

All the other diphthongs are proper; the sound of each of the vowels that enters into their composition being more or less heard. In *ae*, *ai*, *ei*, *oi*, *io*, *ia*, *ua*, and *ui*, the last vowel, and in *ea*, *eo*, and *iu*, the first vowel is but faintly founded.

The diphthongs *eu*, *ia*, and *ua*, are always long. The other diphthongs are sometimes long, sometimes short.

## OF THE TRIPHTHONGS.

There are five triphthongs, viz. *aoi*, *eoí*, *iai*, *iui*, *uai*. They are pronounced like the diphthongs *ao*, *eo*, *ia*, *iu*, and *ua*, with the addition of a short *i*. They are all long, and never occur but in monosyllables, or the first syllables of polysyllables.

## OF THE CONSONANTS.

There are thirteen consonants, viz. *b*, *c*, *d*, *f*, *g*, *h*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *r*, *s*, *t*; which are divided into MUTABLE and IMMUTABLE.

The mutable are such as, by having an *h* subjoined to them, either alter or lose their usual sound, viz. *b*, *c*, *d*, *f*, *g*, *m*, *p*, *s*, *t*.

The immutable consonants are such as are never aspirated, or have an *h* subjoined to them, viz. *l*, *n*, *r*.

After a short vowel or diphthong, the consonants are generally pronounced as when written double in English. Thus, *cos* a foot, *aran* bread, are to be pronounced as if written *cos*, *arran*.

A consonant standing alone is founded as if it were the initial letter of the following word, if it begins with a vowel, or as the final letter of the preceding word, if it ends with a vowel; as *an t-anam* the soul, *le d' chridhe* with thy heart, to be pronounced *an tanam*, *led chridhe*.

*Bh* and *mh* have the sound of *v* in English. Thus *a' bhean* his wife, *a mhàthair* his mother, are to be read as if written *a vean*, *a vathair*. *Mh* in the middle and end of polysyllables is often either silent, or stands for a gentle aspiration.

*C* is always founded as the Greek *z*, or *k* in English. Thus, *car* a turn, *ceann* a head, are to be pronounced *kar*, *keann*. *Ch* has the sound of the Greek *χ*, or of *gh* in *lough*, as the Irish pronounce it.

*Dh* and *gh*, in the beginning of words, are commonly founded like the English consonant *y* in *you*, *your*. Thus, *dha* to him, *a ghael* his love, are to be pronounced as if written *ya*, *a yaol*. In the middle, or end of words, they are often silent, or have the sound of a faint aspiration.

*Fh* is silent; as *sheara* O men, *gun fhios* without notice, to be read *'eara*, *gun 'ios*; but *shuair* he found, is to be read as *huair*, the *f* only being quiescent.

*G* is always founded as in the English words *get*, *good*.

*Pb* has the sound of *f*; as in *phill e* he returned, to be pronounced *fill e*.