

Oh, I met an Irish bard upon a lone, far alien strand,  
And he says what news of Erin's tongue, so old and so  
grand?  
Sure, then, bard, your proud old Celtic heart would break  
to learn the tale,  
Our men and women all have "hung" the language of  
the Gael.

Oh, then, if the language we must speak be England's  
fraudful tongue,  
Sure 'twill remind us always how the change from thrall-  
dom sprung.  
From Limerick's broken treaty, from Satanic penal laws,  
Perfidious Albion's murdering of our Mother and our  
cause.  
Oh, when laws can stop the carol of the skylarks as they  
soar,  
And when Saxon penal codes can hush the angry ocean's  
roar,  
Oh, then I will change the speech so long the pride of  
Innisfail,  
But till that day, please God, I'll stick to the  
"LANGUAGE OF THE GAEL."

J. M. O'REILLY.

Camperdown, Sydney.

[We have much pleasure in transferring this character-  
istic article, written by one of the raciest Gaelic writers  
and speakers it was ever our privilege to know.]

## ARMAGH GAELIC.

## sgaball muire, 7c.

[Ajl n-a i ghearradh ri or leir an tsgaball neocair  
fheim, i Liosfhlait Contae Áiríte-Máca ó béal  
rean-fíri ñaibh bainm Maistiu Maglaoiro.]

Cuaró Muire agus a Mac amach 'ra lá.  
Bí an tsgaball léití in a láimh thír. Tug  
tí é do Shíomon.  
"A Shíomon," ari fíre, "níl éinneoc fíri ná  
mná,  
Ó a n-ioncasára mo tsgaball mairi i g-cóir,  
ná e m-béirí réala agam ari a anam iñg an  
gloibh."

A mairistean glosaí, mórán, mairgeadach,  
buidh tú ari lón agus ari g-túir, agus ari  
reirgeál,  
Agus ari réalt eolurí mionainn gáe bealaach,  
aig g-sleann na n-deoiri iñg tóis muine  
reafra.

Ó lúaitíse do éor go gcuair,  
Cum aifíunn lúait do béal,  
Ari glosaí aibh' t' anma lean an tríeoí,  
Agus ari tóir ari an peacast,  
Agus ari fín aibh' na n-deoiri iñg mé do éarai.

A dhúine óona gan cíill, ná teana bheus  
le Muire,  
ná h-ié feoil aon Cheadaoine, 'r ná h-eus-  
nuig do éinneag,  
Teana do éarai leir an éleír, agus leir  
na cíng féilteasáibh Muire,  
Teana faoibríodh gáel t'á jéir, agus bérí  
tú ari fáirte agus mo leanb.

Ciúin Muire mo élior,  
Ciúin na g-céitíe, ciúin mo élior;  
Ciúin a riabh Óia ann;  
Ciúin a dtáinic Óia ar.

Níl éinneoc fíri ná mná,  
Ó a n-ioncasára é gáe tríat,  
Ná e b-feictear Muire t'á h-ioróise roimhe le  
n-a m-báir;  
Táin pianta Rhugadhaoir' beaifear t'á mairi  
n-anam do Óia agus do Muire.

Léití = aisi. éinneoc (auny'd) = éinneadach. reirgeál  
= reirgeál, muine = rinn (emph. of muinn = rinn).  
aifíunn (élinn) = aifíunn. éarai = éarai. teana =  
teana, náin, éarai = éarai. faoibríon = faoibrí-  
on. aige = aig. h-ioróise = h-ioróise. roimhe le = roimh  
(so also dearc roimhe leat fol m'a Léimfriod t'á = feus  
roimhe fol a Léimfriod. Rhugadhaoir' = rhugachóir.  
beaifear (várhús) = beaifear. ná = no. mairi = bair.  
iomáinfeá (umpúree), will wear.

Pronunciation—ú, usual sound in thobhair, Lón, rtóir,  
eolur, roinnt, n-deoir, tóis, tríeoí; like a in fall in  
ó, eoir, glosaí, glosaí (ghlaúair), glosaí, tóir.

Sh is silent in Shíomon, Shíomon, and ó in ó'á.

é = i in réala, réale.

Chuaistí = fe (more usually foo-e, as in Connaught).

Termination: -aibh = ee in glosaí, féilteasáibh.

Cheadaoine = ghéadhná, mairgeadach = wúshah, aon = un.  
Faoibríon almost like foosid'yá. In the Irish still sur-  
viving in Oiríseála (Cuailgne), and also in Tyrone, áo  
has a very strange sound, somewhat like oo, which appears  
to be intermediate between ú and the French u, but is  
very distinct from both.\* Oiríse of oróise and eoróise has  
the same sound. á and a (long and short) all through  
as in the South and West, except ann = enn, and ar = ess;  
-eal of reirgeál, like -al in valley.

S. H. L.

[\* This sound of áo is the ordinary one in parts of  
Donegal, and in Scottish Gaelic.—Ed.]

In the song *Allaró Úrinnéas*, No. 44, p. 184, the third line of verse II. should read as follows:—*a'g gúp cura mo pún nád g-ceroró uamh púo*. The meaning is, "Seeing that you are my love, who will not believe that from me," i.e., who will not believe me when I say that. *Seug na b-frainneáró*=the maiden of the fringes, *frainneáró* is still known in Armagh, and is applied to the fringe on the edge of a shawl, &c. It is evidently *fringe* borrowed, the *a* being introduced to mark the broad sound of *p*, and the *nn* being used in *frainneáró*, on account of the diphthongal or long sound of the first syllable in Munster (frine-slugh, fren-slugh).

*Béinneás* is said by some to be only a nickname that was applied to the Murphys in Armagh and Louth, their proper surname being *Mac Mhuíċeard* (fem. *níc mhuíċeard*). The title of the song ought, therefore, to be *Allaró níc mhuíċeard*.

Póille in verse I. should be *póilé*, as suggested in the note.

In the note on *cán*, p. 186, *cá móir an feář e* should be *cá móir an feář*. The affirmative construction with the pronoun is usually *ír móir an feář e*, but negatively the only construction used is *cán feář móir e*.

#### GAELIC NOTES.

The *Voyage of the Sons of Corra* has been printed by Dr. Stokes in the recent issue of *Revue Celtique*. Celtic students will learn with regret that Dr. Stokes has been dangerously ill for some time past.

The new Irish Literary Society of London has started a Gaelic class. It is conducted by Mr. Flannery, and his name is the best guarantee possible that it will be a practical working class for students of the native tongue.

The *Irish Echo* of Boston has been revived, and the first issue of the new series is to hand. It was, indeed, discreditable to the Gaels of Boston to allow this Gaelic organ to fail for want of support, and it is to be hoped that they will make amends now. The present issue contains an article by Mr. D. O'Farerty, and a translation of Windisch's article on Gaelic poetry.

Going over some old Gaelic proper names it will be noticed that many female names end in *-nuit*, e.g., *Dealgnuit*, *Damhnuit* (S. *Dymna*, hence *Tydatnet*, house of D.), *Ciarnuít*. What is the meaning of this termination, asks a correspondent. *Nuit* is a late and bad spelling for *nait*, nominative *nat*, a frequent old Irish *diminutive feminine ending*, not only in proper names but for ordinary nouns. See examples in *Zeuss*, p. 274, *surnat*=little sister, *altóinat*, little altar.—K. M.

The *Gael* for March has racy Gaelic songs by A. Lally, Mr. Dougher and the mysterious *Sábháin Tóinn*, whose poetry is more and more Celtic every time. It may be questioned, however, whether the line *ír liom a ceol mór éeol ná mbáro*, is idiomatic Gaelic. It is of course quite grammatical, but would not *neamh liom, tá 'ceol mór éeol, etc.*, be better? In the *Seannáise na Muirín*, the 13th line should read *mór gámeasáin*: the preposition was omitted, through a printer's mistake, in the little

*Modern Irish Texts*. Captain Norris contributes an old Jacobite song and Notes on the Breton Laws.

It is gratifying to learn that the Irish Literary Society is about to issue the first volumes of its new "Library of Ireland." The Library will consist of monographs on picturesque periods and outstanding personalities in our history. Indeed the first series of volumes is made up almost entirely of historical and biographical studies. Thomas Davis's unpublished work, "The Patriot Parliament of 1691," a defence of the much-maligned era of James II. in Ireland, will, we learn, be the first volume issued. This will be followed by a collection of Bardic Tales by Mr. Standish O'Grady; the Life of General Sarsfield, by Dr. John Todhunter; and an Anthology of Irish Ballads by Mr. W. B. Yeats. Dr. Sigerson, joint author with the Right Hon. James Bryce, M.P., of "Three Centuries of Irish History," will write of Irish Missionaries on the Continent; Mr. Michael M'Donagh will contribute a monograph on Dr. Doyle, the famous "J.K.L.;" Mr. John F. Taylor, of Dublin, will deal with Owen Roe O'Neill; while Sir Charles Gavan Duffy himself will write the Life of Roger (Rory) O'More, the leader of the uprising of 1641, a work which he contemplated doing during the Young Ireland period. This excellent programme is sure to be admirably carried out. The literary ability of the several writers is sufficient guarantee for that. We have no doubt either but that the future volumes will be so arranged as to supply the *lacunae* which those already announced necessarily leave in our annals, so that when the Library of Ireland is complete it will cover every interesting and instructive epoch in Irish history.

Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Cusse-street, Dublin, is printing a very interesting old Irish tale. It will be brought out in the same way as the *Siámha*.

A teacher writes:—"We have 99 children in this school, all Irish-speaking. There was never any Irish taught in the school. Some of those children are in the fifth class, and cannot answer the simplest question in English. Still they are expected to understand what they read when the inspector comes, and to answer on the subject-matter of their lessons. The children are nearly as intelligent as in the next school, where Irish is taught, and, in fact, have no knowledge whatever of the English language."

#### COÍSAR NA N-AINGEAL.

Airtíteadh o'n t-Sacř-béárla le Pádraig O'Laoighair.

I.

Bi an báibín go ruanmári 'r a máctair go  
Ghualábhliuc,  
Marí bi a nuadair 's a riadair i g-céim  
uaistí ari tuinn;