt Ēab'ra • a NĒill a vātāim m'anna
vō tuit tĒap ĩr in tādāp • fĒeān-āāip vō fĒeān-āāip.
27. NĒi maō MuĒniĒ vō mārō fĒin • a Ćōpna mōp-vālāig m'p
āc v'uanāōā fĒinn Ēāāip • an fĒir fāll'ra il-b'pĒeāgāig.
28. Ait' Ēipe āĒ cloinn Ćair'pĒe • nĒi fĒuil oĒ'pĒeāt ap āip'v
nĒi mār' fĒeap fĒuāĒā fĒiāōāig • ann'fĒinn vō na fĒeān-fĒiānnāib.
29. Ēagcōip com-māōrĒeāim Ćair'pĒe • vō b'pōĒur vuit a cĒair'v
mōp vō leat-t'pōm Ēān loĒe • p'pāim ōpāim a ap'v-ōrōe.
30. Fūāpāip a fĒeāt n-Ēp'vāil uāim • Ēāc a b'fūāpāip ō Ćorpe
c'p'pāō
leat c'p'vō na Ēp'pĒiōc vō c'pĒeācāp • ap Ćorpe bĒiōp a b'urĒeācāp.
31. NĒi vōnĒĒeān-fā pĒiōc me Ćorpe • nō Ēō p'pā Ćair'pĒeal na Ēenoc
nō Ēō p'p'p'vō uōim vā cĒiāō • b'pāig'vō MuĒān an mōp-
p'liāig.

¹ K II., 96, etc. ² K II. 104. ³ For lōr used attributively, cf. "ĩr
cōip pōp mār' Ēigion fĒin • an v'pāg-ōil lōr vō glācāō" Δp' Ō Ćāōim, RIA
23 G. 21, p. 171, v. 2. ⁴ K II. 116. ⁵ K II. 120. ⁶ K II. 264. ⁷ vōnn used
oĒten of blood. Cf. p'p'p'vōilĒe an v'elĒe vōinn. Δ. Ō vālāig, R.I.A. 23 D.
13, p. 27, v. 8; "Ēācāa a cĒāol-Ēā nā a cĒiĒe vōinn" f. me an v'āp'v, RIA
23 C 23, p. 222, v. 42. It is used oĒten of face, cheeks, etc., perhaps referring
to their high blood colour. A stranger example is "a v'Ēiō-Ēeal vōnn" of
the Blessed Virgin. Δ. Ō vālāig, RIA 23 B. 35. ⁸ K II. 266. ⁹ fĒpāōc
mĒeapāc, son of Ēibeap, King of Spain. Cf. Battle of māĒlĒana, O'Curry.
¹⁰ C.A. 35. ¹¹ K II. 354. ¹² i.e. Ćair'pĒe Upeācāp.

17. "Entitled is Corc to his share of Eire, O fair haired triumphant Niall, Eibhear Fionn of the feasts got half of Eire from Eireamhon." ¹
18. (Niall). "Sorry was Eibhear that he pitted himself against Eireamhon, Mile's son. He fell—since his name has come up—in the wild fight of Geisill." ²
19. There fell, too, Eibhear's four sons at the hands of the prophet Irial the fair hero ; their rule lasted a half year, long enough, ³ Er Orba Feargna Fearon. ⁴
20. Conmaol, Eibhear's son also, an unjust and foolish man fell—it was a great deed of arms—at the hands of strong-armed Tighearnmhas." ⁵
21. "After all that, O fierce Niall, Eoghan shared Eire ⁶ with your folk. The ruddy hued ⁷ champion got an exact half from Conn the Hundred fighter."
22. (Niall). "Sorry, too, was Eoghan for pitting himself against Conn of the fetters when they met on Magh Léana. ⁸ Long shall his regret for it endure.
23. Sixty rightful princes of the sons of the lords of your country fell with Eoghan. This is not the statement of an ignorant man.
24. The fierce Fraoch ⁹ with two thousand who came with him, we deem it no fault that they were left beneath the feet of dogs and hounds.
25. Goll ¹⁰ chief of the heroes struck with his sword the head of the King of Mumha, so that the bones of his head were shattered and the ground gay with his brain.
26. "Do you not remember the battle of Gabhra, ¹¹ O Niall my dear pupil ? There in the fight in the west the grandfather of your grandfather ¹² fell."
27. (Niall). "It was not the men of Mumha who slew him, O Torna, proud and over-hasty in speech, but the hirelings of Fionn of Eadair that false and wily man.
28. Eire now belongs to Cairbre's race—no nobler patrimony exists. There lives not a man here of the old Fian-warriors to rouse the chase.
29. It was not right of you to thus boastfully mention (the death of) Cairbre. It was easy for you to leave him out. But your strong prejudice was ever against me, my high master.
30. You have got from me seven times as much as from hard Corc, namely, half of the spoils of the countries I raided. Yet Corc is thanked by you for them.
31. I will not make peace with Corc till I reach rocky Caiseal, and till there reach me in the North the hostages of great-hosted Mumha."

32. Éirgíir Miall iona nátraiḡ • tógḡair ceann ór na cataib
ir eirgíro a naoi gcaḡa • ar ioncáib a n-aro-flaḡa.
33. ḡluairir cáḡ uainn ré céile • ḡluairir Miall fa móir méine¹
'r níor hanadó linn ḡo loḡra • 'óí bur buan a cómarḡa.
34. Tis Miall ḡo n-a naoi gcaḡaib • ḡo loḡra láin-mín laḡnaró
ir fágḡair fa éiaḡ cúmaḡ • epíoc Éile ir Uir-múman.
35. Rob ionḡa gáḡḡa ḡola • ir ornaḡa fír ḡona
aḡur éirḡam mná bḡoroe • fa lámáib na roḡaroe.
36. Naoi bḡicro céad do céadaib • fa móir an t-aḡbar éaḡnaḡ
peolmaḡ uí Cúinn na ḡcupaḡ • do buaib Éile ir Uir-múman
37. A tḡbairc ḡruan na mbreac raor • maoró mire ar Córe
maoró mo ḡaol
tḡeaḡ féin nó cuirḡaḡ cat • ir in maorin-re a máraḡ.
38. Iarrin tḡigim-re do leanmáin • Cuirc míc Luḡḡeaḡ láin-
meannmaḡ
aḡur rluaiḡ mearaḡ Múman • ó leat Cúinn na ḡcaom-cupaḡ
39. Ruḡar i mbearnaḡ Éile • ar Córe gá ní ba péirde
aḡur ar cataib Cluḡna • i tḡimcḡall a tḡḡearna.
40. Tuḡar pala tpe fḡirḡ móir • do Córe Cairil líon a flóḡḡ
ḡan amúin re haḡearḡ Néill • ó do luaró Teamaḡ tḡaib-
péro.
41. Tura do cóirḡ ar gcaḡa • ḡan ḡleo re móir-fluaḡ Maḡa
do faoil rínn ḡur baḡ ríḡaḡ • re Miall ḡo n-a éaom-
ríḡaḡ.
42. Níor éar Miall tḡine fa ḡleo • ní mó éarpar ḡéin bur beo
i n-ór noḡa nḡuil a rḡéir • níor ob cat ar dá cóibéir.
43. Do máoró cat ḡéirille ḡéar • nar tuit Éibeair anba an
rḡan
do máoró fóir Conmaol na ḡreac • do máoró tḡéan-ḡoḡan
taróleaḡ.
44. Do máoró mire cat ḡaḡra • 'r do b'atḡreac leam a laḡra
ar leatáḡ⁸ 'ḡam ní 'ḡeaḡaró • maoróeam Caireḡre Ureacáir.
45. Níor lámair ar na máraḡ • féacáin uain ar Miall náraḡ
maḡ do cúimniḡ ceann ḡaoróeaḡ • mac Coḡmaic do cóim-
maoróeam.
46. A tḡbairc muḡra ḡruan binn • mac Moirḡfinne an earla
fínn
muḡ Néill nó a fḡeaḡra um éat • ir an maorin-re a máraḡ.
47. Ro éirḡ ar-o-rí áine • aḡur móir-fluaḡ na Máirḡe
'r níor b'í an cómarḡle cúmaḡ • do rónraḡ mun uraḡall.

¹ A common construction instead of more usual . . . mian. ² K I. 154.

³ K II. 370.

⁴ Devil's Bit, Co. Tipp.

⁵ Glandore, Co. Cork, for Mumha.

⁶ K I. 118, 176.

⁷ K II. 266.

⁸ (?) Cf. "do éuaró ré ar reacrán oim."

⁹ Aireḡre.

¹⁰ Knockany, Co. Lim.

¹¹ R. Maigue, Co. Lim.

32. Niall arose as a serpent, he raised his head over the battalions. His nine battalions arise with their high chief.
33. All of us set out together, Niall in high spirit ¹ set out, and we rested not till we came to Lothra, ² which will long have the trace thereof.
34. Niall with his nine battalions comes to smooth Lothra Lacnaidh and leaves beneath the darkness of woe the land of Eile and Ur-Mhumha.
35. Many were the wails of grief and the groans of the wounded and the lament of the captive woman beneath the hands of the host.
36. Nine score hundreds—a mighty cause of resentment—of the cattle of Eile and Ur-mhumha was the meat-spoil of Ua Cuinn of the heroes.
37. Brian ³ of the free judgments spoke “Proclaim me and my kinsfolk against Corc. Let him come himself or send a battalion to-morrow morning.”
38. Then I go to seek Corc, son of spirited Lughaidh and the active hosts of Munha, leaving Conn’s Half of the fair heroes.
39. At Bearnan Eile ⁴ I overtook Corc—what king was readier?—and the hosts of Clíodhna ⁵ around their lord.
40. In great anger I reproached Corc of Caiseal, with all his host, for not waiting to speak with Niall after talking of smooth-sided Teamhair as his.
41. “It was you who warned our hosts not to quarrel with the great host of Macha. ⁶ We therefore thought that you would be peaceful towards Niall and his noble chiefs.
42. Niall never refused a fight, nor will he as long as he lives. He cares not for gold, nor did he ever decline a fight with twice his numbers.
43. He boasted of the fierce fight of Geisill where Eibhear—terrible the calamity—fell. He boasted of the deaths of plundering Conmhaol and of brave splendid Eoghan. ⁷
44. I boasted (against him) of the battle of Gabhra—I was sorry for mentioning it. I failed not (?) ⁸ to mention the death of Cairbre Lifeachair.
45. On the morrow I dared not look on noble Niall. Well did the chief of the Gaidheal bear in mind my mention of Cormac’s son. ⁹
46. Sweet-voiced Brian, son of fair-haired Mongfhinn, sent word to thee to do Niall’s bidding or else to answer him about a battle to-morrow morning.”
47. The high King of Aine ¹⁰ and the great host of the Maigh ¹¹ arose. Not small-minded was the course they chose in regard to the message.

48. 'S í comhairle do cinneadh · 'r ip í rogha do rinneadh
 Coirc do toirgeadh go teadh Néill · 'r a beic uile dá óig-réir.
49. Cúis céad do marc-fluag meadh · táinig Coirc fa mór
 meanma
 re sialllaib zér dáil deacair · tug ua Eoghain fíorfeadais.
50. Uéar do sialllaib slana · fásdair as ua Cuinn Caba
 mar don ip Cairbre mac Cuirc · as siall Qitig an fionn-fuit.
51. Cúis céad ead cúis céad luiread · tug siall do Coirc mac
 Luighead
 asur naoi bhicéir faíl óir · asur caoga corin com-óil.
52. Sibé éiread meadhair Néill · asur Cuirc Cairil dá réir
 mairin a marc-fluag bheir 'r a mban · ní éirfeadh readh ran
 radosal.
53. Truag mo dála-ra fa deois · teard mo eada cineoil
 cumá Néill ip Cuirc dom éirid · ní fásaim as ná éadail.
54. Dál beir an domain fa deois · go mullaic fléibe síoin
 do tabairt deirt do Óríort éad · beirar mire fa mór-dáil.

DÁIL.

¹ K II. 266.² *vid.* Onomast. Cobha.³ N. Derry.

48. The course they chose, the choice they made was that Corc should yield to Niall and be completely submissive to him.
49. With five hundred active riders Corc of high spirit came. The scion of Eoghan Fídhfeacach¹ came with hostages—though it was a hard thing to do.
50. Eight fair hostages he left with the scion of Conn of Cabha² and Cairbre too, his son, he left with fair-haired Niall of Oileach.³
51. Five hundred steeds, five hundred cuirasses, Niall gave to Corc, son of Lughaidh, and nine score of golden rings and fifty drinking horns.
52. Whoever would have seen the joy of Niall and of Corc of Caiseal then, the joy of their squadrons of men, and of their women would have set no esteem⁴ on the world.
53. Alas, for my fate after all! gone are my kindred races. Grief for Niall and Corc has tortured me. I can find no luck or fortune.
54. To the great gathering of all men on the summit of Mount Sion⁵ to render justice to noble Christ, shall I too be brought.

⁴ Cf. "θά μερτασι ἀστατόβρε ἀπ'τοραῖς ἢ τοῦ ἀρ'παν ὑπ'μαρῖν: τὸν εἶπε φεαρ τὸν βρόιν βαν . ní baó cóir' fead' pan' feogal." T. McÓáine RIA 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 28. Probably=φραῖς, strength, pith (cf. Vis. M'Cong.) cf. use of βράῖς. ⁵ Síón dissyllable.

OIC DO TASHRAIS A TORNA. TADŪS MAC DÁIRE cct.

1. Oic do tashrair a Torna · zé beir d'feadur t'ealaodna
tar ceann leite Moza a-muis · ne Mall corzrae a Cruadain.
2. do tōzbaír 'r níor éiall cumneac · iomarbáiz a huēt
Mumneac
azur do léizir í orc · ar báir ne cafa Connact.
3. Ní don Mumain do maicne · níor ólizir caomna a zcairte
ón leir a tucaró táime rib · do flioct Ír móir mic Íliró.
4. Do báir ne móir-fluaz Mača · azur fearz na ro-flata
do raó tura a Torna tim · ir Mall az d'eanam tóicil.
5. Duan a maiz do Core Cláire · ir do móir-fluaz na
Máize
nac file d'fuit Éibir fínn · tarla ro éuro-pe don cóinntinn.
6. A dubrair níor maiz né ráó · az tashra duit ne Mall
nár
fuar Éibear fionn na b'leat-ól · leat Éireann ó Éireamón.
7. Éibear ir é pa rime · don éloinn oirdeire oirtonde
ceann na loinsre ar nool do Donn · ní ó fóirpar fuair
fearann.
8. Leir do tuit mac Cuill éalma · az cornam epice Danba
Ri Éireann dob ainm don fear · az teact do maicne Mileat.
9. Ir uairde ainmniztear Éire · i Laidin zo lán-tréme
ní hainm nac oirdeare don fíor · Nibeirna a hainm ó Éibear.
10. Níor maoidir éact na azaró · ar Mall an uair do labair
tuitim Éibir na éact móir · i n'zéirill ne héireamón.
11. Créat nar éuirir i zcumne · tuitim laizne ir Luizne
clann Éireamóin mearóa mír · ne macaib uairte Éibir.
- 11a. Mac mic d'Éireamón fearóa · Eirjal pa haro-flait
Teamra
níor maoidir a tuitim rin · le lán Connasail mic Éibir.
12. Dá mbeiteá i zcomērom do Core · ní beitea a Torna ro
toct
'n uair do zoir Mall ní nar óliz · anflait Teamra d'fuit
Éibir.
13. Níor b' anflata i oTeamraiz tinn · niozraó fleacta Éibir
fínn
act fíor-flata zo b'raóain · do dūctar 'r do dēiz-mazail.
14. Cúizear mac le héibear féin · ro zab neart ar Teamraiz
trem
átaró tar éir a n-actar · níor léizirio i a puróacáó.

¹ CA. 274. ² K II. 108. ³ II. 41. ⁴ II. 47. ⁵ II. 17. ⁶ K II. 86,
xxix. ⁷ K II. 95. ⁸ K I. 98, 102. ⁹ II. 18. ¹⁰ K II. 116. ¹¹ K II.
118. ¹² II. 10. ¹³ K II. 116-120.

1. Poor—spite of your good learning, O Torna!—was your argument in behalf of Leath Mogha yonder against victorious Niall from Cruachain.¹
2. You undertook—it was not a happy idea—to contend for the men of Mumha, and you merely pretended to do so in your love of the hosts of the Connachta. (K).
3. Not of Mumha is your race, you had no right to defend her charter. From the North have you come from the stock of great Ir, son of Mile.²
4. Your love of the great host of Macha and the anger of its high prince made you, Torna, timid when Niall was vigorous.
5. Long shall be the sorrow on Corc of Claire³ and on the hosts of the Maigh⁴ that it was not a poet of the race of fair Eibhear that had your part in the contention.
6. You said⁵—it was not right to say it—when arguing with noble Niall “Eibhear Fionn of the drinking feasts got half of Eire from Eireamhon.”
7. It is Eibhear who was the eldest of the illustrious consecrated race. He, the head of the fleet when Donn had died,⁶ did not get the land from a younger brother.
8. By Eibhear fell brave Mac Cuill defending the land of Banba, who was called King of Eire when Mile’s race arrived.⁷
9. From him is Eire⁸ named in Latin very properly. It is an illustrious name for the hero, “Hibernia,” her name from Eibhear.
10. You did not mention any evil deed in answer to Niall when he spoke⁹ of the death of Eibhear—a great crime—at Geisill by the hands of Eireamhon.
11. Why did you not remind him of the deaths of Laighne and Luighne,¹⁰ the children of active vigorous Eireamhon, at the hands of Eibhear’s noble sons.
- 11a. A grandson of brave Eireamhon, Eitrial was high prince of Teamhair. You did not mention his death at the hand of Conmhaol, son of Eibhear.¹¹
12. Had you been fair to Corc,¹² O Torna! you would not have been silent when Niall wrongfully styled Eibhear’s race the usurpers of Teamhair.
13. Not usurpers in strong Teamhair were the princes of the stock of Eibhear Fionn, but true princes—there is witness thereto—by good right and law.
14. Five of Eibhear’s sons¹³ held sway in strong Teamhair some time after their father. They did not let it pass from their prescriptive right to it (?).

15. Seacét zceatpar ó duine díob · uo fáir ne zCoric comráo
ríor
ór cionn Teampáic na zcupaó · nar féao Maill uo b'réaznuzáó.
16. Rí uon fúirinn mearpáa móir · uo éuir ar túr flabpa óir
fa b'ráiztib míz-éar péim reang · nar onóir ó'uarlib
éireann.
17. Rí eile uon féin airoimz · tuz tuarparóal ó'aoz zairzró
uo éornam épíce na b'fionn · ar túr i n-Inir éirionn.
18. Rí oile díob na óiaiz rin · uo ééao-éuir le meanmam nír
pailze óir um zlacaité rear · uo flózaib zlaná zaoiréal.
- 18a. Neac díob 'r ní haoinneac pómpa · uo rinne ó'fionn a
mbionnta
rzéit airoir ip cian ro-élor · 'r uo b'fionn iao a ndairzeaoir.
19. Seanéur filrdeacé comzgne · ir míz ó'uarlib na foirne
áiriméar dá riolaó rin · i néirinn ó'éir Am-irzin.
20. Neac uon ríozparó úir airozéz · uo ééao-éuir roza i zcarrtib
ó'ioméar deaz-flaitéao b'ear fáil · i zcric éireann nar
anáir.
- 20a. I b'flaitéar duine uon oruinz · ní rzríobéar a zéacé tar
zúinn
neart eacéarann ar Inir mbreaz · 'r tuzparó deabta dá
óíoean.
- 20b. Ili rzríobéar orpa rionzáal · an ríozparó éacéacé fionn-zlan
claoim-b'neacá ná ciorrúao cuil · réacáo cáé cia ar a
rzríobéair.
21. Dá péir rin a Torna tréim · níor éiróce dúit ne zlor Néill
anflata uo páó páó mear · ne ríor-óizrib mac Mileao.
22. A duóruir níor éeart an zlor · az zéacé dúit tar éozan móir
ruair an b'reazan uonn dáac · ceirt-leac ó Conn éeacéacéacé.
23. Trí éuiró curo uo éuirzéao · níorb é ceirt-leac éuir zcuirzéao
'r é ar éean éozan uo Conn · nar ar follur a tóparann.
24. Ó áé Cliaé Meab'raize éiar · zo Duiblinn Upe az áé Cliaé
áéa éirzir Riada ar paó · uo ríonn Conn ne Moz Nuaoao.
25. Níor máoíte tuicim éozain · ne Conn an aignró eolais
zéacé i n-árim zairzró dá zúin · 'r é na luize ar a leabaró.
26. Níor máoíte tú rí éireann péin · art mac Cuinn an árim
aiz-éir
uo tuicim pé mac i zcaé · zér maiz é-eolur níor réarriacé.

¹ Conmhaol. ² Muineamhon, K II. 130. ³ Seaoia, K II. 140. ⁴ Ailldeargoid, K II. 130. ⁵ Eanna, K II. 128. ⁶ Cf. XVI. 47. ⁷ Rotheachtaidh Rotha C.A. 13. ⁸ II. 10. ⁹ II. 21. ¹⁰ *i.e.*, the two Mumhas, Leinster, and part of Connaught. Cf. K. I. 106. Tadhg's comparison is based on provinces as units, not on extent of territory. ¹¹ Clarinbridge, Co. Galway. K I. 106. ¹² II. 22. ¹³ Eriu, III. 149, VI., 144, 150. ¹⁴ Luzaio laza at mucpóime, K. II. 280.

15. Twenty-eight descendants of one ¹ of them flourished before Corc—an accurate statement—over Teamhair of the heroes. Niall could not have gainsaid it.
16. A king ² of the great active band was the first to put golden chains around the necks of gentle graceful princes, as an honour to the nobles of Eire.
17. Another king ³ was the first in Eire to give pay to the warriors of the wandering Fian for the defence of the land of the Fair Ones.
18. Another king ⁴ of them afterwards was the first with quick inventiveness to put golden rings on the hands of men of the fair races of the Gaoidheal.
- 18a. One of them, ⁵ and no one before them, made silver shields—it is an old story—so as to make presents of them, and bestowed them at Airgeadros.
19. It is kings of the nobles of that race that are told of as spreading history poetry synchronism, ⁶ in Eire after Aimhirgin.
20. One ⁷ of that bright inventive line of kings first put wheels to chariots for carrying in honour in Eire the goodly chiefs of the men of Fal.
- 20a. In the reign of any of that number there is no account of a force of foreigners coming over sea to Inis Breagh, and they fought battles to defend her.
- 20b. About the doughty fair noble kings there is no record of murder, or crooked judgments or violation of relationship. All see of whom these things are told.
21. Therefore, O gentle Torna, you should not have listened to Niall applying the word “usurpers” ⁸—rashly to the true heirs of the race of Mile.
22. When you spoke of great Eoghan ⁹ you said—incorrectly—“the brown ruddy champion got an exact half from Conn the hundred-fighter.”
23. Three fifths and a part of a fifth ¹⁰ was not an exact half of five fifths. That is what Eoghan took from Conn, as its boundary is clear.
24. From Ath Cliath Meadhraighe ¹¹ in the West to Dubh Linn at Ath Cliath runs Eiscir Riada all the way. Conn divided (thus) with Mogh Nuadhat.
25. It was not right to boast of the killing of Eoghan by Conn ¹² of the wily mind, his coming fully armed to kill him when he was lying on his bed.
26. You mentioned not the King of Eire himself, Art, ¹³ sharp-bladed Conn’s son, whom Eoghan’s son slew in battle. ¹⁴ For all your knowledge you were not sturdy (against Niall).

27. Νίον μάοιρό τύ ι οτράε α μάοιτόμ • Cyp Cormaic mic Airc
 Δοim-φip
 ο'φιαέα πο ζαβαιλ κοipe • ιαρ ματόm Όρομα Όαμζαipe.
28. Όο φυλινζip α ράό το Μαιι • παρ Όριρ εαé ζαβρα αέτ αν φian
 ζέp μαίε αν φian ip in ζεαé • το b'έ Μοζ Κοpυ α ζσοόναé.
29. Μόρε μο έpom α Όοpna • οpε παé ο'εαpβαίό εαλαόna
 το έυαίό όίοé α ποεαάρο έαpε • αέτ παé οεαpναip ούinn
 ούέpαέτ.
30. Νί αρ μάιτε pe Κοpε πέm • αέτ ο'αpουζαό anma Νέιιι
 το λαθpαιρ αρ λαθαip pib • αζ ταζna το έοpε έαιpιι.
31. Φίλε αζ ζαé Όpυινζ οά οτpειó πέm • αζ κοmέαó pεανέαιρ οά
 Όpπέm
 μαp έυιζim ανοip αρ έοpε • το πέp m'αιéne 'p mó αρ pεαιόε.

ΟΙC.

27. You mentioned not, when you should have done so, the putting of Cormac, son ¹ of Art Aoinfhear by Fiachaidh under the hook of the cauldron after the battle of Druim Damhghaire.²
28. You allowed Niall to say ³ that it was the Fian that won the battle. Though the Fian were brave in the fight, Mogh Corb was their commander.
29. I blame you Torna all the more as it was not through want of knowledge that you omitted what you omitted, but that you did not do your best for us.
30. Not to defend Corc but to extol the fame of Niall you spoke as you did when pleading for Corc of Caiseal.
31. That each tribe should have a part of its own stock to defend the lore of its race—as I see now in the case of Corc—is what is best in my opinion.

¹ Duanaire Fhinn, II. 4, 48.² K. II. 318.³ II. 27.

Δ ΤΑΙΟΥΣ ΝΑ ΤΑΤΑΟΙΡ ΤΟΡΝΑ. ΛΥΣΑΙΩ Ο ΟΙΕΙΡΙΣ *cet.*

1. Δ ΤΑΟΥΣ ΝΑ ΤΑΤΑΟΙΡ ΤΟΡΝΑ · 'ρ ζαν é í n-alc buv n-agallma
pe a mac pamla ip maipz vo meap · zo noiongnat elacon ap
caipceap.
2. Τυζ τ'αιρε ναε bpeit le báro · το ταζνα πέιν ap liall náip
ro pile vo píol Saóba · an Mumá ip í τ'αεapóα.
3. Νí maip úioð ip τ'á maπαó · éin-פעap úioζalta palao
éaznac fleacta Cuinn na ζcpeac · vo buó lám í neao
naicpeac.
4. Νí tuillioð úiomóa ón ταοιð teap · píol ζCuinn ó nae tig
nap vteap
φα éumne a ζcompañ nó a ζcaé · az copnam teallaz
Teamnac.
5. Clann ζolam na ngleo neam-ταιρ · ní éumzam ceit a
peancap
a ζcaéa a ζcozta po élop · léizpeao úiom nap vo ζeallar.
6. Éipeap Donn an τapa פעap · ip Éipeamón lufe vpeaz
τ'á éeann na loingpe az teact úioð · vo úioζait lte ón
Eappáin.
7. Clann éan-máεap Éipeap Pionn · ip Éipeamón óp éin pinn
'r é óp ceann Éiðip ζro eao · ip Éipeamón 'na póipeap.
8. Iap mbáεao Duinn na vcionól · ζépú'é an pórap Éipeamón
bpeit Amipzín an ζlúin ζil · a beit a n-áit an trinnrip.
9. Τ'á bitin pin péaca πέιν · ap ζlóp Τόρνα an beanta béim
a páo zo vpuap Éipeap Pionn · ó Éipeamón leat Éipeann.
10. Clann Éeapmava 'na vcpí píz · pe nuet mac Míteao ip típ
ro cumneac cia le vtuζao · í ζcaé Tailitean topépaop.
11. Το μαρú Éipeamón פעap úioð · mac Céact vo b' pópaim
vov píz
ó vo máoio τupa an tpeap פעap · vo tuicim úioð pe nÉipeap.
12. Iap pin vov Éipeap éið-pionn · bliáoain na leit-píz Éipionn
már lóp leatpa map leat úó · ó úóinn éoip zo tuinn Cluoða.
13. Iρ áinn tap napú oipéap teact · ro léizíonn τ'á leantaoi
ceapc
Hibeppia ó Éipeap Pionn · 'r nae paibe na píz Éipionn.
14. Léizitú úúinne vo vaimniz · Hibeppur áinn an ζeimipró
'r ζupab v'fuaet Innpe Vanba · ppit aóðap an póp-anma.
15. Δτάρο linn 'nap leaðpaib πέιν · ní vulta úúinn tap a
ζcéitl
τ'á aóðap oite vo bean · áinn Hibeppia¹⁰ v'Éipeap.

¹ III. 1, 2, etc. ²D. of Conn Ceadchathach and wife of Oilill Olum. ³Mile.
⁴K. II. 86, etc. ⁵Ir. Nennius. Todd, 56. ⁶K. II. 94. ⁷III. 8.
⁸K. I. 108, Glandore, Co. Cork. ⁹III. 9. ¹⁰Four syllables.

[Answer to III.]

1. O Tadhg, censure not Torna ¹ as he cannot answer you. Sad that one should think of a man like him that for friendship he would pervert truth.
2. Take care lest your plea for noble Niall may be biassed. You are of Sadhbh's ² race. Mumha is your fatherland.
3. There lives not one of them to avenge the insult ; if there did, to insult the race of plundering Conn would be to put one's hand in a serpent's nest.
4. I shall not deserve the displeasure of the south,—since in our contention there is no occasion of speaking of Conn's race,—by talking of their victories and battles in defence of the household of Teamhair.
5. I cannot however be silent as to the history of the race of Golamh ³ of the fierce fights. Their battles and wars are known, and I shall pass over them as I promised.
6. Eibhear Donn was one and Eireamhon of Inis Breagh the other of the two leaders of the fleet when they come from Spain to avenge Ith.⁴
7. Sons of one mother were Eibhear Fionn and Eireamhon from whom we sprang. Yet Eireamhon was over Eibhear though Eireamhon was the younger.
8. After the drowning of Donn* of the gatherings it was the judgment of white-kneed Aimhirgin ⁵ that though Eireamhon was the younger he should be in the place of the elder.
9. Therefore you can see whether Torna should be reviled for saying that Eibhear Fionn got the half of Eire from Eireamhon.
10. The sons of Cearmada the three kings opposed Mile's sons in the land. They were slain at the battle of Tailte ⁶—you remember who fought it.
11. Eireamhon killed one of them—Mac Ceacht was the king's name,—as you have mentioned ⁷ one of the three being killed by Eibhear.
12. Then fairhaired Eibhear for a year was half-king of Eire, that is if you think it a full half, the country from the Boyne in the East to Clidhna's wave.⁸
13. It is a name which you have no right to mention,⁹ if you mean to follow truth in your learning, namely "Hibernia" as derived from Eibhear Fionn seeing he was not king of Eire.
14. A scholar has assured us that Hibernus means winter and that it is from the cold of Inis Banba that the name was derived.
15. We have in our own books—and we should not gainsay them—two other reasons which prevent Hibernia ¹⁰ from being derived from Eibhear.

16. Δύβαν δά ζαιμμ τ' lnuir fáil . rruēt liben atá ran Spáin
mar tairta me tceact an-oir . mar tūctar as Cloinn
ζοτανι.
17. Nó oiléan i ttoirneann zruan . t' lberma ir ead ar éiall
focal zréasac tiz ir teas . i nhabaltar mac Milead.
18. Δρ áirniur oruib t' éactaib . to síol Éireamóin éactaiz
'na n-azair t' otoreair linn . adbar diomda dá n-áirniinn.
19. To maoroir maic ré a déimā . roair Danba ó fuil Éibir
ní hé a fámail maorórear mé . to síol Éireamóin uirre.
20. Mó ar maoróte ar iat mDanba . roair dá tóarrat
tarba
a haibne a loca ma le . a mur-bruēt mara a maize.
21. Áiream dá fiéto a lion . mo mūr t' Éireamóin 'r dá síol
t' aibuib fóota ir fiéto loé . zo tóaimic an Conn caac.
22. Ir aca i nÉirinn ar tór . to bearrad ór pa nuar nó⁵
ir ní to maicne an mairir . tuz iol-dáca ar éadaižib.
23. Tmóca maz tuzrat a coil . cumaim oile ar lnuir fionn
zémaó é an mur-bruēt mara . tárrat an tOl-múcaða.
24. Δρ síol nÉibir ní fágam . zur mūr loé zur lins abainn
ar a real t' lnuir Danba . tar leat níor b'i a n-áarða.
25. Act react muiže a-máin to bean . Eoair mac Connair na
zenead
na foirne ar a bfuil to teann⁹ . níor beanrao t' fíotuib
Éireann.
26. Dámaó to síol Éibir tóib . tmuir ar a noližrde tóiz
mearam zo maoróirde lat . Conn Conaire azur Cormac.
27. Soair Conaire calma . ir oirdeare iat ran mDanba
eró tóinn téanam a bpeara . atáto as dor aindpeara.
28. Cormac breiteam na mbreac bfiór . é mo tpaet teasarz na
ríoz
ní fážtar uždar ar fearr . as tližtib dorra Éireann.
29. To Conn ní mpre a maoróeam . a cumaim ar zoit nžaoirdeal
cóiz ppióm-póto zo tiz Teamra . rriēt i n-oirde a žeimeamna.
30. San oirde céatona mo elor . léim bóinne i bpažtaoi an
t-iomur¹²
ir léim Comair na ttrí rruēt . ir dá loé um loé ncaac.

¹ K. I. 102. ² K. I. 102. ³ K. II. 106, etc., 126, etc. ⁴ K. II. 122.

⁵ Cf. molaó tuitre bur nua nóir . a žnúir to éilz mairnead nóir. A common phrase zo nua(róe) (a)no(i)r (cf. zo nua amiož, t. McOaire, RIA 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 19) is often confused with this in MSS. cf. Voc. anoir.

⁶ K. II. 116, 118, 128. ⁷ K. II. 128. ⁸ K. II. 124. ⁹ Cf. "a žcmaró ní cóir teann," anl. McDoúasáin, RIA 23 D 16, p. 185, v. 7. ¹⁰ K. II. 304.

¹¹ cf. 4 M.; Airne Fingein, Anecdota II.; Magh Léana, O'Curry, p. 96, etc.

¹² i.e., cná iomuir, nuts of knowledge. Cf. Dinds.; Metr. Dind.; Laws.

Gloss. ¹³ Waterford Harbour.

16. One reason for Inis Fail being so called is the river Hiber¹ in Spain, as, before they came from the east, it was the home of Golamh's children.
17. Or else the meaning of Hibernia is the island where the sun goes down,² a Greek word which suits the land taken by Mile's sons (?).
18. As for the deeds of violence you have told of the race of fierce Eireamhon, it would only cause anger were I to mention all those who fell at our hands.
19. You boasted rightly of the benefits conferred on Banba by Eibhear's race. Very different are those conferred by Eireamhon's race which I shall boast of.
20. One has more reason to boast of those benefits conferred on Banba's land from which she got profit, her rivers, her lakes too, her sea-floods her plains.
21. Twenty-two of the rivers of Fodla³ and twenty lakes burst forth for Eireamhon and his seed before the coming of battling Conn.
22. By them first in Eire⁴ was gold smelted—it was a new thing⁵—and a king⁵ of the descendants of that stock invented colours for clothes.
23. Thirty plains⁶ they cleared of wood—another benefit for Inis Floinn. Even the irruption Olmhuchadha got it.⁷
24. I do not find that for Eibhear's seed there burst forth lakes or that rivers leaped forth during their period over Inis Banba. One would imagine it was not their fatherland!
25. Except for seven plains⁸ which Eochaidh son of Connhaol of the scars cleared, the race of which you are so proud⁹ cleared no plains of the woods of Eire.
26. If Conn Conaire Cormac, the three of whom one might confidently boast, had been of Eibhear's seed I think they would have been mentioned by you!
27. Splendid are the benefits of brave Conaire over Banba. Why need I tell of them? Even ignorant folk know them.
28. Cormac judge of the true judgments expounded the Instruction of Kings.¹⁰ No greater authority is found in the ancient laws of Eire.
29. Well may one boast of Conn's benefits to the land of the Gaoidheal. Five chief roads¹¹ to the house of Teamhair were discovered the night of his birth.
30. That same night there was heard the springing forth of the Boinn¹¹ in which the iomus¹² was got, of the Cumair-na-dtri-sruth¹³ and of two other lakes besides¹¹ Loch nEachach.

31. Cpaob̄ Dax̄i ip̄ cpaob̄ Muz̄na • eo-épuinn zo zcnuapac̄ cúm̄pa
bile Top̄tan eo Ropa • p̄it̄ ran oíde céatna-pa.
32. Fár a bilead̄ buain a p̄iob̄ • tom̄arom̄ a loé léam̄ a p̄riob̄
ar̄ épié f̄oúla z̄á p̄earp̄ cairc • do p̄iol éipeam̄óin op̄oairc.
33. Dean éipeam̄óin iúl cum̄neac̄ • Téa² p̄ial ingean Luiz̄deac̄
do t̄óḡaib̄ Team̄air d̄á p̄lioc̄t • zo b̄puil aca na noiz̄peac̄t.
34. Tiomna lūgoime d̄á p̄iol • cairc oile ar̄ éip̄inn na p̄ioḡ
tar̄ fuil éib̄ir an m̄ioḡ-óil • at̄á aḡ aicme éipeam̄óin.
35. Zeallaro d̄ó uile i n̄éipe • pa nátaib̄ éap̄za ip̄ z̄p̄ime
pealb̄ na Ban̄ba t̄pe bié p̄ior • d̄á p̄lioc̄t zan fuac̄ zan éip̄rioc̄t.
36. Rannaro a élan̄n nap̄ m̄iur̄⁵ móio • ip̄e i zcúis pannaib̄ pa cóis
t̄p̄i céao bliad̄an do b̄uī an p̄ainn • zan eac̄ do teac̄t tar̄
tórainn.
37. Iar mb̄ripead̄ d̄á caoz̄ao cat̄ • Tuac̄al Teac̄tmar̄ t̄p̄iac̄ zo p̄ac̄
fuair̄ pé na náta p̄oime • ó eac̄ mar̄ fuair̄ lūgoime.
38. P̄uirc oipeac̄air Ip̄re f̄áil • leo céana ac̄t Cairéal am̄áin
o'fuil éipeam̄óin do d̄eap̄b̄ rin • pealb̄ éipeann tar̄ fuil
n̄éib̄ir.
39. Oileac̄ na p̄ioḡ náé Cpuac̄na • Team̄air D̄peaz̄ Team̄air Luac̄ na
Nár Lūgean Eam̄ain Ulaḡ • o'air̄⁸ peal na pean-éupaḡ.
40. Ao-éi z̄ac̄ cúir p̄ár éuir Miall • an-élaic̄ i leic̄ Cuirc na zc̄leap̄
mac̄ Eac̄ac̄ nac̄ ob̄ad̄ z̄leo • péac̄ an oip̄ceap̄ a aic̄ceo.
41. Ip̄ é rin tuḡ ar̄ Top̄na • 'r ní báio pe p̄iol zc̄uinn zc̄noḡda
mar̄ do éip̄o pe Miall zo neap̄c̄ • 'r ní d̄á f̄eip̄z̄ tuḡ an
t-éip̄oac̄t.
42. Com̄-z̄ar d̄úinne ip̄ d̄úbre teap̄ • Ip̄ ó b̄puil an t̄i zan ceap̄¹⁰
ní p̄ia Top̄na ón taoib̄ a-muis̄ • Luac̄air Deaz̄arḡ a d̄úcais̄.
43. D̄uirdeac̄ ip̄ beic̄te do C̄orc • do Top̄na pa beic̄ na toct̄
nap̄ cum̄niḡ ar̄ cum̄niḡ p̄ib̄ • do p̄ioḡparḡ p̄leac̄ta éib̄ir.
44. D̄'eaḡla zo n-áiréam̄ad̄ Miall • p̄ioḡparḡ Team̄pa toir̄ ip̄ t̄i: p̄
cóir̄ do z̄ab̄ Top̄na pé o'taoib̄ • do p̄eac̄t zc̄eac̄p̄air nap̄
cóm̄maoḡ.
45. M̄ior éin ó C̄orc mac̄ Luiz̄deac̄ • éin-p̄i do p̄ioḡparḡ Mum̄neac̄
deac̄air d̄uit taz̄pa zo teann • do z̄ab̄ oipeac̄ar éipeann.

¹ Cf. O'Curry's *Magh Léana*, p. 96; O'Flaherty's *Ogygia*, II. 207; *Rev. Celt.*, xv., 419, 445; xvi., 278; *C.Z.*, v. 21, *Eriu*. iv. 150. ² Dissyllable.
³ *K. II.* 104. ⁴ *K. II.* 156. ⁵ *m̄iur̄* (< *m̄aiur̄im*) generally intrans., cf. *iv.* 21, 24. u-form perhaps owing to *m̄iur̄iḡim*. ⁶ *K. II.* 156.
⁷ *K. II.* 244. ⁸ Cf. "pa p̄iol n̄eam̄na do b̄'p̄iú a d̄o'cair̄ • do éiú pé lá (pealb̄a?)
a o'air̄ air̄." "p̄ór aḡ cornam̄ caḡa éip̄ine • uac̄a zen zo b̄puair̄ a luac̄:
n̄ior teap̄c̄ aḡ teac̄t ar̄ z̄ac̄ to'cair̄ • p̄eap̄c̄ ip̄ leac̄t ip̄ o'cair̄ uac̄." p. ós mc̄
an b̄air̄o, *RIA* 23 C 23, p. 222, v. 8, 11. ⁹ *Knowth, Co. Meath.* ¹⁰ *Cear*
"obscurity," frequent in phrase *zan c.*, cf. *óip̄ nap̄ é. é ar̄ na horoib̄.*
"questions, problems"; "i zc̄eap̄o'cair̄ na zc̄. n̄oip̄eac̄o," p. ón *Cainte, RIA*
23 L 17, p. 149, v. 10; E 15, p. 181, v. 15.

31. The tree of Dathi and the tree of Mughna, yew-trees (K) with fragrant produce, the tree of Torta, the yew of Ros were found that same night.¹
32. The growth of her trees, the cutting of her woods, the bursting forth of her lakes, the springing forth of her streams,—what better charter could Eireamhon's seed have to Fodhla ?
33. Eireamhon's wife—it is well-known—Tea² noble daughter of Lughaidh, built Teamhair for her race so that it is their inheritance.³
34. Iughoine's testament to his seed is another proof of the possession of kingly Eire held by Eireamhon's race, and not by the race of Eibhear of the mead-feasts.⁴
35. They all in Eire promise him by the sureties of the moon and sun, possession of Banba for ever, and to have no hatred or hostility to his stock.
36. His sons who broke⁵ not covenant divide her in twenty-five parts.⁶ That division lasted for three hundred years and none transgressed it.
37. The prosperous lord Tuathal Teachtmair after winning fifty battles exacted the above sureties from all as Iughoine had done.⁷
38. The palaces of pre-eminence of Inis Fail, which, except only Caiseal, belong to them show too that Eireamhon's stock and not Eibhear's owned Eire.
39. Oileach of the kings, the fort of Cruachain, Teamhair of the Breagha, Teamhair of Luachair, Nas of the Laighin, Eamhain of the Ulaidh were once the graves⁸ of the old heroes.
40. You see why Niall called Corc the poets' friend a usurper. Consider if it be right to gainsay Eochaidh's son who never refused fight.
41. That is why Torna listened to powerful Niall ; it was not through bias for the race of Conn of Cnodhbha,⁹ and it was not owing to Niall's anger that Torna gave ear to him.
42. Equally near to us and to you is Ir from whom descended the famous¹⁰ poet. Torna is just as near to yonder side (Mumha). Luachair Deaghaidh was his country.
43. Corc should be grateful to Torna for his silence, for his not recalling what you recall of the kings of Eibhear's race !
44. It was through his fear lest Niall might recall all the kings of Teamhair east and west that Torna took the right course in reference to your twenty-eight kings, and did not boast of them.
45. No king of the kings of Mumha descended from Corc son of Lughaidh ever held the sovereignty of Eire. It would be hard for you to argue that with confidence.

46. Durdean treirir ir céad ríog · o'fhuil Éireanóim ir é a lion
i ndeagais Néill ir ríonne · atá san réim ríogairde.
47. Tiomna luógine ar Éirinn · ir Tuatail Teachtair o'fériim
tuḡ mall an gcéadna dá cloinn · ma n-éas ar éadair
Érðboing.
48. Réimear ceatpacad 'r ré ríog · do bí an tiomna-ra ḡá ríol
realb na héireann ná marrao · ar maicne Néill Naor-
ḡiallaig.
49. Ní maic liom a dol ór air · ort mar do easair a Tarḡ
ḡo maibe níor mó ná leat · o'Éirinn as Eoḡan Tarḡleac.
50. Méad bar n-aióbre ir aicne dáim · ar leit Moḡa na múr nḡlan
nar maoróir an Míre ar Conn · 'r na cóigro ḡan beic comérom.
51. ḡibé do féacrao orra · ar túr i o'páat a ríonna
coibéir dá cóigead oile · cóigead cloinne Ruḡruige.
52. Do béara duit a deimín · féac rean-ríonn fleacra Neniró
trí cur ḡo ḡcomérom ríonna · do maó o'Éirinn eatorra.
53. Don ríonn rin ir ead ar ríuan · ó Dóinn ḡo Toirunir éir
ruall ré mear don iat-róo rean · an bhruil ann acé don
cóigead.
54. Ríonn oile tarla ar an tír · ríoir ríuéc Éibir mic Ír
bar o'pí cóigro curéar ann · rér ndá cóigro i ḡcomérom.
55. Céad bliadán ar bail do bí · Eirḡir na ríonna-ra ar í
ó Inbear Colbta na ḡreac · ḡur an ḡuan lám le Lumneac.
56. Fraoc mac Éibir 'r a eacéiríonn · ir doib tuḡad an éair-
ríonn
ruair Eoḡan ó mac Úna · ra deoig níor fáé ioménúca.
57. Ná beir uaim ní dá maordeam · ar céil mé nó ḡo maordear
'r níor ḡabair acé leit-rḡeal las · re marbad Moḡa Nuadad.
58. Ir amlaró ruarar rḡeala · Eoḡam Móir ar Muḡ Léana
nac raib i ḡeacair mar Conn · do doig a harraib eacéiríonn.
59. ḡeibir ar marom ḡo moé · a éoirlad níor éoirlad troé¹¹
mar nac raibe com-líon céad · do bí Conn ar a comhéad.

¹ K. II. 244. ² Teamhair, *i.e.*, Eire. ³ III. 23. Tadhg had argued that Eibhear's Half contained of the five Provinces (made by the Fírbolg, K. I. 107) more than three, *i.e.*, two Mumhas, Laighin (most of it) and part of Connachta. Lughaidh here points out that North Laighin (afterwards Midhe) was Conn's and that not the number of provinces, but extent of territory should be the basis of the comparison. To prove this is object of St. 51-55. ⁴ K. I. 106, *i.e.* It is equal to your two Mumhas. Therefore look to the extent rather than to number of provinces. ⁵ Ibid. ⁶ *i.e.*, the extent of each part was equal, even though any one part included more than one province according to your system of counting. ⁷ *i.e.*, Cearma and Sobhairce. Their dividing line was from Drogheda to Limerick. ⁸ *i.e.*, the Southern Half which you would count as three provinces is equal to the North Half in which you would count only two. ⁹ Fraoch Mileasach, son of Eibhear, King of Spain. cf. Magh Léana, xx., 45, etc. ¹⁰ III. 25. ¹¹ Cf. τρωιέ, O'R.; Wind. Wört; Vis. McConglinne.

46. One hundred and six kings of Eireamhon's race before and after Niall are in the Roll of Kings.
47. The disposition which Iughoine made of Eire, and which Tuathal Teachtmhar¹ gave to Feidhlim, that same testament for the City of Crobhaing² Niall before his death gave to his sons.
48. For the period of forty-six kings that inheritance rested with his race. Claim not therefore the possession of Eire from the race of Niall Naoi-ghiallach.
49. I am sorry that it should be known abroad that you, Tadhg, argued³ that more than half of Eire belonged to splendid Eoghan.
50. I see how excessive is your pride in Leath-Mhogha of the white forts, as you did not allow that Midhe belonged to Conn, and that the provinces were not equal.
51. Whoever would have seen them at their first sharing would have seen that the province of the race of Rudhraighe was equal to two other provinces.⁴
52. Look at the old division of the race of Neimheadh.⁵ It will prove the point⁶ to you. They divide Eire between them in three parts with equality of division.
53. A third of that division is the land from the Boinn to Toirinis in the west. It is a point of small consequence whether that ancient sodded-land is called one province.
54. Another division that was made of the land was that between the race of Eibhear, son of Ir.⁷ Your three provinces may be put down as equivalent to our two provinces.⁸
55. For one hundred years the Eiscir of that division remained good. It is from Inbhear Colbhtha of the Spoils to the harbour near Luimneach.
56. It was really owing to Fraoch,⁹ son of Eibhear and to his foreigners that the proper division which Eoghan got from Una's son was granted. At last there was no reason left for jealousy.
57. Do not take me as boasting of anything until I mention it. You gave¹⁰ but a lame story about the murder of Mogh Nuadhad.
58. It is thus I have heard the tale about Eoghan at Magh Leana. He put his trust in an army of foreign troops, and was not on the alert like Conn.
59. Conn went forth in the early morning—his sleep was not the sleep of sluggards.¹¹ Because Conn had not equal numbers of troops he was on his guard.

60. Δήμιε Δάιρνε ιρ δαορ αν θρεατ · μάρ ρεαλλ δο νάμνιρδ αρ νεαέ
 τουλ ραν λό δ'ιοννρμυζε αιρ · ζέ θεατ να λυζε αρ α λεαβαρδ.
61. Σμιν Διρτ δο λυγαρδ λάγα · νιορ μδοιρδτε ουιτ ζο δάνα
 νι hé λυγαρδ δο μαρδ Διρτ · αέτ λιοζαιρνε ζο λαοέδαέτ.
62. Δ ζνιομ ορμδ νά ηαιμμυζ · λιοζαιρνε λαοέ δο λαιζμδ
 θρὰταρ Διρτ μήε Ουιην να ζεατ · μαε Δονζυρα μήε Εαέαε.
63. Νά ηάιρμδ é αρ αν Μυμδιν · 'ρ ζαν αέτ διαρ ραν δά λυγαρδ
 εαέτρωνναιζ ιρ ιαδ δο θρμρ · εατ Μυερμμε ρο μδοιρδρ.
64. Μοζ Ρυιέ δο ρλυοέτ ήρ οιρδερνε · ρα-θεαρα οί-μιαδ Οορμαε
 Οοιλλε αν Ορμαδ αρ θεαρθαδ αιρ · νι μιομμδοιρδτε é αρ
 ριαεαρδ.
65. Θάρ Οαιρθρνε αν ριοζ ράταρζ ⁶ · Σεμεόν μαε Οερμδ α θρὰταρ
 ι ζεατ Ζαβρνα ιρ λειρ δο ουιτ · τορὰταρ αν ρίαν να έαρμυε.⁷
66. Θεαέτ λε ρέμ ρίνν ναρ η-αζαρδ · δο οίοζαιλ Δοθ μαε Ζαρμδ
 θαρ ορτ Μοζ Οορμδ νι ρζεάλ νυα · ι η-ιομαρμζ ριέιθε Σεαν-Ουα.

Δ ΤΑΙΩΣ.

¹ III. 26. ² Οοδαρδ and Conn were two sons of Feidhlimidh Reachtmhar.
³ Lughaidh Lagha and Lughaidh Mac Con, K. II. 280. ⁴ K. II. 320. ⁵ Two
 cantreds in Fermoy. Eriu, iv. 222, 229. ⁶ ? Syll. short v. Var. Lect., K. II.
 354. ⁷ ι η-έ. comes to mean "in return for" cf. óη θρμλε ζαν ραοθαρ ζο
 θλαδ. ουε ι η-έιρμε αν ζνιομα," Διρ Ο Οαοιμ, RIA 23 G 21, p. 171, v. 2.
⁸ Of the race of μορμα. ⁹ Shanahoe, Co. Limerick.

60. Son of Daire, it is a partial judgment on your part if you imagine that it is treachery against a man for a foe to go in daylight to attack him even though the man be lying on his bed.
61. You should not have attributed so boldly the death of Art to Lughaidh Lagha.¹ It was not Lughaidh who killed Art but Lioghairne in brave combat.
62. Do not claim Lioghairne's deed for your side. He was a hero of the Laighin, a kinsman of Art son of battling Conn, and a son of Aongus son of Eochaidh.²
63. Do not count it as a victory of Mumha, seeing that the two Lughaidhs³ were only two men. It is foreigners who won the fight of Mucroimhe which you boasted of.
64. It was Mogh Ruith of the stock of famous Ir who caused the dishonour of Cormac.⁴ Caoille an Druadh⁵ is a proof of it. Do not attribute it to Fiachaidh.
65. As for the death of Cairbre the king of many forts (?) it was by Semeon, son of Cearb his kinsman that he was slain at Gabhra.⁶ The Fian fell in revenge⁷ for him.
66. For his coming with the Fian of Finn against us vengeance was taken by Aodh son of Garaidh⁸ when he slew Mogh Corb—it is an old story—in the fight at the hill of Sean-Chua.⁹

ÉISD A LUĠARÒ REM LABRA. ΤΑΥΣ ΜΕΤΩΔΙΡΕ cct.

1. Éipò a luġarò rem labra • ó taoi-re i n-alt ni'azallma
léiz Topna feacuinn zo re • tabair féin dámpa é'aire.
2. D'éagla naé tiocpa a dtuarò • léizpead beagán aiguir uaim
oo deapbad a noubairt mé • ip d'aitéeo ar aill uairpe.
3. Šac ppeagna tugar ar Miall • zé tú d'éanfuil ip Corpé éiar
ní deácar céim tar an zcóir • mar bur follur i zcéao-óir.
4. Munab az iarrarò bine • oo déanamh d'uib ar file
ní buró cuiríte duit a-mac • víozail pala ná éagnaé.
5. Dá mberóir rhuóct epóda Cuinn • na zcéro-neart az eipdeáct
puinn
níor cuiríte d'óib um azarò • acé file dom ionnamail.
6. Níor éagnurdear aicme Cuinn • níor éeart an tuizpe a ráo
puinn
ar ron ceirt élanm éibir řinn • oo éazpa mar oo d'ligřinn.
7. Šo deapb ip feapac d'aoib féin • ní tóizead riadain i zcéin
d'á mbeinn pe héagnaé élanm Cuinn • naé mar d'ubairt
a-déapuinn.
8. Ní mé oo éairzpead élu a ngníom • pe raob-éiallaib oo
buain díob
nó d'á mberóir leo loéta • níor éairzgear a lom-noéta.
9. Oo éim peim naé pulanz lib • beagán d'řir-éipoo éloinne
éibir
oo labra d'ain-ra na zcaé • ní zadbéaoi é acé na éagnaé.
10. D'ligřim ceart éloinne éibir • oo éazpa ann zác éár céillro
nó zo npeacáinn feaca ro • níor b'oiréear d'áon mo éubá.⁵
11. Ór éizean zo mbia 'nar n'óán • řipinne bur feapb pé ráo
ní mire ar éiontaé řur ro • acé Miall Topna azur turá.
12. Deaz naé řamail liom pe m'éaz • a éeacé dar éuir řib orim
d'éao
oul i zcom-řar řacáar mé • d'onóir dar n-aicme uairpe.
13. Iad féin oo řoim a céite • ó naé uarò oo b'feappi éipe
léizim řin éopam ip éort • acé oo deapbad a noubairt.
14. Oo deap éibear na mead-ól • oon éloinn oile ip d'éipeamón
deapbad řan neacé ór a éionn • řoza leite d'řóo éipeann.
15. Deaz naé řuz řhuóct řr amáin • upmór a leite ar a lámh
ionnur naé cóir déanamh tinn • ar řoim éipeamón d'éipinn.
16. Ní raibe az řoim pe héibear • oo říol d'pnozain acé éin-feap
mac lé pé d'áréur de • tríóa éeao Corpca Luizóe.

¹ IV. 1. ² IV. 2. ³ IV. 4. ⁴ IV. 3. ⁵ Cf. G. Jour, Apr., 1909; Walsh, 1911. Μαξ Νυαόατ, 1914, p. 42. In X. 25, MSS. have túza; also cf. "zan pocal ip luza lib: tacar oo éuza éairřib." Š. Mc an Dair, RIA 23 L 17, II. 148, v. 6 ⁶ K. I. 108. ⁷ Ancestor of Mile, K. II. 46. ⁸ Lughaidh, K. p. 98.

[Answer to IV.]

1. Listen, Lughaidh, to my words as you can answer me.¹
Leave Torna alone for a while. Pay attention to me.
2. Lest it (your refutation) may not come from the North I will permit myself a little argumentation to prove what I said, and to refute some of what you said.
3. As regards my answer to Niall, though I am of Corc's race² I overstepped not truth as will be clear forthwith.
4. Unless you be striving to injure a poet you should not show severity hostility or reviling.
5. Were the valiant race of Conn in their first strength and listening to us they would have pitted against me a poet like myself.³
6. I did not revile Conn's race—it was not right to say so to me⁴—because of a desire to defend the rights of the race of Eibhear Fionn, as I should have been entitled to do.
7. Surely you yourselves know—I shall not take my witness from afar—that had I wished to revile Conn's race I would not have spoken as I did.
8. I would not have striven by foolish etymologies to rob them of the fame of their deeds; nor if they had faults did I seek to expose them.
9. I see that you cannot bear that I should give even a little of the evidence for the battles of the children of Eibhear. You take it all as so much reviling.
10. I am entitled to plead the rights of Eibhear's race in every reasonable case. Till I had gone beyond that no one should have reproached⁵ me.
11. As there must be in my poem truth which will be unpleasant to speak, I am not responsible for that but Niall and Torna and yourself.
12. Almost like death to me is the consequence of the (charge of) envy of which you accuse me, namely the close criticism I shall proceed to make of the honour of your noble race.
13. Since Eire was not improved by their mutual slaughter I shall leave that alone except for the purpose of proving what I have said.
14. Eibhear of the mead-feasts took from the other sons and from Eireamhon his choice half of Eire's land—a proof that none of them was his superior.
15. Ir's⁶ race took most of his half from Eireamhon so that you have no right to be proud of Eireamhon's share of Eire.
16. There was only one man of Breoghan's⁷ race sharing his land with Eibhear, namely, the son of Ith⁸ by whom was got of it the cantred Corca Luighdhe.

17. Dá b'réad'ad neac ar zac taob · roinn Éireann eatorra ar don
tuizfiré naé raibe mar rin · Éireamón ór cionn Éibir.
18. An b'réac at'aoi do labra · do b'réic 'o' Amhrigim amra
fašam i roig' nó i laoiré lib · mar fa z'acé² glór Amhrigim.
19. I roig'³ muš Amhrigim b'réic · roir a b'raic'rib' zan éleic
d'ar éuir iad ar fead' naoi 'o'onn · ir Tuacé 'ac-šlan Dé
Danann.
20. I z'com-uaim piteata ar tuinn · do ráo na b'raic'ra na
luig
'o'iarrao' roir'bir dá n-eac'ra · d'ar r'uir⁴ an n'zaoit
no'rao'beac'a.
21. I n-air'oe pitead' a-rír · do labair' az teac' i 'o'ir
mar tá z'á lán do meabair · do rír éir' i n-inbeairib.
22. An b'réic rin dá mbeiread' pé · a lušaró an z'p'oe péin
nac' puiš'p'oe i n-air'oe linn · mar zac' air'oe dá n-air'mm.
23. Ní clof an impearan ann · clann Mílead' az teac' anall
ir ead' fa haigne don 'o'ruig' · com-b'aró com-éor'nam' com-
roinn.
24. Zan impearan az 'o'á neac' · z'noim nó mašail ní bí b'réac
cionnur do béar'aoi mar roin · b'réac ir iad zan impearan.
25. Níor éur'ca b'réac i leic' ruad' · zan beic' o'lig'ceac' zan beic'
buan
níor 'o'lig'e 'o'ib' i mar roin · níor buana 'o'ib' na 'o'eašaró.
26. Dá 'o'ear'bad' rin ir rinnirir · do toš'aoi i n'éir'mm innriš
mar éeann fine' reac' zac' fear · ó roin az mac'ib' Mílead'.
27. San leab'ar lab'ar don b'réic · ór éir'ean 'o'imm zan a éleic
at'áro neite pé z'coir roin · z'á 'o'áro rean'air na n-ašaró.
28. Má t'is péin na ašaró péin · lušar'oe ir c'oir beic' dá péir
a pašail ní r'z'iac' éor'nam' · do b'réic ionz'ac' éaš'cor'mail.
29. Dá b'rašad' neac' ionad' 'o'imm · fa'oa ó éearc' ar éir'mm
uill
Éire níor 'o'ú'caiz' 'o'ó roin · níor feal'buiz' i 'r' níor éor'ain.
30. Am'laró mearan' z'ur' beanta · béim ar 'o'orna fa' éeac'a
tar glór ar a 'o'cuiz'p'ead' fear · ur'mm rinnirir do
r'oir'ear.
31. Ir lór leam-ra an leac' ar fearr · tarla ar éir'ear' réaš'uin
reanš
roša leic'e don dá leac' · mar 'o'ear'bo'ac'ao z'o' venineac'.

¹ IV. 8. ² For uses of z'acé v. Vocab. Cf. "a p'laic' ar 'o'aingne p'ún
z'acé · a é'ur' com'airle i z'conacé," C. Mc'Dáir'e, RIA 23 C 18, p. 66, v. 43.
³ Ir. Texte, II. 35, 61. Hardiman, II. 349. ⁴ Cf. "a r'z'ur' roš'la i b'rao'c'
'o'ea'ca" "Thou who checkest plunder," C. Mc'Dáir'e, RIA 23 C 18 p. 66, v.
44. ⁵ Trans. Ossianic Soc., v. 237; Ir. Texte iii. 62. ⁶? ⁷ IV. 9.
⁸ IV. 12.

17. If any one examines in every way the division of Eire between them he will see that Eireamhon was not over Eibhear.
18. As for the judgment you mention ¹ as given by noble Aimhirgin, let me find it in "rosc" or lay as is usual ² with the utterances of Aimhirgin.
19. In a "rosc" ³ Aimhirgin gave his judgment between his brothers clearly by which he put them and the comely Tuatha De Danan back nine waves' length.
20. In poetic measure in his ship on the wave praying for prosperity for their journey he spoke the words by which he stopped ⁴ the magic wind.
21. In poetic composition did he also speak when landing, as many men have by heart (such chants) for seeking fish in river-mouths, ⁵
22. Had he given that judgment, Lughaidh, do you believe that it would not be found in poetic form in our possession like the other ones I mention?
23. No dispute was ever recorded on that occasion when Mile's sons were landing. Their disposition was mutual affection, mutual effort and fair sharing.
24. Unless there be a dispute between two men or as regards two actions or rules there can be no judgment (?). How then could there have been a judgment seeing they had no dispute?
25. A judgment without force of law or lasting effect should not be attributed to a sage. It did not constitute a law or fixture for them afterwards.
26. As proof of that, elders before others were always chosen afterwards by Mile's sons in sea-girt Eire to rule the tribe.
27. In the book ⁶ which speaks of the judgment—since I must not deny its existence—there are said many things besides, to which the lore of the ancients is opposed.
28. As it contradicts itself there is the less reason for following it. A book like it is no shield of defence for a strange and extraordinary judgment.
29. If one succeeded to the place of Donn that is not constituting a claim to Eire (K), Eire was not his country, he never possessed it nor fought for it.
30. Thus I think that Torna is to be blamed for referring ⁷ to a passage whence one might conclude that the elder should yield submission to the younger.
31. I am quite satisfied ⁸ with the better half that fell to splendid graceful Eibhear, the choice half of the two halves, as I shall prove with certainty.

32. 1r fearr leat Éibir go n-aoib · ó Úóinn toir go Cluóna
caom
ná an leat ó Úóinn go rúib Úroin · tugad o'Éireamón
angbaró.
33. Mó ar méarraigte o'fuaét vo tear · lionmaire vo mil vo
meap
foisre da gac maie tar muir · lia a caénaa a com-urraim.
34. Mó vo tomur triócaó céao · barr pór ar a maie a méao
ní ar an aipó a bfuil roin · labraio go tnom na huódaip.
35. Faóa ó tángar tar an ainm · iomóa rein-rgrúibinn dá gairm
tar ceann t'iomao ciall vo éur · ní tiocpa díot a dúiltad.
36. Na hil-éialla acaoi vo píom · dá bfiarraigeat neac cia
óib
dá otis an t-ainm o'iaé Úreag · cuma leatpa acé naó o'Éibeap.
37. Do geadta i bfuil ar léigear · Éibeap oarb ainm Hibéur
Hibeipnia sup dá ainm tis · i oteangtaib naé i an Scoitic.
38. Atáio tpe ar tpeire i bfuacé · an t-ainm cíó naé oóib vo
puacé
már ó méao fuaéta tis rin · fiarraig uaim-re voó léigéio.
39. Gé tá Éipe ran aipó tpar · atáio tpe i otoiupneann grian
le linn curca a cuarta a le · naé Hibeipnia ná Éipe.
40. 1r pollur tuipnam don gpiém · ann gac típ págbar dia héip
ó tá an domán i moó éruinn · 1r ppéar gpiéme na ceapcuill.
41. Ainm vo típ reac a céile · mar rin tpe tuipnam gpiéme
dá noeacáó eagruó dá méap · ní méarpat sup éur
oiréap.
42. Daoine ag cpeoamain dá gcéill · tógbaro an rian ceap dá
píém
dá leana ar cialla mar roin · ná floinn ó Téa Teamair.
43. Focail il-éiallta féacéap · na gcuir móp n-uóbar céaoaró
bpeiteamnar oíreac oóib roin · go grian⁶ a bfuir ní féaoaip.⁷
44. Na cialla éurpe ran ainm · má tá tarba oó na gairm
ó naé tú ar bpeiteam orpa · maie áit Éibip eacoppa.
45. Áipeam éacé ní mé vo tpuall · ar otúr acé Topna agur
hail
ní orpa baó mó mo gcan · a noeanam roin nó a n-áipeam.
46. Níor maoréap meirpe a noéimí · focaip píol Éibip o'Éipinn
mó o'Éipinn go móp pé méap · ar págbar oíob ná ar áipmeap.

¹ K. II. 96. There were two Srub Broin, one in W. Munster, this one in Co. Donegal (Stroove). ² Cf. Eriu, iii. 12. Jeremias, i. 14, etc. ³ IV. 14-17. ⁴ Syllable short. ⁵ IV. 33, *i.e.*, as in this case so in others you should follow the traditional derivation. ⁶ < etar. Prototon. Pres. Pass of ad-cota. Cf. Thurneys § 540. ⁷ Cf. "Píor grian iomall fa domfeap · o'píor o'píonnáll 1r o'píor-gaoiréal," C. McÓáipe, RIA 23 F 16, p. 32, v. 41. ⁸ IV. 21, etc.

32. Eibhear's fair half from the Boinn in the East to fair Cliodhna is better than the half from the Boinn to Srubh Broin ¹ which was given to fierce Eireamhon.
33. It is more temperate in cold and heat, fuller of honey and fruit, nearer to all goods over-sea, richer in cities and neighbours.
34. Greater is it in number of cantreds. Its size too crowns its excellence. It is not of the quarter where these advantages are that writers speak harshly! ²
35. Long ago has the name (Hibernia, i.e. Eibhear's land) been written of. Many old writings apply it. In spite of your inventing many other meanings you cannot deny it.
36. Were one to ask which of the various meanings you enumerate ³ is the one whence comes the name of the land of the Breagha ⁴ you care not, provided it be not from Eibhear.
37. Besides all I have read you will find in languages other than the Scottic that "Hibernia" comes from "Eibhear" called "Hiberus." (K).
38. There are lands of harsher cold; ask your scholar from me why the name has not been applied to them, if it comes from excess of cold.
39. Though Eire is in the West, there are other lands not called Hibernia or Eire where the sun in its journey sets.
40. The setting of the sun is clearly seen in every land it leaves behind, since the world is of a round shape, and the solar firmament is a sphere.
41. That one land rather than another should be called after the sunset—a sage on examining the matter would find such an explanation a poor one.
42. People who trust their own sense destroy at its root the true process of judgment. If you wish to get meanings like that do not derive Teamhair from Tea. ⁵
43. Let the words of varied meanings be examined, those in which many authors find a (*i.e.*, each a different) sense. Such men have ⁶ no straight method of settling the fundamental meaning ⁷ of the words.
44. As you are not the judge as to the derivations you mention for the name (Hibernia), (the derivation from) Eibhear has a good place—if that be a benefit to him. (K).
45. It was not I who started the recounting of the crimes. ⁸ I was merely answering Niall. I love them none the more for those crimes or for the story of them. (K).
46. I did not recount—it would have been the worse for you—(all) the benefits of Eibhear's race to Eire. Much more important to Eire was what I omitted than what I said

47. Sīdeað tīocfærð ʒoð laoiðeað · fuī rʒuīrfeap mē ʒo
maoiðeob
roðair ō fuīl ēībir fīnn · ap mō ʒo fōīr ap ēīrinn.
48. Aēt ʒo ʒuʒap fpeaʒpa ap tūr · feīrroē an aīʒðe¹ a cup i
nolūr
op ann ʒaē tapða tīonōīl² · māoiðe ap aīcme ēīreamōīn.
49. An ʒ'earþarð ʒnīom ʒcōīr pē pūr · nō le ē-īomao labpa
lān³
māoiðe roðair opna rin · ʒan aon ēuro ʒōīð na nōēīnnī.
50. Oībrīʒte a ʒūīl ap ʒoīl nōē · ʒo fealþað⁴ ʒōīð nīor mōī
mē
mō ʒo mōr ʒuīr-fe īf ʒōīð · ʒo māpa ē nā ʒ'onōīr.
51. ʒā māoiðe tū māp bpeīt ʒīīl · oībrīʒte ʒē ʒōīð pē linn
ap loīuarð īf māoiðte rin · bpeīt Cīrioīr pē linn i mDeīcīl.
52. ʒaē loē ʒaē linn ʒā labpa · op ʒōīð fēīn tēro a ʒtapða
fuīl ēībir īf ʒōīð ʒo līnʒ · ap a ʒcuro fēīn ʒon ēīrinn.
53. Aṽāro a lān ʒo loðair · īf apale ʒo fīroðair
aʒ ap mō ʒ'īnīr ʒanða · a nōīc nā a nōeaʒ-ēapða.
54. ʒārðteap lo nī roðar paop · ceāʒpa aʒup ʒaome māpaon
ʒan fēap ʒan ioē congþaro poīn · a mbi pūca ʒon talīnain.
55. ʒībē maīc nō paīc ʒo nīao · noēa māoiðte ap ēīn-pīʒ īao
aēt ap an pīʒ ap pī ap nūī · nap īapī congnaī pā nōēīnnī.
56. Muīʒe ʒo ʒuan a coīll līð · aomīam ʒomað roðar rin
mō ʒo roðar ʒuan na maʒ · ʒo coīll-fleaʒ nōonn-puað
nṽanap.
57. Mīor ʒoīrteað aēt allur þall · aʒ pīol ʒCuīnn aʒ teapʒað
cpann
ʒ'fuīl ʒāīl ʒCap ʒo ʒoīrteað cīoē · aʒ leoð pīeaʒ luēt⁷
na luīpōc.
58. Muna þeantaoī nī cēītm · ʒon coīll pa ʒeoīʒ a-ʒeīpm
beaʒ tapða a ʒteapʒað ap tūr · maīʒe fōðla īf ē a n-īomtūr.
59. ʒuan maʒ nēīreann teap īf ʒuarð · ʒon coīll rin ʒap ʒoēpa
a mʒuan
pīol nēībir īf īao ʒo þean · īf opna ap cōīr a n-āīreamī.
60. An muīr-þpūcēt māpa māoiðe · a luað ʒā ʒlōīr ap paōībe
māp māp roðar māoiðe a luʒ · mō a ʒoēap nā a roðar.
61. Māp ē a māoiðeam ʒo nī · lēīm paīrīʒe tap ʒloīʒ ʒo cīr
copmaī ʒo māoiðpōē poīn · ʒā mbārōcī uīle ap nōūcaīʒ.

¹ Also oīʒðe, oīʒe. Cf. Gloss. Laws, and note on xxii. 17. ² Leg. an tīonōīl? ³ Cf. infra VI. 269; XVI. 184; XVIII. 14; also feap labapða lān Anecd. ii., p. 51, ll. 8, 13, 14; T.C.D. F. 4, 13, fol. 6a, a spokesman with full powers (K). ⁴ Cf. " a fīr fealþap ʒuīc an ʒān," ʒ. Mc an ʒaīro, RIA 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 1. ⁵ IV. 20, etc. ⁶ IV. 23. ⁷ Luēt na l., taken as one word or else luēt is genitive for luēta, cf. infra 177. ⁸ i.e., Danes' spears.

⁸ IV. 23.

47. Yet the result of your provoking me will be that, before I cease, I shall mention those benefits of the race of Eibhear Fionn which benefited Eire most.
48. But first—the poem¹ will be the better for its being made compact—let me answer you about the benefits of your party² which you boast of on behalf of Eireamhon's race.
49. Is it from want of deeds fit to be mentioned, or from loquacity³ that you boast for them of benefits, in conferring which they had no part?
50. I thought it wrong that they should take the credit⁴ of the operations of God's elements according to His will. This was rather to insult than to do honour to you and your folk.
51. If you attribute to them as a mark of superiority the operations of God in their day you should attribute to Herod Christ's birth at Bethlehem in his reign.
52. As the benefit of every lake and pool which you mention⁵ accrues to them (i.e. Eireamhon's race) they burst forth for Eibhear's race too on their part of Eire.
53. There are many lakes and streams too which do more harm than benefit to Inis Banba.
54. By them are drowned—a dear benefit!—cattle and men too. They keep all the land beneath them without grass or corn.
55. Whatever good or harm they do is not to be attributed to any king, but to the King of kings in Heaven who asked no one's help in creating them.
56. As for your clearing plains from wood⁶ I grant that to be a benefit, but a greater benefit was the clearing of the plains from the forest of the dark red lances of the Danars.
57. In cutting trees Conn's race shed only their sweat. Showers of blood were shed by the Dal gCais in cutting down the spears of the mailed heroes.⁷
58. Had they not been cleared afterwards—I cannot be silent as to this—of the wood I speak of, small advantage would have been those of the plains of Fodla that were cleared previously—seeing their history.
59. The clearing of the plains of Eire, South and North from that wood⁸ of which it was difficult to clear them, was done by Eibhear's race and should be attributed to it.
60. As for the sea-incurSION you speak of⁹—how foolish to mention it!—if you mention it as a benefit, its harm was greater than its benefit.
61. If it be the bursting of the sea over a part of the land which makes you boast of it you probably would boast of our whole country being flooded!

62. Aitáto típe maíe an bpeaé · 'r ír é ar molatá ionnta ar neac
bloš talman dá tótorató dé · to buain t'fáirpse nó t'uirge.
63. Ní roéar san éuit tóib féin · to nonpat rhuéct Éibir féil
roéair gá pabap na g'eall · to rónpat t'fearaib Éireann.
64. Cošan tuz iad ó zorta · Úrian ó d'aoir-bhuio ó t'oepa
roéair to fóir eac mar roin · fašam ašat óo ríozpató.
65. Dar leat to b'atároa tóib · epioé Danba zo n-íomao
rlóiz
na bplaitéar ní tarla tó · pláza zorta náro zeminri.
66. Ní tuz ní tóib dá t'atla · ar fead a pé ar fonn mDanba
roinn tó to t'rean nó to laš · dar leat to baó leo an
leanab.
67. Šlór mar rin ní fuil pé ráó · zan t'puiš ar a noéine a
lán
lušaroe ír eóir t'éanaht'ruim · ar éloinn Éibir na zconéloinn.
68. Cúizead paop óo ríozpató tuaró · aš élaínn Éibir mór an
buaró
šac neac dar ríozató don élaínn · paoppe tuaró air ní
fašam.
69. Ar ríot n'Éibir ar to t'ruír · aítnead tóinn ar don a n-íul
maoréam mór níor t'éanta tóit · aét amáin bpiatpa
Cópmaic.
70. Táinš éin-pí t'fuil Éibir · tar éir Néill ír Cuípe célliz
to b'fearp t'pérom t'Éirinn uile · ná Mall Conn ír Conaípe
71. Soéair to ríozpatóe a-nuar · áirinn leat zo léir zan luar
mead roéair Úrian nic t'é-bionn · ní fuize to ríozpató
Éireann.
72. To cabraó aop léizinn lair · to at-éatáiz an eašlair
tuz da šac t'puiš dar mian ršol · corpar léizinn luac
leabap.
73. Tuz dá éléiréib féin šac cill · t'amíreoin na loingreac
tar linn
tuziar mbeir fa t'aoípe t'ruim · paoppe dá bplaitéib fearainn.
74. A tuz luéct na lonš peolta · leo ar šac tír t'iaréar
Eóppa
ar nool aize ar a t'p'eabáib · to roinn Úrian ar šaoiréalaib.
75. An maop to bí ar šac mbaite · tuz Úrian fa bpeir a t'oitte
an buana to bí ar šac tíz · tuz mar móša don múinntir.
76. Iar mbeir don Éirinn aróbirš · imbuarópead pe cian t'amírip
tuz ríot innte ó binn zo binn · fa hé an tuaró iar noílinn.

¹ K. II. 264. ² IV. 24. ³ Kings, III. 3, 26. ⁴ Cf. "pompla ar eóir
na éonélaínn ro," poem by Somairle nic an b'airto, RIA 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 28.
⁵ IV. 26. ⁶ IV. 28, or "except to the extent prescribed by C.'s words"
(O'Grady, Cat.). ⁷ K. III. 256, etc. ⁸ G.G. 138.

62. There are countries in which it is matter of praise for a man—it is a good judgment—if he succeed in taking some land from the sea or flood.
63. Not benefits in which they themselves had no part were those conferred by Eibhear's race, but services for which they were pledges did they confer on the men of Eire.
64. Eoghan saved them from famine,¹ Brian from oppression and hardship. Let us see if benefits that thus profited all were conferred by your kings.
65. You would conclude that Banba with its many hosts was their fatherland.² In their reign there came not to it plagues or famine or foreigners.
66. No king of them who ruled gave in his reign over Banba a portion of it to strong or to weak. You would say the child was theirs.³
67. The race of which you make much has no boast like that to make. It is therefore the less just to revile the race of Eibhear in comparison with them.⁴
68. A province free from your northern kings was held by Eibhear's race—great was the prerogative. I do not find any liberties enjoyed by the North as against any king of Eibhear's race.
69. Against Eibhear's race you should not have boasted much of your three men⁵—both of us know all about them—except of the sayings of Cormac.⁶
70. There came of Eibhear's race, after Niall and prudent Corc, one king of greater service to all Eire than Niall Conn and Conaire.
71. Count up slowly all the benefits of your kings down the ages. You shall not find in your kings of Eire the equal of the benefits conferred by Brian, son of Bebhionn.⁷
72. Scholars were helped by him, the Church was set again in honour, he gave to all who sought learning the cost of education and of books.
73. He gave each church to its own clergy, spite of the mariners from over sea. After the churches had been in heavy bondage he gave freedom to their territorial princes.
74. What the men of the sailing ships brought with them from every land of Western Europe, Brian when he got hold of their dwellings divided it among the Gaoidheal.
75. The steward that was over every townland Brian placed beneath the authority of its folk.⁸ The hireling billeted on every house he gave as a slave to its people.
76. After splendid Eire had been in trouble for long, he established peace in her from end to end. He was the dry weather after the deluge.

77. Ʒan ferðm noðar ar mnaoi méir-Ʒeins • ná ar don-mac
óƷ-laoié o'Éirunn
ne Ʒnion moƷraime aƷ Ʒac neac • oo bioð a Ʒail nó a Ʒaillreac.
78. Nioir ainmnis o'aoñ oá ðeis-Ʒlioct • oúcais doim eile /
n-oiƷreacð
tuƷ a tír Ʒéin oá Ʒac Ʒlaic • caíðe comaoim a com-maic.
79. TuƷ Ʒloinnce roðar oile • nac tuƷrao ƷioƷrað romie
lé o'cuisðear i nƷairm Ʒac Ʒir • cia a ðreab oo maðaið
mílir.
80. Nioir Ʒoar luƷ acð tuaið a-máim • com-Ʒar oúinne ir
oðoiðre a ðáirð
aƷ rin aƷ ðriam bairr ar luƷ • ceall aƷur tuac oo Ʒaorað.
81. Oo ðaob Conaire ní Ʒrið • acð mear nó romionn nó Ʒic
bioð Ʒo mberoir rin né linn • Ʒearr Ʒa roðar iao o'Éirunn.
82. Ní mar é oo ceangail ðriam • Ʒioðcáin Éireann toir ir tíar
nioir máinis oá oíðeirs ro • oireao cloinne Duinn Oéara.
83. Ní hionann táirðear leo an érioc • nioirð ionann Ʒór a oá
Ʒioð
ní ar Ʒlaicðear ðriam ƷƷriððear rom • triam Ʒearr Éireann
ne roƷail.
84. Ní iarrða breir oo buaim oínn • a loƷ Conaire ná a Ʒil
oá n-antá rinn i moð ceart • acð Ʒo léisðear a Ʒcompeart.⁵
85. Nioirð Ʒearr Coimac ne ceart Ʒéin • oo oéanam cúire Ʒo Ʒéirð
ioná ðriam i Ʒcúir córa • aƷ leannmáim luirs éanóna.
86. Oo Conn ir meirðe a maorðeam • a comaoim ar érié nƷaorðeal
an comaoim nac é oo cúir • 'r a beir ar beaƷán roðar.
87. Oámað é Conn mar nac é • oo Ʒeabað Ʒóro Ʒo teac Té
o'Éirunn Ʒá beaƷ roðar rom • téisðí Ʒan iao Ʒo Teamáir.
88. Muna Ʒáirðeac na rúimib • o'Ʒollamnasðc Oé ar a oúilú
meapap tuƷa beir oo Conn • cƷeao oó marðm loé nó aðann.
89. Cuir moir Ʒcað irðis Ʒa tír • ní céim ar ionmaorðce ar Ʒisð
amail maorðtear libre ar Conn • 'r Ʒan éin-Ʒleo i n-aƷarð
eaðtromn.
90. Mar rin Ʒurð Ʒearr ðriam a-báim • mar Ʒeim roðar o'Inir
Ʒáil
nár an trúir áirnie a luƷ • 'r a n-áirðeam Ʒo n-a roðar.
91. Máir i rin oo ceart ar Ʒearr • ní ceart i ar a beirce teann
ionann oðoiðre beir Ʒan ceart • na neirce taoi oo labairc.

¹ L. Láim-Ʒaða, cf. Eriu, i. 89. Ag. 5276. ² IV. 27. ³ Togail Bruidne Da Dearga, Rev. Celt. xxii., § 9, 19, 41, 46. MSS. ainic. ⁴ "Batar dibergaig tra trian fer n'Erend hi flaith Conaire," Rev. Celt. Togail B. Da Dearga, xxii. § 43. ⁵ Cf. O'Curry, M. C. I., ccclxx; Tog. B. Da Dearga, Rev. Celt. xxii. § 7. a n- "their" referring to Ʒiaðarð Ʒear-mara (cf. XVIII. 57) as well as Conaire. ⁶ IV. 28. ⁷ IV. 29, etc.

77. There was no servile service on any slender-fingered woman or on any son of a warrior of Eire. For slaves' work each one had a foreigner man or woman.
78. He assigned not to anyone of his good race another's land as an inheritance, but gave his own land to each chief. Where was there a benefit like that ?
79. He introduced surnames—another benefit—which no king did before him so that in the name of each man one sees to which tribe of Mile's sons he belongs.
80. Lughaidh ¹ freed the laity alone, and the thanks for that is as closely binding on us as on you. Brian surpasses Lughaidh in that he freed churches as well as laity.
81. As for Conaire ² the only benefits of his which were acquired were fruit or good weather or peace. Though these existed in his time they were a shortlived benefit to Eire.
82. Not so did Brian establish peace East and West. Numbers great as the sons of Donn Deasa did not succeed in spoiling her. (K).³
83. Not in the same way was the land got by them (Brian and Conaire). Very different was the peace each established. It is not of Brian's reign that it is written "one-third of the men of Eire engaged in plundering."⁴
84. You would not have tried on the score of Conaire or his seed to deny us our superiority, had you acquiesced as we do in the truth, and if you read the story of their conceptions.⁵
85. For the peaceful settling of causes by his law Cormac ⁶ was not better than Brian following the precedent of law in doing of justice.
86. It is no service to Conn to boast of his benefit ⁷ to the land of the Gaoidheal, the benefit which it was not he who conferred, and which besides was of little use.
87. If it had been Conn—as it was not—who acquired the roads to the house of Te, that was of small use to Eire. Folk used to go to Teamhair without them.
88. Unless you make Conn partner in the mysteries of God's power over His elements, what had the springing forth of lakes or rivers to do with him? (K).
89. The fighting of many battles in the land as you boast of in the case of Conn is nothing to boast of for a king, seeing that he fought no battle against foreigners.
90. In this respect Brian alone was better as a profitable son of Inis Fail than the three you mention, O Lugh, with their benefits.
91. If that be your best charter it is not one to be confident in. You might as well have no charter as those things.

92. Ní hiað féin roth-cuir na fáir · tearḡaḡ coille ní céim cáir
maróm loḡ ḡo ruaitníro no ² rreab · ní ḡearna duine aḡt
ḡúileam.
93. Tuisḡe ḡo éac ḡá ḡriḡ rin · an éairḡ ar fearr luarḡtear lib.
ḡo éairḡ oile nac ríú a mear · mar nac ríú ipe a haiḡnear.
94. Tomaróm loḡ tomaróm aibneáḡ · fáir eḡann mbliáit-ḡorḡac
mbarr-ḡeal
ḡibé rí ar a ḡfuiḡe a ḡfior · ná tuisḡ ḡó aḡt a n-oirpear.
95. Máir oisreacḡ ḡi-pe ir ḡá ríol · an teac rin Teamra na ríḡḡ
mó ar luac ráinic a realb rin · ḡá éir cúḡear mac Éibir.
96. Sul táinic céac ḡo éri céac · i nreḡaiḡ luḡoine ḡ'éac
Míḡ Corb ḡ'fine Éibir ríinn · ḡo ba láin-rí é ar Éirinn.
97. Feáḡ ré nḡlún na ḡiaḡ ḡá ríol · ḡac neac ḡiob ran rirde
ríḡḡ
an ḡeḡeḡe ḡo mbíḡḡ ré linn · ríinn mac nluḡoine ar Éirinn.
98. Níor ḡairmeáḡ rí ḡ'aoim-fear uainn · ḡan neart Éireann
ḡear ir ḡuarḡ
ríḡḡraḡ iomlán Numán Mir · cia an ḡóḡann tar nac téiḡḡir.
99. Ar rḡaraḡ ríú ḡon ḡairm ríḡḡ · ní hé luḡoine ná a ríol
éáinḡ ḡ'foirneart orra ir-teaḡ · aḡt trém-ríocḡ Ir mic
Míteáḡ.
100. Mar rin ir pollur ḡo éac · nac féirḡir ḡo ríor a ráḡ
trí céac bliáḡan ḡo raibe · neart hanba aḡ ríocḡ luḡoine.
101. Iarrarḡ cairḡe a huḡt Tuacail · ionḡnaḡ aníú ar Éirinn
uaḡurḡ
na ré féin fuair Tuacail cor · 'r ní hé a mac fuair a ionaḡ.
102. Aitḡ Tuacá tárla ir tír · Sanḡ Coḡarḡ ir foirḡriḡ
orra ḡo ḡab Tuacail teann · aḡraḡ ré orra a éoinḡeall.
103. Níor máir beo ḡ'arḡ-éioinn Éibir · aḡt don macaom caoin-
céillirḡ
'r é i n-am Tuacail ḡ'raḡáil neirḡ · ó Aiteac Tuacail ar
ḡibeirḡ.
104. Ná beir uaim nac fuair Férdlim · real ḡá aimir ar Éirinn
a tor a éioirḡm fuair ríinn · 'r ní mar oisre i n-ait Tuacail.
105. Mó ar laḡ an iarrarḡ ḡarḡna · maol-ráca ḡan móḡ-ḡarḡa
ḡan ionnta aḡt mar ḡac n-ionáḡ · aḡt beir real ar ríuríuḡaḡ.
106. ḡearr an real ḡuḡraḡ ra éion · aicníro ḡúinn ar don aníḡ
Curo ḡiob ḡan buam aca ríub · aḡt foirneart aḡarḡ ḡ'aimrir.

¹ fáir . . . cáir? Cf. Contrib. sub. cáir. fáir is unusual. ² MSS. na. ³ iv. 33.
⁴ III. 14. ⁵ IV. 36. ⁶ K. II. 174, etc. ⁷ Rennes Dind. § 51. ⁸ <uaḡ? or "lonely" or "uaḡaib" (K²), "strange of them." ⁹ 4 M. 56. ¹⁰ Corb Ólum, cf. *New Irel. Review*, Oct., 1906. ¹¹ K. II. 258. ¹² *i.e.*, r. reáḡḡmar. ¹³ IV. 39.

92. It was not the men themselves who made the trees grow.¹ To cut them down is nothing very difficult. Not man but the Creator caused the lakes and the rivers to burst forth, conspicuously.²
93. Therefore all can see that as the best charter you can mention is not worth discussion your other is not worth considering.
94. As for the bursting of lakes and rivers and the growth of fair-fruited bright-topped trees, attribute not to the king of whom you will find these things told, any credit except what is fitting.
95. If that house of Teamhair of the kings be the inheritance of her (Tea)³ and her race, all the quicker did its possession pass afterwards to the five sons of Eibhear.⁴
96. Before one hundred of your three hundred years⁵ had passed after Iughoine's death, Mogh Corb of Eibhear Fionn's race was full-king over Eire.
97. During six generations⁶ of his race after Mogh Corb, every man of them in the kingly seat, think you that the disposition of Eire made by Iughoine held good?
98. None of us was ever styled king but swayed Eire North and South. What border did they not cross, all the Kings of Mumha Mis?⁷
99. When the title of king passed from them, not Iughoine or his seed but the brave race of Ir came in by force over them.
100. Thus it is clear to all that it cannot be truly said that for three hundred years Banba was ruled by Iughoine's race.
101. It is strange that you seek to-day your title to fierce⁸ Eire on the score of Tuathal. In his own day he met with reverse, nor was it his son that succeeded him.
102. The Aithach Tuatha were in the land, Sanbh, Eochaidh and Foirbriogh.⁹ Stout Tuathal attacked them and forces his terms on them.
103. Of Eibhear's noble race there was then alive only one gentle sensible boy,¹⁰ and he, while Tuathal was winning back his sway, was an exile from the Aithach Tuatha.¹¹
104. Do not think I deny that Feidhlim¹² spent some time ruling Eire. By his sword he won the power, not as Tuathal's heir.
105. Weaker still as a claim to title are the bare useless forts¹³ which differ not from any other spot except that they were built long ago.
106. Short was the time that some of them spent in honour—we both know it now. Your folk had no connection with them except to rule there some time.

107. Ir fearr mór i gcóimneas éad · mar fórsaib oirdeáir id
 puirte fleadáta éibir na n-ead · Corcaé fórsaíre luimnead.
108. Dá mbeir ní ar fórsaib áille · níor dearmairte Dún gCláire
 Dún Iarḡ Cairéal ir Min-más · Áine Cláé ir Ceann Corcaé.
109. Aitcéod bhréire naéarḡ fíor · bíod go dtiocfaḡ tar béal ríog
 oirdear d'fílir ḡá mbiaḡ fíor · dá mbeanad rir an aighear.
110. Tar ceann a dtasrair-re a luḡ · 'r congnam Néill ro ceann⁵
 do cup
 a ḡairm do ceart ní féad ríḡ · an-flait Teamra d'fuir éibir.
111. Eadtrainn pláḡa ná ḡorta · na bflaitear fearrre a rompla
 do teadé ré linn níor léig ríḡ · doirḡ an-flait díob do
 déinní.
112. A bfuil ir fearad do ead · biaḡ cumne a roi-ḡníom go bpláé
 níor ceart an-flait do ḡairm díob · ní léigtear oirra doir-
 ḡníom.
113. Ríḡ mar fóirneart cuile aḡ teadé · impear a ḡceart mar a
 neart
 go briaḡain d'eolcaib maite · ir ríḡ ar ionráḡ an-flaité.
114. Áomáḡ Torna na d'án féin · méad a rḡáta re bhréig Néill
 ionḡnaḡ duit-re a féana roin · mar ḡad féana doḡ féantaib
115. Tairḡa ar d'útear d'áime ír · Cúige Ulaḡ na n-eang min
 ionár Luácair arḡ úr-éar · báḡad nead ré fear-d'útear.
116. Tuigir lué tuigre tromaḡ · an leat éuaḡ d'án díob Torna.
 a báḡ ríḡ nár dearmair roin · tré beir i Luácair Deḡarḡ.
117. Dá ríomtar ríḡ reamra a-raon · na nḡlúimḡ díorḡa ar ḡad
 taob
 ní fúige Torna aḡur luḡ · do bhréir aḡ Miall dá ceatrar.
118. Cuir doḡ deḡán bhréir féin · do ḡeáḡtaoi líḡ do taob Néill
 do báḡar rínnir Cuirre treall⁹ · com-érean ríḡ ar luir
 éireann.
119. Do éin ó Corcaé ó ḡcorcair¹⁰ · ríograḡ ar ró-mó moltair
 nár an tponḡ áirne go teann · uaib i n-oirdeáir éireann.
120. Ní beaḡ d'eiríomláir d'Éirinn · dáta Néill Caille ir férdlim
 Miall do cup ro ríograḡ toir · férdlim do cup ó commarḡ.¹²
121. Fuar a ḡruar ar ḡné mónann¹³ · d'áinn optimus Scotorum
 teirḡ férdlim dá léigtear lat · léig teirḡ Columb ar
 Cormac.

¹Co. Limerick.²Cahir.³n. Bruree.⁴Knockany, Co. Limerick.⁵Cf. "an t-aoḡ d'ána ceann i ḡceann" "all together." r' ón éainte. RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 5.⁶II. 45.⁷K. II. 100, cf. IV. 41, 43.

Torna was of Ir's race.

⁸i.e., 39 and 31.⁹Cf. "i ḡcinn tairll," t.

mcÓáire, RIA. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 27.

¹⁰MSS. 6, í ḡcorcaíḡ. K. II. 386.¹¹r. mac Ciuomáinn, cf. A. Innisf.; CC. § 2.¹²Cf. "cáir do éuaḡ na

cómhbeadé." "in his company." r' ón éainte. RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 21

¹³Cf. mónós. mónaḡán.¹⁴K. II. 349. Reference?

107. If they be compared as seats of power, better are the strong places of the race of Eibhear of the horses, Corcach, Portlairge, Luimneach.
108. Were it a question of fair forts, one should not forget Dun gClaire,¹ Dun Iasg,² Caiseal Magh Min,³ Aine Cliach,⁴ Ceann Coradh.
109. To refute untruth, though it be on the lips of a king, beseems the poet who might know what pertains to the question.
110. Spite of your arguments, O Lugh—and Niall's help given you⁵—you cannot in truth call Eibhear's race "usurpers of Teamhair."
111. You have not read of foreigners, plagues, or famines in their time of sway—better is their example for that! It is hard therefore to make them out usurpers.
112. Their descent all men know. Their good deeds shall be remembered ever. It was not right to call them "usurpers." No evil deed is read of them.
113. It is kings who advance as the crushing might of a torrent, kings who measure their right by their might, whom one may—as good sages attest—justly call "usurpers."
114. Torna admits in his poem how he feared Niall's anger.⁶ Strange that you deny that, like the many other things you deny.
115. The native country of Ir's race is rather Cuige Uladh of the smooth lands than high green-tangled Luachair.⁷ Everyone is fond of his own land.
116. People can understand—'tis a weighty point—that Torna forgot not his love for the North Half—of which he was—through being in Luachair.
117. If the kings preceding them both be counted up in their direct generations on each side, Torna and Lughaidh will not find Niall to have a superiority of eight (over Corc).⁸
118. As to some of this majority which you might find Niall to have, Corc's ancestors were their fellows for a time⁹ in power over Eire.
119. From Corc of the purple ears¹⁰ there descended princes much more highly praised than the race you proudly count as yours in the kingship of Eire.
120. Instance enough for all men (of your bias) in the case of Niall Caille and Feilim¹¹ is that you put Niall in your list of kings and put Feilim out of it (?).¹²
121. Feilim, whose cheek was as the berries,¹³ was called "optimus scotorum." When this testimony to Feilim is being read by you read that of Columb about Cormac (?).¹⁴

122. Léig a gcómh-réim san céim tláir • léig a dá mbeataí 'r
a mbáir
rearr go móir o'friadain iad ro • ná tuain xiolla mo 'Dubda.
123. Móir-gcúir dá n-éanam taróbreac • uo beir bar n-áiream
aróbreac
uo géabtar uaim blaó dá fíor • go nac raib cáe na
ambior
124. Tríúr i n-éin-ré ic áiream míos • oíonh na gcúplaib áirne
óioib
d'éanam nuáire ruar mar rin • ní ceir é o'fíor a n-áirne.
125. Uo géabta mé léigean uaim • i gcuro uoó d'eig-leabráib
éuaró
beas náir léigte dáim um éoró • com-plaie ceatáir i
gcumoirs.
126. Mar rin áiream uo míosraó • nac congnam a mbeie lionnar
uo bús go n-áirnecear lib • umúir trír ar uain éin-rir.
127. Cúir oite ar follar uo cáe • inneoraó ní rgeal san fáe
é-iomaó áirne míos a luí • uo ceat uo cúir nac iongnáó.
128. Teamair breas i mbíoir míos • ar bar gcuro-re éuaró uon tír
ní lammar aet le ró neir • r:úraó an aró-rúir oiréire.
129. An tráe nac teasnaó ní óinn • ná o'ruil luigéac ná
o'ruil ír
ir in teas rin Teamrae breas • beie óib péin ann níorb
airdear.
130. Rí éireann uo gairmí lib • uon tí fá tpeire ar an tíg
tar ceann prearabra rir roin • ó beie i oiréire ar Teamrae.
131. Gairm míos éireann uo gairm óioib • san gabáil giall san
cuairt míos
ná tuis o'Éirinn ní ra mó • rán ngairm aet pars pro toto.
132. Dá dearbáó rin péaca péin • mar beir ceart gae míos
go péil⁴
ní Ua Néill maó neartmar rin • nac uis ceart uo míos
Cairil.
133. Tuigfir ar rin máó áit uaim • nac iomlán uo míosraó éuaró
ní hiomlán éire mar rin • máir curó o'Éirinn ní Cairil.
134. Dearbáó oite ó bfuige a bfuor • ugdair annála ir oiréar
ir ead r:piobair orra amaé • i ngairm na míos ní Teamrae.
135. Móir n-dearbáó pé cúir na éeann • gíó rearbó rin ploinn-
rdear leam
ar gairm míos uo gairm uon o'reim • ar éaó re hurrúinn
o'Éirinn.

¹ Éire ós inir na naem. Todd, Lect. iii, 408. L. had not mentioned him in IV. ² Between Boyne and Liffey. ³ Son of Ith. ⁴ First line of poem. K. Mey. Miscell.

122. Read, without weak bias, the comparison of their reigns, their lives and deaths. As evidence better far are these than Giolla Mo Dhubhda's poem.¹
123. It is pride, making them out to be splendid, which makes your account so boastful. You shall get from me some facts about them, so that none may be ignorant of them.
124. In your account you give as successive kings three reigning together, and also sets of two. It is no trouble for the computer to make up the number thus !
125. I will give you to read in your good Northern books—I was near being silent about it—even four kings reigning together.
126. Such is the counting of your kings that their numerousness avails you not, seeing that you count (as successive) three kings for the period of one.
127. I shall give another reason clear to all, namely that the excess in your numbers is due to a not unnatural cause.
128. Teamhair of the Breagha² where dwelt kings is in your North land. We never ventured, except when we had very great power, to rule that famous stronghold. (K).
129. When there happened to be no king of our stock, or of Lughaidh's,³ or of Ir's, in the place of Teamhair it was no out of the way thing that some of you should be there !
130. You styled anyone who ruled in that palace " King of Eire," even though he had opposition, simply because he ruled in Teamhair.
131. In the title " King of Eire," if there be no taking of hostages or kingly circuit, understand by " Eire " a part for the whole.
132. As proof of that, notice how the " charter of all kings " clearly states that if a king be ruling of the Í Neill, he can claim no rights from Caiseal's king. (K).
133. It shall be seen from my words—if you choose to see it—that your Northern line of kings is not a line of full-kings. The whole of Eire is not meant, seeing the King of Caiseal is part of Eire.
134. Another proof, whence you may learn about them, is that what authors, annals and history write, in naming the kings, is " King of Teamhair."
135. Many strong arguments shall be stated by me, though it may displease you, to show that " king " is applied by you to the line on the strength of only a part of Eire.

136. Ní luḡarḡe áirḡne ar Óonn · tríóca bliáḡan ar an ḡronn
 dá ḡtrian na mbliáḡan náir lam̄ · buam ḡon ḡoinn ḡo bui
 as Coḡan.
137. Cormac ceátraáca bliáḡan · áirḡne ar fḡḡ éireann iac-ḡlan
 ní luḡarḡe áirḡne ḡoin · ḡan umla áise ó fíacáir.
138. Máir as triall ríḡe Mumíneac · mar ḡeir feim-leabap
 cumíneac
 ḡo tuit Cairḡre i ḡeac ḡabpa · níorḡ é an rí ḡan fíreapabpa.
139. Rí ḡ'arḡ-flacáir ḡola Cúinn · Flann oirḡearc mac Maoil-
 Seacúinn
 féac fe mac Lonáin náir lam̄ · imbeirḡ cluice ar Maḡ Áḡair.
140. Rir na ríóḡairḡ uairḡ ḡo b'feairr · ó'ḡéi ar mbeirḡ-ne teann fe
 teann
 na ríḡ pa táire ionáirḡ ḡoin · ná ḡo-máoirḡ oirḡne a luḡarḡ.
141. Dá ḡtiomnaḡ neac ní nac leir · dá cluinn creáḡ a ḡríg
 nó a ḡreir
 dá ḡteasḡmáḡ mar ḡarḡa ḡoin · fealḡ asur ceairc na n-asarḡ.
142. Tuḡar fíreaspa ar é-áiream ríóḡ · ní bíú as leanniam air ḡo
 ríor
 leir ḡo cáe lé ḡtuigḡear ḡoin · iomḡúr ḡo ríóḡ a luḡarḡ.
143. Féac nac déirḡeanac úinn feim · i neairc banba ná ḡ'fuit
 léill
 an trealḡ nac tuḡamar ḡóirḡ · ḡ'iarrairḡ oirpa pa éasḡóir.
144. Ríḡ ba neairḡmairc ná ḡrian · noḡar ḡeimeáḡ riam̄ ó Miall
 ar ctiomna léill dá mbeirḡ cion · níor le ḡrian flairḡear
 ḡaorḡeal.
145. ḡo ḡab ḡonnacáḡ ḡeas-mac ḡrian · bráíḡḡe fe humla na
 ḡiarḡ
 laíḡean mḡḡe ir Muíḡe ḡreacḡ · tar ctiomna léill ḡo
 ḡunneacáḡ.
146. ḡo éairḡ rin dá bliáḡain ḡeacḡ · tar ctiomna a nḡeacá uairḡ
 ḡ'éacḡ
 mac mḡc ḡrian Toirḡealbac teann · i ríḡe or feapairḡ
 éireann.
147. Tuḡ Muirḡearḡeacḡ triacḡ Mumíneac · cloca Ouirḡ ḡo
 Lumneac
 as bar ḡtiomna níor ḡab ceacḡ · buan a ríḡe ríe ríceacḡ.
148. An éirne áirḡirḡ ḡuirḡ-fe · áit cōinne ḡarḡs Caoluirḡe
 ctiomna léill noḡar ḡorḡacḡ · an lá cūḡ Tarḡs tuararḡal.
149. Áoirḡum-fe ríḡ-fe a-rír · bíḡḡ ḡo ḡuirḡerḡ oirairḡ rḡír
 ḡo rairḡ ní ra mó ná leacḡ · ḡ'éirḡinn as Coḡan Tarḡleacḡ.

¹ Not in IV. ² F. Muilleathan, K. II. 320. ³ Cf. infr. 182. ⁴ K. II. 354.

⁵ Not in A.U., Chr. Scot., etc. The story is given in the so-called "Book of Munster" (T.C.D., 1281; RIA. 23 E. 26). Flann in Tara boasted that he

136. You assign ¹ to Conn thirty years over the land, though for two-thirds of them he dared not meddle with Eoghan's share.
137. You put Cormac as reigning forty years on the fair soiled land of Eire, though he got no submission from Fiachaidh.²
138. If it was when seeking the kingship of the men of Munha—as the old recording book ³ says—that Cairbre fell at Gabhar ⁴ he was no "king unchallenged."
139. See how great Flann, son of Maoilsheachluinn, a prince of Conn's race dared not on Magh Adhair ⁵ play the game of chess with Lonan's son.
140. As you see that we can match your best kings, do not boast over-much against us of your lesser ones.
141. Were one to bequeath a thing, not one's own, to one's children, what would be its use or profit if, as is the case of your kings, possession and right were against them (the children).
142. I have answered your account of the kings. I shall not pursue this matter for ever. Everyone, who understands what I have said, sees clearly the truth as to your kings.
143. Is it not—just think of it—too late now for our race, or for Niall's race, to claim—unjustly too—power over Banba, which we did not give them in their day.
144. Never were born of Niall's race kings stronger than Brian. Had there been any regard for Niall's testament,⁶ Brian would never have ruled the Gaedhil.
145. Donnchadh, Brian's goodly son, took,⁷ as his father before him, in token of submission the hostages of the Laighin, of Meath, of Magh Breagh. That was against Niall's testament.
146. Stout Toirdhealbach,⁸ son of Brian's son, spent twelve years ruling Eire, in spite of the testament of your departed kings.
147. Muircheartach, lord of the men of Mumha, brought the stones of Oileach to Luimneach,⁹ asking no leave of your "testament." Long was his reign, the length of twenty years.¹⁰
148. You know of the Eirne, Tadhg Caoluisge's meeting place. Niall's testament was not observed the day that Tadhg gave his stipend.¹¹
149. I repeat it again—though it may fatigue you—that more than half of Eire was in possession of splendid Eoghan.

could play chess in every cantred in Eire. Flann McLonain dared him to do so on Magh Adhair. The king marches thither, and is about to play with Flann McLonain when the Dal gCais attack the royal army and force it to retreat. ⁶ IV. 47-8. ⁷ A.U. 1026. ⁸ K. III. 294. ⁹ 4 M. 1101.

¹⁰ K. III. 297. ¹¹ *i.e.*, to Brian O'Neill, cf. VII. 255, where the northern version is given. 4 M. 1258; A.U. 1258.

150. Créad nár áiríúir tríócáir céad · fuil do éuréadai im leir-re
bréas
mar táir ríriobta ó pé na rean · munar lór áiréam cúigead.
151. Meartar na hoét utriócáir déas · atá i Míde go líon réad
zar go bfuil a oiréad roin · dar tacaib uaid do Connaécaib.
152. An cúigead rin cloinne hír · cúipe mar éaróbre i nbar tóir
a tucad óó do bpeit síll · ní don élar aét dá fóirinn.
153. Maíe fuairéad riuó Banba · aró féirir leo do labra
re cloinn ír read zac cinead · níor éumáim nár cúitigead.
154. San cúigead tuair ir ead tiz · cúig tríócáir déas ar píctó
áiríútear a oiréad roin · ann zac cúigead don Mumam.
155. Ar éirí Eošan Móir na réad · do péir áiríú tríócáir céad
beas nac fuil do bair tar leat · már bpeir do cúigead
Lairnead.
156. Ranna do éromad bar bpeir · rada ón adbar zan buain fur
áiréam do mín-leiré Cumn · do déanam mar leir coméruim.
157. Na ranna páiré romhe · ranna iad do péir toir
níor zarnead díob romad maí · mar ainm ceir-leat nó
ceir-érian.
158. Raim píl Neimead díongna¹⁰ a ráó · trí deicneabair líon a plóg
zan for ó ionad ó'ionad · zan ainm re háiréad.
159. An ríocét do b'feair iar Neimead · do raim éirínn fa
deiréad
ór éárrad naoi ríú don tóruis · ar a raimn ir ead éanam.
160. Raim toiré do rónrad rin · dá mac Éirne mic Éirir
raimn com-érom ní harreá d'fíor · toir róiréar ir rínnrear.
161. Ór é Moš Nuadad fuair comá · ní leat éraoic aét leat
Moša
ainm na leiré ar mó ná leat · bí as tréan-Eošan Taróleat.
162. Mar do éanar tréan Eošan · do éraoic tuz leir na deorad
d'fíonmáil d'fíaca Capan can · zac treire dár zád
Tuatal.
163. Ir follur nac dearmar trom · réad mar deire péim ar Conn
a amur ar maíom moic · ir Eošan ar a leadad.

¹ C. included Thomond, etc., till middle of 3rd cent. ² IV. 51. ³ *i.e.*, not as in our taking of Thomond. ⁴ Cf. XXVIII. ⁵ K. I. 119. ⁶ K. I. 122. ⁷ *i.e.*, Munster (70 cantreds) — Leinster (31) are almost one and a half times as big as Connaught (30) + Ulster (35) + Meath (18). ⁸ IV. 52. ⁹ K. I. 106.
¹⁰ Cf. "díongna nac deanna mé túr mo móla maí romhe," Δ. Ó Dálaigh, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 14; "ní d. a nool tar cumhe," T. McDáire, RIA. 23 A. 30, p. 87, v. 3; ní fear daib ní díongan (-na ?) jub," F. Ón Cánté, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 2; Laws Gloss.; Contrib. sub. "díongnatach."
¹¹ K. I. 174. ¹² Cearna and Sobhairce. ¹³ K. gives 23, XVIII. gives 25. The set of nine Irian kings ruling almost uninterruptedly are here referred to.
¹⁴ Niall said (II. 24) that Fraoch (son of King of Spain) was the cause of Mogh's getting Leath Mogha. O'Clery adopted this version, IV. 56. Cf. B. of Magh Léana. ¹⁵ They helped Tuathal. K. II. 243. ¹⁶ IV. 58.

150. If the counting of the provinces does not satisfy you, why did you not—before accusing me of falsehood—count the cantreds, as they are written since the days of the ancients?
151. Let the eighteen cantreds in many-treasured Midhe be considered. On our side there is almost that amount of the Connachta¹ taken from you.
152. As for Clann Ir's province, which you claim as a proud possession in your part of the land,² the pledges given by it (to C. Neill) were not part of its land, but only some of its people (as hostages).³
153. Banba's poets did well to invent all they could in praise of Ir's race beyond others. It was a favour not left unrequited.⁴
154. In the Northern Province there are thirty-five cantreds.⁵ That much is counted in each of the Provinces of Mumha.⁶
155. In the share of great Eoghan of the treasures there is, reckoning by cantreds, almost a superiority of half (over the rest of Éire),⁷ if one adds the Province of the Laighin to it.
156. The divisions (you quote) to prove your theory are far from the mark, and have nothing to do with the point, namely to make out Conn's small half to be an equal half.
157. The divisions you mention before that one (between Conn and Mogh)⁸ were arbitrary ones. No one before you ever called them "equal half" or "equal third."
158. Strange¹⁰ of you to mention the division made by Neimheadh's race.⁹ Thirty was the number of their host.¹¹ They ceased not going from place to place, and waited not to settle on the land.
159. The division on which I am dwelling (as being an arbitrary one) is that made by the strongest race¹² which after Neimheadh finally divided Éire, and whence sprang nine kings.¹³
160. The two sons¹² of Eibrioc, Eibhear's son, made an arbitrary division. No one could expect a division between younger and elder to be equal.
161. As it was Mogh who exacted his terms, "Mogh's Half," not "Fraoch's Half"¹⁴ is the name of the Half—really more than a half—which was held by Eoghan.
162. As you ascribed Eoghan's power to Fraoch who welcomed him when exiled, you had better ascribe to Fionnmhall or to Fiacha Casan¹⁵ the dominion got by Tuathal? (K).
163. Clearly I did not slander Conn. See, you yourself mention¹⁵ his morning-attack on Eoghan while in bed.

164. Dá gcuirtear fógra cafa • uair meampa i gceann na flata
pollur lé ndearna ar a fuan • nac biaó a éas ré ionluad.
165. Ní mionna anú go d'ána • réana a gniomh ar luğ lása
do réantaí ar péin san éat • tuirim gur trí nís Ultae.
166. Ní ar laigrib déct ar Mumain • do iarr Cormac a cumail
do bpiğ gur le luğ do tuic • Arct dom-pear aear Cormaic.
167. munab é luğ do marb Arct • creáto fáir iarr Cormac a mac
ro huét cafa Cionna ar luğ • ceann níos i n-íoc a aear.
168. Níor éur luğ fá tréan i ttrear • ir pinn saoi Cormaic
ré énear
'r níor éur Cormac go gcuimne • bár Arct i leit líoğairne.
169. Mar rin nac féoir a éur • marbáó Arct dom-fir tar luğ
muna bfuil teip ar fearr lat • ioná luğ a gur Cormac.
170. Na heáctrainn éugrao leo a-nall • an dá luğaró nár éréit
bann
o'irpeamhain don oír tar muir • éanğar ar a noúcais.
171. Saob an bpeáclú gniomh a fluaig • do buam don flait
beirpear buaró
'r nac le a don-lámh péin do gáó • Alexanóer an doimán.
172. Dámaó ar don-lámh do biaó • maróm éafa nó gabáil gíall
ní raibe i Macromie ann roin • lámh ba meáó⁷ do lámh luğaró.
173. Ní rsgriobaro bar n-eolais péin • do ríol Eirpeamóim go léir
teipó luigéad mar labrao rin • a fáimail do glún gairgíó.
174. Mo náire a luğaró a luad • mar éis tú tar Caoille an
Druid
éigin dáin dá élaoclóó roin • ríunne an rseil do leamhain.
175. Cormac péin éug leir a tuaró • oraoite o'irparó beirce
buaró
oár éraíğreao uirge Mumhan • ceátra ir doime ar o'ior-
muğad.
176. Dealbair mar fearain dá rrairinn • caoir rir nac gabaoir
airin
már mairead an iarraró neirc • doo nís onérad oirdeirc.
177. Cuipró fluağ Mumhnead a-muig • ríor ar an rean-oraoi
Moğ Ruic
dá bfuair o'fearann fearad o'uit • ar éorğ oraoideáct
o'ruadó Cormaic.

¹ IV. 59. ² K. II. 290. ³ K. II. 318. ⁴ K. II. 288. ⁵ IV. 61, 62.

⁶ L. Mac Con and L. Lamha got Britons to help them, K. II. 281. ⁷ Cf. "an maréóin a meáó roin"; "meáó o'earğar na huairre-re," T. McÓáire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 8, 1. "Donnéad fear nac racló a meáó," Poem "eug oom áire," T.C.D. 1281, v. 41. ⁸ L. Lamha. ⁹ Cf. XXV. 5, n. ¹⁰ IV. 64. ¹¹ K. II. 320. ¹² M. C. II. 214. ¹³ *i.e.*, Caoille an Druidh, IV. 65, 3. ¹⁴ For gen. sg. in -áct, cf. "meipre ar méro ar o'riom-ğuaráct," T. McÓáire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 28, v. 2.

164. Had a battle-summons been sent an hour previously to the prince, it is clear, from what that prince did when he was awake, that his death would not have to be recorded.
165. It is not strange that his exploits should be denied to Lughaidh Lagha.¹ It was even denied to his face in the battle that the three kings of the Ulaidh fell at his hands.²
166. Not from the Laighin but from Mumha did Cormac demand the cumhal³ on account of Art Aoinfhear, Cormac's father, being killed by Lugh.
167. If it was not Lugh who slew Art why did Art's son, Cormac, ask from Lugh before the battle of Crionna a king's head as blood-price for his father? ⁴
168. Neither brave Lugh, even when Cormac's spear was at his skin, nor Cormac ever attributed, as far as we remember, Art's death to Lioghairne.⁵
169. Thus, you cannot attribute Art's death to anyone but Lugh,— unless you have some better testimony than Lugh and Cormac!
170. As for the foreigners, whom the two Lughaidhs ⁶ of stout deeds brought over with them, it was for the service of the pair that they came from their land over-seas.
171. It is a perverse thought to deny to the victorious prince the glory of his host's deeds, seeing that it was not with his own single hand that even Alexander conquered the world.
172. If the winning of a fight, or the taking of hostages, had depended on the hand of any one man, there was not at Mucroime any hand as heavy ⁷ as Lughaidh's.⁸
173. Even your own learned men, when they give testimony to Lughaidh, do not mention in all the race of Eireamhon any hero ⁹ like him.
174. I am ashamed to repeat what you say of Caoille an Druadh.¹⁰ I must to refute what you say, detail the truth of the story.
175. It was Cormac himself who brought from the North,¹¹ to conquer by means of them, druids at whose word Mumha's waters ebbed away, and cattle and men were parched.
176. As a resource for their fight, the druids form fire-balls,¹² against which arms availed not,—if that be, for your honourable noble king, a creditable means of getting power!
177. The host of Mumha then send for the old wizard Moghruith. You know of the land ¹³ he got for checking the wizardry ¹⁴ of Cormac's druids.

178. Coirgair Moḡ Ruic ceirto na noḡuaḡ • 'r ar a fon to ḡlac a
luac¹
Fiaḡa Mumineac to elaoi a nearc • nioḡ elaoi Moḡ Ruic
acḡ ḡraoḡeacḡ.
179. Ann nḡac ionacḡ ceap ip ceuarḡ • i ḡpuil rḡḡioḡca roair an
trluaiḡ
ar a n-abraim an-oipe • toḡḡaim i maḡ fiaḡnaipe.
180. ḡion ḡur maorḡear baḡ Caireḡe • lem faigtoib aḡail faigtoe
to beap ḡann ḡa ḡearḡacḡ foim • o uḡḡar doḡḡa eaḡnarḡ.
181. An ḡann-ra a ḡear im ḡeaḡarḡ • muna ḡpuil leat to
meabair
to ḡeabḡa ré léigean leam • i ḡcuro ḡ'arḡ-leabḡaib éipeann.
182. Aḡ trual ḡiḡe Mumineac maḡ • ba foirneair an flaitéainnar
le Moḡ Coḡb mac Cair éreacḡarḡ • to ceap Cairḡe lreacḡair.
183. To ḡeallair ḡan maorḡean éacḡ • an ḡa ḡroḡḡ rin ḡo líon
ḡcḡeacḡ
foim Moḡa Coḡb ériḡe Mir • ip tar ḡeallacḡ to maorḡir.
184. Comeollao mo ḡeallacḡ féin • ḡan maorḡean éacḡ ar to
féim
o nac é a noéanaim to b'feairr • maḡ onóir to ériḡe éipeann.
185. Feairr maḡ molaḡ ḡoib a-raon • ná maorḡean éacḡ ar ḡac
taob
ḡac ní ar a ḡpuiḡceap a ḡpior • fip-ḡreacḡa foir-ḡnioim ruamneap.
186. Cuminiḡ féin ar léigeadḡ lat • an ḡreacḡuir cia fil uapḡ
tabair fúil ceap ar ḡac taob • ainic nac elaoḡ to éataoir.
187. Déanta ḡuit ḡála líeḡe • it aḡairḡ o tarḡe tréḡe
féacḡa féin an móir ré meap • cóir it aḡairḡ doir oideap.
188. Ar ḡraḡ ḡpuiḡce ceap nó ceuarḡ • ar a noiom-buarḡ nó
ar a mbuarḡ
nár fáḡḡa rinne ḡair n-éir • ní baḡ ain-ḡpior ré fairnéir.

ÉISO.

¹ MSS. ór ar a fon ḡlac a luac.² K. II. 354. In the "Book of Munster" (supra 138) a stanza is quoted apparently from doḡ Albanac, "aḡ trual ḡiḡe Mumineac maḡ • foiréan a flaitéainnar : le moḡ Coḡb

178. Moghruith baffled the druids' arts, and got the reward for that.¹
Fiacha of Mumha broke the strength of the Northerns.
Moghruith only destroyed their wizardry.
179. I take the story of that hosting where it is found written every-
where North or South to witness to the truth of what I say.
180. Though I did not use Cairbre's death as one of my shafts,
I will give you a verse to prove it from an ancient learned
author.
181. You as well as I shall be able to read in some of the great books
of Eire, if you do not know it by heart, this verse which I shall
now quote.
182. "When attempting the dominion of the fair men of Mumha—
an act of oppression was this sovereign deed—by Mogh Corb
son of Cas the reaver was Cairbre Lifeachair slain."²
183. You promised³ not to mention the crimes of the two many-
plundering races, yet against your promise⁴ you boasted
of the slaying of Mogh Corb of Crioich Mis.⁵
184. I will keep my promise not to mention the crimes of your
stock, since the commission of them was not what did most
honour to the land of Eire.
185. Better praise for them both than the telling of their crimes is the
telling of the true judgments the noble conduct and peaceful-
ness of every king, of whom are told these things.
186. Reflect on what you have read. Do you realise who is above
you? Examine the subject in every way. Take care lest your
poet's chair be partial.
187. You must act as Neidhe,⁶ for you have against you three things
—you can see whether they are important or not—right,
antiquity, learning.
188. May we never, through love of either North or South,
influenced by their defects or their excellences, leave after
us anything untruthful to tell!

MAC CAIR ÉIOÉAIG : DO ÉGAR CAIRBRE LIFEACHAIR." ³ IV. 4 ⁴ IV. 66
⁵ C A. 191 ; Eriu III. 139, 4. ⁶ N. yielded up poet's chair to superior claims
of Ferchertne, MC. ii. 315 ; Rev. Celt. xxvi. MSS. Mat. 383.

RO ÉUALA AR ÉASRAIS A ÉAIÚS. LUŠAIÚ Ó CLÉIRIŠ, cci.

1. RO ÉUALA AR ÉASRAIR A ÉAIÚS · A ÉLOIRÓIN NÍ ÉÚIR IOMAIRS
AÉT AN BÉAD SÓ ÉUR AR ŠEÚL · 'R ŠAN PÁIRÉ ARATE Ó'ÍOMPÚÓ.
2. ÓO BÉAR-PA AIRÉ ÓURO-PE · TAP ÉEANN TORNA PAN TPOIO-PE
LE PÍPINNE BPIRTEAR CAC · PAN ŠLIARÓ MAÓ CALMA AN ÉIONTACÉ.
3. Ó NAÉ FUITIM TEANN PE TEANN · ANPAÓ I BPOF MIPÓE LEAM
NÍ PEARRI ÓAOIB MO ÓUL BA ÓEAR · IM ÓÁN IP MEAPA M'AIŠNEAR.
4. NÍ ÉIRTIÓB ÓUIT ÓÉANAM TPIUM · TAP MAŠAIL AR ÉLANNAB
CUMN
'R ŠAC A NÓEARNAP OPM BAÓ ÓÉIN · ATÁM OPMAMAC AINN-PEIN
5. NÁ BIÓÓ PEARŠ AR LEIT MOŠA · PÁ NŠOIN I N-ASARÓ ŠONA
ÓÁ PAIB BIÓÓ A N-AITÉBEAR OPM · TPÉ É'PÁLA ² ÓÓIB ÓO ÓÚPACÉ.
6. NÍ BIÁ PE POPIÓÉAR NÓÁNA · 'R A LÁN ASAM PE PÁÓA
BAP N-EANG-PA ÓÁ LEANTAR LEAM · NÍ BIA M'FUIŠLE ŠO HAÉ-
ŠEAPP.
7. ŠIBÉ PPEAM Ó BPUIL ÓO ÉÚIR · ÓO BEANAP I ŠO BPIOR ÓÚINN
CEANNAP ÉIPEAMÓIN NÁPÓ PANN · AR ÉI BEARNAP ÓO ÓEAPÓBAM.
8. PÉAC LEAT LEABAR NA HUIÓPE · IP ANN ÓEAPÓÓEAD M'FUIŠLE
IP AN AMHAP I ÓTÉIO PIB · AR BPEIT AMHAPŠIN ŠLÚM-ŠIL.
9. BPEIT AMHAPŠIN ÓN UAIR PIN · ATÁ I NÉIPIUNN ŠÁ N-UAIRTIB
ÓO BÉAR POPS ÓÁ ÓEAPÓBÓ ÓEIT · ŠO BPUIL NA PEIM-BPEIT
OIPÓPEIC.
10. ÓO ŠÉABA AN POPS-PA MAÓ ÁIL · I NOLIŠÉIB PÍÓŠ INPE PÁIL
EAGNA LE HEAGLAIR A-ÓIP · ASUP PEABÓA IA PLAITIB.
11. MAÓ É AN T-ÓŠ BUP POPIÓÉE ŠNÍOM · TOŠÉAR É PAN PUIÓÓ
PÍÓŠ
ŠIBÉ ŠÁ MBÍ AN EAGNA LAIR · IP É TOŠÉAR PAN EAGLAIR.
12. NÁ HABAIR ŠUPAB PIMPIR · ÓO TOŠÉAOI I NÉIPIUNN INPIRŠ
MIMIC ÓO ÉUAIÚ ÓŠ TAP PEAN · I NOLIŠEAD MAICNE MILEAD.
13. MÓPÓÁR PEANÉAR AR ŠAC TAÓIB · NAÉ PAŠÉAR I POPS NÁ I LAORÓ
AR LAORÓ PÉIN NÍ PAŠÉAR ÓAC · ŠAN LEABAR ŠLAN ÓÁ ÉUMÓACÉ.
14. A NÓUBAIR PE NÉI BEAR PIONN · MÁR BPEAS MAP A-ÓEIRE PUM
ÓO PÁOIL PINNE ŠÁ PÁÓA · ŠUPÓ PÍOP LEABAR ŠABÁLA.
15. ÓON LEABAR PIN CPÉIÓÓ CAC · ÓO BPEASNUIS TÚ ŠIBÉ PÁC
I N-IONGNAD NÍ CUPÉA ÓÚINN · CUPÉAR PAOIB-ÉIALL PA
PŠPIOPÓPIR.

¹ V. 140.² Cf. ŠAN PÁLA. 4 M. 1493.³ MSS. POPIÓAR, cf. XX. 4⁴ V. 12.⁵ Laws, vol. IV., p. 372.⁶ V. 26.

[Answer to V.]

1. I have listened to your argument, Tadhg. The hearing of it does not urge me to quarrel, but to refute your falsehood without perverting the other side (yours).
2. On behalf of Torna in the dispute I will face you. By truth is the battle won, even if the erring party be brave in strife.
3. Since I am not your match (?) ¹ I will remain here. I am sorry to do so. But it would not be good for you if I went South, for my fighting power is not so good in poetry (as in arms).
4. I will not listen to your harsh unfair words against Conn's race. As regards your conduct to me, I still maintain my respectful attitude towards you.
5. Let not Leath Mogha be angry at being wounded in return for her blows. If she be, let her reproach fall on you for arousing their old enmity.²
6. I shall not aim at the perfection ³ of poetic rule as I have very much to say. If I follow your tracks my arguments will not be short.
7. I have cut away, I know, whatever be the source of your case, for I have shown the supremacy of strong Eireamhon over Eibhear.
8. Look at the Book of the Dun Cow. In it I will prove my judgment, and show the mistake you make as to the judgment of white-kneed Aimbirgin.⁴
9. I will give you a *ros*g to show that an established famous judgment is the judgment of Aimbirgin, which is observed in Eire since then by her nobles.
10. You shall find if you wish this *ros*g in the book of the Laws of Inis Fail. "Knowledge," it says, "for the church, and excellence of character for princes."⁵
11. If it be the younger who is perfect in deeds he is chosen for the throne, the man who has learning is chosen for the church.
12. Say not that elders were always chosen in insular Eire.⁶ Often did the younger take precedence of the elder in the law of Mile's race.
13. Much of our ancient history everywhere is not contained in *ros*g or poem, and even a poem is not convincing unless it has an exact book to support it.
14. If my words about Eibhear Fionn be false, as you tell me, I thought that at least the Book of Invasion was truthful when saying those words.
15. Others believe that book, which you for some reason reject. That however is not strange, for foolish senses are read even into Scripture.

16. Cneoró tó 'do na leabhaib . maó ní taiténeap léo meannam
már faible ip mílir a mbíap . maó me píol n'Éibir beanap.
17. Níor rsgriobad éin-leabap maó . ip an doimán tóir ná tíar
sro é an rsgriortúir do-rsara¹ . pa mian píu na hantola.
18. Sibé fuair ceannap ran Spáin . tar Éibear b'fionn pé
óteact oáib
ná cuir i n-ionghad i b'pú . a beit ór éad i sceannur.
19. An tiberma a-oeipe . o'raicim i oteangtaib eile
ran scár rin éoróde ná cneio . i oteangtaib nac í an Scoitic.
20. San Scoitic má fuair éin-feap . saim Niberma ó Éibear
feap an fínné² ná a b'fuit lat . don dá béapla reactmozat.
21. Ip uirre ar mó atá o'raicuib . coméad feandap fúinn
fiaéad
as rin fáe ar a noleasap . mo éadapad do cneioeamain.
22. 'Do léigir féin fiad fúinó . do saim don Éirinn fúilig³
cnead an fáe a roubrad ma . má b'péas tionntúó Niberma.
23. Munab as fuinead s'péine . atá an tír d'an haimm Éipe
ná cneio 'duain feandap ar fean . Canam Dunadap na
n'saoréad.
24. Míran arto tóir éirgeap s'pian . ó nac luigeann ran arto tíar
fuinead s'péine ó nac áil . ní cóir teact tar a túrgháil.
25. Mar tá a píor as scá éin-feap . Niberma nac ó Éibear
s'p' b'péas dúinn dá 'deapad ort . an rrué Niber a-oubarc.
26. Míre an feandap a óimra . 'r nac fuair pé act real
biaóna
don teit ar tuza o'lat b'péas . saim Niberma ó Éibear.
27. Leat Éibir má' píor 'duro-re . ip í ar feap don dá 'duro-re
dámad píor do b'fallra an b'péat . ná 'deap ar act go
hairéad.
28. 'Do ólig Éipeamón Teamra . tar Éibear go méad meanna
an leat ar feap o'lmir b'péas . dá rcpéide do 'ad laigean.
29. Níor luza do míl do meap . an taob 'duro-re ná an taob 'deap
me um panna an dá tionól . Éibear fionn ip Éipeamón.
30. Feaps an naomí neimníg ní b'péas . rus ar mbead i loó
Déiréad
an bap meala maoródeap líb . ní raibe i n-amríp Éibir.

¹ ? MSS dá p. cf. Stories fr. Táin (K). ² V. 37. ³ Cf. " nó ní ar fáide dom
fínné," t. ós ó h'uirinn, R.I.A. 23 D. 14, p. 5, v. 16; " 'deap'ar air o'áil ip
o'fínné," Soim. mac an Óimro, R.I.A. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 67. ⁴ IV. 14, 17.
⁵ Cf. tiocpad b'p' fúilead am-fuad," t. McÓáipe, R.I.A. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 20;
" bean d'áil an ós-náir fúilead . as tógháil clann s'comoréad," é. McCraic,
R.I.A. 23 M. 24, p. 27, v. 4. ⁶ By maolmíre O'na, given in Todd's
Nennius, p. 220. ⁷ IV. 16. ⁸ K. II. 104. ⁹ V. 27, 28. ¹⁰ n. Geashill. Cf.
Cath Tailten in LL. ¹¹ V. 33. ¹² Reference? In Laws, iv. 196 "ecmocht"
is glossed "in locha .i. locha bel set." Colm Cille is called "an naomí
neimnead" in poem of Tomás McÓáipe, R.I.A. 23 D. 5, p. 276, v. 23.

16. You believe the books if there be something in them that pleases your feelings. Even if they be fables, sweet is their taste if they refer to Eibhear's race.
17. No book was ever written in the world, East or West—even the Scriptures you pull to pieces¹—to suit the whim of the perverse-minded man.
18. Think it not strange that the man who held sway in Spain over Eibhear, before they came here, should rule over all here.
19. As regards "Hibernia," which you say is to be found in other tongues,² in such cases never trust any tongue but the Scotie.
20. If anyone ever derived in Scotie "Eibhear" from "Hibernia" it would be better evidence³ than what you know of the seventy-two languages.
21. It is therefore the more its (the S. language) duty to preserve the tradition of Fiacha's Land (K). That is why it is right to believe my meaning of the word.⁴
22. You have read the phrase "land of the sunset" applied to warlike Eire.⁵ Why was that said of her if my translation of Hibernia be wrong?
23. If it is not at the sunset that lies the land called Eire, believe not the historical poem of the ancients "Let us sing the origin of the Gaoidhil."⁶
24. As, according to you, the sun does not set in the West, it does not rise in the East. As then you don't like "setting of sun" you should not speak of its rising either.
25. As everyone knows that "Hibernia" does not come from "Eibhear" I think that the river Hiber, which I mentioned,⁷ is proof enough of it for you.
26. Your idea that Hibernia is named after Eibhear is the worse for its being unintelligible, seeing that he only had a year's rule over the lesser half of the Land of the Breagha.⁸
27. According to you Eibhear's Half is the better of the two.⁹ If so, Aimhirgin's judgment would have been false. Be cautious in arguing from that (assumption of yours).
28. Eireamhon of Teamhair, and not great-hearted Eibhear, had the right to the better half of the Isle of the Breagha, if you believe the Battle of Laighen.¹⁰
29. Not inferior in honey and fruit¹¹ was the North to the South on the day of the sharing between the two hosts, Eibhear and Eireamhon.
30. It was the anger of the angry saint—it is no lie—that produced our bees at Loch Belsead.¹² The plenty of honey, which you boast of, existed not in Eibhear's day.

31. Má bí péto éat'raoib' d'úinn · ní fuil ionnta déct oil i n-úir²
 do éumne ar sabáltar n'áall · roéar d'Éibeap ní déanann.
32. Má tá lib' enuapac' eumra · do éaoib' roéar' bar lub'gorr
 ní cóir teact' tar éoil' mar' rin · naé raibe i n-ainp'ir.
 Éibir.
33. Do éeil tú inbeapa an éir' · do buí ar éuro Éireamóm féil
 pasam a n-aiéxin⁴ a'raib' · rompa i b'pur dá b'uarpaodar.
34. Seim-b'riat'ar leam na n-a'aró · ón air' éuar' éis an éabair
 na hu'ar' do réanaó' trom · ar an air' éuar' dá lab'ram.
35. Curo dom' deap'baó' dá éor'nam · do réab'ra i scat' Ceall
 Ornaó
 bail' nar' éuit' le mac' Earpa · ní Cairil' 'r a' éuroeacta.
36. Má' i leat' Éibir do b'earr · créat' éus' d'Éireamóm san
 feall
 naé i do fealbuis' fa' deoró · iar' n-aé'roinn' Éireann dá
 ain'oeoin.
37. Do raó cóiseaó' do mac' Ír · iar' mar'baó' Éibir rán' tír
 i n-ainn' dá éúiseaó' do bir · an Mumá do éloinn' Éibir.
38. d'Éibeap' fionn' ní deap'ra tír · bar' n'p'earaéct' oir'nn' so
 r'ioéct' Ír
 rinn' ó éerte' ní éuirpe · d'aoib'-pe' d'ra'áil' fuaruis'ce.
39. Scé' rann' dá b'uar'p'rao' r'ioéct' Ír · dá'p' o'oil' féim' do
 beap'rao' óinn'
 ní han'laró' rin' éap'ra an' leat' · do bí uaid'-pe' a's' r'ioéct'
 Lu'zéaeá.
40. Ríse' Mumán' scé' pe' b'raéct' · do buí a's' Dáir'ine' tré' neap'
 sup' élac' Oilioil' Ólum' éiar' · Lu'za' mar' dá'ra ó' Maic'niaó.
41. Ní mó' ná an' leat' eile' dí · eap'raib'-pe' ir' éap'ra do bí
 créat' i an' roinn' i raibe · r'ap'ra'is' doct' C'at' Muc'roime.
42. An' leat' do bí a's' Éibeap' fionn' · má' leat' éom't'rom' ní léir' tiom
 ar' do leir'-r'géat' má' tá' daé · ní féat' ar' noú'ra'is' d'ró'laé.¹³
43. Romn' éloinne' Deata' mic' Lóis' · má' innte' éuir'ci' bar' noú'is'
 níor'ib' f'ú¹⁶ a' n-eolur' ar' an' b'ronn' · roinn' na' scú'iseaó' i
 scoim't'rom.

¹ V. 105. ² For "oil(e) i n-úir," cf. 3 Sh. also "cionnur rin ir' soipe ar' n'geoil' · goin an' taoib' na hoile i n-úir," A. Ó Dála'is, R.I.A. 23 G. 23, p. 279, v. 5; "or'geolaró' a' épor'oe na' éléib' · éair'bean'raó' an' oile i n-úir," id., p. 236, v. 9; "eap'rao' goin an' éille' raóir' · eap'raó' linne' a'oil' i n-úir," Ó Maoil'ciaráin, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 152, v. 34. ³ V. 33. ⁴ Cf. also "aié'geall," C. Mc'Dáimé, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 185, v. 10. ⁵ V. 34. ⁶ Cf. poem "atuaró' iar'p'ar' cabair' éái's," MSS. Mat. 625. Ón' air'., O'C. Donn's bk., p. 144. ⁷ AU. 490, 4 M. 489. ⁸ K II. 108. ⁹ L. mac' Ith, K. II. 277. ¹⁰ He married Sadhb, widow of Maic'niadh and mother of Mac Con. A dispute between Eoghan, son of Oilil, and Mac Con, his stepson, led to the expulsion of Mac Con. ¹¹ K. II.

31. Talk not to us of your forts.¹ They are only graves.² Your mention of the invasion of the Gaill is no service to Eibhear's cause.
32. If you have a fragrant gathering from the goodness of your gardens,³ you should not speak of such trees which existed not in Eibhear's day.
33. You omitted to mention the fishy estuaries in the portion of generous Eireamhon. Let us hear of something in your country like ⁴ what the Northerns found waiting for them here.
34. I have an old proverb against them,⁵ viz., "From the North comes help,"⁶ if we are to be told of the writers who would speak harshly of the North.
35. Some of the proofs of what I assert you shall find in the "Battle of Ceall Osnadh,"⁷ where Caiseal's king and troops fell at the hand of Erc's son.
36. If Eibhear's Half was the better, what caused guileless Eireamhon not to take it finally, when Eire was divided a second time spite of Eibhear?
37. He gave a province to Ir's son, after slaying Eibhear fighting for the land, and he gives Mumha to Eibhear's race, calling it two provinces.⁸
38. Your egging us on to attack Ir's race has not shown the land to be Eibhear's. You shall not separate us (cl. Eir. and cl. Ir) so as to get gentler treatment for yourself.
39. Every share which Ir's race got, they got it from us with our free consent. It was not so with the share which Lughaidh's⁹ race held, getting it from you.
40. The rule of Mumha was in turn with the Dairine (and Derg-thine) by right of force, until Oilill Olum¹⁰ in the west got Lughaidh (Mac Con) as a fosterling from Maicniadh.
41. Only the other half of Mumha was shared between you and the Earna.¹¹ As to the way it was shared see your "Battle of Mucroimhe."¹²
42. I do not see that Eibhear Fionn's half was an equal half. Even if your story is at all probable, it does not depreciate¹³ the greatness of our country.¹⁴
43. As to the division made by the sons of Deala Mac Loigh¹⁵—if you take your stand on that—their knowledge of the land was not fit¹⁶ to divide the provinces evenly.

231; Silv. Gad. ¹² in LL. Silv. Gad., &c. ¹³ Cf. use of cestim. φοταίσim, I hide, do away with. Cf. το φαλαίς ζαε ανηραετ, poem "βημαερα εοζαυο ζον εαε λαίσηεαε," by Σειερίν ηόηη, l. 32. ¹⁴ V. 155. ¹⁵ K. I. 107
¹⁶ ηύ=fit, able to, cf. VI. 119; XVIII. 22; "η ηύ αν ε-οεταη οελα ηη οίον," Δ. Ο Φάλαίς, R.I.A. 23 G. 23, p. 294, v. 13.

44. Roimn aicé-gearr do péir toite • do rónrao rin pé poite
poimn síor san éombáiró maicne • do poimn Cearmna ir
Sobarree.
45. Roimn toite ní ní ar gnátaé • toir óir mór óir brácar
za poimn epíce ir gnáitce tol • toir cúigeap nó ceatrap.
46. Do dhearbáó ar poimn toite • do déanaíó dóib pé poite
zaé porc i ucígoir i ucír • do anrao aní san eipríó.
47. Mór poimn éapc ar aoi n-anma • tusaó fír bolg ar
Damba
ir ceapc don moígaró do zaó • an Mumha mar dá cúigeaó.
48. Ceitpe éuro do maó o'Éirinn • iarpma fear mholg ir
Éim
ém-fear díob pa ní Mumhan • i moct surab i an ceatpumaó.
49. Éim-pí anáin mar ar éubaró • ó poim i le ar an Mumhan
ní poimn ceapc do cúig típe • 'r a do díob i n-ém-píge.
50. An cóigeaó paor áirne lib • ní tré ceann carpa aét mar rin
o'Éir bar noá cúigeaó do meap • san barr ionnta aét ar
áirneap.
51. Na paorípe cúigró ná ceitpe • muna bfuil dá dhearbáó
deio
aét mar ceann aró-máca móir • ní Cairil zo bfuair
onóir.
52. Cáoir aige ní paibe • zo bfuair páorais an baite
ní do píe Cairil mar rin • tusaó comarce Cairil.
53. Níorb é rin moíó-porc Mumneac • zo o'táiníe Corc mac
Luíódeac
cia an moíó-porc oile tré ceann • do bí paor ar píe
Éipeann.
54. Aa i gceapc zaé moíó zo péil • rann eile ar a o'tuigpe péin
zaé onóir a deiréí a-noir • naé é fuair aét an eaglaip.
55. Ní péitir a n-abra sunn • naé bréas pa leit Éibir fínn
leat Moíó Naóat ó Conn • má dearbácar a beit comé pom.
56. Conall Cpuacéna dearbaim éuro • do rann Éirinn i roá éuro
naé paibe i gcomérom do Conn • a Caróe ná cuir-pe ar
Conall.
57. Za líon tríoéa i n-Éirinn áin • ní molta an poimn o'Inir
fáil
mar toubapc anro tar m'Éir • san leabap glan dá fáirnéir.

¹ K. II. 125. ² V. 160. ³ e.g., the five sons of Deala. ⁴ M. 56.
⁵ K. II. 238; ⁶ M. 10, 56. ⁶ i.e. "The division of Eire was into four parts
as I have shown (48), Mumha being one." ⁷ V. 68. ⁸ V. 132. ⁹ Tadhg
had not used this argument explicitly, but had appealed to the Book of
Rights, in which Caiseal is stated to be metropolis of Patrick. ¹⁰ Cf. v.
132. ¹¹ Magh Leana, p. 69. Conall was Conn's counsellor. ¹² Supra, 13.

44. A summary arbitrary division they made with each other. A lasting division without partiality to any race was the one which Cearmna and Sobhairce made.¹
45. An arbitrary division is not usual between a pair if they be relations.² In dividing land arbitrariness is commoner between five or four men.³
46. A proof of an arbitrary division being made by them is, that wherever they landed they remained and quarrelled not.
47. If it be an equal division—strictly speaking—which the Fir Bolg made of Eire, few of their kings got Mumha as two provinces.⁴
48. The remnants of the Fir Bolg and Eilim⁵ made four parts of Eire. One of them was King of Mumha, so therefore Mumha is only a fourth.
49. One king alone, as is right, from that on has reigned in Mumha. Your five districts are not a proper division, seeing that two of them were under one rule.⁶
50. As to the independent province you mention,⁷ it was thus, and not through its strength, that that came about, as we see when we consider that your two provinces have no other point of superiority except what I mentioned (their being two).
51. Do not believe in the provincial liberties,⁸ if you have no other proof of them than that Caiseal's king was honoured as superior to Ardmhacha.⁹
52. Caiseal got no honour till Padraig got the place. Thus not to the king of Caiseal (but to the Church) was given the right of sanctuary (?) given to Caiseal.
53. Caiseal was not the palace of the Muimhnigh till Corc Mac Luigheach¹⁰ came. Was there any other palace which, owing to its strength, was independent of Eire's king?
54. There is in the "Rights of the Kings" a rann whence you will see that all the honour you mention was given not to the king but to the Church.¹⁰
55. Your statement about Eibhear's "Half" must be wrong, if Leath Mogha be proved by Conn himself to be equal to Leath Cuinn.
56. I assert that Conall of Cruachain divided Eire in two. O Tadhg! do not accuse Conall of dividing the land unfairly to Conn.¹¹
57. How many cantreds in noble Eire? No division of Inis Fail is to be approved without, as I said, a clear book recording it.¹²

58. Ó nác tuismitr mé céile • i sean-roinn dá bfuair Éire
anam ar roinn Gall a-nor • má'r lór téada dá tomár.
59. Átáir péir oile a n-urdaíl • do bheir¹ na taob ó Lonnúin
líon condae bar nól éóigeadó • áirmitr i n-ar n-don-éóigeadó.
60. Dá péir rin ní mó ná leac • rug Eógan ó Conn na sepeac
sibé duine a-veir so rug • áirneadó tuismitr a n-eapreop.
61. Do púirt oipeadóir má'r searr • a Mhc Dáire ip iongnadó leam
Párcólón iar bpior a rgeal • o'annain i nInir Saméar.
62. Arto-rí Éireann an Dağda • ar mbheiré rožan don Dánba
ip clann Cearmada ra peac • o'annain ar-don i nOileac.
63. Śá dár⁵ do 'r ní maó a-máin • acé a o'árrairé Inir Fáil
do b'i a roža veir i bpiur • lořs a n-áitizte deapbar.
64. Cia doo porcaib áille éiar • nar fúro pí Éireann so bpiur
ór iad na náite do b'fearr • do tožpad rožpad Éireann.
65. Mí maoróte ar porcaib Mumneac • Corcaac porclairse
Lumneac.
púirt nuaróte do rónpad Śáil • ní beanann riad dá'r sean-
riann.
66. Tiođlaicte Dé dár bplaitib • a seup ar seúl ná bpiaró
dá meaprá a seup ní épeiró rinn • nac mó'r a ročar o'Éirinn.
67. Tré píor-placa sepac óaoib • tis mar veir Mořann mac
Maoin
iars i n-inbear ón aicbe • ip i o'rážaió topeairte.⁸
68. Mar rin ip tiođlaicte ón Riğ • do veir loča ip aibne i o'tír
'r do éabairt éirž ip topear • meabar⁹ eumpra caladó-porc.
69. Ná tačaoir abáinn ná loč • mó'r tarba a néamann 'r a seioč
'r ar dá maróm móite an ročar • tis an tír do éioimóčadó.
70. Curo mó'r dá ročar do éac • mar coiržtear leo a ržir do žnác
do éaoó aipoir an oipir • o'iomčur neir i n-arépaižib.
71. Curo eile tis dá éarba • na muilne as meilt an arba
mó'r a bpeiróm i n-ainpír te • o'pionn-fuapadó ceacra ip
oaoine.
72. An tír ar a molcar poin • bloğ calman do buain don múir
bácaó na típe tis oé • 'r ní bío na trážaió toipre.
73. Átáir oaoine ip tír rin péin • éairnžear an múir éuca i seém
péac a Čairž an mó an ročar • maróm na rpuč žan éioim-
óčadó.

¹ Cf. "do bheiré riadóin epioč Cairil," *Č. McÓáire*, R.I.A. 23 L. 37, p. 206, v. 12. ² On Erne, K. I. 158. ³ K. I. 222. ⁴ Tuatha De Danaan, K. I. 222. ⁵ Śá with o(č)á(i)m, o(č)ú, o(č)ár, o(č)áčar, o(č)á mé, (followed by oo, oe, piur) "at what point am I in it" "in short" is a common phrase, cf. 3 Sh. voc. ⁶ V. 45. ⁷ O'R. A.D. 90. ⁸ Cf. "roža rin mó'r-éioimé meap topeairte ríé ip ruamneap," *Č. McÓáire*, Trans. Gael. Soc., 1808, p. 20. ⁹ meabam formed from Redupl. Pret. of maidim. ¹⁰ Cf. Eriu, III. 112. n. leg. abáinn? ¹¹ V. 61.

58. As we agree not about any old division of Eire, let us dwell on that made by the Gaill if measuring-lines enable us to compute it.
59. According to the heroes from London, the two are equal. They count in our one province the number of counties which are in your two.
60. Therefore, not more than half did Eoghan get from plundering Conn. Let him who says he did, count the titles of the bishops.
61. If your palaces be the finer, O son of Daire, I think it strange that Partholon on hearing of them, remained in Saimear! ²
62. And that the high king the Daghdá ³ and Cearmaid's sons ⁴ in their turn should, on getting their choice of Banba, remain in Oileach!
63. Indeed, ⁵ not they alone, but all who got Inis Fail chose to remain here (in the North). The marks of their dwelling here prove it.
64. As Eire's kings chose the fairest places, which of your fair western places did any king inhabit before Brian?
65. You should not boast of those ports of the Muimhneigh, Corcach, Portlairge, Luimneach. They are new places founded by the Gaill and concern not our old division.
66. Think not to put aside ⁶ God's gifts to our princes. If you thought of doing so, we at least do not believe that their advantages were not great for Eire.
67. It is righteousness in rule, you know, which, as Moran mac Maoin ⁷ says, brings fish into the estuary at ebb-tide, and produce ⁸ on the shores.
68. Lakes and rivers bring gifts from God, and it is to bring fish and produce that the coast-edges are broken. ⁹
69. Find not fault with river ¹⁰ or lake. Great is the value of their pearls and stones, and by their springing forth is caused a mighty advantage, the drying of the earth.
70. A great deal of their benefit is the way in which men's fatigue is saved by them by travelling the country carrying things in vessels.
71. Another of their benefits is the mills grinding corn. Great is their service in hot weather for cooling of beasts and men.
72. As for the country, of which you mention as a good thing the taking of some of its land from the sea, ¹¹ the result is that the land is flooded, and there are no fruits on its shores.
73. There are men in your own land who bring the sea to them from afar. Think, O Tadhg, if the unceasing flow of the streams be not a greater boon!

74. Don ar-o-rísz né linn tarla • áirmito leabair a tarba
 zac abann zac toé dar lins • fead a ainpibe ar éirinn.
75. Fada ó lopuaró an fuil ríoz • ní vo Románéarib a fiol
 ir ar nac áirmitéar uó • bpeit Éríort i mbeiril lúda.
76. Oétauin Augurt an rísz • vo peac pe nlopuaró an tír
 ar Oétauin maorótear rin • bpeit Éríort né linn i
 mbeiril.
77. A Tarósz ir vo taob tnuéa • céitear tupa ar mac Úna
 a tíoúlaicéte ón Rísz vo nim • mar a-veir áirne fínzín.
78. Már beaz a mbpíz mar veipe • a bpuair Conn oúce a zéine
 a bpazáil vo buó luinn lat • né maoréam ar líoz
 lluaóat.
79. Ir iongnadó már ionann rin • maorótear linne azur lib
 o'Éozan lílor coizill an bíó • 'r tíoúlaicéte Dé dáir n-áir-
 rísz.
80. Níor coizill Conn a éuro bíó • 'r ní raibe zortá na tír
 o'fáicéill zortá 'r é ar déanta • vo rísz a veit fíréanta.
81. Ní bíad dá bpoicléad mar Conn • zortá i zcuro Éozain von
 fonn
 pe hainúlicead tíz vo znát • meirve o'Éozan a ionráó.
82. Créad vo ní fuil éibir úioib • roáir áirmit-pe nac ríor
 né linn nac facar pláza • zlor eile nárb ionráóa.
83. Eanna ir Mumeamón már úioib • báir von pláiz puairpead na
 rísz
 an abra peardá iar na brior • nac raibe pláiz na
 vpláitear.
84. Uaité a ríoz ar fonn mDanba • o'fuil éibir ir é ar dáina
 már luza pláza ir zortá • na né a fír an fóir-molta.
85. Ná habair puom zupab ró • ir dá n-abrainn ní ra mó
 puinn mac nluzoiné zup már • ar éirinn trí céad
 bliadóan.
86. Puairar i ráitib pitead • zo bfuil azam ó úlicead
 dá otuzéar áiréam cinnce • léim tar umir éizcinnce.
87. Ir beaz teardá vo trí céad • náir⁹ éait féin na trí fír déaz
 ríoméar i noiaró ar oile • vo ríuóct uairpead luzoiné.
88. Neac na n-azáir níor éiriz • acé ceáir¹⁰ vo ríuóct éibir
 tíz tar zeallá opra ir-teaz • zeairr an né úioib vo fuiln-
 zeadó.

¹ V. 51. ² Conn. ³ Anecd. II. ⁴ V. 64. ⁵ K. II. 142. ⁶ K. II. 130.
⁷ Cf. P. H. ⁸ Only 251 in K. ⁹ n- irrationally prefixed as often to
 a n- ar. ¹⁰ cúsz? The numbers of years would then be 286, and four of
 Eibhear's race would be included.

74. For the king, in whose time such things happened, the books record as his "benefits" every river and lake that sprang forth in his reign over Eire.
75. Far removed from Herod was the princely blood.¹ Not of the Romans was his race. Therefore Christ's birth in Bethlehem of Juda is not attributed to him.
76. Octavian Augustus was the prince who let the land to Herod. Christ's birth in Bethlehem in his reign is mentioned as a glory of Octavian.
77. It is from jealousy, Tadhg, that you deny to Una's son² the gifts given him by God, as "Finghin's Vigil"³ says.
78. If the things which Conn got on the night of his birth be of small value, as you say, you would be wildly desirous to have them to boast of for Mogh Nuadhat.
79. Strange would it be if what I boast of, and what you boast of, were the same, namely Eoghan's hoarding of the food,⁴ and God's gifts to our king.
80. Conn did not hoard the food, and there was no hunger in his land. To guard against famine what a king has to do is to be righteous.
81. There would have been no famine in Eoghan's land had he taken precautions as Conn. Famine usually results from unrighteousness. Bad for Eoghan is your mention of it.
82. What does Eibhear's race do with the "benefits"—no real ones—you mention? Were there not seen in their day plagues—another word you should not have used?
83. As Eanna⁵ and Muineamhon⁶ are of your stock these kings died of the plague. Do you still say, after hearing that, that there was no plague in their reign?
84. It was the fewness of the kings of Eibhear's blood over Banba which caused their being fewer plagues and famines in their time, my exaggerating friend!⁷
85. Do not tell me that it is an exaggeration—no, not even if I were to increase the number—when I say that the division of Iughoine's sons lasted in Eire three hundred years.
86. I have found in the sayings of sages that I have a right, if a definite number be available, to neglect an indefinite one.
87. Little less than three hundred years⁸ are those which⁹ even the thirteen of Iughoine's proud race who are counted reigning in succession, spent as kings.
88. No one arose against them, except four of Eibhear's race. They came in on them in violation of promise; but short was the time allowed them.

89. Ar aba an deátrair do deáct · i gceannur Teátra tar deart
níor beanad an roinn roinne · dár máir do rliocht luíóine.
90. Ré ar mhó ná ar n-áiream bliadan · do bádar do réir ríadan
cuio don rliocht rin luaidtear linn · i dtreire ann ngeá
airt d'Éirinn.
91. Críóc Connact a noútear féin · na leit ní cuirte mar céim
ir cóigead laigean uile · aca ó amrta luíóine.
92. Do bad díob-ran na hÉarna · cumhniú féin ríad a dtéarma
i gceannur Mumhan i-muig · ir Dál b'riadae i nUlltaib.
93. Clann Deadaó go scrúar gcéimeann · trear laoc-aicme na
hÉireann
don rliocht céadna mar ad élor · Teátra Éarna ir é a
noomhgar.
94. Mar rin nac iongnad a ráo · gac réo dár deaibair im d'án
bail ar a roinn go raibe · tar éir cloinne luíóine.
95. Mí ríim a leat a ríom · m'áiream bliadan m'áiream ríog
do dearbáct ceirt mar rúair rínn · rleacra luíóine ar
Éirinn.
96. Tuagrao Gaoidil mar tá róm · reab Éireann d'luíóine mór
d'á cloinn tar éir a n-átar · dí do léigrao ríudraeáó.
97. Rúair Tuatal ar deáct tar tuinn · an treib céadna mar
do tuill
ní maó díctú Tuait do bir · an treib d'ó-ran aet Gaoidil.
98. Ar reib Tuatal ná cuir brat · Corb Ólum níorb óige an
mac
ar ron nár cáctú r'á ceann · mar nár leit reab na
hÉireann.
99. Iar r'grúar dítead a hÉirinn · tuú Tuatal tar mac férdlim
a d'útear féin da gac fear · dár máir do máicne Mílead.
100. Dar noúig ir dearmad túg ort · mar do ráid-re 'r ní loct
nac iad Gaoidil túg a ríol · re reib Éireann do Tuatal.
101. Ar g'eallrao rliocht Éibir rínn · do comallrao i leit rínn
créad r'á mbemir díomáe díob · ní mór do ríonrao
d'fo-ríobríog.
102. Re linn fearrao ríog 'r a reáct · ó do éairb'rao a gceart
níor r'ab foúla aet éim-ríú díb · ir Eošan Mór na leit-
ríú.
103. Már oic an éairt-re ar h'ánba · rašam leat a mac-rámra
ó taoi re tuba ar r'comráo · ir bíom réo nár n-íomráo.

¹ *i.e.*, he had only counted those before the group of Eberian and Irian kings. ² K. II. 230. desc. from Conaire Mor. ³ K. II. 237. ⁴ K. II. 220. ⁵ T. Luachra, Co. Kerry. ⁶ V. 102. ⁷ Cf. infra, 143; also "mór d'óic rúair b'ar b'ear rúirge · r'ao ceann-ra a éríoc rean-Luígne." T. McÓáire, R.I.A. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 35. ⁸ K. II. 259. ⁹ V. 104. ¹⁰ From Tuathal to Brian. ¹¹ Criomthann, K. II. 368.

89. Except for these four coming unjustly into the sovereignty of Teamhair, never was the arrangement of Iughoine wrested from those who lived of Iughoine's race.
90. For longer than my computation¹ there were, according to witness, some of the race I speak of in power in every part of Eire.
91. That the land of the Connachta, and the whole province of the Laighin was theirs since Iughoine's day is not to be brought as a charge against them!
92. Of their race were the Earna²—recall how long they ruled over Mumha—and also Dal bhFiatach³ in Ulaidh.
93. Also Clann Deadhaidh,⁴ fierce in onset, one of the three warrior-bands of Eire, were of the same race, as is known. Teamhair Earna⁵ is their dwelling.
94. Thus it was not strange to say all I have said in my poem, namely that fortune smiled on the patrimony of Iughoine's children after him.
95. I need not count my years or my kings to prove how we acquired the rights over Eire enjoyed by Iughoine's race.
96. The Gaedhil, as I said, gave possession of Eire to Iughoine. To his children after him they left the prescriptive right to it.
97. Tuathal on coming over the sea got, as he merited, the same title. Not the Aitheach Tuath but the Gaedhil gave the possession to him.
98. Do not suppress the acquisition of Tuathal. Corb Olum was not the younger boy,⁶ though he did not fight for Eire⁷ because its ownership was not his.
99. After the exile of the Aitheach from Eire, Tuathal (whose son was Feilim) gave his own land back to every man who survived of Mile's race.⁸
100. I suppose it was forgetfulness, and not malice, that made you say⁹ that it was not the Gaedhil who consented to Tuathal's holding Eire.
101. The race of fair Eibhear fulfilled in our regard their promises. Why should we be angry with them? They were not unjustly ambitious.
102. When they (Tuathal's race) had re-won their rights (?) for sixty-seven reigns¹⁰ Fodhla had only one king¹¹ of your race besides Eoghan Mor a half-king.
103. If this title (of our race) be a poor one, let us see one of yours to match it. Since you will contest my assertions, let us be even in our contention.

104. Iar tairbhre a sceiret fa tó · to fáoil mall nárb ainbhre
tó
tá ngoiread an-flaic t'fuit Cuirce · ní mire a-veir mar
tubairt.
105. Már é ro tuis ort-ra a ráo · oic to márbir re mall néir
nar leir an Éire mar rom · le tiomna ar aicfir Tuatail.
106. Ó tá leat-ra to meabair · an rann-ra a-déar im deagard
ná habair nac raibe bail · ar tiomna léill naoi-áiallaig.
107. To rannrad a míc iar rin · Inir airt ba hamra in² fir
ir tóib to beair a ngeill · céin biad³ na muillim grem-áil.
108. Munar leir í pé tiomna · cread fár fuluing a biotba
Éire tó áoi ir tó rlioc · pé céad bliadán i n-oircead.
109. Már mór leat ar ríogad tóib · as rin tuit amreair na ríog
cread an leir-réal to bire · uait ar rom na hamrre.
110. Ná tairis claoiléo m'áirne ríog · 'r tó léiginn a noá
tormán tóim
lém ríoga sup ba tpeire · ná an ríol Éibir áirneire.
111. Ríe go bprearabna ó tairse · to ráe re Conn re Cairbre
ir re Cormac na mbreac b'íor · toó álor ir déanta
ombríog.
112. Ní pí Conn to péir ríagla · a-veir tupa aét reat mbliadna
már tó ríge an pé náir lám · buain toon rom to bí as
Eošan.
113. Cia to b'airt-rí ar Inir fáil · naoi mbliadna Eošan ra
Spáin
már é Conn ba pí cá rad · ma noibeiret móga Nuadad.
114. Iar tuitim Eošan i scad · cia ba pí ó rom amac
ar ríad é-einí abair rínn · an rad to máir mac Férlim.
115. Ar m'áirnean acáid ríadna · réad an mó náir reat mbliadna
már mó ní creote óo tóin · nac deapna raob ná rearmán.
116. Veit as ríor-cup breas ro leir · éigean tóinn nó ar
noearbta ar cleit
gibé tóib-rin ar ura · tóinne ní tál urupa.
117. Cormuil rin ir mar veire · nar cuir Conn rógna penne
zan leir-réal asat aét rom · ran eát re marbad Eošan.
118. Nac maí an rógna caá · pé cup i sceann na ríada
longport to gabáil na gar · ir teadta Cúinn to croad.
119. Sgeal zan tóat cuirce ar to tmaé · níorb'fíu ríada fear-
Tá-líad
Cormac ro gabáil to eor · níorb'fir-breac tó tó noearnad.

¹ III. 13; II. 10, 4. ² in=ino. O.I. form of n. pl.

³? MSS. beró.

⁴ V. 136-138.

⁵ Magh Léana, p. 36.

⁶ K. II. 266.

⁷ Conn.

⁸ V. 163-164.

⁹ Magh Léana, pp. 94, 108.

¹⁰ F. Muilleathan, K. II. 273.

¹¹ III. 27.

104. Since they (the Northerns) had twice won their rights Niall thought it would not be amiss of him to call Corc's race "usurpers." It was not I who used the word,
105. —if it be this that caused you to say ¹ of noble Niall—you had no right to say it—that Eire was not his to bequeath, as Tuathal had done.
106. As you know the verse I shall now quote, do not say that fortune was not granted to Niall's testament.
107. "His sons after him divided Art's Isle—wonderful were the heroes.² To them are given their hostages, as long as clouds are about the bright sun."³
108. If it was not his to dispose of, why did his foe let Eire be held as an inheritance by his stock and race for six hundred years?
109. If you think exaggerated the number of their kings, you can examine the length of the kings' reigns. What excuse can you give to explain away the time?
110. Try not to refute my enumeration of the kings. Even were I to leave out two-thirds of them, my kings would be more than (those of) Eibhear's race you mention.
111. As you call Conn, Cairbre and true-judging Cormac "kings with opposition"⁴ little account is to be taken of your word.
112. "Conn was lawfully king only for seven years" you say as "in his reign was included the time when he dared not meddle with Eoghan's portion."
113. Who was king of Inis Fail for the nine years when Eoghan was in Spain?⁵ If Conn, how long was it before the expulsion of Mogh Nuadhat?
114. Who was king—for the love of your honour tell us!—after Eoghan's fall in battle⁶ while the son of Feidhlim⁷ was alive?
115. There are witnesses to my account. See now whether there were more than seven years (in Conn's reign). If there were, one cannot believe your poem when it says it made no error through foolish partiality or any slip.
116. I must keep charging you with falsehood, or else leave my argument unstated. Whichever of these courses be the easier, neither is easy for me.
117. So too you say that Conn gave no warning before advancing.⁸ You have no other explanation for his killing of Eoghan in the fight.
118. Was it not sufficient warning to be sent to the prince, his pitching his camp near him (Eoghan), and the hanging of Conn's messengers?⁹
119. An improbable story you invent for your chief. Fiacha Fear-Da-Liach¹⁰ would not have been fit to put Cormac beneath the hanger,¹¹ and, had he done so, it would have been unjust.

120. Cpeáto eus o'fíaca san píge · to buain ué nó roinn típe
 oá mbeit Cormac i lámh leir · iar maíom fair mar to
 máoróir.
121. Do rgeal ar Cormac tré éar · me fíaca ar oiméar a ráo
 a huét oruaó oá n-iaruaó neart · to b'fíu a úúéar me
 oraoídeáct.
122. Síó las oraoídeáct mar úearuaó · aomam é síon so
 noearuaó
 ir fašaió fíacain oite · me maíom Oroma-Oamšaire.
123. Úréas ar Moš Ruít to feadar · to eúr pa rgeal ro ar
 feadar
 so noubairt iur ní ráo ceart · méaraó coróce to úmídeáct.
124. Sgeal fuar ar a b'fionntar úréas · ní cóir a éreúeam so n-éas
 'r san congnam éin leabair lair · ir mar rin atá t'forbair.
125. Már as t'mall píge Muíam · to éuit Cairbre na scuaró
 faoa uaité an áit nar éuit · i nšabar áicéle oróruic.
126. Seáct mbliáona oéas von eúparó · ór épió foola ir ór
 muíam
 sur an geat-pa ionar éalma · to b'é an sí san f'nearabpa.
127. Ní éiocfaó Moš Corb na'óáil · 'r ní geabaó an caé to lámh
 sur éeannuig ón b'féin teáct lair · oic to ééao epíoc a
 oturair.
128. Cuiréar an caé so nšairge · níor lám neac oigíó¹⁰ Cairbre
 áct an t-anšlonn naéar mún · Oršar aruaó¹¹ mac Oirín.
129. Tuairisno na fíu a céile · oá nšlan-aruaió so nšéipe
 fágbaró Cairbre a moit gáite · Oršar rinte i scró-luige.
130. Tis Caoilte ir Oirín ran ár · ir Oršar beo-marb na éam
 ir to ráóreao na noir iur · naé raáao ú'earbaró leigir.
131. To ráó-rean mu a b'fuairar muíam · to éreáct-šoin toir
 asur éiar
 uoitge leam rleas Cairbre í éunn · toir m'amlinn ir
 m'árainn.
132. To éuit Oršar san éairbe · ir to éear pa úeoró Cairbre
 iar scóirac Oršuir forcail · le Semeon o'foarcaib.
133. Ar féin fínn ir maoróce an šleo · ar ron Moša to teáct leo
 ráé a n-éáctá maorócear leat · a geannac má to tuillreao.
134. Šuin áirt níor euiré ar m'ac Con · šé tá ro na leit oá éor
 por m'udao šér bo cara · Lušaró i geat Muernam.

¹ V. 177.² K. II. 378.³ M. was said to be a disciple of Simon

Magus. I can find no reference to the above story.

⁴ Forbair Oroma

Oamšaire.

⁵ V. 182.⁶ Near Tara.⁷ Twenty-seven years in K. II.

355.

⁸ K ii. 355.⁹ Clanna Morna.¹⁰ oigíó acc. also as nom. "to

úomnaíl oigíó donšuir," f. ón éainte, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 29.

¹¹ áruac, MSS.¹² K. II. 354.¹³ Nephew of Oisín.¹⁴ Lughaidh Mac

Con, V. 165; K. II. 280.

120. Why did not Fiacha take the kingship or some land from him, had Cormac been in his power after conquering him as you boasted.¹
121. Your story told to disgrace Cormac should rather be told of Fiacha. If Fiacha sought power by means of druids, it would have been worthy of his turn for wizardry!
122. Though this story of wizardry is a poor proof of your point, I let it pass—though as a fact it is not true. Let us have some other evidence for the rout of Druim Damhghaire.²
123. I know that a lie about Moghruith is attributed in the tale to Peter, how Peter said to him—a wrong thing to say—“Your wizardry shall abide for ever.”³
124. An unlikely tale, of which the falsehood can be seen, should never be believed, especially when there is no book to support it. Such is your tale of the Siege.⁴
125. If it was when seeking the kingship of Mumha that, as you say,⁵ Cairbre of the heroes fell, far from Mumha is famous Gabhar Aichle⁶ where he fell!
126. Seventeen⁷ years the hero ruled Fodhla and Mumha till that battle⁸ where he was valiant. He was a king unchallenged.
127. Mogh Corb would not have dared to meet him, and would not risk the battle, till he paid the Fian⁹ to come with him. Evil for a hundred was the end of their hosting.
128. The battle is fought with heroism. None dared to slay¹⁰ Cairbre except the hero—no gentle one—fierce¹¹ Oscar, Oisín's son.
129. The men smite each other with bright keen arms. Cairbre in the strength of his bravery leaves Oscar stretched in death-swoon.
130. Caoilte and Oisín come upon the scene of slaughter when Oscar half dead was unconscious, and the pair said to him that he would not die for want of efforts to cure him.
131. He said to them “sorer than all the wounds I have got east and west is the spear of Cairbre son of Conn between my navel and my kidneys.”
132. Oscar died soon after, and Cairbre fell at last, after his fight with strong Oscar, at the hand of Semeon of the Fotharta.¹²
133. That victory is to be attributed to the fact that Fionn's Fian came with them (the Southernns) on account of Mogh Corb.¹³ You may boast, if you wish, of the reason why they did their great deeds, namely their being hired—if they deserved it!
134. Art's death is not to be assigned to Mac Con,¹⁴ though this verse is said of him “It was Lughaidh—though a friend—who slew him at Mucroimhe.”

135. Créad ar éiall dó fo máir fíor · Luḡ do máirbáð na ttrí ríog
bár na nḡiolla consḡnam laḡ · i ḡcaḡ Cmuonna la Cormac.
136. Do bár Cairbre ir ionann oró · dá corḡmar rin ar líog Corb
'r naḡ leir adroḡair ra nḡleod · aḡt lé bḡáḡair féin Sem on.
137. Dá ḡcuḡḡaoi na ríḡ-re ar ḡcúl · ní fuḡḡḡí ḡo fearaḡ tóin
dá tḡreire do bí ar b'andá · ríḡ oile ḡan fḡearabḡa.
138. Mimic ríam tar ḡear-rímaḡt ríog · do bḡreáð le cáḡ a ríod
ní tóe rin tḡe déarḡ n-anma · ḡoirḡear rí ḡo bḡreapabḡa.
139. ḡaḡ rí r'érb' ionḡáðá an t-ainm · f'ada ríod ó fuair a ḡairm
ór aca do b'fearḡ a n-eol · ná tairḡ na rítró d'aitḡeod.
140. líor áirḡear le claon ríḡeáð · ríḡ ḡo bḡreapabḡa ó
óliḡeáð
aḡt com-flaitḡear aḡ tḡruing tóib · le bḡáḡḡrb' nar t'uil
eirriod.
141. Dá nḡoirḡí ríḡ leam-ra tóib · re ḡabáil ḡiall re cuairḡ ríog
iomḡa mar rin tóib re mear · dá r'cóir an t-ainm ná r'
áirḡear.
142. Muirḡearḡaḡ Dóinnall Ó Néill · dá ríḡ f'óola an bḡaice féin
níor áirḡear íad mar t'arla · a nḡairm ríog ḡo bḡreapabḡa.
143. Ar ron naḡ maorḡe aḡt ḡo mín · Dóinnall Ó Lochlainn mar ríḡ
do cuir pé caḡa fá ceann · aḡ corḡam linnre n'áireann.
144. Dá cáḡ tóib-ran rḡaoinḡear lair · i ḡCeann Coraḡ ar Dál
ḡCair
'r i Maḡ áðair ḡan time · caḡ ar ḡallaib Duit-linne.
145. Utaḡ do tóil na huinḡe d'ór · Ceann Coraḡ Lumneáḡ do tóó
le Dóinnall do rúnneáð rin · má r' tóil i ḡcloḡaib Orlíḡ.
146. Do f'éarḡaḡ Muirḡearḡaḡ lair · na cloḡa do bḡreḡ tar air
bḡáḡḡoe Mumán tuḡ ir-teaḡ · t'oon cuairḡ ríog r'us ḡo
Lumneáḡ.
147. líor áirḡear Toirḡealḡaḡaḡ mór · náir Ruairḡrí do bḡronnaḡ ó r'
níor f'aoil mé ḡur mór tarḡa · áiream ríog ḡo bḡreapabḡa.
148. Duailḡear airḡeáð na ríog r'óinn · t'oon dá ríḡ-re i ḡCluain
mic líor
rḡr'ioḡaro rítró ar ḡaḡ fear · ḡo nḡearḡaḡaḡ aonáḡ Tailḡean.
149. Tuḡ Toirḡealḡaḡaḡaḡ cuairḡ fo tḡrí · t'oon Mumán ḡo maḡḡ
Tḡáḡ Lí
roir Mac ḡCairḡaḡḡ do r'ainn · ir clann D'iarḡmḡa an fearann.

¹ Vid. Var. Lect. consḡnam "an appearance," i.e., "exploit" or "consḡpenn i, teglamad nó tionol" (O'Dav.) "a crowd of weaklings." ² Point obscure. ³ V. 182. ⁴ M. O Lochlainn, K. III. 312. ⁵ K. III. 242. Given as full king in K.; A.U. G.G. 4 M. ⁶ d. 1120. ⁷ A.U. 1088; Flann. IV. 68. ⁸ Flann. IV. 66. ⁹ Reference? ¹⁰ V. 147. ¹¹ K. III. 310. ¹² K. III. 318. ¹³ K. II. 248. ¹⁴ 4 M. 1068 and K. III. 312 give a different division.

135. If that be true, what is the meaning of Lugh's killing the three kings, and of the servants' deaths—a poor exploit ¹—brought about by Cormac at Crionna.²
136. It is the same way with Cairbre's death being attributed to Mogh Corb ³ seeing that not by Mogh Corb but by his own relative Semeon was he slain.
137. If you object to these kings (as being opposed) you shall not, to my knowledge, find any other kings however powerful in Banba who were not opposed.
138. Often spite of a king's strictness his peace was disturbed by others. Such a man cannot strictly be called "opposed."
139. Every king, to whom the word is applied, has been so called long before your time. Do not try to refute the sages for they knew best.
140. I did not in perverse method count kings who were lawfully opposed; but some of them ruled jointly with kinsmen who deserved not to be quarrelled with.
141. Were kings to be named so from taking of hostages and making kindly visitations I omitted many to be so named.
142. Muircheartach ⁴ and Domhnall,⁵ Niall's grandson, are two of Fodhla's kings, you see, whom I counted not as they were styled "challenged kings."
143. Though you will not mention Domhnall O Lochlainn ⁶ as king except with much reservation he fought six battles defending Eire.
144. Two of those battles were won by him stoutly at Ceann Coradh ⁷ over the Dal gCais, and at Magh Adhair ⁸ over the Dublin Gaill.
145. Some little vengeance for the golden ingot ⁹ was the burning of Ceann Coradh and Luimneach! Domhnall did this if that be revenge for the stones of Oileach! ¹⁰
146. Muircheartach could have brought back the stones, but it was hostages of Mumha whom he brought back from his hosting to Luimneach.
147. I counted not great Toirdhealbhadh ¹¹ nor Ruaidhri ¹² who distributed gold. I thought it useless to count kings with opposition.
148. Coins were struck for those two kings as for their predecessors at Cluain Mic Nois. Poets write of them both that they held the fair of Tailte.¹³
149. Toirdhealbhadh made a visitation thrice into Mumha as far as Traigh Li, and divided the land between Mac Carthaigh and Clann Diarmuda.¹⁴

150. Ón dá rann tuṡ bráíṡṡe lair · ó éioinn Carṡais ó Dál ṡCair
cárraró ṡéill ṡall don eacṡra · ir ṡéill laíṡean na
ṡcuroeacṡta.
151. Acṡ a ṡoipe dó do bí · do maoidṡrinn é mar ṡac ní
mar rin nac bíu dá maoidṡam · Ceann Coraṡ do dío-
ṡṡaoilead.
152. Féac an éuairṡ ríogṡ ruṡ ar ṡcraic · Ruarṡrí ar ndol ṡo
ṡpéin Cuaṡ
Domnall Ó Druain tuṡ dá cṡis · ir mac Cormaic íléis Carṡais.
153. Do rann Muṡain i ndá éuro · eatorra ar-don ṡo ṡcead tuirṡ
ir tuṡ a bráíṡṡe do bair · ó íléis Carṡais pé comall.
154. Ní fuíṡṡear éin-ríṡ oile · acṡ a bráirṡ péin péin oile
dá ndearraṡ d'Éirinn dá éuro · acṡ don-ṡoinn ílṡa
Nuadairṡ.
155. Ní iarrṡad ríṡ ṡoinn ra leanṡ · dámad líṡ ó éearṡ a reabṡ
már i an ríṡe ar leanṡ ann · ir oirne do bí a halṡrom.
156. A leicṡero rin lé dṡarṡad · ic áiream ríogṡ ṡo neam-ṡlan
ṡrṡ beaṡ do háirnead lac-ra · mearaṡm nac fuil aṡac-ra.
157. Muirṡearṡac móir már leicṡ-rí · 'r a mac rin Taṡṡ a-dṡeirṡí
do háirnead leac ṡo dána · iad na ríogṡaíṡ iomlána.
158. Má fuair Donnacṡ ṡéill írṡe · do fuilṡṡ péin 'r a fine
naoi mbliadna an ríṡe ṡan ṡoinn · tar éir Druain do ílṡoil-
ṡeacṡluinn.
159. Ainm rṡeacṡta íléill ṡo ndeaṡ-raṡ · ceirṡe fine na Teairṡac
an ríṡe dṡóib ṡo ndeaṡar · an t-ainm rṡor dá dṡeinnṡeaṡad.
160. Ní dá ṡcuro ar ṡcúr don tír · Teairṡar Dreaṡ i mbíṡoir ríṡ
acṡ porṡ ríogṡ do dṡeanaṡ dṡí · ir teacṡ éuca don ríṡe.
161. I dTeairṡais ní raibe rí · ó do earṡain Ruṡṡan i
do bí an ríṡe ar a ṡon ṡoin · acṡ 'r ṡan iad i dTeairṡais.
162. Rí Teairṡac ainm ṡac ríogṡ dṡóib · ar ṡcraíṡean Teairṡac na
ríogṡ
Teairṡar ṡac baile i mbí rí · ráṡ an rṡor-anna ad-éluinṡí.
163. ṡac rí dáir ríogṡad d'fuil íléill · do níṡ Teairṡar dá ṡrṡb péin
craṡ do tuṡ do ríuicṡ Éirir ṡinn · nac dṡearraṡ rin pé
nÉirinn.
164. A ílṡe Dáire ir maíṡ náir éireo · rean-ṡoinn rílead a-dṡear
dṡero
acṡ a bṡair náir léiṡeacṡ leam · airṡeanna írṡe Éireann.

¹ Pallas Green, Co. Lim., A.U. 1168. ² D. mor O Briain d. 1194. ³ A.U. 1168. ⁴ V. 66. ⁵ V. 147; K. III. 296. ⁶ Toirdhealbhadh s. of Tadhg s. of Brian Boroimhe. ⁷ V. 145. ⁸ 1014-1022. ⁹ Of the "four families of Tara" given in Bk. of Rights and in O Duibheagain's topographical poem (cf. Magh Leana) three are not of Niall's race. Perhaps the reference is to the four Nialls who were High Kings—N. Naoighiallach, N. Frosach, N. Caille, N. Glundubh. ¹⁰ B. Ballymote?

150. From the two divisions, from Clann Carthaigh and from Dal gCais he brought hostages. On that expedition he got hostages of the Gaill and of the Laighin too.
151. Except for my time being so short, I would also have mentioned the razing of Ceann Coradh, but on that account I do not mention it.
152. Look at the visitation our chief, Ruaidhri, made South, after going to Grian Cliach.¹ Domnall O Briain² yielded to him, and the son of Cormac Mac Carthaigh.
153. He divided Mumha in two³ between them both—by your leave I say it—and took hostages, too, from Mac Carthaigh for fulfilment of his pact.
154. No other king can be found (?) of those who divided Eire in two, except on the one occasion, the division with Mogh Nuadhat.
155. You would not want to divide the child⁴ if it were rightly yours. If the kingdom be considered as a child its care was incumbent on us.
156. I do not think you can show us such a thing as that in your clumsy counting of kings—though indeed you could not count very many.
157. If Muircheartach Mor⁵ and Tadhg's son whom you mention⁶ were half kings, you counted them boldly as full kings.
158. If Donnchadh⁷ got hostages of Meath, he and his race allowed the kingdom for nine years after Brian's death to be undivided in possession of Maolsheachluinn.⁸
159. The title of Niall's blessed race is "the four families of Teamhair."⁹ That name is there to prove that the kingship was their due.
160. Not to their portion of the land did Teamhair Breagh, where they ruled, belong at first, but they made their palace of it and the kingship came to them.
161. In Teamhair there was no king after Ruadhan had cursed it. Though not in Teamhair they held the kingship all the same.
162. "King of Teamhair" was the title of them all after the abandonment of royal Teamhair. Teamhair is the name of every place where a king is. The reason of the title you now hear.
163. Every king of Niall's blood made a Teamhair of his own house. Why did not Eibhear's race do the same for Eire?
164. Son of Daire, woe to him who did not believe the old verse of the poet which I shall quote, and which is given where I have read the "Wonders of Eire."¹⁰

165. Ro déct i Mhain san éas · ʔponḡ píos píosna pīs-éiseas
san ionnraí ʔo por Miall neart · ponas páime páʔaiteact.
166. ʔo pḡnir tḡom eite ar Miall · níor éoir a páʔ ḡer maíe
ʔḡuan
ḡur mó a pḡnaíḡ ʔon ʔanba · ná pḡnaíḡ léill naḡarḡa.
167. ʔas Miall ḡá pḡnaíḡ ar mó · ḡo héirunn p· humla ʔó
bḡáḡḡe ó píosactaib oite · naé ʔioḡraḡ ʔḡuan ʔóḡime.
168. ʔḡ rin páe por-anma léill · mar éḡs ʔar mair ceḡpe ḡéill
ip mar áḡuḡro eíe na ḡeann · bḡáḡḡe cúḡeas na héireann.
169. Sḡriḡḡar ar n-a píoḡ-ḡaḡa · mar ʔo bḡreasḡ piasḡ ḡaḡa
ḡa n-a éorḡ ʔar n-éas ʔo ḡunn · óḡa mair níóct ḡo
héirunn.
170. Créas naé áḡeomúinn an pí · mac fiasḡas ḡáḡḡ ainm ʔá ʔi
ʔo ḡab neart ḡo Sliab nḡalra · béim ar cia ḡáḡḡ inḡeanta.
171. ʔibeirḡ emioct-ḡall éḡpe ar ʔḡuan · máḡ é máoḡeas ʔura
ar Miall
níor lánraḡ rin teact pḡ linn · ḡá bḡearr a ḡcor a héirunn.
172. Níor éḡpe ʔḡuan ias a héirunn · ip níor páim ḡá naor léiḡinn
ar mbeir ḡóib i nḡuiblinn éoir · le ʔanmaḡḡa ad-roḡair.
173. ʔo ʔéanḡair eactḡainn pe Miall · connraḡ naé ʔearraḡ
pe ʔḡuan
san teact ḡóib ḡo Clár Coḡeasḡ · ʔḡ san ʔol poir ar
eactḡannaib.
174. Máḡ é a ḡlḡr aḡra-pe ar Miall · pá ʔḡḡair a bair ʔo
ʔḡuan
ní eor tḡom ón noir oite · Conn Céas-éasac Conaḡe.
175. ʔo éḡeḡ ʔḡuan iḡCrioḡ mac ʔé · ʔḡ ʔo éḡeḡeas eac
i na pé
ḡasra ḡur ip ʔeasair ḡam · ar luēt adarḡa ioḡal.
176. Ní pḡḡar act rin a-máin · muna ḡuirḡea bḡeir le báro
créas pá ʔḡḡair bair na bḡear · ʔo pīs ḡár ein ó
Éibeas.
177. Níor ein naḡo pamaí na píos · ba pḡarr piasḡ ba pḡe píoḡ.
pé píeḡ bliasḡan act beas · don oic pé linn níor léiḡeas.
178. Act pḡlunḡ Conaḡe ḡáib · clann ʔuinn ʔéara péḡ pḡar báro
ʔḡ a ḡcur a héirunn pa ʔeoro · ip dor an uile ḡá n-amḡeoin.

¹ Sic. O'Don. Irish Penny Jour. I. 94, or "There have been acknowledged to exist," from damim, cf. Contrib. ; O'Don. Suppl.

² From the poem ascribed to Aldfred, son of king of Northumberland (Hard. Minst. II. 373); cf. Ériu, viii. 64.

³ II. 32.

⁴ V. 71.

⁵ K. II. 410.

⁶ Leabhar Gabhala.

⁷ Cf. "ʔiar ʔo ḡunn "two dying by sword," ʔ. Mcḡáipe, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 15.

⁸ English Channel, so called from Portus Iccius.

⁹ K. II. 412.

¹⁰ Alps.

¹¹ V. 72.

¹² Eire.

¹³ Niall, Conn, Conaire.

¹⁴ N. 27, C. 20, C. 70.

¹⁵ V. 82. They were his foster-brothers, cf.

ʔ-úighean Da Dhearga.

¹⁶ The British pirates M. C. 136

165. "I have found ¹ in Mumha, beyond doubt, a multitude of kings, queens, and royal poets,—no attack on strong Niall—prosperity, peace, pleasure." ²
166. There is another hard thing you said of Niall. It was not right to say—though Brian was a good man—that his benefits to Banba were greater than the service of serpent-fierce ³ Niall. ⁴
167. Niall brought to Eire, in subjection to him, captives from other kingdoms, whom Brian could not have brought. What service could be greater ?
168. The reason of Niall's epithet is that he brought from over-sea four hostages, and everyone counts in addition the five hostages of the provinces of Eire. ⁵
169. It is written ⁶ how, for his kingly righteousness, seven battles were won at the coming of his body, after his death by the sword, ⁷ from Muir nIocht ⁸ back to Eire.
170. Why should I not count the king Dathi, ⁹ Fiachraidh's son, who ruled as far as Sliabh nEalpa ¹⁰? Who is he who should speak ill of him ?
171. If it be the banishment of the foreign soldiers, attributed by you to Brian, of which you boast as against Niall, they dared not come in Niall's day. It was not the greater thing to drive them out.
172. Brian did not drive them out of Eire, and her learned folk were not at peace. ¹¹ When the Danes were at Duibhlinn in the East he fell at their hands.
173. The foreigners would have made with Niall a compact, which they did not make with Brian, namely, that they should not come to Cobhthach's Land, ¹² and that he should not go East on foreign hostings.
174. If it be his words which you object to in Niall, and which cause you to put Brian above him, no hard words were heard from the other two, Conn and Conaire.
175. Brian believed in Christ the Son of God, as everyone in his day. It is hard for me to contend with him in this respect by means of worshippers of idols (?).
176. I know not why—except for that one point (Niall being pagan)—unless you wanted to be partial, you assigned the superiority to any king sprung from Eibhear.
177. There never sprang from him anyone like the kings ¹³ whose power was greatest, whose peace was longest. Almost for a hundred and twenty ¹⁴ years they suffered no evil in their day,
178. —except that Conaire put up with those men, Donn Deasa's children, ¹⁵ on whom he showered affection (?)—though he expelled them finally by force together with the evil doers. ¹⁶

179. 1r 1aθ ap p̄earr puair r̄iže · n̄iorb̄ p̄aθa Δ l̄eīm tap̄ l̄ine
1r θo c̄uāθaiz̄ ceapc Δ p̄ean · ʹr Δ θoθa i n-āit Δ n-āit̄p̄eāθ.
180. 1r θōib̄ ba top̄eiz̄e an p̄onn · ʹoir̄ θop̄aθ̄ t̄ipe 1r tonn
θo θeap̄b̄ an c̄-ioθ 1r an meap̄ · ʹur̄ maiz̄ puair̄p̄eāθ Δ
b̄p̄l̄ait̄eap̄.
181. 1ior̄ p̄eāc̄ θ̄p̄uan ceapc p̄ān r̄iže · Δc̄t Δ buain̄ θā p̄l̄ait̄ p̄ipe
tap̄ ēir̄ t̄p̄ioēaθ ʒl̄ūn θo θōc̄t · p̄ia m̄θp̄uan p̄uar̄ n̄ār ʒāb̄
p̄ioʒāc̄t.
182. Δc̄t 1aθ θʹp̄ur̄p̄eāc̄ i m̄bun ceipc · θap̄ n̄oθiz̄ 1r n̄i θʹeap̄baθ̄
neipc
tuz̄ θōib̄ p̄o ʒan t̄eāc̄t 1r-t̄eāʒ · map̄ θ̄p̄uan t̄āin̄iz̄ tap̄
θ̄liz̄eāθ.
183. Num̄ip̄ an θā θ̄liāθan θ̄eāʒ · θā n-āip̄ūne na p̄iʒ̄³ n̄i b̄p̄eāʒ
n̄ior̄ θo p̄i θ̄p̄uan θ̄r̄ θ̄anθa · Δc̄t Δ t̄p̄i ʒan p̄p̄eap̄aθ̄p̄a.
184. Δoir̄ C̄p̄iopt̄ Δ θō 1r m̄ile · θo θ̄ionn̄p̄ʒain̄ θ̄p̄uan Δ p̄iže
ʹr̄ n̄ior̄ ʒāb̄ ʒur̄ an θ̄eic̄ 1ap̄-p̄oin̄ · b̄p̄āiz̄θ̄e C̄onail̄ 1r θ̄oʒain̄.
185. L̄eiz̄t̄eap̄ leat̄ iom̄t̄ūpa θ̄p̄uan · i n̄ʒāc̄ θ̄liāθain̄ θ̄iaθ̄ i
n̄oiaθ̄
1r p̄ʒp̄ūθ Δ t̄ar̄ōʒ Δ θ̄āla · i leāθ̄p̄aib̄ Δop̄ta an̄āla.
186. θo θ̄liāθn̄aib̄ θā θ̄liāθain̄ θ̄eāʒ · leip̄ ʒan āit̄c̄eōθ ap n-a
ēāʒ
θā l̄eiz̄t̄e θoθ āiz̄neap̄ maiz̄ · n̄i θ̄iaθ̄ θ̄p̄uan ina an-ēl̄ait̄.
187. M̄ōr̄ t̄ʹep̄r̄om̄ θon θ̄p̄uan-p̄a θ̄ib̄ θ̄loro · tap̄ ceann̄ ēāic̄ θā
p̄eap̄m̄āθ̄ θ̄our̄
ō t̄āro θap̄ p̄oēap̄ uile · θā ʒcop̄ i n-uēc̄ Δon-θ̄uine.
188. 1r̄ θeāʒ ʒāc̄ p̄oēap̄ θā m̄eāθ · naē p̄aib̄e Δc̄t θā θ̄liāθain̄
θ̄eāʒ
θʹāim̄p̄ip̄ θ̄p̄uan 1r ē na h̄ip̄p̄ · Δʒ θ̄eānān̄ leap̄a θʹēip̄inn̄.
189. P̄aθe p̄eal̄ C̄onair̄e an p̄ioʒ · p̄eāc̄t n̄oic̄ θo θ̄liāθn̄aib̄ ʒo
p̄ior̄
ēipe ap na āim̄p̄ip̄ θo θʹp̄eap̄p̄ · p̄ē n-āp̄nai-p̄e p̄eal̄ āit̄-ʒeap̄p̄.
190. ʒib̄e h̄eile 1r θā m̄ile · θo θ̄liāθn̄aib̄ p̄o θāi an p̄iže
ʒan puinn̄ θo p̄oēap̄ na p̄ean · p̄e m̄θp̄uan Δʒ mac̄aib̄ m̄ileāθ.
191. C̄uro θon t̄p̄oēap̄m̄aioiθe ap θ̄p̄uan · n̄i m̄aioiθ̄p̄inn̄ ap C̄onn nā
ap̄ iθ̄ail̄
θo beip̄ lom̄ ap ēāc̄ ʒib̄ eāθ · n̄i n̄ār̄ θ̄eānta θo θ̄eānān̄.
192. 1ior̄ c̄uip̄c̄e i n-ions̄n̄aθ̄ ap p̄iʒ̄ · p̄e linn̄ c̄p̄er̄oān̄ θo ʒāb̄ t̄ip̄
θā m̄ōp̄aθ̄ an eāʒl̄ap̄ p̄eal̄ · map̄ ʒāc̄ p̄iʒ̄ θap̄ ʒāb̄ c̄p̄er̄oēān̄.

¹ "n̄i c̄oip̄c̄eīm nā l̄eīm tap̄ l̄ine," τ. McDāipe, R.I.A. 23 H. 25, p. 45, v. 4.
² Cf. "1r caoi p̄ipe Δ h̄eāʒnāc̄ ʒn̄ouū," S. Mac an Uair̄o, R.I.A. 23 C. 33,
p. 236, v. 56; "Δ p̄l̄ait̄ p̄ipe p̄oir̄ʒioe," τ. McDāipe, R.I.A. 23 C. 18, p. 66,
v. 44; "iūl̄ p̄ipe na p̄oir̄neipe," id. G. 24, p. 22, v. 9. ³ r̄iže MSS. ⁴ A.U.
disagree with this. ⁵ Cf. "p̄ē c̄eāθ θ̄eāʒ θʹāoir̄ an anāil̄," S. Mac an Uair̄o,
R.I.A. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 69. ⁶ Also called Tal. ⁷ V. 72.

179. These three had the most glorious reigns. Not far did they outstep the bounds ¹ of right. They preserved the rights of their ancients, and their rights to rule in the place of their fathers.
180. For them the land was most fruitful in riches of earth and waves. The corn and the fruit proved that it was by right they got their power.
181. Brian regarded not justice in the matter of his kingship, but sought to take the kingship from the lawful ² house, after thirty generations (of his race) had passed which did not seize it.
182. It was because they held firm to justice, I suppose, and not through lack of strength, that they did not force their way unlawfully into power as Brian did.
183. As for the twelve years which you count in Brian's reign, ³ I assure you that Brian was unchallenged king of Banba only for three.
184. In the year a thousand and two Brian began his reign, and until the year ten after that he did not get hostages from Conall and Eoghan, ⁴
185. Let Brian's history be read by you, year after year, and examine his doings in the ancient books of Annals. ⁵
186. If twelve years had been found assigned him without dispute after his death for the purpose of fair argument on your part, Brian would not have been a usurper.
187. Great is your use of your Brian of the race of Blod, ⁶ whom you extol beyond all men, since all your "benefits" are attributed by you to one man alone.
188. Small is any benefit, however great, which lasted only the twelve years of Brian's reign, especially seeing that only at the end of that time was he doing any service to Eire.
189. Longer was the time of King Conaire, seventy years exactly. In his time was Eire most happy—the time you style "a short time."
190. Just as though for two thousand years the kingship was held by Mile's sons without our ancestors being benefited until Brian came!
191. Some of the "benefits" you boast of for Brian I would not boast of for Conn or Niall. However, to do a wrong thing leaves one open to attack.
192. It should not be thought wonderful in a king, ruling in the days of faith, if he enriched the Church for a time ⁷ as everyone did who received the faith.

193. Tóir ar túr éis saé eolair • tar níuir go hÉirinn feolair
tánsaobair plóinnite mar rin • pe linn Úrman máir fáé
maoíomh.
194. Dúó naé baé ní é ar Éirinn • má éus déiré do luét léizinn
ip beas naé ionnár don fíor • atá go móir dá maoidéam.
195. Ar é-aiéir ní maoidé me • an fúrtáé éis d'eaílair Dé
do bí i ndaoirre feaé oile • pe doirzéaé d'Áoú Órónaróe.
196. Iar saobá naom ip neiméaó • miorbal Dé air níor ceiteaó
fuit Óriort móen do éonnaire • tiz na pé ar an tSaepa-
mairt.
197. Céite Dé don fáirre a noear • tizeaó go hÁoú ar a lear
ip ríspébeann do níu ar oteaéé • saé laoi pé noéanaó
pnoiceairt.
198. Síó maoidémeaé tura ar do Úrman • ní hé fuair na fpara aéé
hail
d'fíort-plata ip eaó ar éizé • do beir Dia na tíoúlaicé.
199. Ní maoidé ar Úrman aéé go mín • san ar noúéaiz do buain
óinn
d'á tairzéaó do b'eaílair lair • ní naé deairnam do zéan-
mair.
200. Ní fúizeaó pé an níze péin • aéé tpe íoménúé pola Néill
ip doú Craoibe Toléa tóir • i zcozaó pe mac Arozaip.
201. Ar fon timéallairó Banba • don Dál zCair rin go calma
mair leo fílleaó san taéar • 'r san fíol zCuinn do zream-
aéaó.
202. Ní fuair Muiréairtaé zairm níoz • mac Néill zLín-óuib
pa beo zníom
tuz cuairt pe h-éin-míle fear • timéall Éiréann ar éizean.
203. Tuz níz Mumán leir i lámh • Ceallaéán san ceao d'Íb Tál
zé beir tú naé tuzaoir tpeall • umla do níozuib Éiréann.
204. Ná maip deairbaó air níor mó • naé maípaó pa ain-breicé d'ó
go Cluan Tairb éreáó san a noú • do Úrman dá mberóir
umal.
205. Ní móir go doairébeann pé lán • mar a-beiréi a Tairz io d'án
nár doircepaó fuit mar Óal zCair • fíol zCuinn tar éeann
a noúéair.
206. Na bpeiz ort zró naé leanfainn • mac Maolpuanáó Maol-
feaeluinn
do éuir ar Danmarz po éri • ip do márb Tuirzéir a
n-airpí.

¹ For peolam as neut. verb cf. "ar zpaob eoluir ip í an óz • feolair
móm zur an tí ar éirí," A. Ó Dálaiz, R.I.A. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 7. ² V. 70.
³ V. 71. ⁴ Not in A.U.; 4 M.; Chr. Scot. ⁵ Chr. Scot. 811 mentions
something similar. ⁶ K. II. 150. ⁷ Aodh Athlamh O'Neill. ⁸ A.U. 1003.
⁹ Eochaidh and Dubhtuinne sons of Ardgair, King of Ulaidh. Cf. Flann. p. 69

193. In the East at first comes forth all knowledge which comes ¹ over sea to Eire. Family-names thus came in Brian's day— if that be matter for boasting ! ²
194. It is almost a shame for anyone to boast of him for giving alms to scholars, ³ even if he were not king of Eire at all.
195. I will not, like you, boast of the help which Aodh Oirdnidhe gave God's Church, which was in slavery till he came.
196. On his freeing the saints and shrines, a wonder of God was manifested on him. Christ's blood—hail to him who saw it ! - flowed in his time from the Sacrament. ⁴
197. A servant of God from the southern sea used to come for Aodh's service, and each day there came a writing from Heaven by which he might give instruction. ⁵
198. However boastful you are of your Brian, not he but Niall ⁶ got the showers. Owing to kingly righteousness, it is to be inferred, does God give his gifts.
199. You should boast in a very restrained-way of Brian's not taking our country from us. He feared that, had he tried it, we might have done something which (luckily for him) we did not do.
200. He would not have got the kingship at all except for the jealousy felt for Niall's race, and owing to Aodh ⁷ of Craobh Tolcha ⁸ being at war in the East with Ardgar's ⁹ son.
201. As regards the circuit of Eire, bravely made by the Dal gCais, they were glad to return without a fight, and without coming to grips with Conn's race. ¹⁰
202. Muirheartach, ¹¹ the dashing son of Niall Glundubh who made by force the circuit of Eire with only one thousand men, did not get the title of king.
203. He took captive with him Mumha's king, Ceallachan, asking no leave of Tal's race, though you say ¹² that they (kings of Mumha) never for any time submitted to Eire's kings.
204. Seek no longer to prove that they (Northerns) were not independent of the king. Why did they not go to Cluain Tairbh had they been subject to Brian ?
205. It almost seems to please some folk ¹³ that Conn's race did not shed their blood, as the Dal gCais, defending their land, as you say in your poem.
206. Though I shall not follow up your falsehood, I say that Maolsheachluinn son of Maolruanaidh thrice slaughtered the Danes and killed Turgeis their king.

¹⁰ V. 145. ¹¹ A.U. 943 ; 4 M. 941. ¹² V. 134. ¹³ *i.e.*, " You are so unpatriotic that you seem glad of the disgrace which (according to you) the Northerns incurred, by not fighting the Danes " (?).

207. Áiríníú leabair dá céad déas . do laoéparó loélan n-éas
 1 gcaé Cair-áinne do éur . 'r do úrur caé i Ráit Comair.
208. Cumhíú Conall ir Eogan . ar fluas Danmair do b'eolac
 tugrao dá caé fo feac dáib . as ear Ruaró as áro Úreacáin.
209. Caé Sgéite Neacáin do raó . loican ní laigean náir las
 tuilleao ar míle do barr . ra marb do marib loélan.
210. Doó Finnliac tug an deabao . o'féin loélan as loé
 feabail
 dá céad déas do éannaib fear . i n-don-éarín oíob do
 háiríneao.
211. Tug caé i gCill Ó n'Dairge . ar fluoét Danmair go
 noaingne
 tarla ní Connaét dá eúr . naoi gcaeo earbaró na n'Danar.
212. Úrurtear le Connaétab caé . ar loingear Lunnig amac
 tugrao caé oile i ro orc . Maoil dúin ríog-óamna Connaét.
213. Do éuala tú a báir mar Úrian . mall álán-duib do b'ua
 do mall
 ní hallar do doiric aét fuil . ne fluas Danmair do raóair.
214. Tuicim Néill álán-duib don áleo . Donncaó mac flainn
 níor léig leo
 nac móir téaró oíob a-nonn . tug ár ar laoéparó loélan.
215. Eacáir iarúair Eorpa a ainm . mac Néill álán-duib a loir
 airm
 ne otoiúeacé Úrian ir Muiréaró . do tuic fé ne loélonn-
 éuib.
216. Ní do Óal gCair na ngeir-peann . mac Maoil-míeig ní
 éipeann
 iar tuicim feacé míle leir . ne áalluib loélan tuicir.
217. Ó Canannáin Ruaró ní ar oírmaé . ar oíonól fluas go náé
 Cliaé
 caé Muine Úroáin do éur . nar tuic féin ne cloinn íomuir.
218. Don rfluas léir tuic do bean oíol . dá míle ir eao toréair
 oíob
 ma ran gcaé-ra acú do ráó . tug caé ar ámlaob Cuarán.
219. Tug ní Conall caé oile . don úruing-re a-dubairt romhe
 ar fluas loélan tug trom-ár . 'r oo tuic mall Ó
 Canannáin.
220. Caé as Bioélan i laigrib . o'féin loélonn tugrao
 laigrib
 i oíoréair Uáirge a ní . ní do Óal gCair a gcluintí.

¹ 845. ² 847.³ i.e., Southern I Neill. ⁴ Northern I Neill.⁵ Cf. XXVIII. 28.⁶ 838.⁷ 847.⁸ 847.⁹ A.U. 865; K. II. 189.¹⁰ A.U. 867.¹¹ Conchobhar.¹² A.U. 837.¹³ At Cill Mosamhog, near Dublin.

207. The books tell of twelve hundred of the Lochlann warriors whom he slew at Cais Glinne,¹ and he won Rath Comair.²
208. Remember Conall³ and Eoghan,⁴ who knew so well⁵ the Danes' hosts. They fought two separate battles with them, at Eas Ruadh⁶ and Ard Breacain.⁷
209. Great Lorcan king of Laighin fought Sciath Neachtain.⁸ More than a thousand warriors of the Lochlann were left dead.
210. Aodh Finnliath fought the host of the Lochlann at Loch Feabhail.⁹ Twelve hundred heads of men were counted in one heap.
211. He won valiantly at Cill O nDaighre¹⁰ victory over the Danmairg. The king of the Connachta fought it too. Nine hundred was the loss of the Danmairg.
212. A battle is won by the Connachta¹¹ over the fleet of Luimneach. They fought another battle where Maolduin¹² heir of Connachta was slain.
213. You have heard of the death (as Brian's) of Niall Glundubh,¹³ Niall's grandson. He shed not his sweat, but his blood,¹⁴ and was killed by the hosts of the Danmairg.
214. Donnchadh son of Flann left not unavenged the death of Niall Glundubh in that fray, so that few escaped. He slaughtered the warriors of the Lochlann.¹⁵
215. "The Hector of Western Europe" was the name of Niall Glundubh's son¹⁶ for his martial deeds. Before Brian or Murchadh he was slain by the Lochlainn.
216. Maolmitig's son,¹⁷ king of Eire, was not of the sharp-speared¹⁸ Dal gCais. After slaying seven thousand¹⁹ he was slain by the Lochlann foreigners.
217. Ruaidhri O Cananain, our prince, when the hosts gathered at Ath Cliath, fought the battle of Muine Brogain²⁰ where he was slain by Iomar's²¹ sons.
218. He made the host that slew him pay dearly for it, for two thousand of them fell. Before this battle he had fought with Amhlaobh of the Sandals.²²
219. The king of Cineal Conaill fought also with that host. On the Lochlainn he inflicted slaughter, and Niall O Cananain fell.²³
220. The Laighin fought the Lochlainn at Biothlann²⁴ in the land of the Laighin, where Ugaire²⁵ their king fell. He was not of the Dal gCais, do you notice.

A.U. 919. ¹⁴ V. 57. ¹⁵ At Tigh Mic Deichtig. 4 M. 919. ¹⁶ Muircheartach of the Leather Cloaks. ¹⁷ Congalach. ¹⁸ ηξέδριαν, ηξεδριαν MSS. ¹⁹ 948. ²⁰ 4 M. 948; K. III. 238. ²¹ Danish king, d. 873. ²² 4 M 945. ²³ G.G. ²⁴ 4 M. 976. ²⁵ King of Laighin.

221. Féac a tairis an don Tál-ful · Eigneacán móir mac Dálaig
 do éir caé i zCeann Maíair · dá dtug ar ar Dánarab.
222. D'éir óir na nSal do thag-roinn · annsin ar cinéal zConall
 fuair a airios iar na dáil · mé tabairt do mac Ionáin.
223. Máir é ar adbar maoróite deit · bár Úrman Dóruime 'r a
 méic
 me rluas Dánarab i nDeabar · féac a zcor me zaoirdealaib.
224. Míor féarab Óal zCar do znáit · a zcorz d'Éirinn déit
 mar éac
 zac me reat a-nonn 'r a-nall · ní maoróite cogad Loélan.
225. Míor áiríur na cúis míle · me Maorí-féactunn riuéit ríre
 do tuit i zcaé Teamra éall · mar son ar mac ríoz Loélan.
226. Ceitire caéa nar maoró mé · 'r an caé-ra Teamra tug ré
 nár éir ar luéca an éirí · r zan é na mac Cinnéirí.
227. A n-airios do níor rsoitead · a mbuí leo do bhoit zaoirdeal
 zo bfuair Maorí-féactunn tar air · ar dé Cliaé do bí
 a forbar.
228. Tug iar rin rózra oirdeire · do éac iar zcorz zac ríreir
 le rsoire a rean le roéar · d'féarab Éireann d'oróacá.
229. An céad bharáin dá ríze · tug Maorí-féactunn ríre
 ríre
 na roéar rin do bean rir · zró ar Úrman réar do maoróir.
230. I n-iongnad na zcuire ar Úrman · a réad r neart mall
 do beir duit a maoróeán air · rémear an ríoz 'r a
 roéar.
231. Caé Cairn Forpoma nár éar · ar tual Múhan tugad tar
 i b'féarta hme i Maiz Úreaz · caé oile ar Úrman do b'ur-
 rean.
232. Na bhoitear ort má táro rin · an dá caé-rin éabam rí
 féac tabair d'uib Óal leite · 'r ní bia ort na méite.
233. I zcommeair níor éirte Úrman · tar Maorí-féactunn fuar
 me Mall
 níor méirte Úrman breit a bair · zé do aitéirz Maorí-
 féactunn.
234. Ir é do b'féar na ríoz · ir do b'féar ceart ar an tóir
 'r ar mó ar a r'píobair ríro · 'r ar luza ainm ain-túirí.

¹ A.U. 906, 4 M. 901. ² Killaneer, Co. Don. not in A.U. 4 M. Perhaps the battle in 920 fought by Feargal is by mistake referred to Eigneachan.
³ Flann. Story is told in Flann's poem "Aró do r'gal," M. C. II. 103.
⁴ 980. Ragnall, son of Amhlaóibh. ⁵ AU. 983, 998, 1000, 1017. ⁶ Saoilim
 "hope," then "intend" (?). ⁷ After Teamhair. ⁸ 4 M. 979. ⁹ A.U.
 689. South of Athlone. ¹⁰ A.U. 1000. Feartagh, Co. Meath. ¹¹ Taoðam,
 I trust to, cf. "míro tam tui m'óeaz · maiz éabair t'ir an-túirí:
 í tá an r'gal na réar ríll · a éabad érean rá zeporóinn"; "dá t'abair

221. Think Tadhg ! was Eigneachan son of Dalach,¹ he who fought at Ceann Maghair,² slaughtering the Danars, of Tal's race.
222. After distributing the gold of the Gaill among the people of Conall, he had it given back again, so as to give a share to Lonan's son.³
223. If your great boast be Brian's death and his son's at the hands of the Danmarg in fight, look at the Danmairg's fortune when set against the other Gaedhil.
224. Just like the others, the Dal gCais were able only to keep the foreigners out of Eire—alternately coming and going. You cannot boast of the Lochlann wars.
225. You counted not the five thousand who with the son⁴ of the Lochlainn's king were slain at Teamhair by Maolsheachluinn of the legitimate stock.
226. Besides that, at Teamhair he fought four battles⁵ which I have not mentioned, slaughtering the mail-clad warriors though he was not Cinneideach's son !
227. Maolsheachluinn did not seek⁶ to ransom the captives of the Gaedhil held by them (Danes), but kept up the siege of Ath Cliath⁷ till he got them back.
228. Then he issued the famous order⁸ to all men, after checking lawlessness, for the establishing of the liberties of the ancients, and for the benefit of Eire's folk.
229. In his first year, Maolsheachluinn of the true descent conferred the benefits which should be attributed to him, though you give them as Southern Brian's.
230. What you think so wonderful in Brian, namely his seizing the kingship—foolish is your idea—makes you wrongly assign to him the period and the benefit of the true king's reign.
231. He won Carn Fordroma⁹—fierce fray—over Tuath Mumhan. At Fearta Nimhe,¹⁰ at Magh Breagh he again crushed Brian.
232. If these two battles, which I rely on to answer you,¹¹ be a hidden thing for you, look at Dubh Da Leithe's book,¹² and they will no longer be a mystery for you.
233. You should not have compared Brian with Niall, passing over Maolsheachluinn. Well for Brian had he surpassed the latter—though he did dethrone him !
234. Maolsheachluinn was the longer king, had the better title to the land. Poets speak more of him, and injustice is less told of him.

é baó aitéas," "σο οταοβαρ ταμλλ οίτε · μιοτ Δ Ρί να τρπόσαιμε : αν ομοό-
 ροοζαλ Δ 'Οέ βί · νάρ πο-ταοβαρ έ Δ αητο-ρί, " Δ. Ο 'Οάλαιξ, R.I.A. 23 G,
 23, p. 294, v. 1, 2, T.C.D. 1356, p. 266, v. 27. ¹² O'R. ; 4 M. 978.

235. Τρι céat dailta do mMac Dé • i n-onóir Críort do oil pé
curo dá ceirto sibé heile • 'r a bár iar mbuaró n-aíteirge.
236. Ní fuair éin-ní u'áicme Úriain • an gcáin romhe ná na úiaró
do Laignib tar tír oile • níor úlig buain na bórumhe.
237. Dá leanadó Úriain mar maoirde • loirg canóna gan élaoine
ait-ríogadó do b'óic an b'heát • ar níg éorónta éráib'heát.
238. Tuácal Teac'tmar do d'aingnig • bórumhe ar túr ar Laignib
i n-íoc a m'gean gan oil • dá dtugrad éas i meabail.
239. Do máit Fionnac'ta ne m'Urian • an buair-ro go b'páit do Úia
ceat'raca ríog go a pé roim • do ríol Tuácal ro t'obairg.
240. An bórumhe ó párt'ear Úriain • mar slóir díomaoim tugadó
t'iar
an t-ainm blaó'mannaé d'ar leam • ó buair Laignean nár
úlig-gean.
241. Ar Úriain dá ríom ní raéam • cluicé ó gcair i gcnoc
Sparann
ar m'náib na n'Sall uóiro r'pí uóiro • iar mbur'ead cáta i
Sulcóiro.
242. Már é ar an-élaic t'ib go ceart • rí m'pear ceart mar a neart
i n-ágaró Úriain ir t'ú lair • tug uot aipe nár éasrair.
243. Ár Dammairg do éur pa uó • i Maig Íota i gcalsairg uó
ne m'iall Caille cró r'ine • mac C'rom'tainn i gcom-níge.
244. Níor éur'ce duit ainm do ríog • tar a com'páit péim 'r gan
é r'íor
a méat ir meirde an togaró • amlaró atá t'f'or-moladó.
245. An dá focal t'ugair lac • ar do lair'om péim go slan
atá an t'pear focal ann u'na¹³ • i noiaró Scotorum Scriba.
246. Maig nár léig na trí focail • ó taoi i dt'ean'gáib go
por'ail
ma riu do t'ugair go s'pinn • barr Néill do t'abairt
u'f'éróim.
247. Már molta an beata do neac • tocráó naoim sibé do beac
do péat t'ura uéanaim teinn • mar rin a beatáiró f'éróim.
248. Do ear'gan Ciarán Cluana • mac C'rom'tainn cia nac cuata
im éróó a cille iar na éráó • ir ué táinig a t'ugóal.
249. Do taró'breadó uó Ciarán cáiró • go n-a baéail i na lámh
go dt'aró por'gan d'ar leir air • 'r níor máir mac C'rom-
tainn blaóain.

¹ "victory of penance," a common phrase. ² V. 85. ³ Maoilsheachluinn.
⁴ K. II. 254. ⁵ K. II. 256. ⁶ G.G. 968. "ir ann do ponta sparaing mic
 feratáic accu .i. line móir do gail'raéatib na n'Sall i g'nocánatib Sangail
 macuairt ocup r'iat c'roma ocup a lámh ar lár," etc., "Sparann," "horse
 race," then any race, game. The hill of Sanglain (Singland), near Limerick,
 may have been called Cnoc Sparann from this event. For another Cnoc
 Grafann, cf. B. R. p. 89; Todd Lect. Vol. viii, pt. i., p. 76. ⁷ Near Limerick

235. Three hundred fosterlings of the Son of God, whom he reared in Christ's honour, are part of the evidence for him—to mention nothing else—and his holy death.¹
236. No king of Brian's race before him or after him ever got the tax from the Laighin or from anyone else. He had no right to exact the cess.
237. Had Brian, as you say,² honestly followed precedent, it was an evil counsel of his to dethrone a pious and crowned king.³
238. Tuathal Teachtmhar first imposed the cattle-cess on the Laighin⁴ to avenge his pure daughters, on whom the Laighin inflicted shameful death.
239. Before Brian, Fionnachta⁵ remitted the cattle-cess for ever for God's sake. Forty kings of Tuathal's race up to his time exacted it.
240. The "cattle-cess," applied to Brian, was given him in the west as a vain title. He deserved not the boastful name from getting the Laighin's cattle.
241. I will not go on to tell about Brian, the game which Cas' sons at Cnoc Grafann⁶ played on the women of the Gaill, their hands on each other's hands, after the victory of Sulchoit.⁷
242. If the true usurper be the king who measures his right by his might,⁸ take care lest, though you are on Brian's side, your arguments tell against him.
243. Seeing that Niall Caille twice slaughtered the Danmairg at Magh Iotha⁹ and Calgaigh, why do you compare Criomthan's son¹⁰ with Niall as an equally good king?
244. You should not have put your king's (Feidhlimidh) name beyond comparison with him (Niall)—for it was not justifiable.¹¹ Indulgence is worse the greater it is. Thus with your praise. (K).
245. As for the two words you quote from your Latin so neatly,¹² there is, however, the third one, the one after "Scotorum" *i.e.* Scriba!¹³
246. A pity you did not read the three words, since you are strong in languages,¹⁴ before putting so clearly Feilim above Niall!
247. If the life of him who afflicts the saints is to be praised, only so could you boast of Feilim's life!
248. Ciaran of Cluain¹⁵—all know it—cursed Criomhthann's son for injuring him in his church property.¹⁶ Thence his end came on him.
249. Blameless Ciaran, staff in hand, appeared to him, and struck him as he thought.¹⁷ Criomhthann's son lived not a year after.

junction. ⁸ V. 113. ⁹ A.U. 844. ¹⁰ Feidhlimidh. V. 120. ¹¹ 8 syll. omit péim? ¹² V. 121. ¹³ (?) MSS. σονα. ¹⁴ V. 37. ¹⁵ C. Mic Nois. ¹⁶ 4 M. 844. ¹⁷ C.C.C. § 2; Magh Rath, p. 327.

250. Do sheall Ciarañ fóir naé biaó · neart féitim ó Cluain
 a-mair
 naé maic an fiaðnaire fo · re tuam Siolla Mo Úubda.
251. A éairt féin naé beairtáó úib · Flann 'r é ar éirinn na ríó
 an seirioio clé 'r sup léis ríó · bar leatrom le ríó éóisrío.
252. Doó an shai beairnais do shearr · bile an mhuise ir ionghaó
 leam
 airt-rí éireann mar náir lamh · imbeirt cluice ar mais
 áóair.
253. Tuó tairé Donncaó Uí Ruairc · ó énoc Saingil curo dá
 éuairc
 ceao suó Dál gCair-re níor shab · ir tuó bpaóán éinn Coraó.
254. Ná cuir bpaéas ar fuil na miall · níor shabpaó tuairpaóal
 mañ
 ó doim-neac i nlior airc · baóé don céao Tadó a labairc.
255. Tuairpaóal Tadó Caol-uirge · aicne dáim-ra ir tuic-re
 eic Uí Néill 'r a eacpaó féin · do úilcaó do mar
 éairém.
256. As fo a demin tuic maó áil · do luó Lása ir beas naé
 náir
 ó do maóóir airc doim-feair · cia ar baó cóir a com-
 maóóeamh.
257. Tar a bpaair do shonaó arim · ir é Lióghairne por maíó
 iar ótuicim airc ar an mais · ir ann por úiceann luóairó.
258. Ar laighnó ir ar Muñain · do iarri Cormac a éuñail
 'r do cuir go sceao doó éumine · bair airc i leic Lióghairne.
259. Léigtear líó an teacá ¹⁴ bpaéó · bar n-amair ar om dá mbeac
 ar laighnó beairbóca óuic · sup iarri Cormac a éairuc.
260. Claoar fearc fuirmitir ia · ní leanaó dé-rin níor ría
 cuir an corp rin i seumine · ful paorpar tú Lióghairne.
261. Beairbáó oile ar luó ronn · fo bair airc a-ubairc sol
 ir náir óuic shac ar sheallair · maí fear maíó do úi-
 ceannair.
262. 'S é Nuairéada an shairgíó shunn · maí é tuó ort-ra an
 bpaicé gill
 éugair do luóairó Lása · ná heirg ann go han-dána.

¹ V. 122. ² V. 139. ³ A. O. Conchobhair. ⁴ A. U. 1061; 4 M. 1061. ⁵ V. 139.

⁶ Son of Donnchadh Dearg mac Airt, *i.e.*, an Cailleach. He was slain 1084 and his head brought to Limerick. A. U.; A. Tigh. ⁷ Ruaidhri, son of Aodh, did this in 1088. ⁸ V. 148. This is the Northern version, viz. Brian sent back the stipend (100 horses) together with 200 of his own for acceptance by Tadhg, but Tadhg sent them all back again. Cf. 4 M. 1258, notes. ⁹ V. 166. ¹⁰ From the foreigners, *infra* 261. ¹¹ IV. 61. ¹² Lioghairne was of the Laighin, IV. 62. ¹³ V. 166. ¹⁴ "Lawful, proper amount of" (?) cf. Laws. Gloss. ¹⁵ Law-book (?). cf. corp. leabair RIA. 23 G 23, p. 265, v. 5.

¹⁶ Reference ?

250. Ciaran also foretold that Feilim's power would not exist eastward from Cluain. Is not this good evidence for Giolla Mo Dhuda's poem? ¹
251. Does everyone believe, like you, that Flann, when king of Eire, could not have exacted his rights from you, and that you left unavenged ² your oppression by a mere provincial king?
252. Aodh of the gapped spear ³ cut down the tree on Magh Adhair. ⁴ I think it strange that a High King dared not play chess ⁵ there!
253. He (Aodh) took Donnchadh O Ruairc's ⁶ relics from Cnoc Saingil on one of his hostings, ⁷ and took the salmon of Ceann Coradh, nor asked leave of Dal gCais!
254. Do not slander the Niall's race. They never took stipend from anyone in Art's Isle. It was foolish of the first Tadhg to mention such a thing.
255. As for the stipend sent by Tadhg Caoluisce, I know, and you know, how O Néill's steeds together with his own steeds were refused by Tadhg as trophies. ⁸
256. Here is a proof, if you want one, as to whom Art's death should be credited. It was almost an insult to Lugh to mention Art ⁹ (being killed by him).
257. "After all the sword-wounds Art received, ¹⁰ Lioghairne ¹¹ killed him. When he was dead on the field Lugh beheaded him."
258. From the Laighin, ¹² as well as from Mumha, did Cormac demand his Cumhal, ¹³ and he attributed—with all respect to your memory—Art's death to Lioghairne.
259. Let the code of judgments (?) ¹⁴ be read by you if you suspect me. It will show you that it was from the Laighin that Cormac asked Art's blood-price.
260. "Let a grave be dug, a stone be placed," I will go no further in it. Fix that book (?) ¹⁵ in your memory before you acquit Lioghairne of the charge.
261. Here is another proof against Lugh. Goll said, ¹⁶ speaking of Art's death, "A shame to you are your fine promises, for it is a dead man thou beheadest."
262. As it is bright-armed Nuadha who brought on you (Mumha) your inferiority—which you attribute to Lugh—do not be too proud of it. ¹⁷

¹⁷ Meaning (?) "It was not, as you say, Lugh's killing of Art that made Cormac attack Mumha, but Cormac wished to get from Mumha the land which Mumha had got as blood-price for the death of Eidirsceal. Nuadha by killing Eidirsceal caused all the trouble." Cf. Ogygia III. c. 44; 4 M. 5090.

263. Cairiú an d'án rin san céill • Eadtar tar diéill mac péil
 'r nac r'píobtar barr o'aoim-pear air • aét do Samron nó
 o'earcail.
264. Nearc do luza m'ar fearú gur • fo reat i gConall Cearnac
 atá ra d'án-ra a-dium • as fo an pác fá b'oilirigim.
265. Do bí Cu Rdoi mac Dáire • o'fuil éireamóin san t'áire
 reat cia oib ba éalma i gcat' • i n-éin-ré ir Conall Cearnac.
266. Doo Luza níorb iarréa a n-urram • Cumall féin fionn
 mac Cumail
 o'fuil éireamóin iad fo reat • Orzar dongur Saol-
 buab'cead.
267. C'ait i raibe do luzaíó • Cairbre Múrs leat m'ar cumail
 ar Luza Mac Con an uair éuz • teicéad i gcat Cinn Fearnac.
268. Art mac Cuinn Conn ir Cairbre • éirream an uair-re ar
 cairre
 ní fiú d'úinn so nuairé 'nor • beic dá n-ionráó re t-amor.
269. Ní o'earbaíó gníom gcoir pé ráó • má táro uaim 'r ní labra
 lám
 neicé nac ionráó ann-ro • aét freazra éuzar ort-ra.
270. Dá n'gairdinn C'piorc mac Dé im d'án • san clonad ar fuat
 ná ar g'ráó
 a-d'éaréaol béal-é'ráib'cead rum • mar duib'ad mot-ra
 romam.
271. Déanam Néire d'iom ná cairz • gemaó feirdeirne tú a
 t'airz
 do léizfinn t-ollamnaét daoib • 'r ní cairzfinn fuire ro
 cat'aoir.
272. Ní cormail mire ir Néire • an éoir áirnear tú ro t'péire
 beic im azaíó dí ní zar • biaíó mo cat'aoir san clonad.
273. Mó d'úizfinn m'f'iaca do díol • rearam córa o'fuil mo p'ioz
 ná an umla d'iom fo t'leat • doo doir a t'airz doo ort'eat.
274. As doimáil t'oirir má táim • níor leanaí do loiz im d'án
 mire as cum'ad na córa • tura as díon na héazcóra.

RO CUALA.

¹ Not in V. ² Supra 261. ³ O'Dav. Gloss. 211. ⁴ K. II. 279; 4 M. 186.
⁵ V. 49 ⁶ Where? "béal-é'ráib'cead" in XV. 2 is subsequent to this

263. That foolish poem of yours puts Hector above Achilles, Peleus' son,¹ though none is ever put above him except Samson and Hercules.
264. That seven times your Lugh's strength was in Conall Cearnach—though it be bitter to say—is stated in the poem I mention.² That is why I speak of it.
265. Curaoi son of Daire, certainly of Eireamhon's race, was contemporary—no doubt—with Conall Cearnach. See which of them was the braver! (K.).
266. You should not have sought for Lugh the respect due to Cumhall, Fionn his son,—both of Eireamhon's race—Oscar, and Aongus of the threatening spear.³
267. Where was your Lugh (Lamha) when Cairbre Musc, if you remember, routed Lughaidh Mac Con at Ceann Feabhrad? ⁴
268. I shall put off speaking of Art mac Cuinn, Conn and Cairbre. It is not worth while now to speak again of them to attack you.
269. I am not short of facts proper to mention.⁵ I did not wish to say much of things of which there is no occasion to speak. I merely wished to answer you.
270. Were I in my poem to ask of Christ the Son of God that I might not err through hate or love, I should be called "hypocritical," as you have been called already.⁶
271. Strive not to make me out a Neidhe ⁷—though you be a Ferceirtne! I shall let you keep your learning, and shall not try to sit in your chair.
272. I am not as Neidhe. Truth, which you give as one of the three things against me, is far from being so.⁸ My chair shall always be unbiassed.
273. It is more my duty to fulfil my obligations protecting the rights of my prince's race than to give you the deference which I owed to your age and your teaching.
274. If I do admit your learning, I follow not your example in my poem, I defending right, you defending the wrong.

⁷ V. 187. ⁸ ní ḡar "not near," "not easy" cf. "ní ḡ. moláó báó síol sí," Δ. Ó Dálaigh, R.I.A. 23 G. 20, p. 386, v. 1.

ΝΑ ΒΡΟΣΤΟ ΜΙΣΕ Α ΜΗΕ ΟΔΙΡΕ. ΛΥΞΑΙΘ Ο ΚΛΕΙΡΙΞ CEC.

1. Νά βροστο μισε α μηε οδιρε • σο λαοφαρο ποιο πιονν-
Μάιξε
ατά αζαιθ μαθ αιλ υλοιβ • αζαιλ ο'ιβ ταιλ νό α οταταοιρ.
2. Νά ούιριξ φεαρθα αρ υφαλα • νά δαιθ έεανα αρ ζκοιρμαθα
τοομ βροπουθ 1 ζσεανν² ο ζσαιρ • ιρ φεαρρ μ'φορτουθ να
n-εαζμαιρ.
3. Ζιθ αιρθεαε με αζ μαιcne έαιρ • οοβ' αθηιρ ούιηη α
πθεαρηαιρ
ταρ έεαρτ 1 οτεαζμάιλ Τορνα • ζαν τεαετ ο'εαορμáηη³
m'αταρθα.
4. Οά βρενέηη ρηη 'ρ αρ οιοθ ουρο-ρε • μο έαφαρο μο έοηη-φοιζρε
ιθ οάν ζυρ έοβυιξ τυρα • τάρ οραιθ ηιορ φόβηαρ-ρα.
5. Νι τεαρρ ριλε ιρ φεαρ οάηα • οοη ταοιβ-ρε αρ τι η'εαορμáηη
αρ φεαρρ 'ρ αρ ηθό νά ηιρε • οά ρό um έεανη να έυιρε-ρε.
6. Οοιξ ιοιη ρα ηι οοβ'υρα • ιρ τρίο τρά οο μάθυρα
αρ βρεαζρα ηι ράτ βεαθζα • ταρ έαετ ο'εαζλα έ-ηηθεαρζα.
7. Οάιθ ηέηη ζαοι ζυρ ζαθ ηιρε • αζ ρο αν τράε ρά οτυιζρε-ρε
τοομ οάν ζιθ οο-βυρθεαε ριβ • ζλάρ κομυρθεαε⁶ οά ζελυηιτιρ.
8. Αν τράε έυιρρηθ αζαίθ ορτ • υειξ-ρηνθ έοιζιθ έοηηαετ
ζυαιρ α λοηη-ρηνθ 1 λειε ριβ • βρειε ηέηη⁷ έοηηαη βε έυιρρηρ.
9. Οοη έιοε ιοιηιρ φεαρφαρ οαοιβ • ζοηη αρ ηθάηα βα
οιοηαοιη
μαρ υραοη οά υρεαρταρ ρυα υρρηαιρ⁸ • ραορ ο α οτεαηζταιβ
ηι έαρζαιρ.
10. Οοι οο έαζρα ηυη ηι ηέιθ • ατάιθ ηε ηαιρρηρ η-ηηέειη
μαρ ζαε ρολλαηηαρ ρυαιρ ριοηη • υαιθ 1 η-ολλαηηαρ
έιρηνηη.
11. Νι φεαέφαρ οοτ όρ οάηα • ζέ οοιξ λέυ λυετ κομβάθα
ηαε βαοζαλ λιθ αρ α λορ • οά ζελαοαθ ριβ αν ρεανέαρ.
12. Οάν όρθα ηι ηέ οο ηι • κορηαηη ζαε έυιρε α-υειρτέ
αρ ταορζα 1 οτεαλαιξ ηα υρηνηη • αετ λεαθαιρ αορθα
έιρηνηη.
13. Οο υ'φέιρηνθ οό ηε οάν ηζλαρ¹¹ • ζιβε ριλε αρ φεαρρ εολαρ
ρα έλαρ τεαηρα ηα οταέαρ • οάν βρεαζθα οο υρεαζηαεαθ.

¹In Co. Limerick. ²"1 ζσεανη," "to" or "against," cf. "cuma ηιοη έαε ηη έ," α. ό οάλαιξ, RIA. 23 D. 13, p. 27, v. 3; "εια αρ ζυαιρ λεο οο έυρ ηα ζε," τ. ηεοάηηε, RIA. 23 D. 14, p. 135, v. 7. ³Cf. "αρ ροη α εαορμáηη αηρ," τ. ηεοάηηε, RIA. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 4. ⁴L.'s mother was from Mumha. XVI. 40. ⁵XVI. 40. ⁶=κοηη-βυρθεαε (?). ⁷Cf. "ηα βειρ βρειε ηε ζαοι οά ζοηηε," τ. ηεοάηηε, RIA. 23 M. 24, p. 17, v. 2. ⁸"Banna ri frais," etc., a common expression. ⁹Cf. X. 24. ¹⁰Eire. ¹¹Cf. "νό α ρηαρ αρ α ρηίοηη ηι ρυιλ . ιρ ζλαρ αν ρηίοηη αν ρηίοηη ροηη," ρ. όη έάηη-ε, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 185, v. 50

[Another answer to V., avoiding details of argumentation. I incline to infer from v. 5, etc. (in spite of v. 16) that no other Northern poet had yet joined in the contest.]

1. Provoke me not, O son of Daire, you and the heroes of the fair Maigh.¹ Whichever you wish you can have, mercy for Tal's race or reviling of it.
2. Awake no more our bitter feeling, nor belittle our great deeds, arousing me against ² the race of Cas. Better keep me away from it.
3. Though I am friendly to Cas' race, what you said against all justice in your contest with Torna would bring disgrace on me if I did not come in to defend my native country.³
4. Of their stock (i.e. Southern) ⁴—to which you belong—are my friends and kindred. Till you forced me in your poem, I never sought to put shame on you.
5. Not few are the poets and rimers in this part of the land ready to defend me, men greater and better than I, who will come to take up this cause.
6. Easier on you would be my reply than theirs. Therefore have I on behalf of the others chosen to make it—no need for you to quail with fear!—lest you be disgraced. (K).
7. Hence you can infer that it was regard for my kindred ⁵ that prompted me, when you hear ⁶ kindly language, though you will be angry at my poem.
8. When the goodly poets of the Connachta advance against you—terrible to you shall be their wrathful words—they will show (by the contrast) my mercifulness.⁷
9. From the heavy shower of learning, which they will pour forth on you,—my words will be a weak thing in comparison, a mere drop before the shower ⁸—from their tongues you shall not come unscathed.
10. To enter into dispute with them is no easy thing. For ages past they have been—like every other superiority which we have wrested from you—high-teachers of Eire.
11. They will not heed your professional adornment,⁹ though those in sympathy with you think that owing to it you need not fear even if you pervert facts.
12. It is not a gilded poem which best defends the cause you plead in the land of the Fair Ones,¹⁰ but rather the ancient books of Eire.
13. With a simple ¹¹ poem any poet, who had good knowledge of the land of Teamhair of the strifes, could refute any tricked-out poem.

14. Πά τὰς ἐγχεῖσθαι ἄρα • μ' ἔαζνὰς ἰ ζορὺτ ἐαρῆανα
 τρον um λαοῖθ τὰ βραζαρ ορτ • το παθὰθ ὅδοιθ ἀ-τουδαρτ.
15. Μο παθὰθ ἰρ τρῖθ ταρζα • ἰτ ἰομῶα ἀρ η-αορ ελαθῶνα
 ζομαθ ἔαθόιζ βρεῖτ ἀρ μβαρρη¹ • ἰρ βεῖτ τὸν ἔαζοῖρ ἀζαῖνν.
16. Πῖ νάρ θυῖτ τὸλ φάρ μβρεῖτ-νε • υαθὰθ τὸτ ἀορ κυοῖζτε
 ἰρ κορναῖν να εἶρα ἰ βρεῖτ • τυρναῖν ζαε τὰλα ἀν τῖομυρ.
17. Θυρθεαθ βῶρ βαθ βεῖτε θυῖτ • τὸτ ὅαν τὸτ εἰζρε ορῶρμυε
 ὁ βρεῖτ ρῶιθ τὸ ρεῖρ μ' αἰτνε • ἀν εἰρ ρεῖν τὰ βραζαῖθε.
18. Μο τεαζαρζ νῖ εἰοβραῖνν τυῖτ • 'ρ νῖ εἰρηρῖνν ἀετ μαρ
 εἶρατθ
 ἰοετ ἰθ λεῖτ τὰμαθ νάμια • ἀετ βεῖτ ορτ ζο ηέαθάνα.

Πᾶ βροσο.

¹Cf. uses of τῶιζ in Voc. ²*i.e.*, by me. v. 5 would suggest that no other Northern had yet joined in the contention. ³Other Northern poets.

14. Do not take to heart my friend my reproaches put in friendly form. If any severity be found in my poem I have warned you of it.
15. The reason you shall have my warning is that our sages are many, so that it were unlikely ¹ that you could defeat us, even if injustice were on our side.
16. It is no disgrace for you to yield to our judgment seeing the fewness of your helpers, and the (strong) defence of the truth here ² (in North). Pride brings down every cause.
17. Moreover you should thank your profession, your noble art of poetry, it from those who are waiting to attack you, ³ as I know, you get even fair-play.
18. I would not lecture you nor would I, except in friendly guise, charge you with your faults, even if I were your foe, but would speak to you in a gentle way.

Α ΛΥΣΑΤΩ ΛΑΒΡΑΜ ΖΟ ΣΕΙΜ. ΤΑΩΣ ΜΕΤΩΔΙΡΕ CCT.

1. Α Λυσατω λαβραμ ζο ρειμ · να βιουμ ζο τρεαν αρ τειβειμ
 κυρ, ιμβεαωζτα ναρβ περομ ουιβ · τειιβ μ'ιμθεαρζτα ζαν
 φαυμ.
2. Βειτ θαμ-ρα μαρ εαθ αρ αιι · επεαθ βαρ ζσορ αρ ειοιου
 ριοζ-τ'αιι
 ορεαμ ορεαδ-ρο-εαοιμ τοζτα ι οτρεαρ · νεαμ-εαταοιρ ορη
 ιρ οιρθεαρ.
3. Ζαδ αρ ταζραθ με Τορνα · ιρ μιρε ι μοθ αζαλιμα
 το λαβαιρ αρ λαβραθ ανη · μαρ αθναθ ε'βαλαθ οραμ.
4. Ζαδ νι οα η-εαβαρτ ανη-ριμ · βρεαζνουζθεαρ ε μαρ ετοιρ
 ετω ναδ λειζιθ ιιη αρ ρεοι · μυαθ ετοιρ ιηη ο'αιτθεοθ.
5. Οτε team το λειτ Μοζα ι-μουζ · τρομ-ζιθιρ Τορνα ιρ ηειιι
 νεαρτιηαιρ
 τον εαν-οτε μυα βρεαζαηηη · α η-εαβαρτ νι αιβεαραιηη.
6. Τειρτ-βρεαζρα αρ ευο οα ροελαθ · τυζαρ ζαν ταομ³ τρεαν-
 θοιβαθ
 το θειζ-τειρθ να ζοραοθ ιμ Κορε · φα ηειη-θειρθ ο'αοη α
 η-εαβαρτ.
7. Σαν εερω-βρεαζρα εαναμ'οαοιθ · νιορ εριαιιαρ τρομ να ταταοιρ
 αετ ταζρα τον ταοθ ι βειρ · ζαν ειαοη η-αζρα ταρ εοιυρ.
8. Αν ριυαθ το ριυαθ ιυθ · λεμ εερω-βρεαζρα το ελυμριμ
 ελωθ α βειυι ο'υαιιι ραν ριυαθ · ριυαιιι ναδ μυιρ το
 μιηιυαθ.
9. Ταοθ με βρεαζρα αρ λαβραθ team · νιορ αναρ ανθα αν'οιεαυι
 νι ριυαιρ ζραθ να εαζλα τ'φορ · ζαν βρεαζρα α λην ναρ λαβραρ.
10. Τομ θιοη αρ θιαμ'ραιθ ε-εαζνα · βαρρ'οο ευρ λεμ εερω-βρεαζρα
 το ρειρ μαρ ραμζ α λεαρ · ιρ εοιμ'οο-αιηζ τοτ'αζνεαρ.
11. Ηι ραοιιμ ιοηα ροεαρ · τον οαιι ταοι το εοτοεαθ
 βιοθ ναδ call εαζνα οραιθ · αν βαρρ' βρεαζρα ριαρ'οβαρ.⁴
12. Βεανταρ τειντε α ταοβαιθ ελοε · ρειμ βυαλαθ να βι αζ τοβαε⁶
 νιορ μο'οομ λαβρα α λυζατω · ρο⁷ ταρβα ο ναδ ταρ'ευβαρ.⁸
13. Ιρ εαθ βαθ ρεαρρ team-ρα α λυζ · τον οα ριοηη-ε'ραοιθ α
 ηεαν-βυη
 ο'εαζλα ναδ βανη βυθ ροιρβ ροιη · ζαν βαρρ' βρεαζρα οιρη
 ο'ιαρραθ.

¹ VII. 6. ² *i.e.*, I am on the defensive. ³ "Ταομ," "fit," then in general "feeling," "act," cf. XV. 49; also "ροιρ α μαοιρ μο'μιο-εαομα." "ταομ οιυλτα οι νι'οιιζε," λ. Ο'οαλαζ, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 148, v. 7; p. 265, v. 1. ⁴ "Οο-ζειβιμ," constantly "compose," cf. "οο ζεαβαν'οοο ζηυιρ νεαμ-ζαρζ. ρρειε' μοιτα ναδ ριυαιρ ριλε," ρ. οη εαιητε, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 11. ⁵ Vid. Var. Lect. ⁶ "Τοιβζιμ," "τοβζαμ," (1) I exact from (2) I cause, cf. Gadelica, I. 72. ⁷ Ρο is noun. ⁸ Cf. "ταρ'εαμαρ'οον τορ'εοιρ εεαοηα," RIA. 23 H. 25, p. 45, v. 21.

[This poem is variously placed in the MSS. v. 7 shows it to be after V. ; v. 9 shows it to be after VI. ; v. 30 seems to be referred to in IX. 6 ; v. 23 would incline one to put it after O'Donnell's or McArthur's poems, but as it (cf. vv. 1, 20-21) answers VII. I have put it here.]

1. Let us speak calmly, O Lughaidh, and not be set on abusing each other. The sight of my being wrongfully abused would be a cause of fear that would not serve you.¹
2. If it be I on whom you wish to put it (abuse), why attack the race of princely Tal? It would befit you to refrain from abusing that fair-faced race, choicest in combat.
3. It was I who in regular form spoke all the argument against Torna—if that be what rouses your ire against me.
4. Let all that I then said be challenged if possible. Why do you not leave our course unchecked if you cannot refute us?
5. I thought that the bitter words spoken out there by Torna and strong Niall were an insult to Leath Mogha. Had I not had regard to that insult² I would not have spoken as I have done.
6. I gave without any exaggerated wild invention,³ a fair reply to some of his words. What I said of the genealogical histories about Corc need have hurt no one.
7. In my first answer I sought neither to revile nor reproach, but merely to plead for my country here, without partiality of argument in violation of fact.
8. As for the indignation with which you boiled at receiving my first reply, to subdue the arrogance you show in your indignation would be almost to tame the sea.
9. You were not—so terrible is your zeal—satisfied with answering what I said. Neither love nor fear could restrain you from answering much which I did not say.
10. The result of your contention is that I shall defend myself against your recondite learning, and complete my first answer as the necessity has arisen.
11. I do not think that the last answer you have given,⁴ though learning fails you not—is any advantage for the case you are defending.⁵
12. Sparks are struck from the sides of rocks. By striking me do not draw⁶ forth, O Lughaidh, any more of my speech. Very⁷ lucky for you that you have not get⁸ more.
13. What I should like best, O Lughaidh, for both fair branches of the one stock is that you ask from me no other answer, lest it be not a pleasant one.

14. Sgur síó ead munab áil líb · uo síor-éadóir fil nÉibir
ní trát cóir dá n-úiltad óam · ní úiltad úib tréu dochar.¹
15. Freastra trom dá tatarle² rinn · maic líom a síor as
Éimunn
so bfozna ré úom fa úeoir · nac uom to! é acé uom
am-úeom.
16. Níor éiomrghar tataroir elann sCunn · ní fuil um freastra
romunn
acé ní neam-nár uon dá fuil · acé síó fearb-ruó i eadruib.
17. Féac-ra a luGAR uo leac éunn · muna lór ar fáir eadruinn
ní trát úar bfreastrai-ne póir · úab ir eadlaige é-íomtóir.
18. Aicnéú óam ir so nua a-nor · na saoi lé n-iarraoi m'amor
síor a rgaicra ar a rgaic rin · i trát a n-iarraoi ir aicnéú.
19. An gcéin bíar cóir ar mo éúil · ní uóiz líom ead uom éladéúú
ní taob me tollairbe éunn³ · comairge ar son ní iarraim.
20. Ná maorú é-íomao um aGAR · ná a n-oirbéice i n-ealadóin
an éúir uom taob ó éarla · ní uóiz⁵ ó'áon ar n-agaillma.
21. Fearr uadad ní hote linne · i bfoeair na síunne
ionáto iolair na naGAR · me éionar uo éanamam.
22. Léigrao raote ar ron an éiric · líom uo freastra san
fritbéiric
geall m'eanma ní fuige · um teann-boga ar éruoirpe.
23. Ní uíot uo úilginn a ruó · dá ngoirinn amm baó adnár
acé curó uar labair uar leam · nac eadair úuit a noiceall.
24. An eioé éuirpú dá uceanraicú · bíar a síor as éireannéúú
somad rača uéig-ríon⁷ óam · tré nem-ríor scača a scaantar.
25. Ní ar rgaic rgeime mo óana · téigim ó'iarraoi eadruana
bíú⁸ dá taob roir-neam-éair⁹ ruinn · eiaon daig-fearéair
dá nhearruinn.
26. Díomur uo láó nar leic-ne · raob adbar a amnigé
a ruó so sCunn-daigfinn ceairc · dáí sac uGAR-éim¹¹ éireacé.

¹ Tréu dochar in poem by C. McDáire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 185, v. 10, means "through your ill-plight," but this does not seem to suit here. For "churlish-ness," etc. cf. "Rí nar éuir u. ar úuair," Δ. Ó Dálaig, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 236, v. 5. ² "Approach," "begin," (?) cf. "an clí léir éaigleair sac tnué," Δ. Ó Dálaig, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 238, v. 7; "mimic éaróim uair oile . leirge come ir urruigé: ar uadall ran leirge linn . meirce m'anam dá n-aicnim," Δ. Ó Dálaig, TCD. H. 4, 4, p. 88, v. 7. ³ (?) Ruinn MSS. cf. Var. Lect. For "tollairbe," cf. Contrib. sub. "airbe," and "óam ní taob me t.," Δ. Ó Dálaig, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 287, v. 14. ⁴ VII. 5, 8, 10. ⁵ Cf. Var. Lect. For this use of uóiz cf. "ní mó ir éirpe póib so fpoiz . bar no. uo céite coGAR," C. McDáire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 22, v. 2; nac baó u. doirfeair dá fuil," *ibid.*, p. 30, v. 44; uibeairgaig nac u. i ueroro," *id.*, RIA. 23 L. 37, p. 206, v. 42; also *infra* XXX. 34. ⁶ VII. 9. ⁷ Cf. "sac uadad dá nuadairic mé . uar éarraigair flaic na péine: gealaró ríon i nuadú uadú . uo síol úruain ar barómaíl," C. McDáire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 45. ⁸ Or read "bí,"

14. Yet, if you will not cease reviling Eibhear's seed, it is not right that they (your fellows) should refuse me fair play. I will not refuse it to them owing to your churlishness.¹
15. If I give² you a severe answer I wish all Eire to know—so that it may serve me in the end—that it was not willingly I gave it but unwillingly.
16. I did not begin the abuse of Leath Cuinn. There is nothing in my answer hitherto except what need shame neither race, though it may not please you.
17. Have regard for Leath Cuinn, O Lughaidh, if you think that those who sprang from our side are a poor set. There is no failing of matter in our answer yet, while your history is a cause of nervousness to them (the North).
18. I know—again I say it—the shafts with which you would attack me. In the hour of attack too I know the way to shield myself so as to protect myself from them.
19. As long as justice is behind me, I think it unlikely that anyone can defeat me. I trust in no broken fence.³ I ask quarter from no man.
20. Boast not your hosts⁴ against me, nor their splendour of knowledge. As justice is on my side, to contend with me is not easy⁵ for any man.
21. Better are a few men with truth on their side—I at least prefer this—than many praising evil in opposition to truth.
22. I will let wise folk answer me in defence of truth, and will not hinder them. You shall not overcome my dexterity in using my bow drawn taut against a brawler.
23. Not of you should I be justified in using that word ("brawler"). It would be a shame for me did I so use it, but the zeal of some of your supporters is, I think, no advantage to you.
24. All the men of Eire shall know that the shower they (the Northerners) will pour forth from their tongues⁶ will bring fair-weather⁷ for me, owing to the unfairness of their speech.
25. Not on account of our poets' dignity do I ask for consideration. Let⁸ both sides treat me most ungently⁹ if I pervert true history.
26. As for your charging me with pride¹⁰ foolish is the reason for so calling me, namely because I said I would defend the truth. The man who has no authority in his side¹¹ must be satisfied with facts (?).

"be therefore most," etc. ⁹Cf. "nearh-éair an mairé mé maoróeair . so ríair réairéair ríair-íairóeair," f. ón éairé, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 5.
¹⁰VII. 16. ¹¹Cf. "so óán ríair rí air-uíóair," f. ón éairé, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 185, v. 58.

27. Níom tóimpráé pe Tia a buróe • gró eadó aigneadó don-ouine
um tóáit cápa 'r uom éuinḡ-pe . wána ar cáip a ḡoḡnam-pe.
28. Níom tóúltáóáé ḡibé beap • uom uaim i mbáiró nó i mbráit-
peap
um éeann na cópa éanairó • níom ónna pe m'earcairó.
29. Ó naé t'puaé uo élanaiḡ Cair • uo éasair tuḡa ar éasair
áét uo éaoiḡ connailbe ó ḡCuinn • comairḡe tóaoiḡ ní tóúlt-
páinn.
30. Ní héasóir t'píor uo ḡarḡa • cumtáé ceipḡ uar n-áéapóa.
gró eadó ná cumtáig áét ceapḡ • lean a upóail uom oíbeáét.
31. ḡuróim Cpíorḡ nar éana mé • ar ḡráó éáié peadé a ééile
ḡlóḡ pém linn baó uombuaró tóáit • uombuarḡin pinn ar an
paoḡal.

A LUḡAÍÓ.

27. I am not contemptuous, thank God—whatever anyone think—of truth or of my duty. Two things which are just are what I defend (?).
28. I incline not to refuse anyone who is yoked with me in love or kinship concerning the interests of the truth which they uphold. I am not spiritless in face of my foe.
29. Since it is not in hatred of Cas' race, but in love of Conn's that you have so argued, I shall not refuse you mercy.
30. It is not unjust for one of your calling to uphold the right claims of your fatherland. Yet, defend merely their right claims. Follow, to that extent at least, what I teach you. (K).
31. I pray Christ that, in partiality, I may never say a word that would be a shame for me. A short time are we in this world.

an gcluime mé a míic Dáire. LUŞAIDŌ Ó ÓLÉIRIŞ cct.

- I. An gcluime mé a míic Dáire • eirŋ araili dár n-uráin-ne
ro éonélanŋ an tann-ra ó tám • rann-ra i gcomérom do
éomráŋ.
2. Dámbeir náir éonélanŋ cubairŋ • leat féin inn ŋot ionnámáil
téro mar uairle ŋ'fine Cúinn • nac ŋlige an uair-re ar
n-uráim.
3. Ór ŋ'riacáib¹ airŋ-ríŋŋ Mumán • do ríŋ Éireann umluşáŋ
mar tá an t-ainm le féin b'feabail • a nşairŋm féin şá
b'feleáŋáib.
4. Şo b'feartar ériŋŋ ar şcaingne • ná hiarriéar ar n-uráim-ne
ar éonáilbe ná ar şáol şar • comairşe ar şon ní iarriab.
5. Ní éuisŋm şo ŋtiŋcraŋ rŋm • ar máoirŋ ŋ'ŋŋeacŋt oram
'r nac ur-ŋubáŋ é ar m'ŋŋŋŋ • mé ŋ'umluşáŋ ŋot orŋŋŋŋ.
6. Má ruairŋ uair ŋŋmáim ŋuit • aiceacŋt ir mé i n-ŋoir
foctac⁵
şo ŋturŋa a éara ar an şceart • ní raşá m'umla ar é-aiceacŋt
7. Nŋ şur labrair ar leir Cúinn • do bíáŋ ŋá n-éirşeáŋ
éaŋrŋim⁶
urŋim i n-ar nŋáin-ne ŋeir • náire ŋá ŋtuillinn tremeir.⁷
8. Má ŋubairŋ mar ŋeirŋe ro laoirŋ • ní ar a ŋtiŋcraŋ b'ar
ŋaŋáŋŋŋ
acŋt şlorŋ féim şo n-annra orŋ • ní léir ŋám-ra şo nŋubairŋ.
9. Sa n-aişnear do b'éirşan ŋám • má tá nac b'riŋnŋŋŋŋ ar
b'roşar
cuid dár b'roşair-ne ro fear • ŋuro mo éomairle ar éairŋeair.
10. Ní ŋearnáŋ leat-ra acŋt b'riş beaş • ŋom b'riacraib bíŋŋ náir
éuillreáŋ
aş cora ar şcomairle ar air • ro-ŋoirşe⁸ an roşá ruşair.
11. Tré şráŋ ó nac şabŋar lat • comairle do éur orac
ar b'ar şcaisŋ ó nac cŋrŋeam corş⁹ • rşuirŋeam a ŋarŋŋ ŋŋŋ
ŋeaşarş.
12. Şşur ŋŋŋ aişnear munab áil • ar m'imprŋe nŋ ar m'ŋuráil
éreáŋ uma n-abra tré ríŋŋ • réáŋ nac ŋŋma léŋ eirriŋŋŋ.
13. A-ŋearŋŋŋŋŋ nac ŋearŋair tŋom • ar ríŋŋ şCúinn éoirşeair
roŋŋŋŋŋŋ
'r do ŋán ŋ'riacáim ic aşáŋŋ • náir an iarriáŋ anaşail.

¹ Cf. "şir ŋ'riacáib teacŋt tarriŋa," C. Mcŋáire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 30. ² L. Foyle. ³ VIII. 29. ⁴ VIII. 30. ⁵ "foctac," early grade of poet. M. and C. ii., 217. ⁶ Cf. "do rala etorru," Vis. McCongl. (note). ⁷ "Tremeir," 3 Sg. cf. "ŋ'ér cará ro ŋáin-şéire ŋeir. lán-léire tana c," C. Mc An ŋáirŋ, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 22. ⁸ Noun or Compar. of "ŋoirş," used as pos. ⁹ 8 syll. omit "b'ar" ? ¹⁰ VIII. 30. ¹¹ VIII. 16.

[Answer to VIII].

1. Do you hear me, son of Daire? Pay heed a little to my poem. Since I am contending with you now, give me a fair share of your attention.
2. Were it the case that you thought the contest unworthy of you—we poets like yourself contending with you—since nobles of Conn's race advance against you, should you not now respect us?
3. As it is the duty¹ of the princes of Mumha to bow before the king of Eire—for that title (K. of E.) belongs to the warrior band of the Feabhal²—their poets too have *their* title. (K).
4. Till the issue of our dispute be settled ask not submission from us. Neither for love nor for close kinship will I ask quarter from anyone.³
5. I do not think I could agree with the teaching which you boastfully propose⁴ to give me, nor that it would not be a blot on my (fame for) wisdom to submit to your teaching.
6. Even if I, when a novice,⁵ got—I deny it not—lessons from you, my deference shall not be given to your teaching, my friend, till you descend to the level of truth.
7. Until you spoke against Conn's Half there would have been—had a dispute arisen between us⁶—respect shown you in my poems, and I should have felt shame had I deserved shame owing to my poem.⁷
8. If, as you say in your poem, I have said aught whence you may be shamed—and not gentle words full of affection for you!—I cannot see that I did.
9. In the dispute which I had to undertake, though there may be some points in which you do not understand my words, you knew that some of my words were my advice given you in all friendship.
10. You made little account of my words though they did not deserve such treatment. In rejecting my advice you have taken a course that will prove painful⁸ for you!
11. As you will not let advice be given you in love, and as we cannot check your bitterness,⁹ let us at least have done with your teaching.¹⁰
12. As you will not cease disputing either at my request or my command, why do you, in your rage, say things which in your instability you then deny having said?
13. You say you did not revile¹¹ Conn's race which checks oppression, though your own poem proves it against you! Such an asking of quarter is a shame.

14. Dealtbēar lib mar leigear air . t'ēir ar loitir dār laóirar
 roinn milre go¹ zereáctaid enir . nó réantair lib-re ar loitir.
15. Mār t'iarparó rít go nua noir . féanar tú an trom do
 rónair
 ríóð ar a fámar do zéan . dom díon t'falaró a n-aibéar.
16. Zémaró dearbēta as cáe a éion . air féin dá mbeir na
 breictíon
 níor fáir ran naom-éruinne neac . nac raorparóe i zcár
 coirceac.
17. Ó nac tiz mar an dá rann . zan beir díomóac dá n-dearpar
 zibé ríac bearm ar mbreac . leanaó cáe ar an zcoirceac.
18. Níor féadar 'r do féad tura . zan teazmáil ran tazra-ra
 acé t-úro ar fázáil t-anna . úúib i n-anáir t-ealaóna.
19. Zibé cúir do éuaró i bpaó . 'r nac fuair a freazra pomáó
 dá n-éirde t'ib Cuinn mar cáe . níor buing doé éizre
 t-iomráó.
20. Créao tuz ar do fréim pomáib . zan déanam a n-dearpar
 'r nac aibreaz fá íb táil tuz . bar n-aizneaz dáib do
 dearmáó.
21. Dá n-eaóráin do dízreacó uul . rean-mac lias leannán
 Mumán
 an tuz rin tár ar torma . na dán a fir m'azallna.
22. Do bpaétra troma ar torma . doó' eazail a n-ionnamla
 as luéc eazna dá ráó rinn . do freazra um láir³ dá
 léizinn.
23. A-dearceoi ar maic a-muóa . m'fázáil neic a-nalluna
 'r nac fuizinn acé a bpaair rinn . a zeluinim uaid dá
 n-éiróinn.
24. Zibé freazra fuairar doáib . ní do zéall⁴ ar zlóir díomáoin
 ríic uam 'r ní do fúir roóair . úúin ná t'uail a hea'áain.
25. Dá n-iarreaz ar zac dom-feaz . díol tar ceann a cómaoineaó
 ní cúir éazcáir óam-ra a noiol . annra ir éaóáil ar n-airt-
 ríoz.⁵
26. Mar íoc i n-áit an troóair . téro a ttaazraim t'ealaóam
 an méir-re díom ó tleazar . bioó ar m'éizre a áiteazáó.

¹ Or "dá" (?). ² Cf. Contention of mac lias and mac coire, ZC. viii. 218. ³ Cf. XIV. 7; XXIII. 22; also "ra láir níor léiz a éiomra," "undefended," C. McÓairé, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 26; "teacé le ním tnuic dom éinneacó . ra úir lib ní léizimne," "unpunished," F. ón éáince, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 20. ⁴ Cf. "do zióll dom annuin," Táin bó fraoicé, RIA. Proc. 1870, p. 150, l. 19; also i n. re, because of, P. H.,

14. You make up as a cure, after wounding our heroes, some honied verses—and some more wounds ! ¹ or you deny having wounded them at all !
15. If it be to seek peace anew that you deny the wounds you have inflicted, I too will make peace in the same way, defending myself by my words against your bitter attack.
16. Though a man's crime were proved home in the sight of all men, yet, if he were to be his own judge, never in the holy world was there a guilty man who would not be acquitted !
17. Since I cannot agree to both sides without incurring anger for what I should have done, whenever I give my judgment let everyone punish the offender.
18. I could not—though you could—have avoided this dispute, except for your anxiety to win a name on the score of your learning.
19. If you believe Leath Cuinn when it makes statements that have been public, and have never, till your time, been questioned, the making of such statements is no insult to your profession.
20. Why was it that your race before you never acted as you, since, I am sure, it was not ignorance about Tal's race that made them omit all that you say ?
21. To defend it (Tal's race) would have been the right of old Mac Liag,² the darling of Mumha. Did *he* revile Torna in his poem, my friend who arguest against me ?
22. As for your harsh words of Torna, I fear that similar ones would be addressed to me by learned folk if I left your answer unchallenged.³
23. You say that my seeking for facts in far antiquity was wasted energy, just as though I should have got the information I have got had I listened to you !
24. Any answer I made you I made not for the sake of foolish glory,⁴ nor to seek profit for myself, nor from pride of learning.
25. If every man must repay the benefits he has received it is just that I requite the love and benefits of my chiefs.⁵
26. As requital of these benefits is the lore I set forth. Since that is due from me, let the stating of it be set to the account of my professional duty.

and modern "μαρ ζεαλλ αρ." ⁵"Δρο-ρί," of chieftain, cf. RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 23 ; G. 24, p. 34, v. 6.

27. Ili a xepuē xō maōaō nomaiō • tuq an peāō naō puapōbai
 to ēpeasna ō ōāc a ōapa • xēpō ēāt easla ē-ealaōa.
28. Tnūt mē ōtāpētup¹ ōo pōōap • tuq ōōiō 'p ni ōiōt ealaōaō
 nā easna ōon leit pōp liq • ōo ēpeasna um leit map léiqto.
29. Sibē ōiōb nap labaii liom • baōgal oqm-pa mā aiēniom
 apdoi ap ōtpeiqte i-nē nō a-niōō • ni léiqpe mē ōo māōiōeām.
30. Diatō an ōōip map apm aiqe • teāct um ēpoto ip upaiōe
 pēipōe a ppaipm ōā ōpaōa pēap • a paōa aiqm i n-ēiqean.

an xclume.

¹ τάρπευ, Pret. Pass, but possibly also 1 Sg. of Pret., cf. Introd.

27. It was not fear lest their power might yield to yours (?) that caused the long period in which you got no answer from anyone, however terrible you think your wisdom!
28. It was jealousy of the rewards which I have got,¹ that caused them not to answer. It was not lack of lore, nor was it learning that kept them away so that they leave your reply unanswered.
29. If any of these, who have not spoken for me, see me in danger, then—though I am unsupported yesterday and to-day—he will not let me be crowed over by you.
30. Truth will be his weapon. That makes it the easier to fight for me. Better is a man's fight if he has the better weapon.

nÁ CAZAIL LABRA A LUZARÓ. FEAR FEASA ÓN CÁNTE eot.

1. NÁ CAZAIL LABRA A LUZARÓ · FZAOIL LÉT FEIRIS A HARADAIN
BEIT NEMINEAC DERO ZION ZUP OLUIS¹ · LEIS A CEINN-PEAC LEO
CEANZARÓ.
2. COZAIL AP DO ELIACAIÞ FIF · CUAPTOAIZ AIZÉAN ZAC OIFIF
BI LEIF AN OZAOÞ CAIZOEAP³ PIB · ZAOI NÁ CAIPOEAP NÁ CUMHNIZ.
3. NÁ MINIZ PUNN DO PO-ZUP⁴ · NÁ CEIL ÉACÞ NÁ FALCANAP
FÉAC DO LEABRA POZAIR PUNN · COZUIS FEALBA NA PAOP-
CLANN.
4. DÉINE DO DICEAIL DUIT FÉIN · Ó DO COZPAP TON DÉTO-
ÞPÉIN
AP FÉADABAIR DO PÁD PUNN · ZLÁP⁶ AP ÉADAMAIN IONUINN.
5. NÁ CUIP DO COMAOIN BPEIZE · DO LÁCAIR MO LEICÉTOE
NÁ ZLAN DO PAI-ÉIONTA PUNN · DAM IF AICIONTA É-INNTINN.
6. A LUZARÓ ZRÓ LINN TUPA · NÍ AP FZAC FZÉITE T'FIALUPA
NÁ AP DO COMAIPCE TPÁ IF-TIZ · A-TÁ OIL-AICME ÉIBIF.
7. MAITIM DUIT DIA DÁ MAITEAM · NA FUIZTE NAC FIOPPAROEAP
DO ÉADAIR TON ÉPUI-PIN CUINN · NÍOP DÚIFIZ FALARÓ EADPUNN.
8. DEANARÓ PE⁹ BUN DO ÞPÉIME · CUAPTOUIZRÓ BAR ZCAITPÉIME
AP PAOB-ACMAIÞ NÍ COIP CION · CAOIMANTAIR ZLÓIF NA
N ZAOIROIOL.
9. MAP AP FEAPP AP ÉTOIF LIB · LAZTOUIZ POCPA PIL ÉIBIF
TAIFZ A LOC FEAPDA NÁ PILL¹⁰ · NÁ LOC DEARZA DO DÍCILL.
10. MÉADUIZTEAP LEAT A LOF BÁRÓ · MÁP Í AN COIP MÁP Í AN
ÉAZCÁIF
PZAOIL IF COMPAÞA CLANN ZCUINN · A MBAPP POZNAÞA A
BPEAPUINN.
11. AP ÉEANNAC NÁ AP BPEIT LE BÁRÓ · FEAPAM Í N-AIZNEAP
ÉAZCÁIF
FEITM DEACPAÞ A MEIC MÍIC CON · 'P IF PEACAD DUIT A
DÉANAM.
12. ZRÓ EAD NÍ FÉADPAIDEP LIB · ZÉ TAOI AZ DÉANAM DO DÍCILL
CUP ÉIN-ÞIF DAP LUIR TAP LINN · ÓP FUIL ÉIBIF Í N-ÉIFUNN.
13. SUIOÞT EOZAM MÓIF MÓPATO MIONN¹¹ · PUIOÞT COPMAIC CAIF
MÍIC OIUIOLL
LEO CUAPT-ANÁIF DANDA BPEAZ · UACAPAM MAICNE MILEAD.¹²

¹ For "oluis," cf. Contrib. ; also " ní tó zér o. a caoine . ap mó foil ap n-éazcaoine," " ná céim ap uoirce oluize," f. ón cánite, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 28. ² K. II. 348. ³ CAIZOEAP, CAIZOEAP MSS. ⁴ Cf. " páirce na b'p'leabó zo n'gur," RIA. 23 G. 21, p. 171, v. 7; Eriu, v. 148, 41. ⁵ Ponn, here (Munster?). ⁶ Text corrupt? ⁷ VII. 6, 14. ⁸ VII. 4. ⁹ DEANAIM í n-, pe, le, p'pí and pa. ¹⁰ Cf. " ná pill ó focal éroe," Z. Mc AN BAIPO,

[Answer to VII. v. 22 implies that no Southern had yet helped Tadhg.]

1. Spare not your speech, O Lughaidh. Give free rein to your wrath. Though your spitefulness is uncalled for,¹ give full course to your tongue.
2. Sleep on your wisdom-wattles.² Search the abyss of lore. Stick to the side you study (?).³ Regard not kith or friendship.
3. Tame not thy ire⁴ against us. Disclose crimes and feuds. Read privilege-books.⁵ Defend the possessions of the free tribes.
4. Do the best you can for yourself, since you have destroyed at its root all that you have been able to say is thought among us to be shallow enough.⁶
5. Try not to persuade people like me of your pretended kindness.⁷ Defend not your great crimes. I know your disposition.
6. O Lughaidh, though you have ties⁸ with us, Eibhear's great race seeks not cover beneath the shield of your kinship, nor depends on your clemency.
7. I pardon you—may God, too, pardon you!—for your words that shall be proved false. The help you gave to Conn's race has not awakened strife between them and us.
8. Keep⁹ to the true history of your stock. Search your battle-lists. One should not respect degenerate races. Let the glory of the Gaedheal be ever defended.
9. Belittle, as far as you can, the benefits conferred by Eibhear's race. Strive ever to harm them. Cease not from that.¹⁰ Do not stop at the very dregs of your efforts.
10. Exaggerate in your boasting—with truth or without it—the pride and triumph of Conn's race, their greater services, the blessings of their land.
11. Whether for money or from partiality, to stand upon an unjust cause is a hard thing, O son of Mac Con, and it is a sin too!
12. Yet, though you do your best, you shall not be able to put any of those, who have come over the sea, above Eibhear's race in Eire.
13. To the race of great Eoghan who revere an oath,¹¹ to the race of Cormac Cas, son of Oilíoll—the chiefs of Mile's race, belongs the honour-circuit of Eire.

RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 7; "ná fill raobair do meáca . ó neac ó'uidriúib é-oirmeáca," C. McÓáirne, Trans. Gael. Soc. 1808, p. 26, l. 137; Wind. Wört.

¹¹ munn MSS. cf. "baḡ blieróeasḡrom náḡ báirí mionn," E. McCraic, RIA. 23 M. 24, p. 27, v. 16; "Δ ρίος-βυμεαḡ náḡ ḡιαιḡ (MS. caḡ) mionn," Δ. Ó Óάιαιḡ, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 280, v. 9. ¹² Faulty rime.

14. Δ ζσomπεapτa ιp cuimneac̄ linn · leo an uppuinn ap̄ fεap̄p
 o'Éipunn
 meapτap̄ iac̄o tpā ap̄ a oτpeabaib̄ · 'p̄ ac̄ā p̄iac̄o na p̄upεap̄aib̄.
15. To cuipmeac̄o uac̄a ioir¹ · mār² bap̄p̄ é ap̄ a n-oirp̄uon̄
 o'uaip̄le a ζc̄inō oā ζc̄p̄aioib̄ p̄ém · naom̄ ιp̄ p̄itō ιp̄
 p̄ip̄ém.
16. Oiap̄oα a p̄ioē p̄eap̄b̄ a ζc̄oζac̄o · uac̄a tpā ní tεap̄oαoap̄
 oip̄beap̄c̄³ ζaip̄ζiō aζup̄ ζlōip̄ · coip̄beap̄c̄ aip̄ζiō ιp̄ onōip̄.
17. Δom̄aim̄ ζup̄ maic̄ maic̄ne C̄uinn · nioip̄ m̄ip̄oe iac̄o oā
 n-abpuinn
 oo m̄uim̄ a p̄ém̄-feilbe p̄in · ap̄ b̄puil n-Éibip̄-ne uap̄ioib̄.
18. Ní p̄ciūp̄aim̄ le p̄c̄aol̄ ζc̄om̄p̄ac̄o · b̄p̄eas̄ nā oit̄ nā
 iom̄ap̄b̄ac̄o
 mo p̄lān̄ pā c̄onp̄ac̄o ó ζCuinn · ní p̄āp̄ op̄c̄aib̄ oo
 p̄eap̄p̄aim̄.⁴
19. Nā caill̄-re⁵ ap̄ éineac̄o C̄ap̄c̄aiz̄ · a luζac̄o iō labap̄c̄aib̄
 ní mó ap̄ caill̄te ap̄ íb̄ Ūp̄aim̄ Ūp̄eas̄ · na noiaō ιp̄ p̄loim̄nte
 a p̄ōp̄eap̄.
20. Ní p̄ac̄ap̄ leac̄ iō leit̄ C̄uinn · buac̄o ap̄ laoiē-ne a loip̄
 com̄luinn
 tap̄ ceann̄ b̄ap̄ neam̄-um̄la a-mioō · nā ζeall̄ ealac̄ōna ap̄
 n-Éizp̄eac̄o.
21. Δζ cloip̄ linn̄ iona lap̄aip̄ · oo p̄p̄eas̄p̄a oém̄ oōc̄ap̄aiz̄
 c̄uip̄ mac̄aō an̄ m̄ero-rē oí · nā bap̄aip̄ t-Éizp̄e oip̄ne.
22. Ní oioē cuioiz̄c̄e tā ap̄ C̄aōz̄ · an̄ t̄p̄ém̄p̄e ac̄ā i n-εap̄ap̄o
 ac̄c̄ nac̄ Éiz̄niζ̄c̄ip̄ é p̄ém̄ · 'p̄ é p̄na c̄éio-p̄liζ̄c̄ib̄ com̄-léip̄.
23. Ac̄ā Δζ maōm̄ tpā Mac̄ Oáipe · tuile Éizp̄e an̄báile
 ap̄ uc̄c̄ na tuile ιp̄ teann̄ mé⁹ · ιp̄ p̄eap̄p̄ oim̄e nā oaoim̄e.
24. I leit̄ an̄ c̄eip̄c̄ c̄uip̄eap̄ p̄oim̄ · p̄p̄aoim̄eac̄o iom̄aip̄p̄ioō op̄aib̄
 oā mb̄ac̄o um̄a a óp̄ oāna · móp̄ tub̄a¹¹ b̄ap̄ oτeas̄b̄ála.¹²
25. Muna n̄oεap̄p̄c̄ap̄ Éizc̄eap̄c̄ aip̄ · a loip̄ t̄nūc̄a i oτaioib̄
 eaz̄nais̄
 ní c̄ap̄o p̄āp̄ oo na p̄aoiōib̄ · 'p̄ bac̄o p̄lān̄ C̄aōz̄ oo
 c̄ac̄oap̄ip̄ib̄.
26. Up̄m̄ōp̄ a labap̄c̄ap̄ lac̄ · oo beic̄ ac̄p̄uim̄neac̄o uap̄ac̄
 map̄ p̄c̄ōp̄ nā bap̄aip̄ i b̄op̄ · ζiō móp̄ aζaib̄ a n-iom̄up̄.

¹ ioir generally after negative. ² "mā" = "as," cf. Voc. sub. p̄ioip̄.

³ Cf. Cont. "airbert."

⁴ Ūc̄ap̄uinn MSS.

⁵ Cf. "nā caill̄ ap̄ m̄uip̄e

a-mām," RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 265, v. 4.

⁶ Cf. Voc. "ζεall̄," also:

"ζεall̄ ζac̄ oioe oaoib̄ p̄e oaoib̄ · map̄ p̄uap̄i aon̄ζup̄ mac̄ aml̄oib̄:

ζεall̄ ζac̄ p̄ioz̄-oam̄na p̄uz̄ p̄in · ap̄ p̄uo p̄ionn̄-aōba Éibip̄." p̄. ón̄ C̄áim̄ce,

RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 40 ⁷ VII, 5, 6. ⁸ VII, 16. ⁹ Cf. "i ζc̄eap̄p̄o-

c̄ain̄ na ζc̄eap̄ n̄oap̄c̄ac̄o · oo p̄ζiāmap̄ p̄soē m̄'ealac̄ōna: a huēc̄ a oτp̄ioe

ap̄ teann̄ p̄uinn̄ · na hoioe oo b̄'p̄eap̄p̄ o'Éip̄uinn̄," p̄. ón̄ C̄áim̄ce, RIA. 23 E.

14. Their origin we hold in remembrance. To them belongs the choice half of Eire. Let them be judged from their tribes since they are the ancestors of those tribes.
15. There sprang from them ¹ to complete ² the respect which the nobility of their stock should have for the race, saints and poets and faithful souls (?).
16. Pleasant was their peace, fierce their fighting. Never was wanting in them the practice of valour,³ and glory, the bestowing of gifts, and honour.
17. I admit Conn's descendants are good. They would be none the less good were I to put above them our Eibhear's stock owing to its fair endowments !
18. I strive not with pride of speech to invent falsehood or calumny or contentious argument. I defy the rage of Conn's race. I shall not, however, put ⁴ contempt on you.
19. Do not forget in your poems, O Lughaidh, Carthach's race,⁵ or the sons of Brian of the Breaghla too, and the races of their younger brothers.
20. Never in Leath Cuinn was seen by you anyone to surpass our heroes in battle,—in spite of your unwillingness to admit it—nor any learning to surpass our sages.⁶
21. As we listen to your answer flaming with fierce self-confidence, that part of it (about your learning) makes us laugh. Do not threaten your poets on us ! ⁷
22. It is not that Tadhg has none to aid him ⁸ now that he is engaged in this struggle, but he is not hard-pressed, and that, too, evident from the start.
23. Indeed Mac Daire is pouring forth, a torrent of terrific learning. In that torrent I am confident.⁹ One man is better than (your) many.
24. In defence of the truth he inflicts on you a rout in conflict. Even if his poetic adornments be mere brass ¹⁰ great is the overthrow ¹¹ of your attack ! ¹²
25. Unless he be unfairly used owing to your jealousy of him as a sage—he never treated poets with contempt—let Tadhg go free from your insults.
26. As for the majority (of Northern poets) who are said by you to be superior ¹³ to you, do not threaten them as your reserves on us, however wonderful you think their learning.

15, p. 181, v. 15. ¹⁰ VII. 12. ¹¹ Τυζα MSS., cf. V. 10 (note). ¹² Cf. "Δη
 ροπ Δ εαοράνη Δηρ . Δη ζσορ τεαζδάδα um τεαήραιζ," C. ηεοΘάηηε, RIA.
 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 4. ¹³ VII. 5.

27. Κοιμῆμις το ἄιρθε φέιν · το τὰς νί ηεαγαι οιλβέιν
 νό σο ὅτι ὀέ κάε ὅο ἄορς · σο ρέ νί τρῖε ὀά τεαγας.
28. Ὀά mbeac τρον αἰγε ορν-ρα · φα εἰρτεάετ na n-anglonn-ρα
 νίορ βεἰττε τρά πο-ξροῦ ρum · α-τά βαρ γεοmρας comεrom.
29. Τυς τὰς δοim-φρεαγρα ορνιῶ · luét φρεαγρα an ταιοῖ
 ἑαλλαμuin
 ἀέτ α φαοr-μάῶ ¹ muin αρ muin · νί φυil ἀέτ don-ὀάν αγαιῶ.
30. Μά τὰ don φοιλέαρ αγαιῶ · le ποέταῶ το nuῶ-θαγαιρ
 αρ ξράῶ ἑ'anna ἀβαιρ ροim · 'r nά caγail labra α luγαιῶ.

nά caγail.

¹ Σαοr- possibly can be used for ρίοr-? cf. XXIX. 19.

27. Give advice to your own friends—Tadhg need not fear your insults—until the result will be that they will stop you! Hitherto there is no need of your instructing Tadhg.
28. If he blamed me for listening (in silence) to these disputants it were not fitting to be hasty with me, (as) your contest is equal.
29. One answer Tadhg gave you all, the disputants on your side over there (in North). You have only one thing to say except that you keep boldly ¹ repeating it over and over!
30. If you have any hidden argument so as to develop a new attack on us, for the love of your reputation give it to us, and spare not your speech, O Lughaidh!

CRÉAD FÁ TÁ TÁD TADH IS LUŠAÍD. mačšamam ó
 nipearnám cet.

1. Créad fá tá tád tadh is lušaró · ršatad 'r polmad' deat-
 bušaró ¹
 do éinn neart adbal oppa · peact san adbar eatorpa.
2. Ní leo fá naoir acé poinn beas · pleacta na bplait fá
 bpuilead
 pann⁴ ip-teac táinig tarrpa · pa leat tall don talam-pa.
3. Éibeair mār é ba fine · nó éireamón oppa-róe ⁵
 ršéal nac móroe mo meadair · tpean óise 'na n-óispeaduib.
4. Clumró ip cperoró ar don · mo ršéal maic a dá macaom
 a tšmall a tšaróš ip lušaró · maic nac cian ó tšualadair.
5. Do bí an cat 'r an pionnac peal · lé céile i scumann tšainšean
 as peicš fiaóais ip éanlait · pa leicš diašair tšuibéalais.⁷
6. Fric peata muice meara · leo pan coill pa comneara
 bpaic na tuicce don tšoinš tšil ⁸ · i poinn na muice méite.⁸
7. Roinn ar ar cúipeadair cion · an iot ⁹ don tpean ón tšóipear
 pa bšioš móroe na tšeire · níor tšiol ¹⁰ óise an fšeire-re.
8. I n-aoir an éait cumšar leir · céad bliadán bpeas an ipair
 tšero an pionnac ruar ó šoin · i scuar bšionnac ¹¹ ar
 bpeasuib.
9. Do cum an pionnac a ruim · ne pae teact éšioirt i scolam
 šperóm don iot lé ¹² níor léigead · cšioé náró é ¹³ níorb
 šoiršean.
10. Tis onéu uaidpeac allaró · éuca mar do éualamair
 nar doncuigš tšaoir aca poim · šaoir ní fáca na n-aoiruib.
11. Coiléan borb bliadna šo leit · nacar šéill tšaoir fšir
 aibšeit ¹⁴
 leir ar mipe an iot 'r an feoil · ón tine ¹⁵ tš'šioé ¹⁶ ip tšam-
 'deoin.
12. Šaršamail ¹⁷ do bšeum tší · iac éšpeann iot na muice
 cšioé na pliom-tšár tšioim-šlan tše · ní monšnacš iomčnúó
 impe.
13. 'S iad ró an pionnac ip an cat · Tadš lušaró lán leor
 tš'iomlat
 šleic na ruad paob an cošad · tšad ar don šé fšuaradair.

¹Line corrupt? ²The English? Cf. XXX. 26. ³About rights of seniority?

⁴Cf. use of "šabálar," XV. 132; also "dā nua-poim san tšiple ón tšuinš · tuaraim don éšic-re Connill," "two new sets of invaders," S. mc an Šairó, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 12. ⁵=oppa and fšoe (emphat. particle) (?).
⁶Tšé o, an o. MSS. ⁷Cf. tšobél. Wind. Wört. Rime faulty. ⁸Corrupt?
⁹Cf. O'Don. Suppl. it; Quiggin, Dialect of Donegal, pp. 45, 70; Laws, Gloss. itha, itharna; Vis. McCongl; Z.C. iii., 218-36. ¹⁰For uses of "tšiol" cf. "do tš. tš'šioim-moltšuib ionnauib," T. McÓáipe, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 130, v. 14; "ní fšuil mo tšiol tš'anár ann," id. RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 22, v. 24; "do šeib a tš.

1. What are Tadhg and Lughaidh about. . . . (?) overpowering (might ² has conquered them. Law ³ has no meaning now for them.
2. They possess, alas ! only a little part (of the land), the princes about whom they dispute. An invasion ⁴ has come in on them in that portion of this land.
3. Whether Eibhear was the elder among them or Eireamhon—alas ! my joy is none the greater. Great is the folly in their heirs.⁶
4. Listen, and believe too, my good story, ye two young men ! A pity you heard not long ago their story, O Tadhg and Lughaidh !
5. A cat and a fox were once joined in strong affection, hunting game and birds over the tangled pathless ⁷ hill.
6. A nice mast-fed pig was found by them in the wood next them. (?) in the division of the fat pig.
7. The sharing, on which they fixed, was “the fat ⁹ to the elder rather than to the younger,” solemnised by the oaths of them both. Not fair ¹⁰ to youth was that judgment !
8. In stating his age the cat makes it out a hundred years—a lying story. The fox goes back beyond that, deceiving ¹¹ by lies in his difficulty.
9. The fox puts their (his ancestors’) age before the Incarnation. Not a bit of the fat was left on her (the pig). No other period of time would have settled the matter.
10. There comes a haughty proud wolf up to them, as we heard, who did not agree to the ages of either of them. He saw no force in their ages.
11. A rough wolf-cub a year and a half old who paid no respect to the age of a fool.¹⁴ By him is torn off instantly the fat and the flesh from the pig ¹⁵ by force ¹⁶ and violence.
12. I am giving you a parable.¹⁷ The land of Eire is the fat of the pig. No wonder there should be rivalry for the land of the smooth dry fair comfortable mansions.
13. The fox and the cat are Tadhg and Lughaidh given to abuse. The fight of the sages is a foolish squabble—though they have both come to trouble owing to it.

ζῆλαιρ-πίονα,” ρ. ὄν ἑάντε, RIA. 23 N. 11, p. 166, v. 34 ; “ ποινὴ τοῖα τοῦ ὄαν τοῦ ὄια,” “ ἀρ ἐ ἀρ μιονεα ῥ ἀρ μό τοῖο.” Δ. Ὁ Ὅάλας, RIA. 23 D. 13, p. 27, vv. 1, 4. ¹¹ “ Deceitful,” cf. “ ἄ ἕρποναιζ ὄν ἄ ἕρποναιζ.” ρ. ὄν ἑάντε, RIA. 23 M. 16, p. 80, v. 6. ¹² ρῖρ MSS. ¹³ ἑρῖοε να ῖε MSS. ¹⁴ ? παρ . . . ἀνθρεῖτελο, ἀνθρεῖτε MSS. Cf. “ anfeth ” Contrib. ¹⁵ Sine MSS. Cf. Wind. Wört; Magh Rath, p. 58 ; “ τρῖ ἑάσο τιννε,” Poem “ ἄ εοῖεά μῦμαν,” TCD. 1281, v. 13. ¹⁶ Cf. Wind. “ fích,” and Laws, Gloss. ¹⁷ Cf. “ βαρῆμαῖ ὄιλεαρ τοῖβ ρο . ἀν ἑρῖτε ἕιορ ζῆαν ἑρῆαν ζῆεαρσα,” τ. mc Ὅάρε, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 28, v. 16.

14. Ráð ná n-ollam ná héirto gur · an ḡall-ós onéú an áitir
 uó éuir pé a ḡcinnpeal¹ ó éion · 'r é ar rinnpear 'r ar
 róipear.
15. Mí ḡasram teat a Luḡaró · ná pe Tatóḡ pé ḡtarlabair
 fá ḡtasram ní ḡuall éum táir · eiall a n-abram ḡ eapóam.
16. Urobað² teabar eirḡ ar · a Luḡaró uáir léir eolar
 uéanaró fuarú ná tarḡḡ tpoio · 'r ḡ³ u'uaínan ḡarós
 a-ḡamio.

CRÉAD FÁ OTÁ.

¹ "Bragging," etc., "ambition." Cf. O'Grady, Cat., p. 555, where the word occurs three times; cf. "cinnriúac" "inquisitive" which may be from

14. Listen not to the words of these sages. The foreign soldier is the conquering wolf. He set no store on their pride.¹ He is the younger and the elder too.
15. I do not argue with you, Lughaidh, nor with Tadhg, with whom you are engaged. The meaning of my words is not to reproach you. Their object is peace-making.
16. Give up the scribbling of books,² O Lughaidh to whom all lore is known. Calm thyself. Seek not quarrel. It is owing to (our) fear of Tadhg (destroying you) that we are (entreating you).

this word. (Sheehan, *Seán-éaint na nÓéire*).
O'R. ? *βροβ* *αυ*, MSS. ³ MSS. *ραρ*.

² " *ὀρθάμι*," "I stain,"

AN TUIRSEAC TAOI A LUĞAÍO. EOĞAN MCCRAIT CCT.

1. An tuirseac taoi a luğairó · bhrónac duit a n-ubhramair
 no nam-tóil-re ní fáé foir · ra-tuirre ar éac ar éanair.
2. Do rğaoilir rğannail ġaoirdeal · raobaó céille a ġcom-
 maorídeam
 nó ir meirge feirge roo fíoc · meirde ar ġceirto-ne ġan
 cumhríoc.
3. Munab ionmáin ġarpaó ġall · mairġ roo máoró mon² ná
 meiríbal
4. Do lean taoi le labra cair · rñáite ríodamail reanóair
 le luét ríge ríom-ġnáié Té · 'r a ríge o'ór-rñáite éirre.
5. ġréar³ roo rítearġ⁴ roġs nó rann · baó cairt le clannaib
 clann-ġall
 baó ríadain coróce ar ar ġcol · na ríadail foirbíte ó uġdar.
6. Ceit ġac mairera a maorídeam · ná tuġ ġeall roo ġréar-
 laorídeao
 Clóó é'raobair i n-eaġna éaie · maoluiġ roo f'reaġra ríonn-
 áie.
7. Do bainfeao roo baġar ríó · comráó a clocaib caoo
 baó déirdean le boóar balb · oá n-éirídeao t'foġar ac-ġaró.
8. Ní éarréair oá éarba a éaróġ · máġ lib láéair an iomairġ
 il-beaoġao ir ac na bfeair · t're imdearġao mac Mileao.

AN TUIRSEAC.

¹? MSS. neam-cf. oas—. ²"mon," "guile," O'R. Dict. cf. monac Toch. Em. (K. Mey.) 7, (note). ³For uses of "ġréar," cf. "ġréar marubnaíde mic mic airc. uáimá beo an t-oirdeoirídeac: roo rnoisríde na ġréar ġlan. ġréar baó rġoite-
 ġile rġiamáó," f. ón éaite, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 31, "ná cum roo ġréar
 ġaoiríeirge," m. Ó h'iréarínáin, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 95, v. 2; "rñáite ġeair roo
 ġréir t'rlámáé," "o'éir caia roo uáin-ġréire veit. lám-léire tana t'reimeit,"
 S. Mc an Uair, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, vv. 19, 22; "ní ġléar cornam leaé ar
 leaé. rán nġréir n-om-roim acé innaé," f. ón éaite, RIA. 23 E. 15,
 p. 185, v. 60. ⁴Cf. "il-éairra ríara pé n-air. rítearġa uáimá an iomair,"

[vv. 1, 8 would suggest that Lughaidh had been silent for some time. As no other Northerners are mentioned I have put it before McArthur's, etc., poems].

1. Are you tired, Lughaidh? Annoying to you have been our words. Not want of will¹ has made you cease, but because your poems have wearied everyone.
2. You have made public the scandals of the Gaoidhil. It was perverseness of mind in you to speak of them, or intoxication of anger that enraged you. Our profession is the worse for want of restraint.
3. Unless you love the foreign hosts, woe to you for telling of guile² and error, with much hate and treachery, about the host of the noble soldiers of Eire.
4. In smooth language the silken threads of history used to be traced by the disputants of Te's chief home (K), weaving it through with a golden thread of poetry.
5. Composition³ of rhetoric,⁴ poems or verses would be thought a charter by the treacherous foreigners. It would be thought a witness for ever to our crime, a perfect standard set by a good author.
6. Boasting of good qualities results in their being denied. Set not too much store on your artful composition. In the knowledge possessed by all lies the blunting of your over-zeal. Lessen the keenness of your sharp answer.
7. The threats you have uttered would draw speech from the stones of hills. A deaf mute would be disgusted to listen to your rough words.
8. O! Tadhg, if the field of battle remains in your possession, you have not secured⁵ much benefit from the terrifying and wounding of heroes, seeing that the sons of Mile have been brought to shame.⁶

ῥ. ὄν ἑάντε, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 3; cf. Magh Rath, p. 154. ⁵ Cf. "τάρτευρ εἰρ νεαίματα ἀ-νορ . βάρ το ὕδαξ-ῥίλατα οὐτέαιρ," τ. μεΘάμε, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 36. ⁶ Initial word not repeated.

MEASA Δ ΤΑΥΤΩ ΤΟ ΤΑΞΗΑΙΣ ΠΕΙΝ. R. MC ARTÚIR,
O.S.F., cct.

1. Measa Δ ταυτῶ το ταξηαιρ πέιν · ioná Topna i n-axaró Néill
'r ip mó το ταξηαιρ ar Core · níor dúligr Topna v' éaxnac.
2. I n-axaró meacta na rean · το τόξβαρ héim ar an bfeap
ξá¹ páo nár cumneac an éiall · ax taxna dó ne poi-thall.
3. Dúigrúo zibé ní deapa · urruim dar raoitib reana
acé muna pollur a mbéax · ar fír-éapc dá mbeic coméac.
4. Mar rin zomac corruil duit · zan don aicir το tabairc
a mic Dáipe το Topna · file reanða paop-éromða.
5. Éaxcóip mar το páoead leac · nac deapna víceall ná ceapc
bioó nac í an Mumha meapða · póo bunaró a zemeamna.
6. Taxna flim⁴ élaoin-bpeac le báro · níor zínac v' éigríb Inne
Fáil
ba cneapða an oipox níor bo tim · ba móp a meap i nÉipinn.
7. Níorb ionznacó το níozaió Fáil · a móip-meap piám ar an
noám
maic το tuill a mbéapa dáib · a bfuairpeac uaca v' anáip.
8. Zan féacain το maicne zaoil · caomnuo piám caipce zac aom
zibé díob nac díonznacó po · ní hé Topna nac deapna.
9. Dúigrúo zac neac á caomna · zac cúip dá mbi ar a taoba
ar ioncáib Topna το bí · taxna Cúipe rir an aipc-pí.
10. Dob' orde fóp don víp feap · Topna báoac⁵ nár élaon bpeac
ní comháó ar a bpuil claéc · nac díonznacó το Core dúépac.
11. Maic το ταξαιρ ar a fon · úgaró feapac mac Mic Con
το deapb nac eagla ná báro · tuz Topna tim pa ceaxháil.
12. Dámac báro fóp το béapac · a ndeapna poim το déanam
zibé mar το zéanac Core · níor dúigr tuipa é v' éaxnac.
13. níor dúigr Topna máp fíop duit · caomna caipce rínnrip Cúipe
cumneac mar rin éiall an fír · zan víceall dóib το déimú.
14. Do bpeac πέιν dúinn dá deapbáó · máp mépeoúe το labpac
caomna a maicne πέιν amáin · dúigrúo éigrpe i n-iomarpbáro.
15. Ní tuizim-pe máp fíop po · aóbar é-éaxnaiz ar Topna
aóbar éaxnaiz ip léip leam · opaid-pe ax éigríb Éipeann.
16. Máp fíop a n-abapcár líb · oic iontaoib rir na héigríb
'r nac í¹⁰ a-máin a maicne πέιν · το níoc an éigrpe v' óiz-péip.
17. Ní maic το τόξβαρ mar bpeíz · 'r ní lóp mar ταξηαιρ a ταυτῶ
zo otuz fórap v' éibeap fíonn · poimn leice v' Inip Éipeann.

¹ MSS. ax. ² III. 2. ³ III. 33, etc. ⁴ Cf. "marbáro pí ní flim a miú ·
an tí ar a pill dá rúitib," T. McDáipe, RIA. 23 D. 14, p. 135, v. 34; or
"smooth," "insidious," cf. 3 Sh. ⁵ Or "bázac" "quarrelsome"? ⁶ Cf.
"caic pép noaingin-oín dúépacé," Δ. Ó Dálaiz, RIA. 23 G. 27, p. 192, v. 3.
⁷ IV. 41, 43. ⁸ Because Torna was not of Mumha originally. ⁹ III. 2.
¹⁰ é MSS. ¹¹ III. 6, 7.

[Answers III., refers to IV., and previous to XV. (Cf. XVIII. 8)].

1. Worse than Niall's, Tadhg, is your argument against Torna, and greater claims have you made for Corc. You should not have reviled Torna.
2. Against the laws of the ancients you attacked that hero, saying that when he spoke with mighty Niall ² it was an ill-considered thing.
3. Whatever you say, we should, if we mean to uphold justice, honour our ancient sages unless they clearly lie.
4. Thus, it beseems you, son of Daire, not to revile Torna the ancient noble weighty poet.
5. It was wrong of you to say he did not do his best or his duty, even though active Mumha was not his original country.³
6. Poor argument and biased judgment were not the habit of the poets of Inis Fail. They were a just race and not weak. Great was their honour in Eire.
7. No strange thing in the kings of Fal was the honour they ever gave poets. Well did the poets' character merit the honour they got.
8. Without regard for their own kin, they preserve the charters of all. Whichever of them did not do this, Torna failed not to do it.
9. Everyone has the right to defend the cause of those on his side. Under the protection of Torna (to back it) were spoken Corc's words to the High-King.
10. Torna the affectionate,⁵ straight in judgment, was teacher to the two heroes. It is not seemly to say that he would not have said all he could ⁶ for Corc.
11. Lughaidh son of Mac Con argued well for Torna, proving it was not fear or love that made him weak in the dispute.⁷
12. If it was love (for Niall) that made him so act, however Corc might have acted you had no right to abuse Torna.
13. Torna had no right, according to you, to defend the rights of Corc's ancestors.⁸ It was thus a happy thought of him not to do his best for them!
14. Your own statement is there to prove that—if we are to believe you—the duty of poets in contention is to defend merely their own race.⁹
15. Thus I do not see why you revile Torna. Reason for reviling you it is clear to me the poets of Eire have.
16. If what you say be true one could never trust poets, as, in fact, it was not only their own folk whom they served.
17. It was unwise of you to challenge as false—and badly have you proved it false—that his younger brother gave Eibhear half of Eire.¹¹

18. Dámaó ó oisreacét léar • do biaó reabú Éireann aca
 rinnreap do baó cuirte i ruim • ó fóireap o'fásáil rearainn.
19. Sinnrearaéct ní tuḡann ceart • ar tír dá bfaḡcar le neart
 calmaéct na bfeap ar ceart ann • ir ní haoróacét reap
 n-anbpann.
20. Ní buíóac ar beirte díot • o'fuit Éibir fa é-áireamh ríóḡ
 a n-éacáta roéair a rean • ní roéair díob iad o'áireamh.
21. Soéair Damba ó fuit Éibir • a n-áireamh do baó célliró
 áireamh a ríóḡ do b'é a leap • dá nreartacoi é ḡan comhneap.
22. An comhneap ir é do ḡreir • rears Luḡóac ḡion ḡur luinn
 leir
 teméal ḡur éur ar bar nḡlóir • aḡ cornamh ríl Éireamóin.
23. Do áiríur móir an míócuir⁴ • oiar ríóḡ o'earbaró ar émioáto
 reireap 'r céad Luḡaró ḡan oil • beas bar otaíóbre na
 broéair.
24. Cúis roéair mar ríḡne ríóḡ • máir ḡlóir o'fuit Éibir a ríomh
 tuḡraó ar Luḡaró ḡró ead • roéair ar uille o'áireamh.
25. Soéair ir ríḡne flaca • áiríur ar ríóḡraó Maáa
 ḡar do éeá a n-áireamh roim • beas ré otaíó do cúis roéair.
26. Ná buó conéclann dá céite • ríol Éireamóin ríol Éibir
 ní aḡ ḡac don do biaó a ríor • dá ḡuirteá a Táiróḡ o'oo
 cóimhneap.
27. Éascomérom áiríne na ríóḡ • 'r na roéair éair⁹ Éire díob
 follur do ḡac don a-noir • ar é-fine ir trom do áḡrair.
28. Uuan a máirḡ do Córe Cláire • ir do móir-fluaḡ na Máirḡ
 an file o'fuit Éibir fínn • tarla ro éuro-re don cóimhntinn.
29. Ole liom im éuir ḡan tarba • ó ríor é-ealaóna ir é-anma
 múrḡlaó paltanair na bfeap • aḡ maoróeamh éacé mac
 Míleadó.
30. Na ríuró eile ir ead bíó • aḡ ceanḡal cairtoir ir ríó
 a loirḡ do baó leanca díub • báro liom-ra ḡur lean Luḡaró.
31. Siol an dá mac rin Míleadó • ḡar a nḡaol ḡé tá ar ríneadó
 a n-eareairtoeap cian ó ac-élor • máirḡ múrḡlar a bpalanair.

¹ i.e., one could then conclude that the land given by the younger was worse than what he kept for himself. ² III. 8, 11. ³ III. 16. ⁴ Cf. "an-éuro," "majority"; "dichuid," Contrib. ⁵ IV. 46. ⁶ III. 17-20, 22. ⁷ Cf. XXI. 2 n. ⁸ IV. 21. ⁹ "Tair," 3 Sg. Pr. Sbj. of "to-air-ic" or "to-reth," generally used as future, but also as Pres. or Past, cf. XIV. 35; also "máirḡ cairtoirín o'áirte cáig • luéct maoróim nac móir éadóil," O'Grady, Cat. 555, v. 17.

18. Had it been by way of inheritance from their father that they received Eire, it would be then a point worth proving that the elder got land from the younger.¹
19. Seniority does not give the right to a land when it is being seized by force. Heroes' bravery is the right title, and not the age of feeble men.
20. Eibhear's race ought not to thank you for counting their kings.² No benefit to them is your telling of their crimes and their ancients' "benefits."
21. To tell of the benefits brought to Banba by Eibhear's race would have been sensible, but it would have been better to count their kings without drawing any comparisons.
22. It was this comparison which stirred Lughaidh's anger to cast darkness on your glory—though he was otherwise not anxious to do so.
23. You counted twenty-eight³ kings on your side—great was the inferiority,⁴—Lughaidh a hundred and six⁵ correctly. Poor is your display beside them!
24. It was your five "benefits"⁶ mentioned by you as royal insignia⁷—if it be any glory to Eibhear's race to count them—which urged Lughaidh to count still greater ones.⁸
25. He counted benefits which are signs of kingship for Macha's kings. Near hundred their number. Poor beside them look your five benefits!
26. That the races of Eibhear and of Eireamhon were not equal to each other, every one might not have known had you refrained from your comparison!
27. From the unequal number of kings on either side, and the unequal benefits which Eire got⁹ from them, every one sees now that your argument tells against your own race.
28. A lasting misfortune for Corc of Dun gClaire and for the great host of the Maigh is the poet of Eibhear's race who took your side in the contention.
29. I like it not that by one of your knowledge and name there should in a profitless cause be awakened the heroes' anger by the telling of the crimes of Mile's race.
30. The other poets are binding friendship and peace. You should have followed their example. I am delighted that Lughaidh followed it.
31. As for the seed of those two sons of Mile, close is their kinship, though both now lie low. Long is it since their enmity has been heard of. Woe to him who awakens their strife!

32. Sealb na hÉireann ar fad taob' · dearb' sup' r'far' m'f-an
 a-maon
 beas atá eatorra anor · maire' m'f'glar' a b'f'at'ar.
33. Deas mairear' dá h'f'ab'laib' f'ar'it' · teapic' a f'car'at' teapic' a
 maoin
 'r' iom'ó'a a n-eap'caip'ic' anor · maire' m'f'glar' a b'f'at'ar.
34. N'á f'ad' é'f'ad' a f'car' r'inn · ní 'o' é'rom' o'ib' a-t'eip'm
 'r' ní 'o' ionn'laé' an taob'ic' é'ar' · dé't' naé' a'ic' liom' an com'm'ear.

MEASA 'OO.

32. Certain it is that the possession of Eire in every part has passed from them both. Little is the difference between them now. Woe to him who awakens their strife!
33. Few of their branching families live now! Few their friends! Small their wealth! Many now are their foes! Woe to him who awakens their strife!
34. Take not to heart my words. Not to revile you do I say them, or to revile the South, but because I like not this comparison of yours.

ΣΟ ΞΕΣΤΟ ΤΟΥ ΞΑΙΡΜ Δ ΘΡΑΪΤΑΙΡ. ΤΑΥΣ ΜΕΘΑΙΡΟ CET.

1. Σο ξεστο του ξαιρμ Δ θράϊταιρ · το β'φειαρμ αιρε αρ το
 τράϊταιβ
 νι τύ το ξειβ μοϋ το ρπίο · αετ να ξράδα 'ρ αν αιβίο.
2. Τά τυζτά αιρε θάμ-ρα · ζυαιρ βειτ' τουτ' ερεαθαϋ ταρρνα²
 αν εέαετ αρ αρ ευιρρ λάνι · ρύιτ ρομάο αιρ νίορβ ρυράι.
3. Τά μεαρτά ναε' ολιζρμν ριν · μο εόιρ ρέιν οο εαζρα ρυβ
 οζατ νεαε' ρέ μάρότεαρ οτε · αιβμορξ ρα μίορ αν θαonnaετ.
4. Δμ εορναμ ρέιν εαζραμ ρυβ · ρειρρθε μ'ρφορ-εατα-ρα ριν
 τιοηζνα³ αν νι εαρτα αρ ε-αιρε · εορναμ ριν νάρ ερφορταθε.
5. Ζαε' νι θεαναρ ρέο ξαιρμ ρέιν · όρ ανν ολιζμν βιαϋ⁴ τουτ
 ρέιρ
 νι μό νά ιονητα ρο Δ-μάν · ερεοιμ τουτ εομάρθ εομάρθ.
6. Υρρμαμ υαμν-ρε τ'αιοιρ Τορνα · ρέαε' αν βρειεαμναρ
 τρομθα
 μοϋ υρρμαμ 'ρ ναε' αίι λιβ · ό ρόιρεαρ ρέιν τ'αιοιρ είβιρ.
7. Ιρ ρολλυρ ζυρ λέιζ ρα λάρ · οιρδέαρ το ρέαεραϋ το ράϋ
 Δ ευρ να λειτ ι μοϋ εόιρ · θαρ υομ νι μόρ αν εαζεόιρ.
8. Ατα θάμ-ρα ιυρ⁷ αν θάμν · ζαν ιρβιυζαϋ νειτ' τά ζεάι
 ναραβμιρθε ε'αιζνεαϋ ριμν · μο εαζρα νεαμν-ελαοη νεμν-εμ.
9. Νεαε' ραν ορϋ ριαζτα ι βρυιτε · μά ελαοηαν αιμνι τυμνε
 εαζρα ρε εαραϋ να λεαρ · νι βέμν τ'ρφορ τουτ ορϋ είζεαρ.
10. Εόρμ θάμ-ρα τιορρξα υμ ζλόρ · ιομάρ το Τορνα ζο μόρ
 ατύ ι ζερεοεαμ νάρ ερεο ροιμ · αμ τια τ'ρφορ ιρ τ'εαταθάμν.
11. Ζιβέ Δ-θεαραϋ νάρβ ρίορ θύιμν · μο ζλόρ ρε Τορνα ζαν
 ρύιμ
 τουτ ράμναι νι τράε τειεμνε · ανοιρ υαιρ Δ ρυτθίζεε.
12. Ιομθα νι ολιζεεαρ το εάε · τέρω ζαν θεαμν αρ Δ λάν
 νι μιοηζναϋ νι το θολ θε · νι ραιβε ι τ'τορνα αετ τυμνε.
13. Λεαε'-ξράϋ οιοε τωιρ θάιταιβ · ζο ξεστο τ'αιοιβ ρέιν νά
 μαετνυιζ
 'ρ να ηαιερε ό ηζεμντεαρ ελάννα · ζο μβί λεαε'-ξράϋ εατορρα.
14. Μο ρρεαζρα-ρα αρ λυζαϋ ρέιν · λόρ υομ ραν εάρ ριν ορϋ ε
 ριαθάμν Τορνα Δζ τριζεαετ λεαμ · ρα ρζαε' αιρ ρια μύζ
 είρεαμν.
15. Εόρμ θάμ-ρα ιομάρ το Εορϋ · ρόζρα αρ ρεανεαϋ μαϋ ριύ
 Δ ιοετ
 εοιέα μυρε ι ζεειρϋ μαρ ριν · εοιέα Εορϋ ι ζεειρϋ ζαιρρζιϋ.

¹Cf. XVII. 4. ²Ταρρνα noun or adj. Cf. XVI. 4. ³For τιοηζνα, cf. V. 158. ⁴Devo MSS. ⁵XIII. 4. ⁶XIII. 5. ⁷Cf. "το βί θυιτ ρυρ να θαοιτέβ . ουλ να ζεαε' το εέαεραοιμν," ρ. όν εάμνε, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 13. ⁸XIII. 6, 7. ⁹XIII. 10, cf. V. 116. ¹⁰XIII. 11. ¹¹XIII. 12, cf. III. 4; V. 114, 116.

[Answers XIII., and shown by XVIII. 8 to be probably previous to XV.]

1. With all respect to your calling, O Friar, it were better for you to attend to your Office. Your Orders ¹ and your habit, not your personal character with its spite, impose restraint on me.
2. If you attend to me (instead of your office) there is danger of your ploughing being crooked! You should have kept your eye straight before you on the plough to which you have put your hand.
3. If you think I ought not defend my rights against you, remember that he who is spoken harshly to is dangerous. Alas! human nature is frail!
4. In my own defence I speak to you. My cause of quarrel is the greater for that. Strange ³ is the task you undertake, the defence of an unbeliever (Torna)!
5. In all that concerns your calling I will obey you, as is my duty. In nothing further do I heed your authority.
6. Reflect if your opinion that I owe respect to Torna's age carries any weight, seeing that you do not wish due respect to be given by his younger brother to Eibhear's age.⁵
7. It is clear that Torna left unsaid fitting things he could have said. To bring that against him in a fair way is not a great injustice,⁶ I think.
8. It is my duty ⁷ in regard to the sages to belittle none of their qualities. May your feeling for me be none the bitterer for my argument—which is not "partial" nor "weak."⁸
9. If one of your Order fails, as a man will do, a poet deserves not reproach for speaking to him as a friend for his good.
10. Uprightness in word is much more my duty than Torna's. I belong to the faith which he had not. I am richer in knowledge and science.
11. If anyone say that my plain words to Torna were untrue, one like me cannot shirk. Now is the time to establish them.
12. Many things that are a duty are left undone by many. No wonder that something should escape Torna.⁹ He was only a man.
13. Please do not be astonished if a master's affection be divided between two pupils, seeing that even fathers have a divided affection for their children.
14. In this matter I think my answer to Lughaidh is enough for you, namely Torna's evidence supporting me as to his being afraid of Eire's king.¹⁰
15. It is more my duty than Corc's to denounce a sage if he deserves it.¹¹ I am more skilled in this profession, Corc in that of arms.

16. Dámað áit leif san buain ann · ní bíað tnom ar Æorna in
mann
buain¹ i tæssa ir feansað ar · brios mo ærum ir leif
beanar.
17. Ni Æorunnrism fa ðrem beo · óis-réir sác soin wá wí
leo
sio ead na fíaða biof ar · ir wiotta w'æior ar torais.¹
18. Ni fáð éasnaiz oim ðon wám · má eis tiom a fásáit wáit
elú cion⁵ ðon wruins sá bfuil fíor · fíor ðon wruins æara
i n-ambior.
19. Má wo ðonar innte a-ríp · rplanne ar luisse ceo ar
ærip⁷
má wo eumear w'feróm orra · euarpo ar fuo a fean-polla.
20. Má wo eum mé i sctuar cáis · so bfuil níor mó w'fíor
in lám
ionár wo fawit eac wo beic · ní fáð tiomwá oim w'æisrip.
21. Mó ar éora wot oim féin · beic tiomwac wiot-ra fa béin
i tæssa nac beanann ruib · 'r bar wteinn-feróm w'ualac
oruib.
22. An tæssa wo triallað ruib · córaide wíð san buain ru
eiuo wám w'æarað⁸ wo eiuo wé · níac bweiteam ann ma
aighe.
23. Acð soin flaitrí tá i scubail · wo bað woiðe tiom luðar
in aðar fa tæssa i wám · ná t-oro uile so niomlán.
24. Már i an éalmaçt ar éeare ann · ní hiptisçe¹⁰ brios mo
mann
re eoir soire ní fpiç toçt · ar eiuo Éibir ðon éalmaçt.
25. Ni fpiç wam sluar leif tar tuinn · ní fpiç romie i nÉirunn
uill
sá wár¹² a éornam fa romie · a barn wo éite comtunn.
26. An tí wo b'æarri romie ir tír · wo tuil leif ir é na píð
wó níor comaræa luisse · maróm ar eac wo b'uræe.
27. Wo bean wíob moða leata · w'Éirunn ar feað a beata
numir tríp a n-áiream rin · an eiuo orle w'fuil Mitró.
28. Le noçtáð rçer Éibir wíob · sác neac biof na bweiteam
éoir
fá ráð oim ní ðionçnató tnom · nac ó róirear fuam fearann.
29. Áiream sác ar áirnear wíob · neam-nár w'Éibeir ir wá
fiol
wóis nac ba luðaræ a scion · an eiuo eile wá n-áirneir.

¹ Buain (fr. bonçim) as v. noun. of beanaim. For beanaim i n- cf. " fá béin i n-ambioçt umam," T. McÓaire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 12, v. 21. ² XIII. 13. ³ XIII. 14. 16. ⁴ Ar torac, ar torais, ar wtorac, ó çorais all used. ⁵ Cf. " níor eum ðuan céill na ceanáb," wóinn. McÓmaræaða, RIA. 23 D. 14.

16. Had Torna not interfered ¹ I should not have attacked him in my poem. The point of my attack is that he did interfere and did it ineffectually (?).²
17. I object to no party serving those of their side. Yet one must fulfil ³ first the duties incumbent on him.
18. If I manage to secure the fame of triumphs ⁵ for those who have knowledge, and knowledge for the ignorant, that is no just reason ⁶ for the poets to revile me !
19. If I have kindled in them flame when dust had settled on embers ⁷ ; if I have made them search their old records :
20. If I dinned into the ears of all that I have more knowledge in hand than anyone thought I had, that is no reason for the poets to revile me !
21. Your Order has the greater reason for anger at your interfering in a dispute that concerns you not, because other heavy labours are obligatory on you.
22. It were better for you not to meddle with the dispute you have undertaken. Yours is "the role of the ox at milking time."⁸ You are no judge nor pleader in the case.
23. I was sorrier that Lughaidh should be against me in this dispute than if the whole of your Order was in it—except Flaithri ⁹ alone who wears the habit.
24. If bravery constitutes right the point of my verse is not to belittle.¹⁰ Except for his being old ¹¹ no fault was ever found with Eibhear's bravery !
25. Of all who came over sea with him, of all who were in Eire before him, there was not any one to fight him ¹² for his share, any warrior to surpass him.
26. The bravest man who met him in the land ¹³ fell when king by the hand of Eibhear. That showed no weakness in him ! His victory over everyone else was the easier for it.
27. He took from them his choice half of Eire during his life. Three was the number of the others of Mile's stock.¹⁴
28. No fair judge would have been angry with me for saying,¹⁵ when telling them Eibhear's story, that he did not receive the land from his younger brother.
29. To count the kings whom I counted was no shame to Eibhear and his race. Their triumph will not, I think, be less if I tell of the rest of them ! ¹⁶

p. 135. ⁶ XIII. 15. ⁷ Syll, short, leg. ce 15. ciaó or ar an n5. ⁸ XVI. 6. 92, evidently a proverb. ⁹ p. Ó maolconaire, O.S.F., Archbishop of Tuam. O'R. 1629. ¹⁰ MSS. írúise. ¹¹ XIII. 17-19. ¹²? MSS. 500 ár. ¹³ Mac Cuill, III. 8. ¹⁴ Eireamhon, Eibhear son of Ir, Lughaidh son of Ith. ¹⁵ III. 7. ¹⁶ XIII. 20. MSS. áiríúinn.

30. An comimear ní mé do émall • aét do éabairt fheadra
ar mall
níorb iongnadó mé dá cupur • cuir do ar léis Torra éair.
31. An-ra ir luğaró so réir • congbair bar mbéas ašair
féin
óis so bfuighear cuir do á fíor • cis víom má éšraim
comimear.
32. Ní haðbar teimil dom glóir • mé do éšra neit don óir
šan ainbhor pé cupur im leit • šan luaité-breit ir šan leit-
breit.
33. Ní oulta re fheadra mbuirb • irteac tar moð mašla an
uir
ó'fíor do šeabao éairre a-mac • bað deacair maic cáic
ó'ionnlac.
34. Šé bað ceao aš do dá šairm • braitair doctuir bar noá
ainm
óion ceiré píoš-rluaš Mumhan Mir • ní léisioð víom ar
é-air.
35. Airir ir luaité-breit mar don • šir com-luaé uair-re ar šac
taob
ní éuirre leo mire im toct • so bñionnair cáic do óútraét.⁴
36. Do éairir mar an raogal • so ócuirto cáic ir baogal
an raogal do cupur do luirš • irteac ar fuo an šlan-uir.
37. Iongnadó nac dearnair dá réir • mar do ní cuir maic don
éir
nar congbair breit do breite • so veireao na raoiróine.
38. Ro-luaé rušair le luğaró • breit oram mar náir éubar
pul do éuala tú pé mear • don focal pur dom ašnear.
39. Níor fiarraig tú an mbiaó pé máð • éinní ašam ar mo
ršac⁵
ma mbreit breite raoréa óuib • oou éommaic mar náir
éormuil.
40. Šibé mar do fheadair mé • Mall nó Torra na nglóir féin
náir mear tú šurb é do oir • mar fheadra do glóir luğaró.
41. Ní mar do éx cupraoi šluair • aét mar éairnear re bar
šluair
níor šeallar uile a víom rin • piš náir rocair ril néibir.
42. Šir eao do áirnear cuir do óioð • dá cupur i šcéill nacarb
fíor
bračair uairbreac ainteann Néill • péir šairmeao an-rlait
óib-réin.
43. Níor áirnear aét uacáo ruar • níor áirnear mar rárao
cluar
na piš nac rušao ann roin • ná céao bliáan na deašairó.

30. It was not I who started the comparison. I merely answered Niall. No wonder I added some things which Torna omitted.¹
31. Remain quiet you and Lughaidh! Keep your falsehood to yourselves. I think some of it will be discovered! I, too, if I choose can make "comparisons"!
32. It brings no shadow on my glory² that I should plead some of the truth, so that no ignorance or rash or biassed judgment can be brought against me.
33. You should not³ by your rough answer have violated the moderation enjoined by your Rule. He who would transgress it ought hardly to attack others' good deeds!
34. I will pay due deference to your two titles, friar and doctor, but for all your reviling, I will not omit to defend the rights of the noble host of Mumha Mis.
35. As for reviling and rash judgment, though you are ready with them at every point, you shall not silence me by means of them before everyone sees the excess of your zeal!⁴
36. You have fled from the world! All see, I fear, that the world has followed you into the pure Order!
37. I wonder you acted not as most of the clergy, keeping the sentence till the end of the confession!
38. Too hastily, like Lughaidh, you improperly passed judgment on me before hearing, so as to examine it, a word of my argument against him!
39. You asked not if I had a word to say in my defence⁵ before in unseemly wise passing sentence of condemnation on your peer!
40. Whatever answer I made Niall or Torna, using their own words, you thought it did not suit as an answer to Lughaidh.
41. Your notes are not according to your text, but are according as they please your ear! I did not promise to count all the kings, or all the benefits of Eibhear's race.
42. Yet, I mentioned some of them to disprove the proud arrogant word of Niall who called them "usurpers."⁶
43. I counted only a few of them. I did not count to please the ear the kings who were not born then, nor for a hundred years after!

¹ XIII. 21, 22. ² XIII. 22. ³ Or "One must not" . . . to bring out contrast of *ἰρεαὲ* . . . *ἀμαὲ*, but sense seems less good. ⁴ Cf. "*ρεο ἀν ρεαρ ὄλιξε οὐραεαὲ* . . . *σο νί σοι κόμ ἑαςκόμ*," *ρ. ὄν ἕαντε*, RIA. 23 N. 11, p. 166, v. 43. ⁵ Cf. "*εαοι ἀν ῥυλαῖς ἀμ σο ρεαὲ* . . . *εμῖοτε σο ἕαυναῖς κάε ἰ γεέμ*," *Δ. Ὁ Ὀάλαῖς*, RIA. 23 M. 23, p. 5, v. 3; Vis. McCongl. ⁶ III. 13.

44. Dá n-áiréinn níos réampra a-raon • ran loígs díreac ar zac
taob
ní fuiginn féin ná luḡaró • do bpeir ag mall dá ceátrar.
45. Níor áirínn mé níos doon éirínn • zá mbeic éin-neac d'Éirínn
féin
ná neart eacérrann ag roinn gur • na níze fead a flaitir.
46. Fáda zabadm ó bar nóp • nacar áirínn mire fóp
mar do níci an luét do ní • leic-nígs oppa na éirínn-ní.
47. Dá n-anaó luḡaró mar rin • an t-áiréam móp níomáir lib
ní diaó curó aróbríge ann • loígs díreac an dá faor-éilann.
48. Soáir na níos ná níos féin • níor áiríneap uile zo léir
ní leo do éirínn-re bpeir • ar áiríneap díob níor áirínn.
49. Na roáir mópa máoide • dá zcur i zcuaraib daoine
féacáir cia ré mbean a mbun • féacáir roáir na roáir.
50. Ní mar beirtear lib-re bpeic • beirtear luét féacáir ar zac
leic
féacáir zac cúir i na ceart • roir all-ḡlór ip éiríneac.
51. An éirínn fa rine doon tríol • nígsda i bfuil i nḡairm i
nḡníom
mar éoncloinn munab lór lat • cummígs qui se exaltat.
52. Níor áiríneap ina moó éoir • m'áiréam nígs roáir a plóis
ní mó ar éoir leat a meap • an curó díob nacar áiríneap.
53. Tuigim opt zo faoiltear lib • nac raib acé a zcuara rib
d'áiréam nígs⁵ ar mo éor⁶ • ná do flóinnead a roáir.
54. Zró ead ní hamlaró a-tá • an curó do fágsbar zan ráó
do zéaba páirt dá fíor roin • m' éiríneap ar ḡlór luḡaró.
55. Rígs ip roáir lén roirib cur • m bhuacraib re Topna ar noul
m éirí-neacé fíor níor éirínn mé • amac uam bpeic an éiríneac.⁶
56. Mar áiríneac ar mo ráórib • do léiréap díom zan áirínn
nígs⁷ r a roáir zan bpeic ḡill • ar bar otaoib uile d'Éirínn.
57. Mar rin zomáó anta óaoib • zan bpeic do bpeic le leac-
taoib
zo bpeic doon rḡeal uile opt • r zan féacáir d'fuaé ná
d'annraéct.
58. Duan a máirgs doon taoib rin éuaró • bar bpeiréap aónar
a n-uail
muna diaó bar otaḡra ruinn • móp dá noéctam nac noéct-
rainn.

¹ V. 117. ² Clann Eibhir. ³ XIII. 26. ⁴ XIII. 27. ⁵ Sull.
short, mo nígs?
⁶ Metaphor from game of cards, etc. Cf. XVIII. 169;
XXIV. 13; XIV. 55; XV. 125; for cor cf. "ó tá ar cor caoim-maicne
éuinn . cor zac faor-áicme feacáirinn," C. McÓáirne, RIA. 23 A. 30, p. 87, v.
17; "ní fuil éiríneacé ann do éor," P. ón éáinte, RIA. 23 M. 16, p. 80, v. 10;
ar cor na zcuara n-eile rin." Som. Mc an Óairé, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 14.
⁷ V. 146-7. ⁸ XIV. 28

44. Were I to count the kings preceding them both in the direct line, I should not find, nor Lughaidh either, Niall to have a majority of eight.¹
45. I counted in the stock no kings with whom anyone at home or any army of foreigners shared the rule during their reign.
46. I avoid your method. I counted not as you do who make out a joint-king to be a perfect king!
47. Had Lughaidh remained satisfied to do as I, the great list which you make, the direct line of both free-races would not have given you much to boast of!
48. I did not count all the kings' "benefits" or all the kings. I will not add to what I have given. You have not told of yours as much as I have told of mine!
49. As for the great "benefits" you boast of, dinning them into people's ears, let it be seen what is their real value, what is the benefit of the "benefits"!
50. Not as you pass judgment do those pass it who regard a subject in every light, who examine every case aright, both loud talk and reality!
51. If you are discontented that the eldest stock,² kingly in blood and glory and deed, should be your rivals, reflect on "*qui se exaltat*"!³
52. You did not appreciate justly my number of kings and the "benefits" of their host, neither can you appreciate those I did not mention!⁴
53. I infer from you that you imagine that what you have heard from me of the kings⁵ and their "benefits" which I recounted, was all I had to produce.⁶
54. Yet it is not so. In my answer to Lughaidh⁷ you can find much of what I omitted.
55. When attacking Torna, at my first coming into the fight, I did not set forth the kings and "benefits" with whom it would be hard to contend, the ones to win the game!⁶
56. A proof of this is that I left uncounted the kings—with their "benefits"—who got no submission in all your part of Eire.
57. Thus, you, too, should have refrained until you saw the other side of the case, from giving partial judgment, and from having regard to hate and bias.
58. Long shall the north rue your answer which is inflaming their arrogance! Were it not for your argument against us much that I now disclose I would not have disclosed!⁸

59. Ní mé do émuall a maoréamh · éadta slan-uairle Saoréad
Mall ir é do tionnraim roim · maoréamh éibir ir Eogain.
60. A maoréamh níor émuall mipe · ní veapnadh dá n-innipe³
adé ffreasra ar Mall i gcár éirpe · do léis Torpa san tabairt.
61. Ir eadh níurslar fala i gcéin · ruim o'fíor go móir na maic
féin
maic cáte oile naé léir lair · mar ar ghnáé luét an díomair.
62. Míó ná ar éasrair don taoib éear · dá mbeic neac comérom
dá meap
do éasair luéaró léir dáin · do éuir earaonta o'adnamh.
63. Níor labrair im éeao-ghlóir féin · adé ní re oteadé Torpa
ir Néill
ní reampa 'r na noeasáir roim · pollur gur labair luéaró
64. Sibé lén háil véanamh ríod · roir dá úruing don éféimh ríod
congadh go comérom a éuing⁴ · ná tuasá tár ar fáor-
éioinn.
65. An díomur ó éis dá éaoib · murslad fála rluas pé nsaol
ní mian liom tasra ar a loir · maic neapair leir an díomur.
66. Tríé díomur éáimic ar tóir · bmaéar uairéac Néill go nóir
mar do eir oillam pé éloir · maic neapair gur an díomur.
67. Le díomur náir fuilngasá líb · ar labrair i na asáir rin
o'fíir-réadlaib an taoibe i éfur · maic neapair leir an
díomur.
68. Ní géad éusam a scan ríob · ní dáin ar doilge leam rin
adé cáé dá b'éasnuasá ro · an oiréar o'fíor do garma.
69. A-veapraoir oream naé oib féin · éis aigneap eapann ir
mé
sibé heite gur ar bun · ir dé ar beicte dúinn díomadh.
70. Ar eagla an b'eicéamhair éall · ní beicte dúinn náir dá
pánn
maic dáin-ra mo ffreasra oir · maicim-re dúit-re a dúradé.
71. Maicéamh gac neic éráiréar don · óir i veas-éoil ríod na
naoim
somadh don toil dúinn ir do · an rí dar léir ar n-úgo.

GO SCEAD.

¹ XIII. 29. ² III. 10, 29. ³ Dá n- for a n- as often. ⁴ Cf. Contrib.
⁵ XIII. 30. ⁶ XIII. 34. ⁷ MSS. also eaprao.

59. I did not start the telling of the crimes ¹ of the fair nobles of the Gaedhil. Niall began boasting of Eibhear's death and Eoghan's. ²
60. I did not begin the boasting ³—what you say is not a fact—I merely answered Niall in defence of Corc, an answer which Torna neglected to give.
61. What awakens hatred far and wide is that a man should value excessively his excellence, so that other's excellence is hidden from him—as is the way with proud folk!
62. Lughaidh, evidently, if a fair-minded man were to judge the matter, brought forward to cause dissension, more than what I advanced for the North.
63. In my first poem I mentioned only events before Torna and Niall. Lughaidh clearly spoke of things before them and after them.
64. He who would make peace between the two parties of the royal race should keep his scale ⁴ even, nor shame any free race. ⁵
65. As pride results in the awaking of hosts' anger against their kin, I wish not to plead by appealing to it. Woe to him who fosters pride!
66. Through pride Torna was silent when he heard glorious Niall's haughty word. Woe to him who fosters pride!
67. Through pride you could not suffer what I told of the true history of the South against it (Niall's word). Woe to him who fosters pride!
68. I shall not take your words to heart. Not to me do I think them injurious, but is it fitting for one of your calling that every one should have to be contradicting them? ⁶
69. People said that this dispute between us ⁷ did not arise from your own initiative. Whoever caused it, we should be angry with him.
70. For fear of the judgment in the next life we should not be split into two parties here. Pardon me my answer to you. I pardon your provoking it!
71. Since it is the will of the King of Saints that one should pardon those who injure one, let us have the same wish as He, the King to whom our wishes are clear.

MEASA DO ÉASRAIS A ÉAIÓΣ. AOTÓ Ó DOMHAILL ect.

[Answer to V. It was written (cf. XVI, 180) before XVI., and is subsequent to XIII. (cf. XVIII, 8). The MSS. A, K², Z differ considerably in places from C. R. I follow the latter giving in the Var. Lect. the variants and omissions.]

1. Measa do éasrair a éaióΣ · má do féacair zac don aipo
ioná Torra an dána oit · oroe Néill ir Coirc Cairil.
2. Mairis duit 'r supab duit a mairis · do nuair é'iomarhárd
a éaióΣ
roir do leit Moza a-muis · 'r an leac-ra Cuinn éasó-éacais.
3. Ní fiú a gcuro d'éiminn a-noir · maicne Míleac Míoise Roir
iad féin pá éite do cup · córa dáib ríot do rnaómad.
4. Ór í rin do b'inninn daoib · a éaióΣ mic Dáire zo n-aoib
zo b'asáca p'asra nár éair · tmuas nac na érac do éasrair.
5. Do bí me pé bliadna déas · do dán ro éionn dá coméas
níor léis easla ril gCuinn éair · duit-re d'éim-neac a
domáil.
6. Nó sup oibreas tar páil roir · ríotc luíone 'r Tuacail
Éioin
'r sup éasrao toir im a reac · do dán níor domair d'éim-neac.
7. Tú it don i n-ásaró pobuil · nár daoib féin a noearmádar
ní heac a-máin móir an meac · tú it don i n-ásaró publeac.
8. Ní tíocrao d'éisrib Danba · ná d'féadur a n-ealadna
dá noeacáir díob 'r dá bpuil beo · leabair na héireann
d'aitéeo.
9. Do fáoil mé sup léigeac líb · Gabálcair Dinnreacáir oit
leabair ipre Inne hár · Druigne Togla 'r Toémairc.
10. Leabair Dro-máca zo mbuaró · 'r ar r'griob D'rózán éair ip
éuaró.
mairis duit nár léis na am · 'r ar r'griob Colum ip Comgail.⁸
- II. Sceaptra Inne Caécis cóir · cóir Ciapáin i gCluain mic
Nóir
leabair Moctua an éluim éair¹² · mairis nár léis pul do
labrair.
12. Do b'anta sup an taoib éuaró · ar b'reit p'raicrac Cairil
éruaró
roir zac rhuins don deas-fóir · d'fuit éidip ip éireamóin.
13. Tmuas nár léisir na r'sceaptra · do r'griob lám éamín
Cealcra
leabair Élunn dá loca éall · 'r leabair Tuama dá Éualann.

¹ Eire. ² 1607. ³ O'Neill, d. 1616; O'Donnell, 1608. ⁴ Leabair Gabála.
⁵ Leabair Oimh (?). ⁶ Cf. Silv. Gad. I., p. 337. ⁷ Asallán na reanórac and
other Fenian tales. Brogan was Patrick's scribe. ⁸ MSS. Mat. 374, 242; or,

1. Worse have you argued, O Tadhg,—even if you have sought arguments in every direction—than the truthful poet Torna, teacher of Niall and of Corc of Caiseal.
2. Woe to you, on you may woe fall, for renewing strife between your Mogh's Half and this Half of Conn Cead-chathach !
3. What the race of Mile of Magh Rois ¹ possess in Erin to-day is not of such worth that they should be set against each other for it ! It was your duty rather to reconcile them.
4. Since your intention, my gentle Tadhg Mac Daire, was that you might get an answer that would not be feeble, a pity you did not speak soon enough !
5. For sixteen years your poem was kept in your head. Fear of blameless Conn's race prevented you from telling anyone of its existence !
6. Till the race of Iughoine and splendid Tuathal were driven East oversea,² and one after the other died there,³ you mentioned not your poem to anyone !
7. A shame for you was your attempt, you alone against a whole tribe. It was a foolish attempt too, you against many tribes !
8. Not all Banba's poets nor all the dead and all the living however great their lore could refute the books of Eire.
9. I imagined you had read the "Invasions,"⁴ the truthful "Dinnseanchus," the history books of Art's Isle,⁵ the "Courts,"⁶ the "Destructions," the "Wooings,"
10. The Book of Armagh so valuable, what Brogan⁷ wrote in the North and South. Woe to you for not having read in good time the writings of Colum and Comhghall !
11. A pity you read not previously the truthful writings of Inis Cathach,⁹ the book of Ciaran¹⁰ of Cluain Mic Nois, the book of Mochuda¹¹ of the soft¹² hair.
12. You should have abided, as the North does, by the judgment of the Psalter of Caiseal¹³ between the parties of Eibhear's and Eireamhon's goodly race.
13. A pity you read not the writings of Caimin of Inis Cealtra,¹⁴ the Book of Gleann Da Loch¹⁵ in your country and the book¹⁶ of Tuaim Da Ghualann !

reading with Z. "Conall ip Comóall," *i.e.*, Conall meann and Comóall (or Comóan) mac óá Cearda. ⁹? ¹⁰MSS. Mat. 374; Eriu, iii. 227. ¹¹I. E. Rec., xxvii. 1910. ¹²Possibly "wet," cf. Mart. Donegal, 14 May, "Romie nóá veirna neac • leac á nveirna so veirab," but more probably "soft," a merely ornamental epithet. Cf. "á éab náe taire clum," Δ. McDoúdasáin, RIA. 23 D. 16, p. 185, v. 6; "Doinnéá Ó Uruain an bairr taip," T. McÓáipe, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 4; "soe éib veair veirum," Δ. Ó Dálaiú, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 230. ¹³Cf. N. I. Rev., xxv., 350 (McNeill). ¹⁴Psalter, etc., cf. Transact. RIA. v. 92. ¹⁵Book of Leinster. ¹⁶?

14. Má do rugrad bpeit le bárd · ollamain Éireann d'éan-lámh
dearbhad nac rugrad naomh a-nail · roir eac ac bpeit comérom.
15. Do rasoil eac supb eolac cóir · turp ar maicne Mítró móir
sup cum rib an feandap cam · uíodar sac neac so labrann.¹
16. Ní burdeac díot-ra riol sCunn · oiomóac riol nOilioll
Ólum
ní bapri meara don taoib éap · a sclor uab-re tot aíghear.
17. Roi-binn ri an otaoib-re éuaró · a éarós sac a scluimio uab
dearb leo so sclaoiríóteap rib · ó d'penn éigin dá n-éigrib.
18. Caitreap féin mo sa rub-re · so sceap da bap n-éigri-re
dá noeac pa lár níor éinát roin · triapraim laoc ionn sac
ioisail.
19. Trias nac ar an nsa do éleac mé · sé tú-ra i n-eapri m'aoire ²
pé do roga Mumneac ón Máig · a éarós éapra ar n-iomarbárd.
20. Do biaó a ceann leam-ra im lámh · pul do péaparde ar
n-eapriám
ir epú a éporde ar mo sa élar · diall ³ duine re a dúéap.
21. Do béapriinn an tiac éus Conn · ar éogan Mór um an éronn
nó an tiac puapri Comhacail cam · ó éigearnmar mac Pollais.
22. Nó an riol do rad íriat fárd · ar éeapri mac éibir ain
nó an riol do rad fóp an feap · Éireamón apó ar éibeap.
23. D'luóine meap meannnac móp · rinnreap raóibir na páp-plós
do mionnuis riol éibir éinn · san cup ré éloinn um éipinn.
24. Cia do éloinn luóine a-nuar · puapraill dáin an éipri san épuiar
dap sac Teamair na otreap ote ⁷ · ac páit d'luóine
d'oisre.⁸
25. Mar pácaib ar a zonnrad · sac don dúil bui sa épognam
éapra ir éprian san dol dé ⁹ · muirir típ tuile ir aítebe.
26. Do riol luóine ar buan biaó · ríógnac uapre na hAlban
le Séamur amú ma le · Sacra Alba asup éire.
27. Dá riol fóp i n'éipinn uill · Orparde Laigin leac Cunn
Dál épriadac Dál Riada a-le · Uairgne Múrparde Déire.
28. Dá n-andaoir i mbun ¹² a nsaol · riol laósaire ir Cobéais
Éaol
do biaó sa ríocé so bpaé mbinn ¹³ · iomáin éin-leite ar
éipinn.

¹ Cf. "már ríoir ir uíodar sac neac . so labairt . . ." RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 3. ² 8. 6 syll. in couplet. ³ "as diall re harib oite," T. McÓáine, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 1. ⁴ K II. 120. ⁵ K II. 118. ⁶ K II. 104. ⁷ Cf. "ní bíoir sail na ngleo ote," Doim. McÓáine, RIA. 23 D. 14, p. 135, v. 19. ⁸ Cf. "a páit d'oisre ar éinplíó," "d'éir rasoir-éilbe eac i scéin. a páit d'oin-eisre ainnpéin," T. McÓáine, RIA. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 20; L. 37, p. 206, v. 33; "páit i dátaig do dáimna an . Doimnall opeac naéapda: páit an doinn-aéaró ríng féim . dap linn d'ollamain ainpéin," F. ón éaince, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 24. ⁹ Cf. "cuile páit san ríógnac

14. Even if Eire's sages together gave biased judgment, certainly the saints of old gave just judgment between all.
15. Everyone thought you would be wise and fair about great Mile's race until you composed your perverse history. "Everyone is a writer till he writes!"¹
16. Conn's race thanks you not; Oilill's is angry with you. No crown of honour to the South is the argument you have given us!
17. The North likes to hear you. They feel confident that you shall be destroyed by some of their poets!
18. With all deference to your poesy I too will cast my dart at you. If it fall vainly to the earth that will surprise me. I overthrow a hero in every fight.
19. A pity 'tis not with the spear to which I am used—though I am now at the end of my days—that our combat is to be fought with the pick of your men of Mumha from the Maigh!
20. His head would soon be in my hands before anyone could separate us, and his heart's blood on my steel-blue spear. "Let each one follow³ his natural bent."
21. I would treat him as Conn treated Eoghan fighting for the land, or as Tighearnmhas son of Follach treated good Conmhaol!⁴
22. Or as Irial Faidh treated Eibhear Fionn's⁵ four sons, or as the great hero Eireamhon treated Eibhear!⁶
23. Eibhear Fionn's race swore to great quick-spirited Iughoine, rich ancestor of the splendid host, never to contest Eire with his descendants.
24. Answer me this simple question, was there any of Iughoine's race, of those who ruled Teamhair of the fierce⁷ fights, who was not a fit⁸ heir of Iughoine?
25. Sureties for their pact were all the elements that served them, moon and un-waning sun,⁹ sea and land, flood and ebb.¹⁰
26. Of Iughoine's ever-glorious stock are the princes of the nobility of Alba. To James¹¹ belong to-day England Alba Eire.
27. Of his seed too in great Eire are the Osraidhe, the Laignin, all Leath Cuinn, Dal bhFiatach, Dal Riada too, Baisgne, Musgraidhe, Deise.
28. Had the races of Laoghaire and Cobhthach Caol stood faithful to their kin,¹² their race would have been supreme over half of Eire till the judgment day!¹³

óí," S. Mc An Ódair, RIA. 23 C. 33, v. 47; or "not to depart from, be false to it," cf. "ní háil dom do óul óige," T. McÓdair, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 31; also "téirí don éireoelán," XV. 17. ¹⁰ Magh Rath, p. 1. ¹¹ James I. ¹² Cf. "fan i mbun na bréire-re," T. McÓdair, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 31. ¹³ "Hill-judgment"? (beann taken as o-stem), cf. "lá an trléibe," etc.; perhaps influenced by "Fo bini braith," LL., cf. Contrib.; cf. also "co mbrath mbrudin," S. Rann. 931.

29. Do gabhad Laigheis do lámh • coris na Mhuineas meap ón
Máig
d'á b'faghadair uad'a gá' do toisg • ríot ó ríol Tuatail Teac'tmair.
30. Díob atáir cinn-lit're ceall • ir ur-móir ar-o-naom Éireann
'r ir díob amú 'r an-allan • r'got éigear ir ollamán.
31. Leat Cúinn ir leat Mhoza mair • do f'aoilread tuet an colair
sup com'trom an poimn-re a-le • sup labhair a líhc Dáire.
32. Ní cian do fan ríol gCúinn gCáir • ar an poimn-re d'Inir Fáil
d'á ngoirtear leit Mhoza a-muisg • 'r an leat-ra Cúinn Céad-
cátaig.
33. Gearr iar rin ar Maig Léana • do flán a Táróg a féana
sup bean Conn o'Cozan gan feill • a ceann ir a cúro d'Éirinn.
34. Um t'páethóna mar an gcait • do époé Eozan ar-o éadtaé
teac'ta Cúinn ar o'teac't d'á toisg • d'á mac C'mo'tcáinn a
C'ruacáin.
35. Nár duit a páo d'á éir rin • nac raibe co'dnac Cairil
ar a com'éas ar Conn cóir • d'éir a ndearna air d'éagcóir.
36. Mó bar o'táinríom ar éloinn Cúinn • mar ar léir ro laoiré
leat'crom
ioná ar don o'reim don deag-fóir • d'áicme oite Éireamóin.
37. Do b'earuinn com'airle cóir • d'á mair do leit Mhoza móir
már tú file ar fearr d'á ndámh • do coris fear d'á o'iomarváir.
38. Muna ndearna ríad-ran rin • ná bíod opuinn as aic'bir
éig're fil Cúinn na gcuirad • fa bar mb'éig do b'reasnuasá.
39. Luasá d'á o'tuaró Topna a ndear • bíod nac raib oppa aic'cear
otar ar laige do labair • don leit-re Cúinn com'pamaisg.
40. Ar labair Luasá go tair • tug air ní dearbáir eolair
ac't báir re leit Mhoza a-muisg • bean don Mlumáin a má'cáir.
41. G'ró í má'cáir m'acáir féin • ingean í Úruain fa maic méin
ran cúir nár tagrad mam ríob • uair ní éir'opinn an éagcóir.
42. Cia díob ba fearr i n'gac d'áil • ar o'Tuatail do teac't Éire
iná Corb Ólum gan ceilt • 'r sup com'-air iad na nuibeiré.
43. Cairé do Tuatail Teac'tmair • ar o'tillead d'ó d'á eac'tra
ceannar Éireann ar gac leit • do gab le beagan buiróne.
44. Do nairis Tuatail 'r do fealbaisg • ar uairtib Dandá i
o'Teamraig
gan cur pé éloinn go b'pát mbinn • o'iread bíar mair um
Éirinn.
45. Tuinsread uile d'á éir rin • don ríg-re d'áic'earis éin-fir
o'iam'olair com'-neart ríol na b'ear • nab'olair com'-ceart
pé éloinn-pear.

¹ Magh Leana, pp. 94-
4 VII. 4. ² K II. 244.

² V. 163.

29. The Laighin undertook to quell the active men of Mumha from the Maigh if they could get peace for their own land from Tuathal Teachtmhar's race.
30. Among the Northerns are the capitals of the Churches. Of them too are the noble high-saints of Eire ; of them now and of old are the choice of poets and sages.
31. Learned folk thought Conn's Half and fair Mogh's Half were equal parts till you spoke, Mac Daire !
32. Only a year did this division of Inis Fail last, called Mogh's Half and Conn Ceadchathach's Half.
33. Soon after on Magh Leana—I defy you to deny it—Conn took fairly from Eoghan his life and his share of Eire.
34. The evening before the battle, noble violent Eoghan hanged Conn's messengers, the two sons of Criomhthann of Cruachain when they came to his tent.¹
35. Shame for you to say ² after that that Caiseal's prince was not on his guard against fair Conn, after inflicting that injury on him !
36. Greater is your abuse of Clann Cuinn—as is clear from your bitter poem—than of any other family of Eireamhon's good stock.
37. I shall give a piece of advice to all who are alive of Leath Mogh. If you are their best poet they should stop you from arguing !
38. If they do not, let them not blame us, poets of the race of Conn of the heroes, for refuting your lies !
39. Lughaidh in the North, Torna in the South—though they were not ignorant—are the two of victorious Conn's Half who spoke most mildly.
40. What made Lughaidh mild was not dearth of knowledge, but love for your Mogh's Half. A woman of Mumha was his mother.⁴
41. Though my father's mother was daughter of good-hearted O'Briain, I will not stand your unjust pleading of a case never pleaded before.
42. Which was the better man arriving here, our Tuathal who got possession of Eire, or famous Corb Olum, they both having been the same time in exile ?
43. Where is your Tuathal Teachtmhar who, returning after his adventures, seized with only a few followers the complete sovereignty of Eire !
44. Tuathal bound strongly Eire's nobles at Teamhair never to contest with his race while the sea surrounds Eire.
45. They all then swore to the king—at the bidding of this one man—that even if their seed should have equal power, they never would have equal claims with his race.⁵

46. Níorbh ionann i leabhráib rín · teiprú míozmarú rleacáta éibir
 ip teiprú na bfeair náir deapóil · míozmarú rleacáta éipeamóin.
47. Ré linn ba roimníeac ríona · o'eişreacé¹ pé linn oá ríola
 ioé ip bliocé iarş aşur meap · oo bíoó oo şnáé na bflaitear.
48. Caróe oo Conaire ar éreoir · deaş-níac álunn Croirşgeoir
 ramáil a fláca léiş oam · i-muíş oo míozmarú Mumán.
49. Ffeaşair oam şan taom tnúda · caróe oo Conn mac Ūna
 re n-a linn níorbh deaş an raé · tuş talam topaó céaóac.
50. Cia oo bérapó şeall² Cormaic · oo ríiocé şaoróil şlan-
 oróraic
 şé oo éóşbair air mar oíl · a éur ra şabail o'flacáir.
51. Mínic oo léiş turá féin · ar mac airé an airim airşéir
 líon a deaşlaíş éall na tíş · caoşa ar míle oo mílrib.
52. Oo b'iomóda mac míoz şo raé · bádar n-a pé ar a teallaé
 o'Éirinn ip tar múir a-noir · oo b'imíearóda péé flacáir.
53. Cormac ba cunnail a maíé · ba raol ba ríle ba flaité
 ba rír-breíteam rpar bfeine · ba capa ba coigéile.
54. Cormac oo élaol caoşaró caé · no ríolaíş⁶ raltair Teampáé
 'r ní fuil ra raltair şo raé · şur bhir t'flacáir-re don-éat.
55. Oar líom féin níorb éuméa oúib · oraoróeacé an trean-orpaó
 Moş Ruic
 i nOruim Oamşaire na noam · 'r naé raib anhrin acé
 riabrapó.
56. Cá náit i bfuil don taóib éiar · oo líall líaoi-şliallac mar
 líall
 oá otuş ó Múir níocé a-noir · şéill şac típe şo Teamraíş.
57. Raşam leat ramáil oo Ūman · mac Caacé Múiş-meacóin
 éiar
 ór ríolrapó i bfuir şan acé · na teora caomá Connacé.
58. Caróe oo Ūaíéi-re a Caróş · oo éuaró şo Şiab nEalra n-airó
 oar bripéacé leir caoşa caé · mar Ūaíéi móir mac flacáir.
59. Nó flacra acáir Ūaí-éi · oárbh ua Oilill Moic an rí
 cáit i bfuil leat a deiş-rír · ramáil şuairé an şairm-eimş.¹²
60. Caróe oo Connall mac Néill · nó Eoşan an airim airşéir
 ip a ríiocé rín maíé a méro · raşam aşat a leitéro.

¹? Deişreacé MSS. ²Cf. "oo şeall léim báro oo beapóil," p. ón éáinre, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 42. ³III. 31; VI. 119. ⁴Tadhg takes this to refer to Cionnaoth O Hartagain's poem, "Doimán oútam," etc., O'R. lxiii. ⁵Cf. K. Meyer, Todd Lect. XVI. viii. 3. ⁶"Síolam" often as "I publish," etc. Cf. Todd Lect., vol. viii., part i., p. 62; also "níceairé ríolar a ríeamóir," O'Grady, Cat., p. 555. ⁷From Cuan O Lothchain's poem, B.B. f. 89; MSS. Mat., p. 10. ⁸V. 174, 177. ⁹Cf. Onomasticon. ¹⁰K II. 412. ¹¹K II. 42. ¹²Cf. "an cú şairmeimş móir-réalş," C.Z. ii. 344; also A.U. 1197.

46. Very different in the books are the account of the kingly lines of Eibhear's race, and the account of those splendid heroes kings of Eireamhon's stock!
47. In their day the seasons were prosperous being assigned (to them) as a birth-right in their day.¹ Corn and milk fish and fruit were abundant in their reign.
48. Where is, as regards strength, your Conaire Eidirsceol's fair goodly son? Read for me anything like his reign among your Mumha princes!
49. Answer me without envy. Where is your Conn son of Una. In his day—great was the blessing—the earth gave its fruits a hundred-fold.
50. Who could surpass² Cormac of all the race of bright famous Gaodhal? though you put on him the reproach of having been put under the cauldron's hanger by Fiacha.³
51. You yourself often read⁴ of sharp-armed Art's son, how in his palace his household counted a thousand and fifty heroes.
52. Many a prosperous prince's son fit to be compared to Fiacha from Eire and from over-sea were to be found in his palace in his day.
53. "Constant was Cormac's goodness, he was a sage, a poet, a prince, a just judge of the Fene⁵ men, a good friend and companion.
54. Cormac won fifty battles, he wrote⁶ the "Psalter of Teamhair."⁷ There is no word in that precious Psalter that Fiachaidh won any battle!
55. I think you should not have invented your story of the wizardry of the old druid Moghruith⁸ at oxen-rich Druim Damhghaire, seeing that it was all superstition!
56. Where in the West have you a Niall like our Niall Naoi-ghiallach when to Teamhair he brought hostages from every land from Muir nIocht in the East.
57. Let us hear of your having the like of Brian son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhon in the west, from whom beyond dispute came the three fair divisions of the Connachta.⁹
58. Where is your Dathi who marched to the lofty Alps and won fifty battles, our great Dathi son of Fiachra?¹⁰
59. Or Fiachra, Dathi's father, whose grandson Oilill Molt¹¹ was king? Where have you, my good friend, one like Guaire called the "hospitable"?¹²
60. Where is your Conall, Niall's son, or your sharp-bladed Eoghan and their numerous stock? Let us find their like with you!

61. Carde do clann Cómáin éasoin • nó do fúioct doú Sláine
 fúoir
 veacair a gcaitpém do ceilt • clanna Néill dána an veig-
 ceirt.
62. Carde do trí Colla émuaró • lé mbeaptaoi ann nḡac beapnaró
 buaró
 nó commaic a plecta foim • roir éirinn ir Albain.
63. Carde do Miall fpropac péig • fuair ó Úia ar a veig-péir
 fpar aiprio ir fpar do mil • ir fpar do éruitneacéct éasoin-ḡil.
64. Carde bar ndonḡur amra • mac maic an Cappaig¹ éalma
 nó Maoil-ḡeacúinn me viol dáim • nó mac Dálaig éigneacán.
65. A haon ir trí píero píḡ • ma gcepeoam ór éirinn oinn
 beas me píom na bpoair foim • maig do máoró do feacé
 gcaitpair.
66. Sé píḡ 'r dá píero píog péil • ór éirinn do veig-ḡeacé Néill
 ó teacé an Tálḡinn tap tuinn • ḡur an bḡior-ḡlaic Maoil-
 ḡeacúinn.
67. Mior ḡab mí o'ér épeiom dóir • o'fuit Ir ébir éipeamóim
 acé fuit Néill ir Oiuil Moit • 'r do bḡian-ra le fo-
 cumacé.
68. Ir teape má do ploinnead maim • an tír-pe iona bḡuineann
 ḡrian
 mar ploinnḡeap máir an mió-óil • ó píogparó píil éipeamóim.
69. ḡoirḡeap Teacé Tuacáil o'Éirinn • Cḡó Cuinn ir Fonn fínn-
 ḡérolim
 laé luḡoine ir Léad Aipe • Cḡioé Cóbcaig ir Clár Cormaic.
70. Corpac móir ar trí míle • píomḡap tria péim inḡime⁵
 ó teacé mac Mílead a-noir • dáir ḡadḡao éirinn iubraig.
71. Re oḡionḡḡnaim teampuil ḡolma • canam mib máro ḡan
 volbad
 éaimḡ clann Mílead tap muir • an tḡear doir o'aoraig
 uoimain!
72. Do bí upláim² na Danba • aḡ cloinn Mílead míor-éalma
 ó fin ḡan foim me muir • ḡo hamḡir bḡian bḡuime.
73. Ceitpe píero ceitpe céao • do biaónaib ní niomarḡpéas
 ó oibeirt píil Moḡa a-muig • romainn píol ḡCuinn Céao-
 éacáig.
74. An tan do b'aoir do Cḡioirt céape • pé céao míle aḡur
 peacé
 do oibpead píol ḡCuinn tap muir • 'r do beanaó oíob a
 noúcaig.

¹ "The Scabby man," *i.e.*, Donnchadh Ua Maoilsheachluinn. Chr. Scot. 967, A.U. 1000, 4 M. 1000. ² King of Cineal Conaill. ³ Cf. poem "Éipe Óḡ." Todd Lect. iii., p. 427. ⁴ 1700 B.C. + 1600 A.D. = 3300. ⁵ Cf. Laws. Gloss.

61. Where is your race of gentle Colman, or your stock of noble Aodh Slaine? It is hard to belie the glory of bold righteous Niall's races!
62. Where are your three hardy Collas who conquered in every fray, or any race equal to them in Eire or Alba?
63. Where is your keen Niall Frosach who owing to his fair-rule got from God a shower of silver, a shower of honey and a shower of fair white corn?
64. Where is your noble Aongus, goodly son of the brave "Carrach,"¹ or Maoilsheachluinn generous in paying poets, or Eigneachan,² Dalach's son?
65. There were sixty-one kings of our race in Eire before the coming of the Faith. Few, compared to them, are—I pity you for mentioning them—your twenty-eight!
66. Forty-six kings of Niall's good stock surely ruled Eire from Patrick's coming over-sea till the true prince Maoilsheachluinn.
67. After the coming of the Faith, of the races of Ir Eibhear and Eireamhon no king ruled except the race of Niall and Oilill Molt—and your too-powerful Brian.³
68. Rare were the (other) names given to this land where the sun sets compared to the way in which "the Fort of Mead-feasts" is called after the kings of Eireamhon's race.
69. Eire is called "House of Tuathal," "Conn's Steading," "Land of fair Feilim," "Land of Iughoine," "Art's Field," "Cobhthach's Territory," "Cormac's Plain."
70. Over three thousand years⁴ are counted in the worthy⁵ records from the coming of Mile's sons from the East when they acquired yewy Eire.
71. Before the beginning of Solomon's⁶ Temple—I state to you a plain tale—Mile's race came over the sea in the third age of the world.
72. Power⁷ over Banba was held from that time by brave Mile's race which shared it with no prince, till the time of Brian Boraimhe.
73. For four hundred and eighty years⁸ at least, your Mogh's race was exiled by us the race of Conn.
74. In the year of just Christ sixteen hundred and seven Conn's race was driven over-seas and their country taken from them.

rimde." ⁶Cf. Arch. Celt. Lex. iii. p. 24. § 13. ⁷Cf. Wind. Wört. "air-lam"; also "μαρ τὰ πῖνι πεῖθς ζαὶ εἰρε . ἴ ζαν ἰ 'n-υπλάμν εἰανουμῆ," *Som. mc an Ṫairṡ, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 5.* ⁸From death of last Eberian King (Criomhthann) 378 till 1000 there were 622 years.

75. Cέλο υφθαίλ α πούβαιρε μέ • α-θέαραινη τ'αοιθ' αν υαιρ-ρε
 αετ παε ποιε ι η-λοιν-φεαετ υαιμ • α βραιρηέρ υιλε ι η-λον-
 υαιρ.¹
76. Όά ζελυιντεαρ λον φοαλ υαιθ • τοτο βρέαζαιθ τον τ'αοιθ-ρε
 ζυαιθ
 ελυιφ'ρεαρ ο'β'ιρυννε τεαρ • εέλο οιρεαο ζαε αρ άιρμιαρ.

μεααα το.

75. A hundred times what I have said, I would tell you now, except that I cannot at the one time recount it all.¹
76. If we hear a single one of your falsehoods about the North, you Southernns shall hear a hundred times as much as I have told you!

¹Cf. "ní a n-áenpéet no roic uile . oá páirnéir le haen tuine," *Magh Rath*, p. 166.

Ἰὸ ΣΑΟΙΛΕ Α ΤΑΙῶΣ ΝΑΪ ΘΕΑΡΝΑΣ. R. McARTÚIR,
O.S.P., cct.

1. Ἰὸ ΣΑΟΙΛΕ Α ΤΑΙῶΣ ΝΑΪ ΘΕΑΡΝΑΣ · ρανν τον τῶν ράρ ἔλμαρ
τ' ἔαρῆ-ρα,
ἱρ ἴο ἔφυτε ἀς ἰομῆρ ρυῖνν · τῶρ λεατ ἀμῆλτ νὰς ὀιονῆ-
νυῖνν,
2. Ἰρ ἴο βεατ-ἔρῆβῆεαὲ ἀρ τορᾶε · ἀρ ἀν αἰβῶ το τῶζαρ
ἀρ ρον ἴο ἠγεαττα μοῦ ὀαῖν · ὀύῖνν νῆ ρυῖλ ὀ λεῖτ μοζαῦ ;
3. το βρῆς ἴο ἴεμπε-ρε ἴν λεῖτ · νὰς ἀμ τον τῶρ νὰ τον ἔρεῖε³
Ἰρ ἴεμπε λεαν ἀν ραῶζατ Ἰρ ἀ μέανῆ · ἱρτεαὲ ραν ὀρῶ ἱ βρυῖτεαν
4. ροκατ τῶτ τέχ νὰς τυῖζμῖ · ἀζυρ ἀρῖρ ἴο ἔφυῖλμ
αἰῖρεαὲ τῶρρνα ἴν ἔρεαβῶ · λυαῖτ-βρεῖτεαὲ ἱρ λεῖτ-βρεαὲαὲ
5. νὰρ ἐονῆζβῶρ ἴο ἐεαρτ μο ἐυῖνῆ · ἀς τῶλ τῶρ μοῦ ραῖζλα
ἀν ἴπρῶ
Ἰρ ἀς ἴεμπε ἀννυζαῦ ἴν ἴπρῶ ἴαν τῶλρ · ἱ μέρῶ ἴαβαῖρ ἴοῖαῖρ¹¹
6. ἱρ ἴαν ρᾶνλυζαῦ ρε ὀαῖν · ἀρ ὀῖομῶοῖν τῶρῆ ραν ἐαῶρῶ
ὀρ ἱ ρῖν το ἐυῖρε ἀ τῶρῆ · ἀν ροῖε¹³ νεμῖνεαὲ βῖορ ὀᾶ
ἐαῖῆ,¹⁴
7. το ἐρῶταῦ ὀε ἀρ ἀν ὀαῖν¹⁵ · νῖορ ἐῶρῖ ἀ ἐυρ ἱ ἠ-ἰονῆναῦ.
το ὀῖονῆρῆρ μο τῶζῆρ ὀ ἐῦρ · το ἐυρ το ἐοῖνεαῖρ ἀρ
ἴεῦλ
8. ὀᾶ ἐλαοῖ ρῖν ἱρ τ-ἴαβαῖρ τῶνα.¹⁶ · ἴῖομ ὀῖρεαῖν τρεαῶα τῶρρνα
νῆ μῶ το ρῖννεαρ ὀοῖννῆ · ἀ ἴνῆ ὀᾶῖρε ἴαρ ἴαοῖρῶτῆ
9. ἱ ἠ-ἀζαῖρ ἐεαῖτῶρ ὀῖοβ ρῖν · μο ραῖζλα νὰ μο ἐρεῖοῖν.
ὀᾶ ἠθεαρῖνν Ἰρ τον τῆ ἴαρ ρεαὲ · ἠα ὀῖαῖρ ἀρ ἴεμπε λᾶῖνε
ἀρ ἐεαῖτ
10. το β' ἰονῆαῖτῆ ἀν ἐλοὲ τῶρ ἴνν · ἴο ρο-ὀᾶνα ρᾶν τῶαῖρμ.
θεαρῖναῖτῆ ὀαῖτῶ-ρε νὰς ἐ · ἐεαῦ-ρῶεαρ ἀῖρῆε ἀρ το ἔρῆμῖ
11. ἀν ρῶεαρ ρῖν ρῶαῖρ ρῆμ · ἴαῖα ἴαρ ἐαῦ ἔρῖτ ἐῖ-ρῆμ
ἐεαῦῖζῆεαὲ ἀζαῖβ ἴο ἔφυῖλ · Κορῆ ἱρ ρῖοῖ ἔβῖρ ἴο ροῖν
12. νὰς ραῖβ ἱ ἴερερῶεαῖν ἔρῖορτ ἐαῖρῶ · το ἐορῖναῖν ἱ ἠ-ἰομαρβᾶρῶ
ἀζυρ ἴπρε το ὀαῖνναῦ · τρε ἔορῖνα ἀν τ-ἔῖρεαρ ἀῖρῆα
13. νὰς ραῖβε ὀυῖτ-ρε ἴαρ ρῖορ · ἠα ἐρῖορταῖρῶ το ἐοῖν-ὀῖοῖν.
ἴε ὀεῖρμ ρῖν το β' ἐῖοῖρ · τρε βᾶρ ἴαοῖτῆ ἴν ἔφυῖλ ἠἔβῖρ

¹ XIV. 69. ² XIV. 1. ³ XIV. 22, cf. the same words used with different senses, "βῶ ἐρεαὲ ἴαν τῶρ τῖμε ἠα τῶαῖβ" "irreparable ruin," λ. ὀ ὀᾶλαῖς, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 4; "νῆ ἐρεαὲ ἴαν τῶρ ὀ ὀᾶναῖς, ποεμ "νῆ τῶαῖ ἴαν ἐυῖνε," by mac con ὀ ἐλεμῆς, TCD. 1281. ⁴ XIV. 36. ⁵ XIV. 41. ⁶ XIV. 34, 35. ⁷ XIV. 2. ⁸ XIV. 32. ⁹ XIV. 33, 37. ¹⁰ XIV. 23. ¹¹ "Soliar" is trisyllable. ¹² XIV. 22. ¹³ Cf. "ρῶῖε ἀρ ρῶλαῖμαῖν," 3 S.; "ρῶ ἐορῖναῖτεαρ ρῶῖεαῦ ἔρῖβεαὲ ἀ βρῖννῖβ βεαῖτῶν," 4 M. 2224; O'Dav. gives "Foich" "attack." ¹⁴ "ρῆ ἴνν ρῖῶ ἠῶ ἱ ἴεαῖῆς ἐοζαῖρῶ," RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 18. ¹⁵ syll. short. ¹⁶ ?MSS. τῶνα. ¹⁷ XIV. 33, 37. ¹⁸ XIV. 3.

[A detailed answer to XIV. The poem is superscribed in RIA. B. iv. 1, "ἄν τ-ἀρθεαρζορ ὁ μαολκόναμε σστ." to which C. O'Conor of Belanagare (who owned the MS.) added "γενεᾷ πλατῆρι. A.D. 1560; Δ ἐς A.D. 1629; Δ ἔοξα να ἀρθεαρζορ 1608," but from internal evidence and from the other MSS. the poem is certainly by R. McArthur.]

1. Though you think, Tadhg, that I did not write¹ a single verse of the poem that angers you, and though you act towards me as, you know, I would not act towards you,
2. and, though hypocritically in the beginning of your poem you promised to respect me owing to the habit I have chosen,² none of that respect is shown me by Leath Mogha;
3. because you say against me that I belong not to the pack or the quarry;³ that the world and its vanities have followed me into the Order in which I am;⁴
4. that I do not understand a word of your text;⁵ that I am insolent,⁶ crooked in my ploughing,⁷ given to rash and biassed judgments;⁸
5. and that I have not kept properly my vows;⁹ as you speak of the moderation enjoined by the rule of my Order, (?) and bid fierce defiance to my Order¹⁰ in the greatness of pride of a Goliath,¹¹
6. and compare me to the ox which has nothing to do at milking time,¹²—since such was your disposition, Tadhg, it was not strange of the ox
7. that the swarm¹³ stinging¹⁴ him should be shaken off by him! (?) I began my argument by refuting your "comparison,"
8. destroying it as well as your pride. I am no "ploughman of crooked ploughing" nor have I done anything, as you say, son of Daire,
9. against either my rule or my religion.¹⁷ Had I done so, it is the man who has not looked behind him after putting his hand to the plough,¹⁸
10. who should have boldly cast the stone, I believe, against me! You forget that the first "benefit" that you attribute to your line of kings
11. is not the one (*i.e.*, Christianity) which you say you got from them (if so be that you got it from them at all!) and you therefore think yourself entitled to defend in this contention Corc and Eibhear's race up to him
12. who had not the faith of adorable Christ, and (at the same time) to condemn me, because the noble poet Torna
13. who was not—according to you—a Christian, is defended by me! Though I say that, possibly in your crazy love of Eibhear's race

14. ζο μεαρτασι-ρε α μβετ̄ ριν • με ηγεμ Cρiορτ̄ 'να ζερiορ-
ταρὸεῖβ̄.
μ'αμ̄αρur ποεα n-ιουζναδ̄ • οῖρ̄ ιρ̄ ριβ̄ ρέιν αρ̄ εῖονταε̄
15. ράν ζονταδαριε̄ ι βρuiλ με̄ • εια αρ̄ α οταβρα Cρiορταρ̄οε
αν̄ τρiε̄ μεαραρ̄ τυρα ᾱ τ̄αιρ̄οε̄ • αιν-ερiορταρ̄οε̄ οέ̄ οε̄
ζ̄αιρ̄μ
16. Τορνα εἰζεαρ̄ λερ̄ ηαομ̄αδ̄ • επερ̄οεαῖ Cρiορτ̄ 'ρ̄ na n-αρ̄-
αρηταλ̄
αμ̄αιλ αρ̄ ρολλur̄ οο̄ ε̄αε̄ • ιρ̄ in ρανν̄ ούντᾱ οον̄ ο̄αν̄
17. αρ̄ α ηοεαρ̄ηαιρ̄ ταρ̄ λεατ̄ ρέιν • ατεεοσ̄ η̄αρ̄ εῖρηε̄ ιο̄
ε̄αιε̄ρ̄έιν̄.
λετ̄ μαδ̄ αινε̄περ̄οεαε̄ αμ̄αῖν̄ • νό̄ αν̄ λυε̄τ̄ τε̄ρο̄ οον̄ ε̄περ̄οεαῖ
ε̄αιρ̄
18. ειᾱ λέν̄ τυαταινε̄ ᾱ εῖινγε̄ • ναε̄ οον̄ ε̄περ̄οεαῖ Cρiορταρ̄οε̄
αομ̄αῖλ̄ ειρ̄ειρ̄ζε̄ μηε̄ οέ̄ • αε̄ κυρ̄ οῖμβρ̄ιε̄ ραν̄ μβιε̄ εέ̄
19. 'ρ̄ αομ̄αῖλ̄ ειρ̄ειρ̄ζε̄ νᾱ ζοορ̄ρ̄ • ῑ ζοομ̄ο̄αιλ̄ Cρiορτ̄ νᾱ ζοομ̄αε̄τ̄
μαρ̄ οο̄ ριν̄νε̄ αν̄ ρεαν̄οῖρ̄ ραορ̄ • Τορνα αρ̄ ρυε̄ ρ̄αορ̄αιε̄
ναοῖν̄
20. αρ̄ μβ̄αρ̄ ηέιλλ̄ αεур̄ ο̄αιεῖ • αμ̄αιλ̄ ιρ̄ ρυε̄ αρ̄ οῖρ̄ῖν̄
οο̄ οᾱ ρινε̄ η̄ᾱ Τορνα • 'ρ̄ οο̄ ε̄μ̄εο̄ ι η̄οῖᾱ ρορ̄ορ̄ο̄ᾱ ;
21. Muna ηοιούλτα ριβ̄ ζο ηυαδ̄ • αρ̄ ε-υε̄οαρ̄αρ̄ ρέιν̄ ζο ρυαρ̄
οο̄ ρανν̄ οειρ̄ο̄ αν̄ ο̄άνᾱ • ναε̄ ε̄ Τορνα αρ̄ οᾱρ̄αῖντᾱ.
22. ιρ̄ ο̄ᾱ ηοιούλτα ριβ̄-ρε̄ ριν̄ • οαδ̄ ιομ̄ο̄ᾱ μη̄ᾱ αεур̄ ρῖρ̄
αε̄ ροε̄ουρ̄οεαδ̄ οᾱ ζαε̄ λειε̄ • ορ̄αιε̄ ρ̄αδ̄ οεαρ̄μαδ̄ ουμ̄ηνε̄
23. ζαν̄ ᾱ οιούλταδ̄ αρ̄ τορ̄αιε̄ • ναε̄ ε̄ Τορνα αν̄ τρ̄αοῑ ρορ̄ταλ̄
οο̄ ριν̄νε̄ αοη̄ ρανν̄ οον̄ ο̄αν̄ • ο̄ η̄αρ̄ οῖν̄ λῖβ̄ ᾱ ε̄ομ̄ρ̄αδ̄.
24. η̄αρ̄ο̄ υρᾱ ριν̄ ρε̄αε̄ᾱ ρέιν̄ • οο̄ εῖρ̄̄ λε̄τ̄ μν̄τ̄λεαε̄τ̄ ῑ ζε̄εῖλλ̄
οο̄ na οαοῖμ̄ῖβ̄ le na οῖν̄ • οειε̄ αε̄ εἰρ̄τεαε̄τ̄ ρέῡ ε̄οῖν̄ν̄τῖν̄
25. ιον̄ᾱ ρ̄αδ̄ ο̄ᾱ n-αβραδ̄ ριβ̄ • αν̄ ο̄αν̄ ατ̄ᾱ ῑ μβ̄εᾱτ̄ ζαε̄ ρ̄ιρ̄
ζομαδ̄ le Τορνα εῖρο̄ οέ̄ • 'ρ̄ ναε̄ οαδ̄ λειρ̄ αν̄ εῖρο̄
εἰτε̄ ;
26. ζαν̄ οο̄ οεαρ̄οαδ̄ ραν̄ ρεμ̄ηεαρ̄ • na βρuiλμ̄ο̄ ζυραβ̄ λειρ̄εαν̄
αν̄ εῖρο̄ ὕο̄ οἰτε̄ οον̄ ο̄αν̄ • ναε̄ ρυῖλ̄ ορ̄τ̄-ρᾱ na ρε̄αε̄ρ̄αν̄
27. αε̄τ̄ αν̄ οεαρ̄οαδ̄ οεαρ̄οαρ̄ οῖν̄ • ζυραβ̄ le Τορνα αν̄ ρανν̄ ὕο̄
εαδ̄οῖν̄ ιαο̄-ροῖν̄ ο'ρ̄αε̄αῖλ̄ ρυαῖν̄ • ῑ ζερ̄ιε̄ εἰρ̄εαῖν̄ αρ̄ εἰν̄-ρυαν̄
28. 'ρ̄ ᾱ οτοῖζεαε̄τ̄ ο̄ λ̄αῖν̄ ζο λ̄αῖν̄ • ο̄ λ̄αιεῖβ̄ ² Τορνα ζο αρ̄ λ̄αιεῖβ̄
ιρ̄ ᾱ οβραε̄αῖλ̄ ζο οἰρ̄εαε̄ • αρ̄ ρῖοε̄τ̄ ρυαδ̄ ιρ̄ ρεῖν̄-ρ̄ε̄ρ̄ῖβ̄ηεαδ̄.
29. ιρ̄ ρολλur̄ μαρ̄ ριν̄ οο̄ ρέιρ̄ • ριαδ̄ηαιρ̄ε̄ ᾱ αομ̄αῖλᾱ ρέιν̄
Τορνα εἰζεαρ̄ ζο ραῖβε̄ • ιρ̄ in ε̄περ̄οεαῖ Cρiορταρ̄οε̄.

¹ II. 54. ² Cf. "αρ̄ ρεαδ̄ ρέ̄ λαε̄τε̄ οο̄ λ̄αιεῖβ̄," "ní móμ̄ ναε̄ ε̄αν̄-λ̄αιε̄
ο'ρ̄ῖορ̄ . με̄ ζ̄ῖορ̄ ε̄αν̄λ̄αιε̄τε̄ ιρ̄ αῖνεατ̄," Δ. Ὁ ο̄άλαε̄, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 146,
v. 5 ; p. 242, v. 32.

14. you may think they were Christians before Christ's birth !
This suspicion of mine is natural, for you yourself caused me
15. to doubt as to whom you mean by " Christians," seeing, O Tadhg, that you think of calling a pagan
16. Torna the poet who confessed the faith of Christ and His Apostles—as is clear to all from the final verse of his poem,
17. of which you have written, as you imagine, a refutation—not to be counted among your brilliant exploits !
Who, except an unbeliever or one who abandons the true faith
18. could possibly swear that it is not part of the Christian faith to confess the resurrection of the Son of God and to profess contempt for the present life
19. and to confess the resurrection of the body in the meeting place of all-powerful Christ, as Torna ¹ confessed it, the noble old man, whom Patrick won
20. after the death of Niall and Dathi, just as he won Oisín who was older than Torna and who believed in the God of glory ?
21. Unless you deny (as no one yet) vainly and on your own authority, that Torna is guarantee for the last verse of the poem.
22. If you deny that, there would be many a man and woman jeering at you in every way for your thoughtlessness
23. in not having denied at the beginning that Torna, the great sage, wrote any verse of the poem, since you did not like its language !
24. Think ! With your great intellect would that not have been easier for you to prove to those who like to listen to your argument
25. than to hold that one part of the poem on everyone's lips is by Torna and that the rest is not by him ?
26. For, at the period at which we now live, there is accessible to you no proof of his having written the whole of the rest of the poem
27. except the proof which proves that he wrote that verse too--- namely this fact that all the verses have been always found together in Eire,
28. that they have been handed down from Torna's days ² to ours, and that they are couched exactly in the style of the sages and old writers.
29. It is clear, then, by the evidence of his own admission, that Torna, the poet, was a Christian.

30. Éitig fonna an mbreicé n-aoiréa · fuasair ornn dáil nárú
faoiméa
im ain-éireoméac do éorname · 'r' aoiré tú féin fan adúar-ra.
31. ór tú do pinne an t-adúar · fár éairéir mé do tháimnacó
nó ir tú do éuill a ráo muot · beic luaité-breicéac leic-
breicéac.
32. Oré-ra má éarla dearmac · ó luáaró fuasair dearbáó
iar mbáacó Óuin an t-rinnir · do breicé oiréire Amiréin
33. mar tuasó ceannar na ríó · ar béal¹ Éibir ó'Éireamón.
Narab iongnacó lib a-nor · do loctuasó ar a lor
34. gan urram uaid do t-orna · ar do n-aoire ir ealaóna
ar thaoimé doiréa buó thém · ar ron so n-iarraíde féir
35. a n-uacaráin reacó sacó fear · bíóó so mbeicé níor ó náro-
rean ;
asur an uair do fonnraó · nacó ir in reabó baó dúcéar
36. nó ar thual do rinnreair ó céaric · céiré an róirear i n-oiréacé.
Mór do éarairne ar t-orna · 'r' má taoir-re i scéiream
móróa
37. nar éireó mar a-veire féin · ir dearbó gur éríorairé
ei-féin.
Tusóot aire ar an adúar · cia thóóó thicéar do tháimnacó ;
38. nó an cóir éireamé do záim thé · an éireamé rin i bhuile
toot domáil féin ór thá réacó² · éireamé t-orna ir é-ir-
léac ;
39. óir ón réirortúir ir thémín · ná fuil ann claoélóó éireomé
acé don éireamé nam so cóir · mar dearbóar bhuacra
naom-róil.
40. Ná bíóó fóir oré na éirearbó · na amiré i scéic Éireann
guré é t-orna an tobair fir · aru-ollam záca éirir
41. guré uime rin do tozáó · ó leic éuinn ó leic mózácó
mar oré múnice thóib rin · Mall t-éamra ir Coré Cairil.
42. Ir cóir thaoib-re so bhuir thám · ar an adúar rin an tan
a-veire guracó lia th'fíor · ir th'éalaóain ná an t-éiréar
43. cuairé fan lairín maorótear lat · ir réacó⁴ "qui se exallat."
Do b'fearr thaoib théanam thá féir · do záabéá ió rein-
leabráib féin
44. rean-focal gnáacó ar rean · 'r' fearr teicéam ná tairream
ioná beic ió éuir záire · as fine éuinn ir Máiré
45. as záalla rearta so éruaró · ic don i n-ágaró móir-ríuasó
ir thá ráóá so neam-nár · do t-orna toot ar reacrán

¹ Cf. "bél," Contrib. ² "réacó," "likeness of a thing," O'R. Dict.; O'Don. Suppl. ³ i.e. T.'s faith and yours are as I proved (Supra 18), both Christian, therefore if his is not the true faith, neither is yours. ⁴ vid. Var. Lect.

30. Revoke now the condemnation--an inadmissible one--you passed on me for defending an unbeliever, and condemn rather yourself on that score!
31. For it is you who committed the deed for which you try to condemn me, or it is you who should be called "rash-judging and biassed."
32. In case you may have forgotten about it, Lughaidh gave you a proof for the judgment of noble Aimhirgin, given after the drowning of Donn the elder son,
33. when the headship of the hosts was given ¹ to Eireamhon rather than to Eibhear.
Do not now wonder that you are blamed
34. for not showing respect to Torna owing to his age and his knowledge; seeing that obedience would be expected from even aged men
35. to their superior above all, even though he were younger than they; especially in this case as it is no hereditary possession,
36. or one due to the elder by legal right, that the younger inherits. Great is your contempt for Torna! Even if you do belong to the true faith
37. in which you say he did not believe, it is quite certain that *he* was a Christian.
Therefore consider which of you is worthy of condemnation;
38. or, is it right to call faith the faith you have, since according to your own admission Torna's faith and your law of faith are two things ² like each other; ³
39. for, from Scripture it is certain that there is no change in the faith, but that there is only one true faith as St. Paul's words prove.
40. You may take it as certain that in his day in Eire Torna was the well of knowledge, high master of every poet,
41. and that therefore he was chosen from Conn's Half and from Mogh's as teacher of both Niall of Teamhair and Core of Caiseal.
42. You should therefore, I am sure, as you think yourself richer in knowledge and science than the poet,
43. search the Latin you boast of, and examine the phrase *qui se exaltat*.
It would be better for you to act on a proverb which you will find in your own old books,
44. a common proverb of our ancestors, "Better flee than remain," that is, than to be a laughing stock to Conn's race and to the folk of the Maigh
45. undertaking to stand stoutly alone against the great host, and saying shamelessly that Torna blundered

46. ó naé raib déct duine ann • dárú féitoirí uol ar mearbail
mar baó tuara mo éruaisge • rriopadó na héisre uairle
47. nó Dia na heagna ó rilit • rriota an eoluir éirinnis
'r dá ráda sup d'eaigla Néill • tug air dá fiasónaire
féin
48. gan uol i dteann-éagra fur • mar ar gnát tuét an fáitcír ;
ir a uradé a tuisrin • ar a éagra uon éor rin
49. le Corc Cairil 'r le na éréim • i bfiadónaire an rios rí-
Néill
ir le Maill i n-agaó Cuirce • gan bhuict báda na labairt
50. ir naé raib uon dhuing ollam • darab gnát beic ag
molaó
a d'uradé na bfiadónaire féin • 'r dá sup' ór cionn gac
éinéil
51. 'r nár élaon re connaitbe riam • ag déanam leatruim re
Maill
ar beic d'ó-ran aic an éoir • uon éloinn ír rin ó Ultaib
52. mar fuair Tadó an raol fearad • go hinntleatad áitearad.
An raibe fala an uair-re • ba dorá nó ba nuaróe
53. ná faltanar éloinne ír • re rhuict Tuatáil dá d'uirgí.
Nac leo toréuir Tuatáil féin • agur a áair ba-déin
54. fiasaró rionnólad fuair blaó • ir Conn éróda céad-éatad
'r Roiteatáig mac Maoin i b'raó • rra ran b'roirinn a-
uubairt
55. 'r Muireadac Tíreac iar rom • rean-áair Néill Naoi-
giallaig.
Sinnir Néill nac leo toréuir • i n-éiric na n-éact n-oróaire
56. Oitill mac Slánuil nár élaic • ir Airgeadmar mac Sioplám
Élim mac Conna maile • agur Mál mac Rócuróe.
57. ir nac le com-bháitrib Néill • clanna Eócaóa Domléin
uo r'griopadó ó g'púic bunaid • i n-eair éoisró Conóhair.
58. 'S nac le heócaró áair Néill • uo dí-éannadó féada féin
an rí déiréanac díb rom • ríomtar ar éirinn éactáig.
59. Caolbad mac Cmuinn Baóraoi a ainm. • lior éuir cairtír
uo éomhnaóim
rhuict ír agur Éibir glain. • Síó mói díob taréuir mar
rom
60. a rean-fala uo éuaró ar • ir níor nuaróreao faltanar.
an rite d'fuit Éibir fínn • corruil dá b'réadó go g'pinn

¹ K II. 258. ² 4 M. 56. ³ 4 M. 157. ⁴ K II. 131. ⁵ 4 M. 356.
⁶ K II. 136. ⁷ K II. 146. ⁸ K II. 240. ⁹ K II. 258. ¹⁰ 3 Collas, K III. 360.
¹¹ K II. 364.

46. being only a fallible man, (as though you were alas! the very spirit of noble poetry
47. or the God of wisdom from whom spring the streams of true knowledge!) and saying that fear of Niall—according to his own confession—caused him,
48. as is the case with timid folk, to avoid disputing with Niall; though it is evident from his argument then
49. with Corc of Caiseal and his tribesmen in presence of King Niall, and with Niall in Corc's presence that there was no trace of his being led astray by his partiality,
50. and that he was not one of those poets whose custom it is always to praise their chiefs in their presence and to extol them over every other race,
51. and that he was never led away in his patriotism to argue unfairly for Niall, though he was (a strange crime!) of the race of Ir of the Ulaidh,
52. as Tadhg—the wise sage—has discovered so cleverly and so successfully!
- Was there any feud at that time older or fresher
53. than that between Ir's race and Tuathal's, of all the feuds you know of?
- Was it not by the hands of Ir's race that Tuathal¹ himself fell and his father, famous
54. Fiachaidh Fionnoladh,² and valorous Conn of the hundred fights,³ and long before these Roitheachta, son of Maon,⁴
55. and afterwards Muireadhach Tireach,⁵ grandson of Niall of the nine hostages?
- Was it not by Niall's ancestors that fell in requital for their crimes
56. Oillill mac Slanoll,⁶ no gentle hero, and Airgeadmhar⁷ son of Siorlamh, Elim mac Conra⁸ too, and Mal mac Rochruidhe?⁹
57. And was it not by Niall's kinsfolk that Eochaidh Doimhleín's¹⁰ race were driven from their country to the extremity of Conchobhar's province?
58. And was it not by Eochaidh, Niall's father, that was beheaded—look it up yourself—the last king of them (Ir's race) mentioned as ruling fierce Eire?
59. Caolbhaidh son of Cronn Badhraoi¹¹ was his name. His death was no cause of binding friendship! Though many of the races of Ir and famous Eibhear fell thus,
60. their old hatred flickered out, and they did not keep up their mutual hate.
- A poet of Eibhear's race would, naturally, if he bore carefully in mind

61. an paltanar po Ultaé · pe Matt d'éir na n-íomarráil
 do cup comráir Torna ar scúl · zo n-íarrpaó elaoéoló
 p'earún
62. d'íul éigin ar a mbiaó daé · i b'riaónaire p'ear Mumán
 ip nac maóirp'eaó t're fiol n-Ír · báiré Torna p'ur an áip'o-íúg.
63. Maíe d'ám mo b'ar'áim inn. · T'ú ar naó mealláó p'aoit'ró
 rinn
 'r sup'ó p'earaige Cope an áig · ar pon sup' p'eaóain teasbáil
64. ar mbeiré d'ó-ran an céir'o-p'eaó · na d'áita as Torna éig'ear
 'r ar a beiré na r'íg Mumán · do hoip'oneaó mar ba cubaó
65. i n'gráóaió² p'iteaó zo p'íor · do p'ér' g'náéaig ar p'eim-r'íoú
 gan p'earaí ar p'eaóar élaon · p'ur nac p'g'arrpaó p'eirean p'aoir.
66. lí ó ameolur puair Cope · zé puair aóbar dá d'úraé.
 Do p'aoit'pinn p'ór áimlaó rin · sup'ao p'earp'ra i g'ceip'ró
 zairz'ró
67. ioná Cope t're t'eiceam d'ó · zo n-a ceir'pe caáa ar'ntá
 ó Matt i mb'earnán Éite · dar coir'p'eaó a g'com'éir'ge
68. 'r gan é ní ba zoipe d'ó · ioná long'p'ort i loépa
 'r t'ura dar leat gan baógal · as cup p'omáó ic aonap
69. tabairt p'rotaóir an neap · do leit Cunn uile i n-éir'p'eaó.
 áé muna mbeiré zo g'cuata · uat p'eim ic f'ing'lib puara
70. méaó bar n-ambip ip nár p'oin · i ma'g'laóaió an éogaó
 as tabairt oile zair'ge · ar Conn do b'óle an áit'ne
71. t're gan p'abaó do cup d'ó · p'oinne rin zo Moú Nuáda
 an tan tug amur long'p'uir · ar Uógan zo n-áim'p'eaóib.
72. á éiar éireann t'ear ip éuaró · p'p'ea'p'ao⁴ po t'óg'baró
 bar n-uall.
- Rug ó p'ort p'arr'p'air op'áió · ollam ór zác ollamain
73. a-d'eip' sup'ab mó aá d'p'íor · ip d'ealaóain áige a-moó
 ná as Torna an t-u'g'uar p'ean · ap'o-ollam Innpe g'aoir'eaó,
74. a-d'eip' zo otiob'ra p'oil'p'e · don f'urpinn aá i n'ooip'ée
 'r eolur nac p'p'ic p'oinne po · pe b'arr ar míle bliádan.
75. Tigró a p'gola Daná · ar zác taoib ip in am-p'a
 d'p'eaóain a míor'bal n-eolur · Oia na héir'pe d'áit'-beoóáó.
76. Tair'p'eanáó d'ó bar n'p'ea'p'a · as léig'eam leab'p'án p'ean'oa
 l'bró p'onn oig' bar p'áparó · a p'p'ic éir'pe an iol-d'ánaig

¹ XIV. 15. ² Pl. of "g'ráó," "grade," usually "g'ráó," but cf. "p'eaéé n'gráó na b'p'it'ó ar p'ao · r'íg'ín do éaíó t'ar' éim'as"; "mar aómar p'ib'p'e p'eaéé n'gráó." S. Mc an B'air'o, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 5, 8. They are also called "g'ar'pa," cf. "gan p'eaéé n'gar'pa do g'abáil," p. ón Cánt'e, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 8, where they are enumerated. ³ III. 29, v. 163, 164. ⁴ p'p'ea'p'aim, "I go to" (?), cf. "p'p'ea'p'air ip móir'oiombuaró d'ó · pan eaz'p'air ion'p'uar' aop'oa"; "p'p'ea'p'aim an t'ea'g' éall um nóim"; "p'ian na hanman eaz'la an báir · a b'p'p'ea'p'ra ip aóbar u'ab'áir," a. Ó D'álaig, RIA. 23 G. 27, p. 233, v. 25; G. 23, p. 274, v. 3; p. 296, v. 3.

61. the hate of the Ultaigh for Niall after their mutual slaughter, in order to refute Torna's words, have tried to upset the reasonable account
62. by some piece of learning that might look plausible to the men of Mumha, and he would not state that Torna because of his being of Ir's race was partial to the High-king !
63. Pardon me my opinion in the matter. I think you have made a mistake, and that Corc the slayer was wiser than you,¹ seeing that he avoided contradicting Torna
64. (for he had at first been Torna's pupil, and when he was king of Mumha, he was ennobled as was fitting
65. in the grades² of poetry exactly according to the customs of the ancient kings), and did not rely on perverted versions of history from which he could not have backed out with impunity.
66. Corc did not foolishly invent such things, though he had reasons urging him to do so. I should moreover even imagine that you are braver in arms
67. than Corc seeing that he fled with his four armed hosts away to Bearnan Eile from Niall, by whom his (Corc's) hosting was forbidden,
68. though Niall was not nearer to him than the camp at Lothra, and seeing on the other hand that you (without risk to yourself as you think) purpose alone
69. giving battle (such is your strength!) to all Conn's Half together!³
- Had I not heard you display in your stupid words
70. your excessive (shameful!) ignorance of the rules of war, putting reproach on Conn's valour
71. for not giving warning beforehand to Mogh Nuadhat when he attacked the latter's camp and his foreigners, I should not have believed it.
72. Ye poets of Eire, North and South, come,⁴ raise your cries of joy! There has come from the gates of Paradise to you a sage beyond all sages
73. who says he has more knowledge and science to-day than Torna, the ancient sage, high poet of the Isle of the Gaoidhil !
74. who says that to those who sit in darkness he will give light and knowledge unknown for over a thousand years !
75. Come ye schools of Banba from every side to-day to see the marvels of lore of the God who brings wisdom to life again !
76. Show him the difficulties you have in reading the ancient books. Drink here satisfying draughts from the stream of wisdom of the many-gifted man,

77. *ir ná congbáð rib a mear · supb é Mac Dáire ón t-aoib tear
nac cualabair romhe ro · do dul tar ead i n-eagna.*
78. *Óir ir ead aicirtear uair · ir in b'forḡar lám le Clain
ḡo b'ruair reirean ḡo nua 'noir · curu do énuar na ḡernann
n-iomuir*
79. *dar éirḡ buinne an bailḡ fir · a fuarán eagna sup fir
ó t-oircear éirre ar tuile · aḡ rḡoltað a urb'umne.*
80. *Doime eile dá ráḡ fir · ḡo b'ruair reirean an t-eo fir¹
ó doibill ban-fáir ril mbliro · atá aise na caraid.*
81. *Muna ḡereoir-ḡe a n-éabairc · tigró ar ḡac airt ó'ḡeacain
ionḡantair móir reaca rom · reim-ḡiab Callain re n-ióḡnaib.*
82. *ḡr ead a éirre uairle · o'eaḡla oirbire uair-ḡe
'le tuararḡbáil ar mead blioirḡ · ná freaḡaró do ḡairm
óioḡaoin.*
83. *Anair aḡ bar n-oirib réin · óir fuair mire rḡeala ó 'né
supab é an Tadhḡ doaib aiciró · atá ann ná naḡraigró,*
84. *'r nac fuil aét all-ḡlór ḡan frém · na aicmoltair air réin
'r nac ená iomuir mar do élor · fuair reirean ir in b'forḡar*
85. *aét ená caoča dá nḡoircear · cnuar na ḡernann nem-fir
n-oir-éairc
tré nac faḡar uata iar rḡeít · torad aét ambior uile ;*
86. *ir fór nac é an t-eo fir · mar faoilear rluagḡ Síeibe Mhr
fuair ó doibill cloinne Cair · aét mað eo fir ain-eoluir ;*
87. *ar an adbar nac faicim · aét fir aise aḡur aiplinn
i n-ait an móir-eoluir éairc · do faoil o'Éirinn do tabairc.*
88. *Dá b'riararigró cia an t-oircear · ó ḡiab Callain do
compread
aicim ar bar n-éirre rib · ḡabáil rið ar bar nḡáirib*
89. *an uair do mear ḡac Mumnead · do éonnaire mead a builḡ-
rean
ḡein an-móir uairde do b'reit · aét tué réir uair níor tuir-
mead.*
90. *O'Éir ar rḡaoilead ar ḡac leat · ó airt-fite an t-aoibe tear
aḡ rósra a t-oirceir fir do · amail do cualaró r'ota*
91. *ar n'ool do ar a éiaatib fir · ní tuḡ do rluagḡ Síeibe Mhr
o'níl aét a ráḡ nac raibe · Torra i ḡereḡeam ériorturde*
92. *'r mar rin sup ionḡnað óam-ra · ool ar ron a macraíla
'r dom éor-ra i ḡoimair re oam · ar óioḡaoin t-oirḡ ran
eatorad*

¹ Cluain Ramhfhada, a castle of the O'Briens on the bank of the Fergus, Co. Clare. Cf. Tribes of Ireland, O'Don., p. 79. ² Cf. M. C. II. 143. ³ v. Var. Lect. ⁴ M. C. II. 143. Δ. ó dálaḡ applies "eo fir" to the Blessed Virgin I "an t-eo fir ór óuinḡ oia," RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 4. ⁵ Co. Clare.

77. and let not the thought restrain you that he is only Tadhg Mac Daire of the South (of whom you have not yet heard as surpassing all in wisdom!).
78. It is related by him that in the Fergus near Cluain,¹ he has found again some of the fruit of the trees of knowledge,²
79. whence there arose the spring of the knowledge-bubble, so that the cold spring of knowledge rushed forth³ in flood, swollen with wisdom bursting its banks!
80. Others say of him that he got the knowledge-salmon⁴ from Aoibheall who is his friend, the prophetess of Blod's race.
81. If you do not believe him, come from all parts to see a greater marvel still, old Sliabh Callain⁵ in travail!
82. Yet! noble poets, lest I be abused by you for announcing a rumour no weightier than a shell, I warn you not to answer a useless summons.
83. Remain with your own masters. I have been told since yesterday that it is the Tadhg whom you know of who is meant—do not stir!—
84. and that his self-praise is only empty boasting, and that not nuts of knowledge did he get, as was said, in the Fergus
85. but blind nuts, called the fruit of the tree of ignorance and wrong (because when they are shed the only fruit got from them is perfect ignorance);
86. and also that it is not the knowledge-salmon, as the folk of Sliabh Mis think, which he got from Aoibheall of Clann Cais but the knowledge-salmon of ignorance;
87. because I do not see that he has aught but visions and dreams instead of the correct abundant knowledge which he pretended to bestow on Eire.
88. If you ask what was the progeny conceived by Sliabh Callain I implore of you by your poetic profession to restrain your laughter,
89. for when every man of Mumha who saw the great swelling imagined that an enormous progeny was being brought forth there was born—only a field-mouse!
90. After all that had been announced everywhere by the Southern High-poet as to the wondrous knowledge he had conceived—as all Fodla heard,
91. when he got on his vision-wattles, he gave the folk of Sliabh Mis no other knowledge than this—that Torna was not a Christian,
92. and that therefore it was strange for me to come forward to defend a man like him, and he compared me to the ox who has nothing to do at milking-time,

93. ɪʀ ɪɔɪʀ ʒɑ́c cɔm̃páð ʀɪɑʀ · ʒeɪt̃ ʌʒ ʒɔðʀɪʒɑð ʌʀ ʒcɪɪɑʀ
 tʀé n-a m̃ionca nác tʀɪɑʒ¹ ɔð · ʌ-ʒeɪʀ ʀɔ́cɑʀ nɑ ʀɔ́cɑʀ
94. ɪʀ nɛɪt̃e éʌɔtʀɪɔmɑ ɔɪt̃e · ʌʀ ʀɔn éɪʒɪʀ ʀ a éɪɔɪnne
 ɔɔ éɪʀ ɪʒɑɪð éeʌnɑ ʌʀ ʒcúɪ · ʀ tʀɪʒ ʌʀɪʀ mɑʀ ʀéʌʀúɪn
95. ɪɔnnɪʀ ʒɔ ʒcɪʀɪeð ɪ ʒcéɪɪ · ɔɔ ʉʌɪ ʒcʌɪʀ ʒá ʒʀɪɪɪ ɪ
 ʒcém̃
 ʒɔ ɔtʀɪʒʌnn ɪɑɪð ʀʀeʌʒʀɑ ɪʌn · mɑʀ éʀeɪɔɔ cʌc ɔʌ
 cɔm̃páð.
96. ʌʒ ʀɔ ʌ ʀɪeʌðɑ ʀóɔtɑ · ʌʒʌɪʒ ʌn t-eɔɪʀ m̃óʀ-ʀɑ
 ɔɔ éɔʀnám̃ ʌn tʌɔɪʒe t̃eʌʀ · ʀɪɑɪʀ Mac ʉʌɪʀe nɑ cɔm̃m̃eʌʀ
97. nác ʀɪɑɪʀ ʒɪɪt̃e ʌt̃ɑ ɪóɪʒ · Mac ɪɪʒ nʌ ʌɔn ɔɪɪám̃ cɔɪʀ
 ɔ'éɪʒɪʀɪʒ ɪeɪt̃e Moʒɑ ɪ nʒʌʀ · ɔɔ m̃ɪɪe ʌʀ t̃ɪʀɪ éeʌɔ
 ʒɪʌðʌn.
98. ʌʒ ʀɪn ɔʌɔɪʒ ʌn ʀɪɑʀʌn ʀɪʀ · ɪe ʒʌʀʀ ʒʌɔɪʀe ʌɪʀ ɔɔ ʒʀɪʀ
 ɪéʀ éɪʌɔɪ ʌn ʀʀɪɔm̃-ʀéʌɪð-ʀe éɪʌnn ʒcʌɪʀ · ɪeʌc éɪɪnn ɪe
 ʒʌɪʒeʌð n-eɔɪʀ
99. ʌɔn éʌɔʒɑ ʀʌnn éɪʌʀ ɪʀ t̃ɔɪʀ · ʒɪɔʀ ó ɪʌm̃ ʒɔ ɪʌm̃ ɪ
 ʀʒɔɪɪ
 ʒé nʌʀ ɪéɪʀ ɔð nɑ m̃eʌʀʒ ʀɪn · cʀɪóʀtʌɪʀeʌc̃t̃ ʉɔʀnɑ
 éɪʒɪʀ.
100. ʒɪɔn ʒɔ m̃ʒeɪt̃ ʌʒʌɪnn éɪn-neʌc̃ · ɔɔ ʀɪɪɔc̃t̃ ɪʌʀʌɪ nɑ n-éɪʒeʌʀ
 ʌn ʌɪʒɔ ɪɔnɑ ʒʀɪɪɪ m̃é · nɪ cɔʀm̃ɪɪɪ ʒɔ m̃ʒɪɑ cɔɪʀðe
101. ʒʌn ʀeʌʀ ɔɔ éɪʌɔʀɔt̃e ón tʌɔɪʒ éɪʌɪð. · ɪʀ m̃ɪɪɪc̃ ɪé ʀɪʒʌð
 ʒɪʌɪð
 ɪeɪʀ ʌn ʒcɪɔʀðeʌð³ ʀɔm̃e ʀɔ · ón éeʌɔ⁴ Mac ʉʌɪʀe ɔɪɔm̃ʀʌc̃
102. ɪʀ tʀɪʒ ʒeʌʀʀʌð ʒeɔɪn mɑ-le · ʌʀ ʌn ɔʌʀɑ Mac ʉʌɪʀe.
 ɪɔnʒnʌð ɪʀ c̃eʌɔɪʒɪt̃eʌc̃ ɔɪɪt̃ · ɔéʌnám̃ ʌɪʒnɪʀ ʌʀ ʀɔn
 éɪʀe
103. ʌʒ nác ʀʌɪʒe cʀeʀðeʌm̃ cʀɪóʀt̃ · ʀ nʌʀ cɔm̃éʌɔ ʌɪt̃ne ʌn
 ʌɪʀɔ-ʀíɔʒ
 ʀ nác ɪéɪʒt̃eʌʀ ɔʌm̃ cɪʀ ʀɪʒɔɪʀ · ʒeʌʒʌn ɔ'ʌɪʒneʌʀ ʀɑ
 ɪʒʌɪð
104. eʌɔʌmɑʀ nác ɔɪúɪt̃ʀɑ ʀɪʒ · ɔɔ ʒeɪt̃ ɪ ʀɔɪɪt̃ʀe ʌn éʀeɪɔm̃.
 m̃ʌʀ ɪʌɪt̃-ʒʀeɪt̃ ɪeɪt̃-ʒʀeɪt̃ ʒeɪʀt̃eʌʀ · ɪʌʀ ʒcɪɔʀ ɔʌ ʀʌnn
 ɔɔ ʒʀeɪt̃eʌm̃
105. ʌc̃t̃ ʒɪʀʌð éɪʒɪn ʌnnɪɪn · ʌnn ʒʌc̃ ɪɔnʌð ɔɔn tʌɪm̃ʌɪn
 ʀɪʀ ʌn ɔʀɪɪnʒ ʒá ʀʌɔɪt̃ʀeʌð cʌc̃ · éɪn-nɪ ɔɔ ʒeɪt̃ ʀe ʌ ʀʌð
106. nó ʌ-ɔéʌʀʌð ʒɔ ʒʀɪʒeʌð ʀɔɪn · ʒʌʀʀ ʀé ʀʌð nɑ n-ɪm̃ʀeʌʀʀʌɪn
 nɪ cɔʀm̃ɪɪɪ ʒɔ ʒcɪʀʀeʌð cʌc̃ · ʌɔn éʌɪnʒeʌn ɪ ʒcʀɪc̃ ʒɔ ʒʀʌt̃.

¹ Tʀɪɑʒ used as noun and adj. Cf. " ué ! a éʀɪɑʒ ɪʀ tʀɪɑʒ ʌn m̃eʌɪʌð " " m̃ó nɑ éʀɪɑʒ mɑʀ tʌ ʀɪʒ-ʀe." ʌ. Ó ʉʌɪʒ. RIA. 23 G. 23. p. 295. v. 5. 7. Tʀɪɑʒe is noun. Cf. supra 46. ²Cf. Eriu, viii. 97. ³? ʌn éɪʌɔʀeʌð MSS. ⁴ ʌn éeʌɔ MSS. ⁵ i.e., Cu Raoi slain by Cuchulainn.

93. and (among much other stupid talk) he kept deafening our ears repeating often—poor fellow ¹—the “benefits of his benefits,”
94. and the other silly things which he brings forward for Eibhear and his race, things which Lughaidh had already refuted, but which he now brought forward as the truth,
95. so as to persuade Dal gCais, with whom he is in high esteem, that he is giving a perfect answer because (as he says) everyone believes him!
96. There you have, ye poets of Fodla, this wonderful lore for the defence of the South which Mac Daire invented in his “comparison,”
97. a lore which not Guile of Ath Loich,² Mac Liag nor any other proper sage of Leath Mogha ever hit on for nearly 1300 years past.
98. There you have the knowledge-well which broke forth in excessive wisdom and which enabled Clann Cais’ chief prophet to crush Leath Cuinn with mighty learning
99. —though the Christianity of Torna the poet is not evident to him as it is evident in any fifty stanzas of the poems in the East or the West handed down in the schools!
100. Though there may be none of us (O.S.F.) belonging to the noble race of poets, yet it is unlikely that my habit will ever be
101. without some wearer of it in the North to defeat you. Many are those (of the North) by whom victory has been won by the sword ³ ere this, since ⁴ the first proud Mac Daire ⁵ (?)
102. and it has now inflicted the fool’s tonsure on the second Mac Daire! It is strange that you think yourself entitled to argue for Corc
103. who had not faith in Christ and who did not keep the commandments of the High King, and on the other hand I am not entitled (a sad business!) to put forward a few words for Lughaidh,
104. who—we know you will not deny this much—enjoys the light of faith! If that be a partial or rash judgment which is given when the judge has heard both sides
105. so that he must wait for the opinions of the people in some part of the world whom their neighbours might imagine to have something to say, or whom their neighbours might declare
106. to have some statement to make which would settle the case in dispute, then it is unlikely that anyone would ever settle any case!

107. 'S ír leicé-*b*reicé luac mu³air féin · ar éasra Toirna ír ríog
héil
- Ír 'oo *ó*amnair a mu³ maí · an eadair éoir a³ur éiar
108. 'oo breicéamnar ó *ó*ligeaó · i n-*a*gair na n-eicéaó
a-*o*eir zo mbíó leo 'oo *g*náé · neite nuairé re a máó
109. re huéc *b*fir-éiall mbreicére Dé · ar a noamantar iar-
féin ;
- a³ur aríur 'oo *ó*amnair · for³la a mbeair ar talmain
110. 'oo breicéaib *ó*ior³a *ó*lige · ír in maitear puibíre.
*g*é zo n³ad³oi-re 'oo lám · zo treoraé ioir éloinn táil
111. mar *g*áé il-*é*ir³o¹ 'oá *b*fuil lat · beic 'oom múineáó-*r*a i
noiaóáé
- Ír ríó a³ *g*airm 'oo³uir *ó*iom · oic an diaóáé *ó*uir zo
ríor
112. a *ó*gna oram fa breicé · 'oo breicé ar an *b*raoiríoneaé
*g*á éur iar *ó*uirín a *g*níom · an tan rín ó *ó*ligeaó ríor
113. ma n-*é*ir³oaé *a*máil ar *g*náé · a *b*raoiríone zo niomlán
an tráé ar *ó*ollur naé *t*is · leir an *g*oin³oil *ó*ligear
rín
114. le haicéaóar ó *é*ir³é · ná le haomáil ríunne.
*ó*earó ar ar maicé *ó*ot féin · *ó*ar n-*a*ir³-*r*í³ ar *é*amra³
*é*féin
115. iar *g*re³oaí nar háirneáó líb · tre luigeaó an *é*omáirín
ní hé amáin na *b*raóair ríon · ríogmaó leicé Cuinn zo
ngoil
116. aé³ i *b*riaónaire 'oo *r*eaé · *g*eaé³ar mar an naom-*b*raiceart.
Ír *ó*ir³uil *g*ur *ó*eaóair *ó*uir · *é*aé zo *ó*ána ríor ran
tríó
117. lé³ don *ó*rian *ó*ir³ne a-*b*áin · 'oo ríol éir³ zo móir-*ó*áil
i n-*a*gair *r*eaé 'r *ó*á rícaó · a³á 'oo réir na *b*raicéó
118. na n-*a*ir³-ríogáib *ó*r *ó*íonn *ó*raé · *ó*'fuil éireamóin iar
*g*re³oaí.
- Ír *ó*á *ó*ur³maoir na rí³ *ó*uir · tar ríunne an *é*ra³air
*g*íom
119. Toir³ea³baé Ua *ó*riain *ó*ar mbraé · naé biaó *ó*riain ina
donar
- ó*í³ *g*íó aó *ó*ána ar éloinn táil · líb-re féin *ó*r *g*omaó
náir
120. *g*an aé³ *ó*á rí³ i *g*omáir leaé · le móir-*r*éir³ar 'r *ó*á
rícaó.
- A³á an *ó*raéó rín a³áib · 'oo *g*náic-*b*éar ionn *ó*ar *ó*a³raib

¹ il-*é*ir³o a grammatical blunder (?). Cf. XII. 5. note.

107. And (according to that theory of yours) you yourself have given a rash judgment in the dispute of Niall and Torna, and you have condemned all the judgments which the Church, East or West
108. has passed legitimately on heretics, who usually say they have some new arguments to advance
109. against the true senses of God's word owing to which they are being condemned ; and also you have condemned
110. most of the righteous judgments of earthly law passed for the common good.
Though you have bravely undertaken among Tal's race—
111. together with the other poor professions¹ you have—to teach me Theology (styling me " Doctor ") bad indeed is your own Theology !
112. since you condemn me for passing judgment on the penitent when I had understood his state of conscience, passing it in that (*i.e.* your) case quite justifiably
113. without hearing—as would be the usual case—his whole confession, since it is evident that he has not come with the requisite conditions
114. namely with heart-felt contrition and truthful confession. Certain it is that it was in your own interest that you did not count your High-Kings reigning in strong Teamhair
115. after the coming of the Faith, because they were so few in number, not merely in comparison with the valorous kings of Leath Cuinn
116. but in comparison with your twenty-eight who ruled before the holy doctrine came !
Likely enough it is difficult for you to come down bravely into the fight
117. with your single Brian to do credit to Eibhear's race, against the forty-seven kings of Eireamhon's race, who according to the sages
118. were High-Kings over Boinn Breagh after the coming of the Faith.
And even if we conceded to you as one of your kings—against the truth of good history—
119. Toirdhealach O Briain—your great hope—(so that Brian should not be your only king !) I think that, proud as you are of Clann Tail, you would be ashamed
120. that there should be only two kings on your side against forty-seven !
You have such an inveterate habit in your arguments

121. ar bap neitib féin a-máin · do cup a-mac le móp-dáil
somad corrmáil dámad lib · an dá ficead 'r na roact níg
122. o'fuil Néill ó ceart a pean · do gab Éirinn iar zeperdeam
zo zcuirfe ríu bap bfuil féin · ór éionn ríog mac n'p'p'él
123. 'r ór impetib gá tótam ríu · an oirp'p'ir ir an fuinó ;
map ar urur a aicne · óo máoiómhige ar a máicne
124. 'r ar bap mbiaómann ar gab leit · ar bap n-aon Úrman
Úóruime
ir an zcoróin p'p'iot map p'p'iot · leit nac béapad tre hie
ríor
125. dá mb'é éan-lám don éluice · ó éionn Tuatáil 'r luóine
ór fuadad do úrman paille · an coróin 'r a bóruime
126. do péir map deapbócam úuib · ag cup zluair ar téx
Luóad
ór é rin téxa o'p'ead · na p'p'uitead 'r na rein-p'p'ibnead.
127. 'S iongnad liom ó ríor t'aoire · ar an zcúir noctam
úaoib-pe
coimneap éag-cormáil a-noir · do éionnp'p'nam map do
éionnp'p'nair.
128. ir doilge liom ioná rin · an ní éuala dá ráó lib.
Do zluair bap b'p'earz zo meapda · i n-agad Néill níg-
Teamra
129. ar pon h-an-flaité do zairm · do ríol n'éibir ó b'p'iot
p'p'airm
dap leit nac cuatair a-p'am · zo rin a nouhairt ní-mall
130. map do báóair zo diamrad · ag raotpuzad pead bliadna
clann Éireamóin na n-arm n'gear · an trát fuapair i
n-érot'p'ean
131. epaob do deapad do Dál zCair · nap éurur ua Táil p'et
air¹
na don oig'ne ceart na ceann · ar fuil ríogadta Éireann
132. do péir an ceirt zo o'p'ead · do bi gan éionn rin Mílead
pe o'p'ead zadbáltair oile · ar C'p'ic n-ápparó n'luóine,
133. agur p'ór ran zepaóib zcéadna · da gab taoib dá
éairbéana
zur éallp'ead an éuro oile · o'uarrib C'p'ice Luóaire
134. an trát-p'adé amáin ua Cair · a zceart ar Éirinn iat-
zlar.
Már p'p'innead rúo a Táóz · map deapb'ear úóinn ar gab
air
135. por³ dall do báó me Dál zCair · 'r an onóir uata
fuapair
ar an moó roin zo b'p'uite · nac zcuimhige ir nac tuige

121. of boastfully exaggerating your side, that, probably if you possessed the ninety-seven kings
122. of Niall's blood who by right of their ancestors ruled Eire after the coming of the Faith you would exalt your race over the kings of Israel's race,
123. and over the emperors indeed of the East and West! As is easy to guess from your boastfulness as to Brian's single race
124. and from your bragging in every way about him, and about the crown he got (the way he did get it! and he never would have got it
125. if he had been the only player in the game!) from Tuathal's race and Iughoine's—through whose apathy the crown and the cow-tax were robbed from them
126. as we shall prove to you, adding a note to Lughaidh's "text," for such is the authentic version given by sages and ancient writers.
127. I wonder for the reasons I give you that one of your age should attempt to make, as you have, such an unequal comparison.
128. More painful still to me is the other thing I learn from you. Your anger blazed against Niall, king of Teamhair
129. for calling Eibhear's race "usurpers" (hence the dispute—you never, you say, heard the expression before!)
130. as you had been, at a time when you found Eireamhon's sharp-armed race weak, working secretly for a whole year
131. on a pedigree of Dal gCais in which you put Tal's descendant—arbitrarily¹—as the one only rightful heir of Eire's royal race
132. exactly according to the law obtaining among Mile's sons up to the coming of another invasion² into the old Land of Iughoine!
133. trying to prove in every way in that pedigree of yours that all the other princes of Laoghaire's Land
134. at that time except Cas' descendant lost their rights to green-grassed Eire!
- If the other version be true—as is proved to us from every source—
135. your love for Dal gCais, and the honour you got from them, has blinded³ you so that you are so disposed as not to remember and not to understand

¹αιρ, "will" (?), cf. "τρέ ελαην εοξαιη 'ρ νι οά η-αιρ . ρεολαο ταιρ θαννα ταιρ θυαιρ," Ο. Ο μαοιτωναρη, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 250, v. 4; "σο ρηαιηαιρ ιαιρ ταιρ Δ η-αιρ (spite of them?) ρροτα ιονηαιρτα αν ιομυιρ," ρ. οη εάηηε, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 20; also infra XXIII. 8, 9. ²The English, cf. XI. 1. ³μορ οαιη (all MSS.) is strange, 2 Sg. Infix. Pron. is never -s- (Eriu, i. 155).

136. Fírinne an tseanóid ar uairt · léige gac laoi it fear
 duanaib.
 Sió mó do ghnócuig Mac Uias · 'r áitear ua loicám² ar
 brian
137. ná riú-re ar éineas Cair · gá bfuile ro réadluinn eoluir
 dá mbeiróir a leicéio rúo · do leic-breic amail ruig tó
138. le brian i n-azair céille · 'r fírinne na rein-éigre
 do rsiuorparde gan éroearb · le hollamnáib na héireann
139. a n-anmanna go hollam · ar polla na n-ollaman.
 Ó 'o-éitear duit sup éigceart · ar beic na fínnreap
 o'Éibear
140. cur éireamóin 'r a síl rin · me nÉibear me ríol nÉibir
 nac éig-ceart duit-re Dál gCair · rlióct an tróirir
 Cormaic Cair
141. do cur ór éionn na sclann raor · clainne Carcáig 'r a
 gcom-gaol
 maicne Carcáig go n-a n-gaol · rlióct an trinnirir iad ardon
142. Eogain Móir ro ba mac slan · o'Oilill Ólum ríig Mumán.
 Táinig eobuig caogao ríog · ar rlióct Eogain Móir go
 ríor
143. ór an Mumáin go meóair · go Cormac mac Muireadóig
 asur gan acé dá ríig véas · do rlióct Cormaic Cair na
 otreas
144. na ríogáib ór Mumáin Mír. · pollur bap leactrom aiguir.
 Forgla a bfuil i leic Mozáo · mealla ar reib beic dá
 gcornam
145. ra Dál gCair mar élanna Cuinn · dá gcur le seanóar
 meapóail.
 Ir léir mar rin ran am-ra · cia do ní an tseabao tarra.
146. a-óeara rluag Cairil Cuirc · sup diom-buaró dób do
 labairt.
 Bíod a deimn azac réin · don unuir áirne ar do fréim
147. ór éionn Éireann mar ríoga · go bfuil cur nac in-ríomá.
 An fear o'earbaró ar ríocáto. · ríu gceiream uab dá
 ríomóair
148. ná háirnéo orra ó ro amac · an dá ceatrap uérbéanac,
 ná brian bóruine iar gceiream · dá mbeic nac beapao
 reirean
149. an ríogacé amail do buig · go cealgac do Maoil-reacluinn.
 Ó Moig Corb go ré Criumáinn · dób ar reib beic na
 ríogáib
150. an dá ceatrap a-óeir rinn · nac cóir o'áiream ar Éirinn.
 A haicte luigme Móir · tá an t-octar rin ó cóir

136. the truth of the noble history which you read daily in your old poems.
 Though Mac Liag¹ and Aitheas O Lorcaín² did greater service to Brian
137. than you to Cas' race, (whose guiding star you are!), if they had given such a judgment as you
138. in favour of Brian and against good sense and authentic old poetry, their names would certainly be quickly blotted out
139. by Eire's sages from the roll of the sages!
 Since you think it unjust owing to Eibhear's being the elder
140. to put before him and his race Eireamhón and his, is it not unjust for you to put Dal gCais descended from Cormac Cas a younger brother,
141. over the free tribes Clann Carthaigh and their kin, race of Carthach's race and their kin being all sprung from the elder son
142. Eoghan Mor, fair son of Oilill Olum King of Mumha.
 There came a band of fifty kings, in truth, of Eoghan's race
143. ruling happily over Mumha down to Cormac Mac Muireadhaigh,³ and only twelve kings of many-flocked Cormac Cas' race
144. ruling Mumha Mis. Clear now is your biased argument.
 A tricking of most of the folk of Leath Mogha out of their rightful possession
145. is your defence of them by putting them (as you put Clann Cuinn also) by means of your false genealogy beneath Dal gCais.
 It is clear now who is guilty of "crooked ploughing"!
146. The folk of Caiséal of Corc will say your words were a dis-service to them!
 Be assured that of the number you count of your race
147. ruling Eire there are some who should not be counted. As for the twenty-eight you mention before the coming of the Faith
148. do not for the future count the eight last; nor would Brian either after the coming of the Faith be counted, except that he seized
149. the kingdom, as he did, by treachery from Maoilsheachluinn!
 We assert that those from Mogh Corb to Criomhthann who held power as kings,
150. those eight, should not be counted over Eire. Coming after Iughóine Mor these eight are in law

¹ Brian's poet. ² No reference to this poet. Perhaps " 'Ἦ ΔΑΙΤΕ Ο ΛΟΪΣΑΙΝ," but CUAN Ó LOICÁIN does not seem to have been a supporter of Brian. ³ K III 310.

151. iona n-anflaḁaib uile · map don me ḁrian ḁḁrumhe.
 Ní cóir a n-ainm do cup rior · so bḁáḁ i polla na ríog.
152. ar numhḁ ríog Inne ḁreag · ní cóir an nsonḁar ḁ'áiream.
 Éireamón céro-rí ḁanḁa · don éloinn Milead ḁá ḁḁarla
153. se do ḁeanḁar tḁí haicme · real ríge ḁá ríog-maicne
 fuair realaḁḁeacḁ na ríge · clanna luigḁeac mic íte
154. rluḁḁt ír aḁur éibḁr fínn · na tḁí haicmeaḁa ḁeirum.
 Sealad ḁóib ar an nóḁ ro · aḁ rḁairínn ríú im ríogaḁḁ
 ḁḁóla
155. an élanḁ rín Éireamóin féil · an tḁáḁ ḁa hérotḁéan iatḁ-
 réin.
 Map rín ḁí i noiarḁ a céile · ó mé Connḁaol mic éibḁr
156. nar ḁainḁnigḁ don ḁponḁ na feilḁ · so tuicim Reacḁarḁ
 Ríḁ-ḁeirḁ.
 luḁine cárraḁ an tḁealb. · leir toḁcúir Reacḁarḁ Ríḁ-
 ḁeairḁ
157. i noioḁail éaga a buime · Maḁa miolla monḁbuirde.
 Ír é an tluḁoine Mór ḁa · do ḁainḁnigḁ ríogaḁḁ ḁóla
158. ḁó féin ír ḁá ríol ó roin · do rḁéir an rḁeacḁa an uair-roin
 É do ḁainḁnigḁ a ḁírleacḁ · ḁ'fuit Éireamóin mic Milead
159. do rḁéir na n-uḁḁar ḁḁromḁa · ḁomḁr uile an teann-
 ḁonc-ḁa.
 Jan cup ina céann rḁéine · ná a élanḁ-maicne ḁá éire
160. tuinḁro aicme éibḁr fínn · 'r ḁac ḁponḁ oile ḁa éirínn.
 Do tuinḁreacḁ ḁ'áiceairḁ éin-ríḁ · bioḁ so mberóir níor
 tḁéine
161. Jan ceairḁ ar bit ó ro a-mac · ḁ'asra ḁóib ar tḁreib
 Teamḁrac.
 Tuḁraḁ ḁó an uile umlaḁḁ · ḁar narḁ ḁḁra ḁan connḁarḁ.
162. ḁac rlan ḁac móro ḁár ḁnác ronn · tuḁraḁ uacḁa rḁé comall.
 Oigḁe an luḁoine ḁubairḁ · Tuacal Teacḁmar nar tubaḁ
163. ainḁrḁr ḁaḁa ḁá éir roin · an cuing céaḁna ror ceangail.
 Sonad ḁé rín ar an-flaḁ · ḁac rí ḁ'fuit éibḁr arim-ḁlain
164. ḁar cairḁr feilḁ na ríge ó roin · ar éloinn luḁoine ír
 Tuacail.
 Ar ríogaḁ aca ón am roin · ḁponḁ do éirig le a n-antail
165. i n-aḁarḁ na rola ríog · le huadḁar ír le hainḁḁíor
 ḁá ḁtú i noiarḁ na mionḁ ḁa · do ḁluairḁeacḁ ulca iomḁa
166. sibé do cairḁreacḁ Jan ceair · a rḁoraḁ ó ain-flaḁceair.
 Orḁlarḁ ar rḁeacḁ an ḁomáin · rluigḁe eairumla ír cogarḁ

151. all mere usurpers as well as Brian Boromhe. Their names should never be put in the Roll of Kings.
152. Among the kings of Inis Breagh these nine should not be counted.
Eireamhon was first king over Banba of all Mile's stock,
153. though three other branches wrenched a period of rule from his princely house, the race of Lughaidh mac Ithe,
154. that of Ir and that of Eibhear Fionn, just these three. They were thus for some time fighting for power in Fodhla
155. with the race of noble Eireamhon when these were weak. Thus was it with them all through, from the day of Conmhaol, Eibhear's son,
156. so that no family of them grew strong in possession till the death of Reachtaidh Righdhearg.¹ Iughoine then got possession. By him was slain Reachtaidh Righdhearg
157. to avenge his foster-mother's death, gentle Macha of the yellow hair. It is this Iughoine Mor who secured the rule of Fodhla
158. for himself and his seed after him according to the law of the time. It is he who secured Eire's fidelity to the stock of Eireamhon son of Mile,
159. according to the weighty authors who all admit this important point. That neither they nor their race after them would ever oppose him
160. is what Eibhear Fionn's race and every other in Eire swore. They swore, at the dictation of a single man, that though they might be stronger
161. they never would assert a right to Teamhair's Dwelling. In the pact he bound on them they promised him complete obedience.
162. They gave him for fulfilment of their promise, every surety every oath then usual here.
This Iughoine's descendant, namely unconquered Tuathal Teachtmhar
163. a long time after imposed the same bond on them. So that therefore every king of bright-sworded Eibhear's race
164. who strove for the kingship after that against Iughoine's race is a "usurper." As for those who were made kings afterwards, those who perversely arose,
165. especially after such oaths, in pride and injustice against the royal stock, great evils would ensue
166. if anyone openly attempted to absolve them from the crime of usurpation. A person so arguing opens up everywhere in the world the road to rebellion and war

167. 1 n-**asáir** na **bhríonnra**ó **scéairt** · **do** **óio-r**gaoileasó **a** **móir-**neairt.
Do **tuilleas**ó **óiom**ó **ó** **ríog**asib · **an** **talman**-ra **óib**líonasib
168. **darab** **dain**gean **do** **íonn**raó · **ar** **óimé**asó **a** **rean**-óonnraó
 'r **ar** **óon**sbáil **ní**ge **so** **rám** · **ar** **a** **scéairt** 'r **ar** **a** **scoráin**
169. **móro** **uaraile**asó **ir** **uála** · **do** **bua**in **do** **lu**ct **earuála**.
Dámasó **cead**uigtheasó **don** **tír** · **san** **com**all **a** **míonn** **dá** **ní**g
170. **cia** **do** **ríog**asib **ra** **dom**an¹ · **dár** **ó**oir **flaite**ar **o'**aitu^gasó.
Dá **molt**ar **óib** **a-**níre · **dol** **do** **é**roir **im** **an** **ní**ge
171. **na** **huair**le **é**irpo **ra** **rma**ct · **ir** **míonn**uigear **óib** **uála**ct
carde **ar** **tal**man **ní** **ra** **ní** · **lén** **hé**oir **a** **dé**arbasó **rin**
172. **reas**ó **don** **uair**e **zá** **ótám** **ó** · 1 **ní**ge **san** **frear**abra.
Díó **nar** **é**re^oasó **na** **ní**g · **lu**goine **ir** **Tua**cal **na** **noir**
173. **cean**glair **óib** **féin** 'r **dá** **rlí**ct **rin** · **ra** **móro** **uála** **fir**
fuinó
muna **b**ruair **tú** **ro** **r**g^huortúir **féin** · **na**ct **fuil** **o'**fi^aasib **ar**
an **mé**ro
174. **bí**or **san** **é**re^oasó **Dé** **Dúil**g · **ca**omna **an** **óil**gíó **ná**óuirg,
asct **sur**ab **é**oir **leo** **ó** **ce**airt · **san** **com**all **míonn** **mar** **ar**
óleasct
175. **fuil** **araile** **do** **ó**ortasó · 'r **m**ná **a** **é**ile **do** **com**ctó^rasó²
ní **ro** **na**ct **ra**gar **as** **rá**ó · **as**ur **na**ct **é**oir **a** **rá**ó
176. **san** **tuille**asó **noiom**ó **n-**óóbal · **ó** **Rí**g **lí**me **ir** **na**om-
talman.
féas **féin** **a** **le**as **Mo**ga **móir** · **an** **b**raice **ar** **é**asg **be**ar^hasó
geoin
177. **tar** **éir** **ro-**óó^air **é**lann **sc**air · **ar** **a** **fu**aránaib **e**olair ;
líó **an** **b**ruil **be**ar^hca **ó** **é**luair **so** **é**luair · **ó** **don** **b**rá^aair **don**
taoib **é**uaró
178. **san** **ce**asó **dá** **é**raoib 'r **dá** **e**asna · **do** **féir** **i**úil **na** **re**in-
rsc^heartra,
muna **áit**ige **sur**ab **b**réasg · **r**g^híob^hear **ar** **le**it **é**uinn **na**
scéasó
179. **sur** **óil**traó **sc**aoir^hil **dá** **sc**airt · 'r **sur** **míonn**uigreasó
uaraileasct
do **é**loinn **lu**goine **ir** **Tua**cal · **ir** **don** **ríog**raó **ó** **é**ruasain,
180. **am**ail **do** **re**ac³ **lu**garó **ruinn** · 'r **mar** **do** **má**oíó **mac** **Uí**
Óomnaill.
 'S **már** **am**laró **rin** **re**ar^hmar **ó**uir · **a** **le**as **Mo**ga **Ca**iril **é**uir
181. **ní** **ti**ubar^hear **ó** 1 **r**g^holair · **mo**ó **u**g^hoir **ná** **ó**eas-óllam.
Cait^hro **ra**oite **an** **ta**oibe **é**uaró · 'r **ní** **o'**easla **na**ct **bé**ar^ho^hoir
buaró

¹ An **dom**ain MSS. ² Cf. Wind. Ir. Texte I., p. 831. ³ "reacaim," "I recite," then "tell." Cf. "reacaire," one who recited bardic poems.

167. against the rightful princes for the ruin of their authority.
He would deserve the wrath of the rulers of both sides of this
land
168. whose fixed principle it is especially for the guarding of their
ancient pacts, and for the keeping of their realm in peace,
and for the sake of their rights and crown,
169. to exact from fractious folk an oath of vassalage and obedience.
If it were lawful for the country not to keep its oath to
its prince
170. what king is there in the world ¹ who would be thankful to be
king? If one approves of nobles fighting to get the kingship,
171. nobles whom the kings reduce to subjection, and who swear
obedience to the kings, where under Heaven is there a king
of whom it could be said
172. that he was even for a single hour without "opposition"?
The kings Iughoine and Tuathal though unbelievers
173. bind to themselves and to their race the men of the West
by a vow of obedience—unless perhaps you have found
in your Scriptures that there is no obligation
174. on those who do not believe in the God of the Elements to keep
the Natural Law! But that they can justifiably neglect to
keep their bounden oaths,
175. and can shed each others' blood and woo ² each other's wives—
such a thing is not said by any prophet and cannot be said
176. without incurring the dire wrath of God and of the saints on
earth.
Look now O Leath Mogha! Do you see the fool's tonsure
on Tadhg
177. after all the excessive confidence Clann Cais placed in his
streams of wisdom! Is he not shorn from ear to ear by a
single friar from the North,
178. who, judging him by the ancient documents, shows no respect
to his genealogy or his learning, as he cannot prove false
what is written about Leath Cuinn of the hosts,
179. namely that the Gaedhil gave up their own claims and swore
vassalage to the race of Iughoine and Tuathal and to the kings
from Cruachain,
180. as Lughaidh told ³ us and Aodh O Domhnaill too.
If that be the way he stands by you, O Leath Mogha of
Corc's Caiseal,
181. he will not get in the schools the respect due to author or good
sage.
The Northern sages—not that they fear they could not
defeat him otherwise!—

182. ταςρα μόραιν ναέ δια σεαρτ · με φεαρ αλλ-ξίόιρ ζαν
είρεαέτ
λεϊρ ναέ φαξταρ τό του αρ · αέτ τάνφραμ αρ αν φεανέαρ.
183. 'S munab le reanéar ζρνιν ζέαρ · αέτ le cuma a μισιρό
φείν
έυιρφεαρ πομμε Mac Dáire · κορνάμ ριόις να φεαν-ηλάιζε
184. το ζέαδα φεαρ a φρεαζρα · ναέ φέαοφα κορς a τεανζα
ο'φιορ-λαβρα λάιν το λεϊτ έυινν · ας ριορ-μωό ρεϊέαο¹
εαρυλλ.
185. Τυις a ταιός ζέ ταιοι ρί-ξλιε · ζυρ έιμς υίβ τοιρς
ζόρομυρς²
ας ταιρςριν τάιρ αρ ττορνα · ράρ λέις έαιμυρ υιομορδωό
186. φα ζαν τεαέτ i n-αζαρό ηέιλλ · υα τυαταίλ 'ρ ιυζοιμε φείλ
ζά ραιβε a υτάμις πομμε · ρυαρ ιρ ιν πέιμ ριοζραθε
187. ζο Μίλεαθ εαρράιμε όρ έιμ · να ριοζαιβ αρ φιαθ φυιμρό
αέτ μαθ ναονθαρ τά αιελε · ιρ οέταρ ρια n-ιυζοιμε
188. τρέ αν-φλαίτε υίοθ το ζαιρμ · αν έιανν ριν έίβιρ το έαιρς
μυζε ρυρ τ'είρ ζαέ έαέτα · μόιο υμλα 'ρ υαιρεαλαέτα.
189. Το ραθ έιμε ριν ζο λέιρ · το τυαταίλ 'ρ τά υειζ-φρέμι
μαρ το έυιμμις ζο φεραέ · a οιζμε ηιαιλ mac θαέαέ
190. i τερμάε ταςρα με ττορνα · ας εαοιμνα σεαρτ a αεαρδα
ιρ ιν ρανν i na νουθαριε · ναέ τιοθραθ θαίλε i Μυμαιμ
191. το ριοέτ έίβιρ φίνν ζαν τπορο · νό έιορ αρ το έιοιμν
τυαταίλ.
Όρ λέιρ το θριαέραιβ μαίτε · ζο θρυιλε ας υέανάμ αιρς
192. τ'είρ θαρ ραοέαιρ το Όάλ ζεαιρ · ιοιμν ζαέ έαζεόιρ τά
νθεαρμαρ
αοαμν ανοιρ ό έρυθε · αρ το θριαίερμυθ μαρ υλιζε
193. ας ιαρραθ μαίεμμε το πέιρ · μαρ μύμνεαρ θριαέρα αν
τροιρζείλ ;
αρ λεϊτ Μοζα αρ a νθεαρμαρ · έαζεόιρ με Όάλ αν υεαζ-έαιρ,
194. 'ρ αρ λεϊτ έυινν το ταιρζεαθ υίβ · το έυρ φα έιαις λέτ
φυιζιυθ ;
αρ αν έιρμε το θυιμε · ιρ a μαίλαέτ το έυιλλιρ ;
195. 'ρ αρ τ'φίμε φείμ τάρ έυιλλ ριβ · υιομθα ιρ μιο-ζναοι φεαρ
θρυιμρό ;
'ρ αρ αιεμμε ηέίβιρ υιλε · τάρ θεαν τυρα ρέο έρομμε
196. αρ λειζεαθ ζο ρο ρεαά · το ριοζαιβ ζαν ινερεαάθ ;
'ρ αρ Όάλ ζεαιρ ροθ έυιρ i ζεέιμ · τά ναέαρ έυιλλιρ εαιε-
πέιμ.

¹? perhaps referring to visions, etc.? but bull-hides were used (K II. 348). ² For the legend whence ζόρομυρς gets this sense, cf. Kilk. Arch. Jour., 1912, vol. 42, p. 106; Gadelica I., p. 171 303

182. will have to allege many falsehoods against this man of vain boastful language, by means of which language however he will not escape though he take to abusing true history (?).
183. If it be not by means of accurate correct history, but by means of the inventions of his own brain that Mac Daire propose to defend the folk of the Maigh
184. he will get a man to answer him whose tongue he will not, by his everlasting talk of horse-hides,¹ be able to check from giving a full answer for Leath Cuinn.
185. See, Tadhg, clever as you are, you have undertaken a useless² task in insulting Torna for his refraining from abuse, and
186. for his not attacking Niall descendant of Tuathal and of noble Iughoine (Niall whose ancestors before him were in the regnal lists
187. back to his ancestor Mile of Spain as kings over the Land of the Sunset except only nine after and eight before Iughoine)
188. when Niall gave the name "usurpers" to Eibhear's race which strove against him (Niall) after all their crimes and after their oaths of vassalage.
189. Eire undoubtedly yielded that vassalage to Tuathal and to his goodly race, as was wisely recalled by Tuathal's heir, Niall mac Eochach,
190. when disputing with Torna in defence of his ancestral rights, in the verse where he said he would not give a townland in Mumha
191. to Eibhear Fionn's race without a fight, or else without getting its rent for Tuathal's race.
Since it is clear from your gentle words that you are making reparation
192. for all your (wrongful) efforts on behalf of Dal gCais, and for the injustice you have committed, confess now from the bottom of your heart asking your own folk as is right
193. for pardon as the Gospel tells you to do ; asking Leath Mogha's pardon for the injustice you have done to fair Cas' race ;
194. asking pardon of Leath Cuinn which you strove to cover with shame by your words ; asking pardon of Poetry your foster-mother whose curse you have merited ;
195. and asking pardon of your own race on whom you have brought the anger and displeasure of the folk of the Sunset Land ; asking pardon of all Eibhear's race from whom you, by your new-fangled history, have robbed
196. those of their kings who have been left them hitherto ; asking pardon of Dal gCais who put you in a position of power and for whom you certainly have not won glory !

197. 'S maḡ ḡo maḡ Corc ḡeap ḡo maḡ . tabair ḡo luḡarḡ a maḡ
 aḡ maḡ ar ḡan fir an ríḡ . mea culpa peccavi.
198. Oḡraíl ḡ'urruḡḡe iapraín . ḡo 'Dia le haḡrḡe nḡloin
 ir maḡm-pe 'ḡuit a-noir . miom féine ḡac a nḡeapnair ;
199. ir aḡḡim oḡc 'ḡiolḡarḡ 'ḡún . ḡo ḡuilleam ríoc 'ḡé na nḡól
 ḡré ar ríoc anrao i nḡleann na nḡeor . ir naḡ ḡeaḡmaoir
 ar ain-eol
200. aḡaíl aḡubairḡ ḡorna . ór ḡemín fir na ḡaḡna
 ḡo ḡeaḡt i nḡaíl ḡo bḡeḡe . aḡ ro a ḡríorḡ ḡo ḡoimeirḡe.¹

ḡé saoiḡe.

197. As Corc in the South yielded to Niall, so do you yield to Lughaidh saying what Corc said to the king, "Through my fault have I sinned."
198. Offer your prayers, then, to God with pure contrition, and I pardon you now all you have done to me ;
199. and I ask you to pardon me so that we may win the peace of God through being at peace with each other in this vale of tears, and that we may not walk the path of folly,
200. since as Torna said, it is certain that the men of earth are going to be judged by Thee, O Christ ! This is what we pray ¹ of Thee !

¹ "Comairc," "supplication, cf. Gl. Wb. 31d 19. Confused with "comairce," "protection" (?)

ní sUaIS LIOM t-URÉAR A DOO. TAÓZ MeDÁIRE cct.

- I. Ní sUaIr LIOM t-urÉar A DOO · bíoD go mbíoir oronS
DeaG-Laoc
rSáctiMar peT airm sUr anoir · t-airm féin ní hIaD DO gLaCaIr.
 2. An t-airm nua a hIic í Dóinnail · ariarB áil DO lám
o'poSluim
luGáire Ir baGáil DO neac · ní fuil fé IO lám go oíreac.
 3. DO faoil mé a hIic í Dóinnail · sUr gNáC aSaib ceapT
comluinn
neac ar a mbiaD fear 'r a luEt · ní sUr baD caite t-urÉar.
 4. aTá an file an fear dána · 'r an tí gLaCaIr naom-gnáDa
aS cur oram fe raile · aSaib 'r go fiú an úcaire.
 5. Má DO caiteIr fear mar éac · t-urÉar muom ní móíoe ar rSáC
beaG mo brios na caiteam dúio · rSinnio na hairm DON
cárrais.
 6. aTá leaÉtrom oram a DOO · ar feaD ar n-aigNiIr ar don
oirÉar dáM a fIoinneaD rom · amáil a-DeaIr im DeaGáir.
 7. leaRz LIOM mar onóir DOt fuil · bReaG DO tUba i n-aGáir
ruib
a leizean oram Ir leaRz dáM · neim-leaRz DO dAn fé DeanaM.⁷
 8. Ní náR leaT ná dúit a DOO · dá oTaGra ríB feanÉur claon
baD náR LIOM-ra ar mo loI · claonaD ríolla i feanÉar.
 9. Ní baD toibéim DON TaOib éuaí · am-leaRz mé fá aitéur uaim
aDbar béime DON TaOib éear · éarSaíD líB é mar aigNeaR.
 10. Tar gac leaÉtrom dá bfuil ann · i n-aimm De DO élóD DO man
malair⁸ urÉaIr uaim tar aIr · DO béaR ar inheall⁹
t-amair.
- II. DO béaR mo fReaGra fearDa · ar bar nuán gá ní ar leaRza
ní i moD bUr foi-binn líB · mé éuize Ir maíRz DO éigNiS.

ní sUaIS.

¹ XVI. 15-20. ² *i.e.*, Torna. ³ Lughaidh. ⁴ R. McArthur. ⁵ A few MSS. have the following—an t-ucaire uilleac “na hoislaro munnig a mbéal . na habraio mé ná [iona] éú : na labraio i gcár anbis . do bí mipe m[is] raju [parju].” An t-ucaire munnneac do can an fReaGra ro “leaÉt éoGáin ceapT cmoDa Ir úipe rluais . plaÉpó na bpleaD n-óil nac duBraD a gcuar : san gLaRóra feamrós na gcuíro luaD . laibeorra o'aimóeom na cúize éuaí.” ⁶ *i.e.*, XVIII. ⁷ ? “neim leaRz DO dAn fé DeanaM” ; “am-leaRz dáMra moéanaM,” MSS. ⁸ Gen. “malair,” cf. “je luEt malair a n marSaíD,” f. ón éainte, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 15. ⁹ Dealing with, adjusting, managing, etc., cf. “indell” Wind. Wórt ; also “go rilleaD na rúl ní fuil . fúm aÉt inneal ar oleaib” ; “ar ríur inml aobóaine . ríum iúl ar óS-muiré” ; “ríóD-maiceac inml eic dúib,” A. Ó Dálaí, TCD. 1340, p. 51, v. 13 ; RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 148, v. 10 ; G. 24, p. 180, v. 7 ; “r DO ní a hamneapT-ra o'inneal,” S. Mac an Bhaíro, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 15 ; “ón eíng inmlte fóro-mín,” T. MeDáire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 28, v. 25. ¹⁰ XVIII.

[This is a formal poem answering XV., and apparently an introduction to XVIII. which answers the same poem in detail. It is subsequent (cf. v. 4) to the McArthur poems. It is headed in Z. M. L.², by the words "Soisín comrao anro ó t'as mac Oáire ar doó Ó Donnaiil na noul : zcomao p'p'asra so t'abairt ar so méir uiró asallina," and in I. G.³, by "Roza an comrao anro ó t'as mac Oáire ar doó Ó Donnaiil na noul : zcomann p'p'asra so t'abairt ar a t'án so méir uiró asallina." In N² there occurs a detached stanza :—

"Cairpeao uréar leat a t'as : élaoiréar tú ór zác airo : i n eirr ar labrao líb : ioir an t'á mac roin míleao," on which, in his description of the MS., O'Curry says : "I have never seen this quatrain before, and have often wondered what could be the meaning of the first line of McBrody's answer in reference to O'Donnell's other poem." Can not this "first line of McBrody" refer quite appositely to XV. 18-20 ?].

1. I fear not your shot, O Aodh ! though the host of good warriors feared your arms till now. Not your proper arms have you now taken up.
2. This new arm (poetry) O son of O¹ Domnaill, which you would wish your hand to learn, is of little danger to anyone. You cannot hold it straight.
3. I thought you practised fairness in fight ! You should not have shot at a man with whom another man and his folk with him are engaged.¹
4. The poet,² the rimer,³ the man in orders,⁴ and even the fuller⁵ among you are all attacking me.
5. If you, like the rest of them, have aimed at me I fear not your shafts over much. Little reck I of your shooting them. They glance off the rock.
6. I am hardly treated, O Aodh, in this contention. It is right that I say what I shall now say.⁶
7. Through respect for your blood I like not to refute your falsehoods. Yet to let them rest on me (unrefuted) I like not either. Your art is over-ready to invent them.⁷
8. You are not disgraced, nor ashamed, O Aodh, in perverting history in your argument. I should be ashamed that the perversion of a jot of history should be found after me.
9. Anything by way of reproach to the North I am loath to bring forward. Anything to revile the South you love to use as argument.
10. In return for the harsh words in your poem, in God's name, to refute your verses, I will send other⁸ shots back to deal with⁹ your attack.
11. I will now give you, though unwillingly, my reply¹⁰ to your poem in a way that you shall not find pleasant. So much the worse for forcing me to it !



DOLLARD
FORBAD ÉILIM
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BAILE-ÁTA-CLIAZ

IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY.

7 Brunswick Square, London, W.C, 1.

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THE IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY was established in 1898 for the purpose of publishing texts in the Irish language, accompanied by such introductions, English translations, glossaries, and notes as may be deemed desirable.

The Annual Subscription is 7/6 (American subscribers, two dollars), payable on January 1st of each year, on payment of which members will be entitled to receive, post free, the current volume or, at the option of the member, any one of the earlier volumes which may still be available. There is no entrance fee.

The payment of a single sum of £5 (colonial or foreign members £5 5s. 0d.; American members 27 dollars), entitles to life membership. Life members will receive one copy of each volume issued subsequently to the receipt of this sum by the Society.

Vols. I., II. and III. are now out of print and others are rapidly becoming scarce. The ordinary sale price to non-members is 10/6 per volume (post free).

The Council makes a strong appeal to all interested in the preservation and publication of Irish Manuscripts to join the Society and to contribute to its funds, and especially to the Editorial Fund. which has been established for the remuneration of Editors for their arduous work.

NOTE Change of Address.

All communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary,
7 Brunswick Square, London, W.C. 1.

IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY.

THE Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Irish Texts Society was held on 1st February, 1919, at 20 Hanover Square, W.1.

Mr. R. Flower, Chairman of the Executive Council, presided. The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were taken as read.

The Hon Secretary read the

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

The long illness of Professor Douglas Hyde during the summer months has delayed the publication of his volume "The Wars of Charlemagne" (Σαβαταρ Σεπτιμ Ἰβίη), which for a time had to be laid aside. Since his recovery, however, the Editor has worked hard on the completion of the book, and it is now practically through the press. The book may be expected by our members very shortly.

The present great cost of printing has obliged the Council to hold back for some months the issue of Rev. Lambert McKenna's edition of the "Contention of the Bards," a costly work to produce at the present time. It has been decided to produce the book in two parts, and the first part, which is passing through the press, will shortly appear. It will form the Society's volume for 1918. The Council have to thank Fr. McKenna for the patience he has exercised throughout their dealings with him, and for his consideration of the difficulties in which the Council have been placed in producing their books while such high prices for printing and paper still rule. Fr. McKenna's main work on this book was completed some months ago.

The Council have been glad to receive from Professor Tadhg O'Donnchadha and Miss Eleanor Knott the assurance that their volumes on "The Poems of the O'Neills of Clanaboy" and "The Poems of Tadhg Dall O'Higgin" are approaching completion. The Council have thus on hand a most important and interesting series of books, and if their funds were more equal to the work that lies before the Society much more rapid progress in publication could be made. They appeal to the Irish public and to those interested in the publication of Irish prose and poetry of the past to put it in their power, by an increase of membership and by donations or legacies, to produce more rapidly the existing

remains of Irish literature. The Council feel that in this, the 21st year of the existence of the Society, they can appeal with confidence for further help having regard to the work they have already done. The publication of 18 annual volumes and of two Irish Dictionaries in the course of twenty years of existence and on the small subscription of 7/6 per annum is a record in which the Council feel cause of legitimate satisfaction. But more remains to be done, and the Council hope to receive increased financial support to enable the work of the Society to be pushed forward more rapidly by the more speedy publication of the volumes still awaiting their chance to appear.

The great anxiety facing the Council at the present time arises out of their determination that Irish studies must not be allowed to languish for lack of their Dictionary, so unfortunately destroyed by fire, but that they would face the risk and heavy cost of re-publication on an enlarged scale of Fr. Dinneen's excellent book; a book that, more than any other single publication, has pushed on the study of the Irish language, and the possession of which is essential to every student. The response to the Society's appeal for guarantors has not been at all what might have been expected at a time when the study of Irish is extending in every part of the country. Save for a generous grant of £50 from the Gaelic League of London and the kind offers of one or two special friends of the work, the response has been very meagre. The £200 promised in loans will go a very short way towards a work upon which the Editor is likely to be engaged for his entire time during four years or more. The cost of printing and publication together will probably amount to a total of over £1,500.

The Council are placed in the embarrassing position of having allowed their indefatigable Editor to begin a work for which they have not at the present time the means to ensure publication. Thus, unless the public comes to the help of the undertaking the publication must necessarily be indefinitely postponed. Meanwhile, the Society is annually losing the steady income from Dictionary sales which has enabled it to supplement its income and to produce volumes much larger and more costly than would otherwise have been possible out of the small annual subscription. At such a time of stress as the last four years have been, the loss of the funds accruing from sales of the Dictionary has been severely felt, and to this is largely owing the late production and the decreased size of the annual volumes now being issued by the Society.

We regret to report the decease of the following members :—
 Piaras MacCanna, M.P.; Professor R. Brünnow, Lieut.-Col.
 Bryan J. Jones, Thomas F. Keating.

The following is a full list of the life members of the Society :—

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS.

Miss Eleanor Hull and Mrs. O'Kinealy.

LIFE MEMBERS.

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Very Rev. J. Canon Coholan, P.P., V.F.	Hon. A. L. Lewis
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Professor Y. M. Goblet	His Honor Judge O'Connor, K.C.
Rev. C. T. Harley-Walker	Rev. T. O'Sullivan
Miss Mary A. Hollingworth	Rev. M. Sheehan, D.D.

The following new ordinary members have joined or re-joined the Society during the year :—

John Beckett	Art O'Brien
E. A. Boyd	Diarmuid O'Concubair.
George Boyle	Ristead O'Concubair
Rev. J. Casey, C.C.	P. O h-Annrachain.
John J. Clarke	P. Powell
Jos. J. Galbally	C. J. Saurin
Rev. W. Holland, C.C.	Prof. J. A. Smith, LL.D.
Sir Lucas King, C.S.I., LL.D.	James Stephens
Mrs Rose MacKenna	Sean Toibin
A. MacLoclairn	Proinsias Ua Gadhra.
Rev. S. MacCunnigean	Rev. J. A. Walsh

On the proposal of Mr. Samuel Boyle, seconded by Rev. T. O'Sullivan, the Report was adopted.

The Financial Statement and Balance Sheet were then presented by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Boyle, and were adopted on the proposal of Dr. Crone, seconded by Mr. James Buckley, and carried.

The re-election of the outgoing members of the Council, Mrs. M. M. Banks, Mr. D. J. O'Sullivan and Mr. Ernest Rhys, was carried on the proposal of the Rev. T. O'Sullivan, seconded by Dr. Crone.

The re-election of Professor Douglas Hyde as President of the Society was carried on the proposal of Dr. England, seconded by Mr. Ernest Rhys, and that of the Hon. Secretary, Miss Eleanor Hull, and Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Boyle, on the proposal of the Rev. T. O'Sullivan, seconded by Dr. England.

NOTE.—It has been decided to suspend for this year the publication of the list of names and addresses of members of the Society.

THE IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1918.

THE SOCIETY'S ORDINARY PUBLICATIONS.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions, Ordinary	109	2	6	By Balance from previous			
" " Life	50	10	0	Account	281	7	10
" Donations and Extras	10	8	10	" Salary and Postage	35	16	3
" Interest on Investments	22	0	0	" Printing and Binding	27	15	8
Simpkin Marshall's a/c	46	5	11	" Sundries	14	19	11
Balance	121	12	5				
Total	£359	19	8	Total	£359	19	8

THE SOCIETY'S IRISH-ENGLISH DICTIONARIES.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Receipts already published	3675	14	1	By Payments previously published	2678	17	3
" Guarantee Fund and Donations	119	9	2	" Printing and Binding	25	16	2
				" Editing and Sundries	94	5	2
				" Balance	996	4	8
Total	£3795	3	3	Total	£3795	3	3

THE SOCIETY'S JOINT CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

ASSETS.				LIABILITIES.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance (brought down)	996	4	8	By Balance (brought down)	121	12	5
				<i>Net Assets.</i>			
				Investments	485	0	0
				Petty Cash—			
				In Secretary's hands	5	0	0
				Cash in Bank	384	12	3
Total	£996	4	8	Total	£996	4	8

(Signed) SAM. BOYLE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Examined Books, Accounts, and Balances, and found correct.

(Signed) C. R. COOKE-TAYLOR, } *Auditors.*
T. V. O'SULLIVAN, }

NOTE.—The Council desires to express its thanks to the Auditors for their kindness in examining and auditing the accounts of the Society.

GENERAL RULES.

OBJECTS.

1.—The Society is instituted for the purpose of promoting the publication of Texts in the Irish Language, accompanied by such Introductions, English Translations, Glossaries and Notes as may be deemed desirable.

CONSTITUTION.

2.—The Society shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, an Executive Council, a Consultative Committee and Ordinary and Life Members.

OFFICERS.

3.—The Officers of the Society shall be the President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

4.—The entire management of the Society shall be entrusted to the Executive Council, consisting of the Officers of the Society and not more than ten other Members, to whom the Executive Council may add by Co-option not more than two members, who shall retire annually.

5.—All property of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Council, and shall be disposed of as they shall direct by a two-thirds majority.

6.—Three Members of the Executive Council shall retire each year by rotation at the Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election, the Members to retire being selected according to seniority of election, or, in case of equality, by lot. The Council shall have power to co-opt Members to fill up casual vacancies occurring throughout the year. Any Member of Council who is absent from five consecutive Ordinary Meetings of the Council to which he (or she) has been duly summoned, shall be considered as having vacated his (or her) place on the Council.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

7.—The Consultative Committee, or individual Members thereof, shall give advice, when consulted by the Executive Council, on questions relating to the Publications of the Society, but shall not be responsible for the management of the business of the Society.

MEMBERS.

8.—Members may be elected either at the Annual General Meeting, or from time to time, by the Executive Council.

SUBSCRIPTION.

9.—The Subscription for each Member of the Society shall be 7/6 per annum (American subscribers, two dollars), entitling the Member to one copy (post free) of the volume published by the Society for the year, and giving the right to vote on all questions submitted to the General Meetings of the Society. The payment of a single sum of £5 (Colonial or foreign members £5 5s. 0d., American members 27 dollars) entitles to life membership. Life members will receive one copy of each volume issued subsequently to the receipt of this sum by the Society.

10.—Subscriptions shall be payable in advance on the 1st January in each year.

11.—Members whose Subscriptions for the year have not been paid are not entitled to any volume published by the Society for that year, and any Member whose Subscription for the current year remains unpaid, and who receives and *retains* any publication for the year, shall be held liable for the payment of the full published price of such publication.

12.—The Publications of the Society shall not be sold to persons other than Members, except at an advanced price.

13.—Members whose Subscriptions for the current year have been paid shall alone have the right of voting at the Annual General Meeting of the Society..

14.—Members wishing to resign must give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary, before the end of the year, of their intention to do so: otherwise they will be liable for their Subscriptions for the ensuing year.

EDITORIAL FUND.

15.—A fund shall be opened for the remuneration of Editors for their work in preparing Texts for publication. All subscriptions and donations to this fund shall be purely voluntary, and shall not be applicable to other purposes of the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

16.—A General Meeting shall be held each year in the month of January, or as soon after as the Executive Council shall determine, when the Council shall submit their Report and the Accounts of the Society for the preceding year, and when vacant seats on the Council shall be filled up, and the ordinary business of a General Meeting transacted.

AUDIT.

17.—The Accounts of the Society shall be audited each year by auditors appointed at the preceding General Meeting.

CHANGES IN THESE RULES.

18.—With the notice summoning the General Meeting, the Executive Council shall give notice of any change proposed by them in these Rules. Ordinary Members proposing any change in the Rules must give notice thereof in writing to the Honorary Secretary seven clear days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

LIST OF IRISH TEXT SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS.

(Out of print).

- (1.) ΣΙΟΥΔ ΔΗ ΦΙΟΥΔ. [The Lad of the Ferule].
 ΕΑΔΤΡΑ ΟΙΟΙΝΝΕ ΡΙΞ ΝΑ Η-ΙΟΥΔΑΙΟΥΕ [Adventures of the
 Children of the King of Norway].
 (16th and 17th century texts).

Edited by
 PROFESSOR DOUGLAS HYDE, D.LITT., LL.D

(Out of print).

- (2.) ΠΕΤΟ ΘΡΙΟΥΡΕΝΤΟ [The Feast of Bricriu].
 (From Leabhar na h-Uidhre, with conclusion from
 Gaelic MS. XL. Advocates' Lib., and variants from B. M.
 Egerton, 93 ; T.C.D. H. 3. 17 ; Leyden Univ., Is Vossii lat.
 4^a. 7).

Edited by GEORGE HENDERSON, M.A., PH.D.

Out of print. See New Edition (Volume 3a).

- (3.) ΟΑΝΤΑ ΔΟΥΔΞΑΙΗ ΒΙ ΡΑΔΑΙΙΕ [The Poems of Egan
 O'Rahilly]. Complete Edition.

Edited, chiefly from MSS. in Maynooth College, by
 REV. P. S. DINNEEN, M.A.

(Volume for 1909.) (See No. 3.)

- (3A.) New Edition of the Poems of Egan O'Rahilly.

Revised by PROFESSOR TADHG O'DONOGHUE (ΤΑΘΞ
 Ó Donnóδα) and REV. P. S. DINNEEN, M.A.

(Volume for 1901.)

- (4.) *Fohear Feara ar Éirinn* [History of Ireland]. By GEOFFREY KEATING. Part I. (See Vols. 8, 9, 15).

Edited by DAVID COMYN, Esq., M.R.I.A.

(Volume for 1902.)

- (5.) *Caiteáim Constat Cláirínigh*, preserved in a paper MS. of the seventeenth century, in the Royal Irish Academy (23 H. 1 C.)

Edited by The
VERY REV. PROFESSOR P. M. MACSWEENEY, M.A.

(Volume for 1903.)

- (6.) The Irish Version of Virgil's *Æneid* from the Book of Ballymote.

Edited by REV. GEORGE CALDER, B.D.

(Volume for 1904.)

- (7.) *Duanáire Fínn*. [Ossianic Poems from the Library of the Franciscan Monastery, Dublin].

Edited by PROFESSOR JOHN MACNEILL, B.A.

(Volume for 1905.)

- (8.) *Fohear Feara ar Éirinn* [History of Ireland]. By GEOFFREY KEATING. Part II.

Edited by REV. P. S. DINNEEN, M.A.

(See Vols. 4, 9, and 15).

(Volume for 1906.)

- (9.) *Fohear Feara ar Éirinn* [History of Ireland]. By GEOFFREY KEATING. Part III.

Edited by REV. P. S. DINNEEN, M.A.

(See Vols. 4, 8, and 15).

(Volume for 1907.)

- (10.) Two Arthurian Romances [*εάετρα μααοιή αν ιολαιρ αγυρ εάετρα αν μάοτρα μάοι.*]

Edited by Professor R. A. S. MACALISTER, M.A.

(Volume for 1908.)

(11) Poems of David O' Bruadair. (Part I.)

Edited by REV. J. MACERLEAN, S.J.

(See Vols. 13, 18).

Volume for 1909—see 3a *supra*).

(Volume for 1910.)

(12.) Buile Suibhne Geilt, A Middle-Irish Romance.

Edited by J. G. O'KEEFFE.

(Volume for 1911.)

(13.) Poems of David O' Bruadair. (Part II.)

Edited by REV. J. MACERLEAN, S.J.

(See Vols. 11, 18).

(Volume for 1912.)

(14.) An Irish Astronomical Tract, based in part on a Mediæval Latin version of a work by Messahalāh.

Edited by MAURA POWER M.A.

(Volume for 1913.)

(15.) *Fogar Feara an Éirinn* [History of Ireland]. By GEOFFREY KEATING. Part IV. Containing the Genealogies and Synchronisms with an index including the elucidation of place names and annotations to Parts I., II., III. (See Vols. 4, 8, 9 *supra*.)

Compiled and Edited by REV. P. S. DINNEEN, M.A.

(Volume for 1914.)

- (16.) Life of St. Declan of Ardmore (Edited from M.S. in Bibliothèque Royale, Brussels) and Life of St. Mochuda of Lismore (Edited from MS. in Library of Royal Irish Academy, with Introduction, Translation and Notes.

By REV. PROFESSOR P. POWER, M.R.I.A.

(Volume for 1915).

- (17.) Poems of Turlogh O'Carolan and additional Connaught and Ulster poems.

Edited by
PROFESSOR TÓMÁS O'MÁILLE, M.A., PH.D.

(Volume for 1916.)

- (18.) Poems of David O'Bruadair; (Part III.)

Edited by REV. J. MACERLEAN, S.J.

(See Vols. II, 13).

(Volume for 1917).

- (19.) Ἐσθλατταρ ἑπτταυρ ἡμόρη [The Wars of Charlemagne].

Edited by
PROF. DOUGLAS HYDE, Litt.D., LL.D., M.R.I.A.

(Volume for 1918).

- (20.) *Iomarbhaidh na bhfileadh* [The Contention of the Bards]. (Part I.)

Edited in two parts by REV. LAMBERT McKENNA, S.J.

The Society's Larger Irish-English Dictionary, edited by Rev. P. S. Dinneen, M.A., is now out of print.
See Report.

The Smaller Irish-English Dictionary, by the same author, can be had of all booksellers, price 3/6 net.

FATHER DINNEEN'S IRISH-ENGLISH DICTIONARY.

The stereo plates of Father Dinneen's Irish-English Dictionary were burnt in the Dublin Rising of 1916, and the stock is completely exhausted.

The language movement and the study of our literature are lamed without this invaluable instrument. The Irish Texts Society has engaged Father Dinneen to replace it and to make the new work a far fuller and more useful book than the first Dictionary of sixteen years ago.

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