

Acallamh na Senórach

The Colloquy with the Ancients: Extracts

Note to the reader

For the text of the extracts in this presentation, Stokes' edition is based on the copy of the saga in the Book of Lismore (**Lism.**). However, he occasionally inserts phrases from the copy in a Franciscan monastery in Dublin (**Fr.**). He also mentions the copy in the manuscript Rawlinson B. 487 (**Rawl. B. 487**) in the Bodleian Library in Oxford. In this presentation, Stokes' footnotes are incorporated into the Medieval Irish text.

Prologue (ll. 1-120)

Section 1 (ll. 1-10)

Ar tabhuitt chatha Chomuir ocus chatha
Gabra ocus chatha Ollurbha,

ocus ar ndíthugud na Féindi,

ro scáilset iar sin ina ndrongaibh ocus ina
mbuidhniibh fo Eirinn

co nár' mhair re hamm na huaire sin díbh acht
madh dá óclách maithe do dereadh na Féinde

Ar dtabhairt chatha Chomair agus chatha
Ghabhra agus chatha Ollarba,

agus ar ndíothú na Féinne,

do scaoileadar iar sin ina ndrongaibh agus ina
mbuínibh fá Éirinn,

go nár mhair le ham na huaire sin díobh ach
dhá óglach mhaithe de dheireadh na Féinne,

When the battle of Comar, the battle of
Gowra, and the battle of Ollarba had been
fought,

and after that the Fianna for the most part
were extinguished,

the residue of them in small bands and in
companies had dispersed throughout all
Ireland,

until at the point of time which concerns us
there remained not any but two good warriors
only of the last of the Fianna:

.i. Oisín mac Find

ocus Cáilti mac Crundchon, mhic Rónáin,
ar scíth a lúith ocus a lámháigh [lámhaidh,
Lism.],

ocus dá naonmar óclách maraon r[i]ú,

ucus táncatar in dá naonmar laoch sin a
himlibh shléibhe Fuait fondscothaigh
foithremhail

co Lughbhartaibh Bána amach, risa n-abar
Lughbhudh isin tan-so,

ucus do bhádar co dubach domhenmnach ann
re fuinedh nell nóna in oidhchi sin.

.i. Oisín mac Phinn

agus Caolte mac Chrunnchon mhic Rónáin,
ar scíth a lúith agus a lámháigh,

agus dhá naonúr óglach mar aon leo;

agus thángadar an dá naonúr laoch sin a
himeallaibh Shléibhe Fuaid fhonnscothaigh
fhoithriúil

go Lughbhartaibh Bána amach — lena n-
abairtear Lú sa tan seo —

agus do bhíodar go dubhach domheanmnach
ann le fuineadh néal nóna an oíche sin.

Ossian son of Finn,

and Caeilte son of Crunnchu son of Ronan

(whose lusty vigour and power of spear-
throwing were now dwindled down)

and so many fighting men as with themselves
made twice nine.

These twice nine came out of the flowery-
soiled bosky borders of Slievefuad [county
Armagh]

and into the Lughbarta Bána at this present
called Lughmadh [*angl.* ‘Louth’],

where at the falling of the evening clouds that
night they were melancholy, dispirited.

Section 2 (ll. 11-22)

Is ann sin adubairt Cailte re hOisín: “maith, a anum, a Oisín,

cá conair no rachmais riá ndeóidh laoi d’íarraidh áighedechta na hoidhchi so?”

“Ní fhetar ón”, ar Oisín,

“ó nach maireann do shenaibh na Féinde ocus
do shenmhuintir Fhind mhic Chumhaill acht
triar amháin
.i. misi ocus tusa, á Cháilti,

ocus Cáimha in bhanfhlaithe ocus in
banchoiméataidh

ro bhúi ac coimhét Fhind mhic Cumhaill ón
uair fa macaem hé gusin laithe a fuair bás.”

“Dligmít feis dithat na haidhchi so di,” ar
Cailte,

“uair ní héiter a rímh ná a aisnéis

in mhéit ro thoirbir in flathféindidh Find disi
do shétaibh ocus do mháinibh

Is ansin a dúirt Caoilte le hOisín: “Maith, a anam, a Oisín,

cá conair do rachaimis roimh dheoidh lae
d’íarraidh aíochta na hoíche seo?”

“Ní fheadar, ón,” arsa Oisín,

“ó nach maireann de sheanaibh na Féinne agus
de sheanmhuintir Fhinn mhic Chumhaill acht
triar amháin,
.i. mise agus tusa, a Chaoilte,

agus Cáimha, an bhanfhlaithe agus an
banchoimhéadaí

do bhí ag coimhéad Fhinn mhic Chumhaill ón
uair ba mhacaomh é gus an ló a bhfuair bás.”

“Dlímíd feis diat na hoíche seo di,” arsa
Caoilte,

“óir ní féidir a ríomh ná a fhaisnéis

an méid do thoirbhír an fhlaithfhéinní Fionn
dise de shéadaibh agus de mhaoinibh,

Caelte said to Ossian then: “good now,
Ossian,

before the day’s end what path shall we take
in quest of entertainment for the night?”

Ossian answered: “I know not,

seeing that of the ancients of the Fianna and of
Finn’s people formerly but three survive:

I and thyself, Caeilte,

with Cáimha the she-chief and she-custodian

that, from the time when he was a boy until
the day in which he died, kept Finn son of
Cumall safe.”

Caelte said: “we are entitled to this night’s
lodging and provision from her;

for it is not possible to rehearse nor to shew

the quantity which Finn, captain of the Fianna,
bestowed on her of precious things and of
treasures,

re taobh in treas sét is ferr fuair Find riam do thabairt di

.i. in t-Anghalach,

cornn tuc Moríath ingen ríg mhara Grég do Fhind, ocus tuc Find do Chámha.”

le taobh an treas séad is fearr fuair Fionn riamh do thabhairt di,

.i. an tAnghalach,

corn thug Moiriath, iníon rí Mhara Gréag, d'Fhionn, agus thug Fionn do Chámha

including one of the three best treasures that Finn ever acquired:

the Anghalach namely,

or drinking-horn which Moriath daughter of the king of the Sea of the Greeks gave to Finn, and Finn to Camha.”

de chionn a choimhéadta féin; agus do gheobhamna aíocht na hoíche anocht uaithi.”

Section 3 (ll. 23-34)

Ocus fueradar feiss na hoidchi sin ac Cámha,

ocus ro fhiarfaig díbh a n-anmanda,

ocus ro indsetar di, ocus ro chái ann sin frasa díchra dér,

ocus ro fhiarfaigset scéala d'aroile ainnséin,

ocus táncatar iarsin isin teach leaptha ro hórdraiged dóibh,

Agus fueradar feis na hoíche sin ag Cámha;

agus d'fhiarfraigh díobh a n-ainmneacha,

agus d'insíodar di, agus do chaígh ansin frasa díochra déar;

agus d'fhiarfraíodar scéala d'araile ansin,

agus thángadar iar sin sa teach leapa do ordíodh dóibh;

With Camha therefore they got hospitality for that night;

their names she enquired of them

and [at their sound] wept vehement showers of tears;

then she and they, each of the other, sought to have tidings.

Next, they entered into the bed-house disposed for them,

ocus ro bhói in bhanfhlaith .i. Cámha, ac
órdugud a cotach

.i. núa cachá bídh ocus sen cachá dighi, do
thabairt dóibh:

uair rob aithnídh dissí mar do biadtáí a
samhla-sumh,

ocus rob aithnidh di fóss in ní bud dáioithin
d’Oisín ocus do Cháilti co menic roime sin.

Ocus ro éirigh sí co hanmfhann étláith, ocus ro
bói ac imrádh na Féinde ocus Fhind mic
Cumaill,

ocus táin(ic sí) tar imrád Oscair mhic Oisín

ocus tar Mac Lugach, ocus tar chath (Gabra
ocus aroile).

Ocus ro mhuidh tocht mór orro-sumh uime
sin.

agus do bhí an bhanfhlaith, .i. Cámha, ag ordú
a gcodach,

.i. núa gach bia agus sean gach dí, do thabhairt
dóibh,

óir do b’aitnid dise mar do bhiataí a
samhlasan,

agus do b’aitnid di fós an ní ba dhóthain
d’Oisín agus do Chaoilte go minic roimhe sin;

agus d’éirigh sí go hanbhann éadláith, agus do
bhí ag iomrá na Féinne agus Finn mhic
Chumhaill,

agus tháinig sí thar iomrá Oscair mhic Oisín

agus thar Mhac Lughach, agus thar chath
Ghabhra agus araile,

agus do mhaidhm tocht mór orthusan uime
sin.

and Camha the she-chief prescribed their
refection:

that the freshest of all kinds of meat and the
oldest of all sorts of drink be given them,

for she knew in what fashion such as they
used to be fed.

She knew also how much it was that many a
time before the present had constituted a
sufficiency for Ossian and for Caeilte.

Languidly and feebly she arose and held forth
on the Fianna and on Finn mac Cumall;

of Ossian’s son Oscar too she deliberated,

of Mac Lugach, of the battle of Gowra
with other matters;

and by reason of this in the end a great silence
settled on them all.

Section 4 (ll. 35-41)

(Is ann sin ad)ubairt Cálte: “ní doilghi linde
anois

iná mar as éicin dúind in dá nónbar itamáit do
deredh na muindtire móire maithi sin do
scaradh ocus do scáiledh ó chéile.”

Ro freacair Oisín sin: “dar mo bhréithir ámh,”
ar sé, “ní fhuil indumsa níth ná nertt ina
ndeaghaid sin.”

Ocus gérsat calma na ferógláigh

ro cháisetar co dubach dobrónach
domhenmnach maraon risin mban[fh]laith .i.
re Cámha.

Is ansin a dúirt Caoilte: “Ní doilí linne sin
anois

ná mar is éigean dúinn an dá naonúr atáimid
de dheireadh na muintire móire maithe sin do
scaradh agus do scaoileadh ó chéile.”

D’fhreagair Oisín sin: “Dar mo bhriathar,
ámh,” ar sé, “níl ionamsa níth ná neart ina
ndiaidh sin.”

Agus cé gur chalma na fearógláigh,

do chaíodar go dubhach dobrónach
domheanmnach mar aon leis an mbanfhlaith,
.i. le Cámha.

Then Caeilte said: “such matters we hold now
to be not more painful

than the way in which the twice nine that we
are of the remnant of that great and goodly
fellowship must perforce part, and diverge
from each other.”

Ossian answered that: “they being gone [*lit.*
‘after them’] in me by my word, and verily, is
no more fight nor pith.”

Valiant as were these warrior-men,

here nevertheless with the she-chief — with
Camha — they wept in gloom, in sadness, and
dejectedly.

Section 5 (ll. 42-57)

Tucad a ndaoithin dighi ocus míre dhóibh,
ocus ro bhátar teora lá ocus teora oidchi ann
sin,
ocus do cheileabairset do Chámha iarsin,
ocus ro ráidh Oisín:
“Is toirrsech indíu Cámha
dorála i cind a snámha.
Cámha gan mac is gan húa
dorála conadh senrúa.”

[Here Rawl. B. 487 adds eight quatrains.]

Is andsin táncatar rompu assan bhaile imach
aran fhaithche bféraigh,
ocus gníset comairle ann sin, ocus as í
comhairle dorónad accu ann,
scarad re chéile; ocus ba scaradh cuirp re
hanmain a scarad.
Ocus doríset amhlaid sin,

Tugadh a ndóthain dí agus míre dóibh,
agus do bhíodar trí lá agus trí oíche ansin;
agus do cheiliúradar do Chámha iar sin,
agus do ráigh Oisín:
“Is tuirseach inniu Cámha:
tharla i gcionn a snámha;
Cámha gan mhac is gan ua:
do tharla gonadh seanrua.”

Their adequate allowance of meat and of drink
was given them;
they tarried there for three days and three
nights,
then bade Camha farewell,
and Ossian said:—
“Camha to-day is sorrowful:
it has come to an end with her career;
Camha without either son or grandson:
it is befallen her to be an old lady.”

Is ansin thángadar rompu as an mbaile amach
ar an bhfaiche bhféaraigh
agus do rinneadar comhairle ansin, agus is í
comhairle do rinneadh acu ann,
scaradh le chéile; agus ba scaradh coirp le
hanmain a scaradh;
agus do rinneadar amhlaidh sin,

Forth of the town they came now, and out
upon the green;
there they took a resolve, which was this:
to separate, and this parting of theirs was a
sundering of soul and body.
Even so they did:

uair dochuaidh Oisín co Sídh Ochta Cleitigh,
bhail a raibh a mháthair

.i. Bla inghen Déirc Dhianscothaig,

ocus téit Cailte roime co hIndber mBic
Loingsigh a mBregaibh,

risi-ráidter Mainistir Droichit Átha isin tan so

.i. Bec Loingsech mac Airist itorchair ann

.i. mac ríg Rómán táinic do ghabháil Eirenn

co rus-báidh tonn tuile ann hé

— ocus do Lind Fheic ar Bóind
bhánsrothaigh,

ocus tar Sen-Breaghmaigh bhudhes,

ocus co Ráith Droma Deirc, áit ir-raibe Pádraic
mac Alpraind.

óir do chuaigh Oisín go Sí Ochta Cleitigh, bail
a raibh a mháthair,

.i. Bláth iníon Dheirg Dhianscothaigh,

agus do chuaigh Caoilte roimhe go hInbhear
mBig Loingsigh i mBreáibh,

lena ráitear Mainistir Dhroichid Átha sa tan
seo

(.i. Beag Loingseach mac Airist do thorchair
ann,

.i. mac rí Rómhán tháinig do ghabháil Éireann,

gur bháigh tonn tuile ann é),

agus do Linn Fhéic ar Bhóinn bhánsruthaigh,

agus thar shean-Bhreámhaigh ó dheas,

agus go Ráith Droma Dheirg, áit a raibh
Pádraig mac Chalprainn.

for Ossian went to the Sídh of Ucht Cleitigh
where was his mother:

Blái daughter of Derc surnamed Dianscothach
[i. e. ‘of the forcible language’];

while Caelte took his way to Inbher Bic
Loingsigh *in Bregia*,

which at the present is called Mainistir
Droichid Átha [i. e. ‘the Monastery of
Drogheda’]

from Beg Loingsech son of Arist that was
drowned in it:

the king of the Romans’ son namely, who
came to invade Ireland;

but a tidal wave drowned him there in his
inbher, i. e. ‘inver’ or estuary.

He went on to Linn Féic i. e. ‘Fiac’s Pool,’ on
the bright-streaming Boyne;

southwards over the Old Plain of Bregia,

and to the Rath of Drumderg where Patrick
son of Calpurn was.

Section 6 (ll. 58-71)

Is ann sin do bhói Pátraic ac cantain na canóine coimdheta,
ocus ic etarmholadh in Dúilemhun,
ocus ic bendachadh na rátha a roibhe Find mac Cumaill
.i. Ráith Droma Deirc.

Ocus atconnatar na cléirigh dá n-indsaigh iat-sum,
ocus ro ghabh gráin ocus egl aiat roimh na feraibh móra cona conaibh móra leo,
uir nír' lucht coimhré na comhaimsire dóibh iatt.

Is and sin do éirigh in t-éo flaithemhnais ocus in t-uaithne airechais ocus in t-aingil talmaide .i. Pátraic mac Alprainn .i. apstal na n-Gaoidhel [nGaoidhil, **Lism.**],
ocus gabhus in t-esriat do chrothad uisci choisricha ar na feraibh móra,

Is ansin a bhí Pádraigh ag cantain na canóine coimdheta
agus ag idirmholadh an Dúileamhan
agus ag beannú na rátha a raibh Fionn mac Chumhaill,
.i. Ráith Droma Dheirg;
agus do chonacadar na cléirigh dá n-ionsaí iadsan
agus do ghabh gráin agus eagla iad roimh na fearaibh móra, gona gconaibh móra leo,
óir níor lucht comhré ná comhaimsire dóibh iad.

Is ansin d'éirigh an t-eo flaithiúnais agus an t-uaithne oireachais agus an t-aingeal talmhaí, .i. Pádraig mac Chalprainn, .i. aspal na nGael,
agus do ghabh an t-aisréad do chroitheadh uisce choisricthe ar na feraibh móra,

Just then Patrick chanted the Lord's order of the canon [i. e. Mass],
and lauded the Creator,
and pronounced benediction on the rath in which Finn mac Cumall had been:
the Rath of Drumderg.

The clerics saw Caeilte and his band draw near them;
and fear fell on them before the tall men with their huge wolfdogs that accompanied them,
for they were not people of one epoch or of one time with the clergy.

Then the salmon of princeliness, that pillar of dignity and angel on earth: Calpurn's son Patrick, apostle of the Gael, rose
and took the aspergillum to sprinkle holy water on the great men;

uair ro bhí míle léighionn do dheimhnaibh
uas a ceannaibh conuic in lá sin,

ocus dochuatar na demhna i cnocaibh ocus i
scalpaibh ocus i n-imlibh na críche ocus ind
orba uatha ar cach leath;

ocus do shuidhedar na fir mhóra ina dheagaidh
sin.

óir do bhí míle léigiún de dheimhnaibh os a
gceannaibh go nuige an lá sin;

agus do chuadar na deamhna i gcnocaibh agus
i scailpibh agus in imeallaibh na críche, agus i
bhforba uathu ar gach leith;

agus do shuíodar na fir mhóra ina dhiaidh sin.

floating over whom until that day there had
been [and were now] a thousand legions of
demons.

Into the hills and ‘skalps,’ into the outer
borders of the region and of the country, the
demons forthwith departed in all directions;

after which the enormous men sat down.

Section 7 (ll. 72-78)

“Maith a m’anum,” ar Pátraic ré Cálte, “(cia) comainm thú, a ócláigh?” [In **Lism.** the words *ré Cálte* follow *ócláigh*.]

“Cá(ilte) mac Crundchon mic (Rónáin) misi,” ar se,

[“i. mac óglaigh do muinntir Fhinn meic Cumáill mhé.”— **Fr. 2**]

Ro bádar (na cléirigh) ac ingantus mhór acá féghadh re tréimhsí chian,

ocus ní roiched [roithed, **Lism.**] acht co tana a tháibh nó co formna a ghualand in bhfer ba mó dona cléirchibh don fhir dhibh sin

ocus iat ina súidhi.

“Maith, a m’anam,” arsa Pádraig le Caoilte, “cá comhainm thú, a óglaigh?”

“Caoilte mac Chrunnchon mhic Rónáin mise,” ar sé,

“i. mac óglaigh de mhuintir Fhinn mhic Chumhaill mé.”

Do bhíodar na cléirigh ag iontas mór dá bhféachaint le tréimhse chian,

agus ní roichfeadh an fear ba mhó de na cléireachaibh ach go tana a thaobh nó go formna a ghualann don fhear ba lú de mhuintir Chaoilte agus na cléirigh ina seasamh

agus iadsan ina suí.

“Good now,” Patrick said to Caelte, “what name hast thou *, oh warrior*?”

“I am Caelte son of Crunnu son of Ronan.

i. I am a warrior of Finn mac Cumall’s people.”

For a long while the clergy marvelled greatly as they gazed on them;

for the largest man of them reached but to the waist, or else to the shoulder of any given one of the others

and they sitting.

Section 8 (ll. 79-104)

“Athchuinghidh dob áil liumsa d’iarraid ortt,
a Cháilti,” ar Pátraic.

“Dá rabh ocumsa do niurt nó do chumung sin
do ghébthar,” ar Cálte;

“ocus abair cidh edh hí.”

“Topar firuisci d’fhagbáil inar bfhocus annso,

assa fhétfamáis tuatha Breagh ocus Midhi
ocus Uisnigh do baistedh,” ar Pátraic.

“Atá ocumsa dhuitsi sin, a uasail ocus a
fhíreoin!” ar Cálte.

Ocus táncatar rompu tar cladh na rátha
a(mach),

ocus ro gab-sum lámh Pátraic ina láimh,

ocus [ní deachadur acht náoi sbáis ón dorus
amach antan — Fr. 3]

“Achainí do b’áil liomsa d’iarraidh
ort, a Chaoilte,” arsa Pádraig.

“Dá mbeadh agamsa de neart nó de
chumhacht sin, go gheofar,” arsa
Caoilte,

“agus abair cad í.”

“Tobar fioruisce d’fháil inár bhfogas
anseo

as a bhféadfaimis tuatha Bhreá agus
Mí agus Uisnigh do bhaisteadh,” arsa
Pádraig.

“Atá agamsa duitse sin, a uasail agus
a fhíréin!” arsa Caoilte.

Agus thágadar rompu thár chladh
na rátha amach

agus do ghabhsan lámh Phádraig ina
láimh,

agus ní dheachadar ach náoi spáis ón
doras amach an tan

Patrick said again: “Caelte, I am fain to beg a boon of
thee.”

He answered: “If I have but that much strength or
power, it shall be had;

at all events, enunciate the same.”

“To have in our vicinity here a well of pure water,

from which we might baptise the *tuatha* of Bregia, of
Meath, and of Usnach.”

“Noble and righteous one,” said Caelte, “that I have for
thee!”

and they crossing the rath’s circumvallation came out;

in his hand he took Patrick’s

and *they had only gone a distance of nine steps
outside*

itconnatar in lochtober grinn glainidi ina fhiadhnaise,

ocus ba hadbal leo mét ocus reime in bhilair ocus ind fhochluchta ro bhói fair,

ocus do bhói ac tabairt a thesta ocus a thuarascbhála, ocus adubairt Cálte in laoidh ann:

“A thobuir Trágha dhá bhan
álaind do bhilar barrghlan.
ó ro tréigedh do chnuas ort
nír’ léiced fás dot fhochlocht,

Do bric ód bruachaibh amach
do mhucca allta it fhásach,
doimh do chrega cháin sealga
do láigh breacca broinddearga.

Do mhes ós bharmaibh do chrand
t’iasc a n-indberaibh th’abhann,
álaind lí do ghas ngeghair [ngheghair, **Lism.**]
a għlas uaine fhoithremħail!

do chonacadar an lochtober grinn gloiní ina bhfianaise,

agus b’ábal leo méid agus raimhre an bhiolair agus an fhochluchta do bhí air,

agus do bhí Caolite ag tabhairt a theiste agus a thuarascála, agus adúirt an laoi ann:

“A thobair Thrá dhá Bhan,
álainn do bhiolar bharrghlan;
ó do tréigeadh do chnuas ort
níor ligeadh fás do d’fhochlacht.

Do bħric ó d’bħruachaibh amach,
do mhucca allta i d’fhásach;
daimh do chreaga, caoin sealga,
do laoigh bħreaca bhroinndearga.

Do mheas os barraibh do chrann,
d’iasc in inbhearaibh d’abhann;
álainn lí do għas ngeaghair,
a għlas uaine fhoithreamħail!

[in a little while] right in front of them they saw a bright well, sparkling and translucent.

The size and thickness of the cress and of the *fothlacht*, or brooklime, that grew on it was a wonderment to them;

then Caeilte began to tell its fame and qualities, in doing of which he said:—

“O Well of Tráigh Dá Bhan, i. e. ‘two women’s strand,’ beautiful thy cresses luxurious-branching, are; since thy produce is neglected on thee, thy *fothlacht* is not suffered to grow.

Forth from thy banks thy trouts are to be seen,
thy wild swine in thy [neighbouring] wilderness;
the deer of thy fair hunting cragland,
thy dappled and red-chested fawns.

Thy mast all hanging on the branches of thy trees;
thy fish in estuaries of thy rivers;
lovely the colour of thy sprigs of cuckoopint,
O thou [that thyself art] azure-hued, and again green with reflection of surrounding copsewood!

Is uait dochuadar in Fhiann
dar' marbad Coinchend coimhial,
dar' cuiredh ár Féinde Find
isin mhadain ós Maolghlind.

Uait dochuaidh Fathadh na fhledh

ba laoch do fhuilnged imned,
dá fhuair rath in talman toir
dar' marbhadh i cath Chlároigh.

Táinic ós cind in tobair [tobuir, **Lism.**]
Blaói ingen Deirc Dhianscothaigh
gol ard con atha aicci
dar' cuiredh cath confaiti.

A(r) marbadh chon ocus fer
ar n-athchuma laoch láingheal
co cuala glaodh Gharaidh ghlain
adhaigh re taobh in topair."

Is uait do chuadar an Fhiann,
dár maraíodh Coincheann comhfhial,
dár cuireadh ár Fhéinne Fhinn
insa mhaidin os maolghlinn.

Uait do chuaigh Fathadh na
bhfleádh,
ba laoch d'fhulaingíodh imneá,
dá bhfuair rath an talún thoir,
dár maraíodh i gcath Chláraigh.

Tháinig os cionn an tobair
Bláth iníon Dheirg Dhianscothaigh;
gol ard gona nath aici,
dár cuireadh cath confaidhe.

Ar marú con agus fear,
ar n-athchumadh laoch lángheal,
go gcuala glao Gharaidh ghlain
oíche le taobh an tobair."

*'Twas from thee that the Fianna left,
when Coinchenn the generous was killed,
when the Fianna of Finn were massacred
in the morning over Maolglen.

'Twas from thee that Fathadh of the feasts went,

a warrior was he who endured suffering;
he was buried in the east,
after he was killed at the battle of Clárach.

There came above the spring,
Blaói the daughter of Derc Dianscothach,
with weeping and wailing,
after the furious battle had been fought.

When dogs and men had been slaughtered,
after bright warriors had been wounded,
'twas then that Garadh's clear cry was heard,
beside the spring at night.*"

Section 9 (ll. 105-112)

“Maith,” ar Pátraic, “in táinic ár próind ocus ár tomhaltus chucaind fós?”

“Táinic ón,” ar easpac Sechnall.

“Roind ár próind,” ar Pátraic,

“ocus tabair a leth don naonmur óclách mhór út, d’iarsma na Féindi.”

Is ann sin ro éirghidar a espoic ocus a shaccairt ocus a salmhéatlaidh, ocus ro choisricsat in biad,

[ocus tuait a n-éna ocus a n-íbairlestair dá n-ionnsáighidh, — **Fr. 3**]

ocus ro thó(mals)at a lónda(e)thain bídh ocus lenna,

amail ba les anma dóibh.

“Maith,” arsa Pádraig, “ar tháinig ár bproinn agus ár dtomholtas chughainn fós?”

“Tháinig, ón,” arsa Easpag Seachnall.

“Roinn ár bproinn,” arsa Pádraig,

“agus tabhair a leath don naonúr óglach mór úd d’iarsma na Féinne.”

Is ansin d’éiríodar a easpaig agus a shagairt agus a shalmcheadlaigh agus do choisriceadar an bia

agus thugadar in iana agus in iúrleastair dá nionsái,

agus do thomhaladar a leordhóthain bia agus leanna

amhail ba leas anama dóibh.

“Tis well,” Patrick said: “hath our dinner and our provant reached us yet?”

“It has so,” answered bishop Sechnall.

“Distribute it,” said Patrick,

“and one half give to yon nine tall warriors of the survivors of the Fianna.”

Then his bishops, and his priests and his psalmodists arose and blessed the meat;

their drinking vessels and their containers made of yew-wood were brought to them

and of both meat and liquor they consumed their full sufficiency,

yet so as to serve their soul’s weal.

Section 10 (ll. 113-117)

Is ann sin adubairt Pátraic: “nár’ maith in tigerna icá rabhuisri .i. Find mac Cumhaill?”

Ocus ro ráid Cáilti in formolad bec so and sin:

“Dámadh ór in duille donn chuiris di in caill,
dámad airget in gheal tonn
ro thidhluicfed Find.”

Is ansin a dúirt Pádraig: “Nár mhaith an tiarna ag a rabhairse, .i. Fionn mac Chumhaill?”

Agus do ráigh Caoilte an formholadh beag seo ansin:

“Dá mba ór an duille donn
chuireas di an choill;
dá mba airgead an ghealtonn,
do thíolacfadh Finn.”

Patrick said then: “was not he a good lord with whom ye were; Finn mac Cumall that is to say?”

Upon which Caeilte uttered this little tribute of praise:—

“Were but the brown leaf
which the wood sheds from it gold
— were but the white billow silver —
Finn would have given it all away.”

Section 11 (118-120)

“Cia ro choimét sibhsí mar sin,” ar Pátraic, “in bar mbeathaidh?”

Ocus ro frecair Cálte .i.

“fírinde inár croidhedaibh
ocus nertt inár lámhaibh,
ocus comall inár tenghaibh.”

“Cad a choimhéad sibhse, mar sin,” arsa Pádraig, “in bhur mbeatha?”

Agus d’fhreagair Caoilte, .i.:

“Fírinne inár gcroíthibh
agus neart inár lámhaibh
agus comhall inár dteangaibh.”

“Who or what was it that maintained you so in your life?” Patrick enquired;

and Caeilte answered:

“truth that was in our hearts,
and strength in our arms,
and fulfilment in our tongues.”