

## Aided Diarmada meic Fergusa Cerrbeoil

### The Death of Dermot son of Fergus Cerrbeoil

#### Section 1

Dia mbúi Diarmait mac Fergusa ceirrbeoil for  
loingius ó Thuathal maelgarb

for loch rib ocus for Sinaínn .

isin aimsir sin tra [ms. trath] do luid Ciarán  
mac in tshaoir

do gabáil a mainistrech

co druimm tibrat

áit a fil cluain macc Nóis inniudh.

ochtár for loch do théigedh (.i. do chuaid)  
Ciarán

ocus dá chét déc for thír.

Tráth dá raibh Diarmaid mac Fhearghasa  
Ciorrbheoil ar díbirt ag Tuathal Maolgharbh

ar Loch Ríbh agus ar an tSionainn,

tháinig Ciarán mac an tSaor an uair sin

go Droim Tiobrad,

mar a bhfuil Cluain Mhac Nóis inniu,

chun a mhainistir a bhunú.

Bhí Ciarán ag teacht le hochtar ar an loch

agus dhá chéad déag ar thír.

It was when by Tuathal Maelgarb once Fergus  
Cerrbeoil's son Dermot was driven into  
banishment

on Loch Ree and on Shannon: —

Now in that same time it was that Ciarán mac  
an tSaor came

to Druim Tibrat

(the spot where Clonmacnoise stands to-day)

to found his monastery.

With eight upon the loch Kieran travelled,

but with twelve hundred on land.

ataiter teni oc na cléirchib.

D'adaigh na cléirigh tine.

A fire is kindled by the clergy.

## Section 2

Is ann búi Diarmaid ina loingius ic snám dá  
eon for Sinainn

.i. dá én ro marb Nár mac Finnchad mic  
Conaill cernaigh

for gualainn Eistine banfhéinnedha [*ms. b-*  
*fheinnigh*] ann

conad de ráiter snám dá én.

abertsat a dráidhi fri Diarmait:

“in ní dia fataigter in teni út anocht ní  
báidfigter” ar siat.

“bud hinnoss ón” or Diarmait

oc tiachtain na luingsi co port ngrencha

áitt a bful tipra Fhingin andiu [*ms. innidh*].

Is é áit ina raibh Diarmaid, agus é ar dibirt, ag  
Snámh Dá Éan ar an tSionainn

(.i. dhá éan a mharaigh Nár mac Fionnchaidh  
mhic Conaill Chearnaigh

ar ghualainn Eistíne, banfhéinní, ansiúd

agus is dá bharrsan a thugtar Snámh Dá Éan  
air).

Dúirt a dhraoithe le Diarmaid:

“Tá a leithéid de chuíos le hadú na tine seo  
anocht nach múchfar í choíche.”

“Anois a dhéanfar sin,” arsa Diarmaid

agus an loingeas ag teacht go Port Greancha

mar a bhfuil Tiobra Fhinín inniu.

Where Dermot in his banishment was just then  
was at Snámh Dá Én \*on the Shannon\*

(that is to say: two birds that Nar son of Conall  
Cernach's son Finncha killed

there on Eistine the Amazon's shoulder,

whence it is named Snámh Dá Én, i.e. ‘two  
birds’ swimming-place’).

Said his wizards to Dermot:

“the purpose for which yon fire is kindled to-  
night is such that it never will be quenched.”

“Verily it shall be even now [that the  
quenching will be done],” Dermot said,

as the boats came to Port-grencha,

where Tipra Finghin is to-day.

### Section 3

Is ann sin búi in clérech ic sádhud eculsa in tan sin.

“cissi hopair dogní?” or Diarmait.

“eglais beg do chumtach” ol Ciarán.

“cumma dono gid edh a hainm” ar Diarmait:  
“eclais bec.”

“sáid in cleith lium” ol Ciarán fri Diarmait:

“ocus léic mo lám uas do láim

ocus biaid do lámsa ocus do righi

for feraib Erenn sul bus tráthsa nach  
noirrther.”

“cinnus dogéntar ón?” ar Diarmait:

“ár atá Tuathal i righi nErenn

ocus atúsa for innarba.”

“is folaidh dia in nísín” ol Ciarán.

Bhí an cléireach ag sá-bhunú eglaise ansiúd ag an am.

“Cad tá ar siúl agat?” arsa Diarmaid.

“Ag tógáil eglaise bige,” arsa Ciarán.

“Níor mhiste gurbh é sin, Eaglais Bheag, a hainm,” arsa Diarmaid.

“Sáigh an chleith liom,” arsa Ciarán le Diarmaid,

“agus lig do mo lámh a bheith anuas ar do lámhsa

agus beidh do lámhsa agus do réimeas

ar fhir Éireann roimh an tráth seo amanathar.”

“Conas a dhéanfar sin?” arsa Diarmaid,

“mar tá Tuathal ina rí ar Éirinn

agus táimse ar ionnarba.”

“Sin é gnó Dé,” arsa Ciarán.

There it was that the cleric was in act to plant a church.

“What is the work thou doest?” Dermot asked.

“To build a little church,” Kieran answered.

“That might as well be its name: *Eglais Bheag*, i.e. ‘little church.’ ”

“Thrust in the upright with me,” Kieran said to Dermot,

“and [as we do it] suffer my hand to be put over thine;

so shall thy hand and thy royal rule

ere this time after to-morrow have been imposed on the men of Ireland.”

“How will that be effected;

for Tuathal rules over Ireland

and I am driven out?”

Kieran replied: “that is a matter for God.”

luidh Mael mór ú hArgata comalta Diarmata  
co hairmm immbúi Tuathal oc grellaigh eilti  
fri ross ech inairdes  
ocus ro sídh in tsleg immbruinni Thuathail  
co farcaib cin anmain .  
marbtar dono Moel mór fó chétóir inn  
conad de ráiter echtra Máil móir .  
do conallaib Murtemne dono Moel mór .  
rop é sin in tress comalta do Diarmaid  
.i. Luchta átha ferna ocus Enna mac ú Laigsi  
in dá comalta ali.  
ro rígsat iarum fir Eirenn in tí Diarmaíd siu ro  
bo cenn sechtmaini.

Chuaigh Maol Mór ua hArgada, comhalta  
Dhiarmada,  
mar a raibh Tuathal ag Greallach Eilte lastoir  
theas de Ros Each,  
agus sháigh a shleá in ucht Thuathail  
agus d'fhág ar lár marbh é.  
Maraíodh Maol Mór ar an toirt;  
is uaidh sin an scéal Eachtra Mhaoil Mhóir.  
Ba de Chonaille Mhuirtheimhne, más ea, Maol  
Mór.  
Ba dhuine de thriúr comhalta do Dhiarmaid é,  
Luchta Áth Fearna agus Éanna mocu Laoise  
an dá chomhalta eile.  
Rinne fir Éireann ansin Diarmaid a ríogadh  
sula raibh an tseachtain slán.

Dermot's foster-brother, Maelmór ú Argata,  
went [at the time predicted]  
to the place where Tuathal was, at Grellach-  
eilte south-east of Ros-ech,  
and into Tuathal's breast drove a spear  
so that he left him lifeless:  
a deed for which Maelmór is himself killed  
presently,  
and hence the tale called *Echtra Mhaeilmhóir*,  
i.e. 'the romance of Maelmór'  
(now Maelmór was of the Hy-Conall of  
Murthemny,  
and third foster-brother to Dermot:  
Luchta of Ath-ferna and Enna mac ú Laighse  
were the others).  
Hereupon, before it was a week's end, the men  
of Ireland inaugurated Dermot king.

## Section 4

Dogníther mórdáil Uisníg la Diarmait ocus la firu Erenn um beltaine .

ár roptar iat trí harddála Erenn issin aimsir sin

.i. dál Uisníg um beltaine .

ocus aenach Taillten im lugnassa .

ocus féiss Temrach im shamfhuin .

ocus cid bé no ticedh tairrsib sin ó feraib  
Erenn

ba bidba báis in tí no milledh in cáin sin.

ticc fiss ó Diarmait co Ciarán do techt isin dáil .

ocus ticc féin co cnoc mBracáin ina agaid

ocus búi i comnaide and .

Tionáladh Mordháil Uisnígh le Diarmaid agus  
le fir Éireann um Bealtaine,

mar ba iad trí ard-dála Éireann an t-am úd ná

Dáil Uisnígh um Bealtaine,

Aonach Tailtean um Lúnasa,

agus Feis Teamhrach um Shamhain

agus cibé d'fhir Éireann a choillfeadh iadsan,

a bhrisfeadh an dlí sin, bhí breith bháis air.

Chuir Diarmaid fios ar Chiarán teacht chun an  
tionóil,

agus tháinig sé féin go Cnoc Bracáin ina  
choinne

agus rinne sos nó cónaí ann

By Dermot and by the men of Ireland the great  
congregation of Usnach is held now at  
Beltane;

for at that time Ireland's three high gatherings  
were these:

the congregation of Usnach, at Beltane;

the convention of Taillte, at Lammas;

the feast of Tara, at *samhain* [All-Hallows];

and whosoever of the men of Ireland should  
have transgressed these,

the same [I say] that should have violated this  
their ordinance, was guilty of death.

From Dermot to Kieran comes a message  
procuring him to join the gathering,

and the king himself proceeds to Cnoc-brecáin  
to receive him;

there he made halt to wait,

conad de sin dogarar tilach na comnaide.

luid iarum Ciarán dia shaighid.

“cid fil and tra” ar Diarmait:

“ár is ann so ro cétnomraicseam

iar ngabáil ríge damsá triat bennachtainsi

in mag so amail atá

cona damaib ocus cona buaib duitsi a fót fri  
haltóir.”

bái náma do’n rígh isin magh

i. Flann find macc Díma

ó a ráiter telach Díma nó tilach Fhloinn .

loiscte a thech oc an rígh

agus is uaidh sin atá Tulach na Cónaí mar  
aimn air.

Chuaigh Ciarán chuige ansin.

“Sea, anois, más ea,” arsa Diarmaid,

“ós rud é gur anseo a chasamar ar a chéile don  
chéad uair

tar éis dom an ríocht a bhaint amach trí do  
bheannachtsa,

bíodh an machaire seo mar atá,

lena dhaimh agus lena bha, agat mar fhód  
altóra.”

Bhí namhaid don rí ar an machaire

i. Flann Fionn mac Dhíoma,

ónar tháinig an t-ainm Tulach Dhíoma, nó  
Tulach Fhlionn.

Loisc an rí an teach

whence Tulach na Comnaidhe [i.e. ‘hill of  
halting’] is denominated.

Kieran repaired to him accordingly.

“Why, how now,” Dermot said:

“since here it is that, for the first time

since I by thy benediction attained to the  
kingdom,

we are met now;

be this stretch of land as it is

(with its oxen and with its kine) made over to  
thee by way of ‘altar-sod.’ ”

But in this same plain was one that was an  
enemy to the king:

Flann \*Find\*, son of Dima

(from whom Tulach Dhíma or Tulach Fhlainn  
is named).

The king [finding himself in the  
neighbourhood] has Dima’s house burnt,

ocus gontar astigh é.

luid in tóglaech i ndabaig fotraiccthi búi isin  
tigh

conad innti fuair bás.

“is luath tánacais tar do thimna” ar Ciarán fri  
Diarmait

“ár sárgud mun ferann tucais dúind .

cid fil ann tra” ar sé “acht ní  
benubsa nem ná talam fort fén ná for do  
clainn .

acht in aidhed [*ms. aig.*] do fuair sin letsa

bid sí sin aidhed do gébasa

.i. guin ocus bádud ocus loscadad.”

“atagat a chléirigh” ar Diarmaid

agus goineadh Díoma istigh ann;

d’imigh an laoch isteach i ndabhach foltha a  
bhí sa teach

agus is inti a fuair bás.

“Is luath a choill tú do thiomna,” arsa Ciarán  
le Diarmaid,

“dár sárú maidir leis an bhfearann a thug tú  
dúinn.

Ach, fág sin,” ar sé, “ní bhainfidh mé neamh  
ná talamh díot fén ná de do chlann,

ach an íde a fuair seisean uaitse,

gurb í sin an íde a gheobhaidh tusa

.i. goin agus bá agus loscadh.”

“Tá scanradh orm, a chléirigh,” arsa Diarmaid,

and within it the owner is wounded sore;

which warrior [seeking to evade the flames]  
gets into a bathing-vat that is in the dwelling,

and there expires.

“Right soon thou hast transgressed thy  
covenant,” Kieran said to Dermot,

“seeing that in the matter of the land thou  
grantedst us thou hast already done us  
violence.

Yet in any case,” he went on, “nor from  
thyself nor from thy children will I take either  
Heaven or Earth [i.e. joys of the one, temporal  
possessions of the other];

but the violent death which he there hath  
gotten by thee,

that shall be the very one which thou too shalt  
have:

to be wounded, and drowned, and burnt.”

“Cleric,” said Dermot, “I am terrified:

“do óighriar duit.”

“nító” ol in clérech: “in turchur tuccassa [ms. tucusa]

rotngona de mina tegba samlaid.”

conad de do rat bás Diarmata amail ro tarrngairedh.

“breith do bhéil féin duit.”

“Ní ghlacfaidh mé leis sin,” arsan cléireach.  
“An t-urchar a thugas,

gur de a ghoinfear mé mura dtarlaíonn amhaidh.”

Uime sin a thug sé bás Dhiarmada chun críche mar a tairngreadh.

thine own assessment I award thee in satisfaction of the deed.”

“Nay,” the cleric answered: “the missile that I have delivered,

by that same I may myself be hurt to death if it fall not out so.”

And hence it was that Dermot’s death was indeed brought about as had been promised.

## Section 5

Lotar diblínaib in rí ocus in clérech  
i comdáil fer nErenn co hUisniuch  
ocus bátur coicdighis ann.

dusfic tart mór dóib isin dáil  
gur bo guasacht dá ndaoinib  
ocus gur bó marb a cetri co mór.

Chuaigh siad araon, an rí agus an cléireach,  
go comhdháil fhir Éireann in Uisneach  
agus bhí siad coicís ann.

Tháinig triomach mór orthu sa tionól  
i dtreo go raibh na daoine féin i mbaol mór  
agus gur cailleadh a lán dá n-eallach.

The two of them, king and cleric, repaired  
to Usnach, joined the congregation of the men  
of Erin,  
and there they were for a fortnight.

In which meeting a mighty thirst [i.e. drought]  
afflicted them;  
so that their human were in strait peril,  
and their four-footed perished largely.

lotar iarum a muinigin Chiaráin im fhurtacht dóib.

dogni Ciarán irnaighти ocus tic flechad ann sin

dofarcaib dá prímglaisi déc an Erinn i comarta na mírbaile .

conid de sin dlighis Ciarán in chána choitcinn fó Erinn.

ro slécht Diarmait do Chiarán ann sin a fiadnaise fer nEirenn

ocus do rat a maincine ocus mainchini a chlainni do tré bithu.

Ansin chuaigh siad i muinín Chiaráin le cabhair a fháil.

Rinne Ciarán guí agus tháinig báisteach ansin

rud a d'fhág dhá phríomhshruthán déag in Éirinn mar chomhartha na míorúilte.

Is dá bharr sin is dual do Chiarán an cháin choiteann ar fud Éireann.

Shléacht Diarmaid do Chiarán ansin i bhfianaise fir Éireann

agus thug a sheirbhís féin agus seirbhís a chlainne dó go brách.

Then they had recourse to Kieran,  
to find them succour.

Kieran made prayer, and there came then a wet [i.e. rain]

that in token of the miracle left twelve main streams in Ireland;

whence it is that Kieran is entitled to a general cess throughout Ireland.

In presence of the men of Ireland there Dermot made obeisance to Kieran,

and settled on him his own service and his children's for ever.

## Section 6

Búi dono Ciarán i naenach Taillten im lugnasa  
iar sin

ocus doróine firta imda ann ocus mírbaili  
aidhble [ms. aible].

is and sin imorro dorónad in firtsá

Bhí Ciarán, más ea, in Aonach Tailtean um Lúnasa ina dhiaidh sin

agus rinne a lán fearta agus míorúiltí móra ann.

Is ansin freisin a rinne sé an mhíorúilt seo

Following which again at Lammastide Kieran was in the convention of Tailte,

where he worked wonders many, and miracles exceeding great.

There too it was that this prodigy was operated,

.i. duine tuc luigi néithig fó láim Ciaráin

co raibi bainne aillsi for a muinél

condechaid a chenn de .

co mbái i fiadnaisi fer nErenn oc imtecht ocus  
sé gan chenn isindaenoch .

conad é sin in bacucc búi i gcluain fri tréimsi  
fota .i. fri ré secht mbliadan oc na manchaib.

bói Diarmait iar sin i ríghi nErenn fri ré fota.

ocus ní tánic isna haimseraib sin rí

bud áiniu ná bud óirdnigi

ná bud ferr cruth nó delb nó ergna nó innscni  
nó ríge innás.

.i. thug duine leabhar éithigh faoi láimh  
Chiaráin,

agus tháinig ailse bhraonach ar a muineál

agus thit an ceann de;

agus bhi sé ansiúd i radharc fhir Éireann agus  
é ag imeacht faoin aonach, gan ceann air.

Ba é siúd an bacach a bhí i gCluain ar feadh  
tamall fhada (.i. ar feadh seacht mbliana) ag na  
manaigh.

Bhí Diarmaid tréimhse fhada ina dhiaidh sin  
ina rí ar Éirinn,

agus níor tháinig san am úd rí

ba ghlórmhaire, b'ónóraí,

ná b'bhearr cruth nó deilbh nó eagna, nó  
urlabhra, nó réim ná é.

viz. a man that took a perjured oath \*under  
Kieran's hand\*:

and in consequence there came a running ulcer  
in his neck,

whereby his head fell off him;

so that in presence of the Men of Ireland he  
went about in the gathering and he without a  
head.

Which man was the *bacuc* whom for a length  
of time (for seven years, that is to say) the  
monks had in Cluain.

After this, for a long period Dermot reigned in  
Ireland;

neither came there in those times a king

that was grander, that was more revered,

or that in figure and in face, in wisdom, in  
speech, in royal rule, was more excellent than  
he.

## Section 7

Fechtas do Diarmait i Temraig oc fledugud .

Mugain ingen Conraidh mheic Duach do Eoghanacht chaissil for a láim

.i. máthair Aedha mheic Diarmata .

torrach annsin dono for Aedh sláine .

do lotar dono ammach forsin faithchi in líon ro bátar oc in ól dia ninnfhuaradh.

ambátar ann confhaccatar cucu [ms. qq] ua Diarmata isin faithchi .i. Suibne mac Colmain móir.

cét marcach ro b' é a líon .

ti dubglass[a] co lúbán (sic) airccit imm leith in dírma

ocus lenna corccra imman lith anaill co corrtarib óir ocus arccait .

Bhí Diarmaid tráth ag caitheamh fleá i dTeamhair.

Bhí Mughain iníon Chonchraídh mhic Dhuach d'Eoghanacht Chaisil láimh leis;

ba ise máthair Aodha mhic Dhiarmada,

agus bhí sí ag iompar Aodh Sláine ag an am.

Amach ar an bhfaiche leo, a raibh ann díobh, ag ól, is é sin, á bhfionnuaradh féin.

Agus iad ansiúd chonaic siad chucu ar an bhfaiche garmhac Dhiarmada .i. Suibhne mac Colmáin Mhóir.

Céad marcach líon a shlua.

Bhí fallaingí dúghlasa le siogairlíní airgid ar leath an díorma,

agus brait chorcara le scothóga óir agus airgid ar an leath eile.

It was once upon a time that Dermot feasted:—

Mughain, daughter of Conraidh mac Duach of the Eoganacht of Cashel, was at his hand

— she that was mother of Dermot's son Aedh,

which same Aedh Slaine she carried at the time.

They then, so many as had been at the carouse, stepped abroad upon the green to cool themselves

and, as they were there, saw draw near them on the sward Dermot's nephew, Suibhne son of Colman More.

A hundred riders, that was his number:

dark grey mantles with clasps of silver wrapped one half of the troop,

and about the other were crimson cloaks with fringes of gold and silver;

eich dubglas a fó leith in tslóig .

gabra geala fó'n leith ale .

caeca mílcon co slapradaib créuma forro .

scéith copradacha foraib uile.

amail do riacht Suibne issin airecht

géisis brú na mná .i. Mugaine

co clos fá'n airecht uili.

“cid so a ben?” ol Diarmaid:

“in ar an ngilla atá th’ aire?”

“ní tú in fáid” ol Becc mac Dé:

“atá fáid occut.”

“finntasa dono” ar Diarmaid “órot fáid.”

Eich dhúglas a faoi leath an tslua,

agus capaill gheala faoin leath eile;

bhí caoga mílchú acu agus slabhraí créumha  
orthu;

sciatha cabhraíocha á gcosaint uile.

Agus Suibhne ag teacht isteach sa  
chomhthionól,

lig broinn na mná, .i. Mughain, béis aisti

agus chualathas í faoin gcomhthionól go léir.

“Cad é seo, a bhean?” arsa Diarmaid,

“an ar an ógánach atá aird agat?”

“Ní tú an fáidh,” arsa Beag Mac Dé,

“ach tá fáidh agat.”

“Faighse amach, más ea,” arsa Diarmaid, “ós  
fáidh tú.”

under one half of the band were dark grey  
horses,

and white under the other;

fifty greyhounds they had with bronze  
chains on them,

and all had bossy shields slung.

Even as Suibne entered the assembly,

the woman (Mughain namely) uttered a loud  
inarticulate cry

that was heard throughout all the company.

“Woman, what may this be?” Dermot asked:

“is it on the lad just come thy mind is bent?”

Said Beg mac Dé: “thou art indeed no prophet;  
but thou hast a seer.”

“Discover the matter then, since thou art a  
prophet.”

“rotfetarsa dono” or Becc: “in mac fil i  
mbroinn na mná  
is é muirfius in gilla nucut.”  
ba fíor son .

ro marb Aed sláini Suibne.

ro fhácaibsen mac .i. Conall mac Suibne  
conad é sín ro marb Aed sláini doridisi .  
is de ro chet in rann:—

“Ní fó airmirt in araille .  
do na hócaib a turime;  
Conall rombíth Aed sláini .  
Aed sláini rombíth Suibne”

.i. Conall mac Suibni issé ro marb Aed sláine  
oc loch semdidhe.

Aed gustan comalta Conaill

is é ro marb Aedh buidhe rí Tefha a mbruidin  
dá choco ocus Aedh róin rí ua Foilghe i  
noenló.

“Tá a fhios agam,” arsa Beag; “an mac atá i  
mbroinn na mná

is é a mharóidh an t-ógánach úd.”

B’fhíor dó.

Mharaigh Aodh Sláine Suibhne.

D’fhág sé mac .i. Conall mac Shuibhne  
agus eisean a mharaigh Aodh Sláine arís.

Is faoi sin a canadh an rann:

“Ní fónta eager an áirimh  
A dhéanann cuid de na laochra;  
Is é Conall a mharaigh Aodh Sláine;  
Is é Aodh Sláine a mharaigh Suibhne.”

Is é sin gurb é Conall mac Shuibhne a  
mharaigh Aodh Sláine ag Loch Seimhdí.

Aodh Gusdan, comhalta Chonaill,

is é a mharaigh Aodh Buí rí Theafa i mBruíon  
Dá Choga agus Aodh Róin, rí Ua bhFailí san  
aon lá amháin.

“I know it,” said Beg: “the son that the woman  
carries,

he it is that shall slay yonder stripling.”

That was true:

Aedh Slaine did [afterwards] kill Suibne,  
who left a son (Conall mac Suibne)  
and he again slew Aedh Slaine.

It was concerning this that a quatrain was  
uttered: —

“Not aright do some of the young men  
cast up their accounts:  
it was Conall that slew Aedh Slaine  
because Aedh Slaine had slain Suibne.”

That is to say: Conall mac Suibne, he killed  
Aedh Slaine at Loch Sewdy;

Aedh Gustan, \*Conall’s foster-brother,\*  
he in the one day slew Aedh Buie king of  
Teffia, and Aedh Róin king of Offaly in  
Bruidhen Dáchoga;

conid í cétfhingal clainni Colmáin ocus síl  
Aedha sláini ann sin

.i. Aedh sláine do marbad a bráthar .i. Suibne  
mic Colmáin .

ocus mac Suibni .i. Conall dia marbad som  
ann sin.

Sin é ansin céad fhionail chlann Cholmáin  
agus shíol Aodh Sláine

.i. Aodh Sláine a mharú a bhráthar .i. Suibhne  
mac Colmáin,

agus mac Shuibhne .i. Conall á mharú-san dá  
bharrsan.

and this was the first fratricide of clan-Colman  
and of Aedh Slaine's seed,

i.e. Aedh Slaine to kill his kinsman, Suibne  
son of Colman;

and Suibne's son Conall to kill him in lieu of  
it.

## Section 8

In Becc mac Dé sin dana is é fáid as ferr bái  
ina aimsir .

is é adubairt frisin triar iar tiachtain dóibh a  
dúnadh Themrach amach.

“maith thra” ol in triar:

“Becc chugainn amne .

abéram fris .

fochen a Bicc.”

“maith” ar Becc.

Beag Mac Dé a luadh, ba é sin an fáidh is fearr  
a bhí ann lena linn.

Is é a thug freagra ar an triúr ar theacht as  
Teamhair amach dóibh.

“Sea, más ea,” ar siad triúr,

“seo chugainn Beag.

Déarfaimid rud éigin leis.

Fáilte romhat, a Bhig.”

“Gurab amhlaidh daoibh,” arsa Beag.

Now that same Beg mac Dé, 'tis he was the  
best seer that was in his time;

he too it was that to certain three just issued  
out of Tara said a cunning thing:

“good now,” the three had said,

“so hither Beg comes to us;

we will e'en say something to him:

Beg, all hail.”

“Tis well,” quoth Beg.

“cia hairet beithir isin dúnad?” ol fer díob.

“cia doimne in abann?” ol araile.

“cia tige na sailli a mbliadna?” ol in  
tres fer.

“pas go tóin amarach” ar Beg.

is é ro aiglestar in naenmhur  
ocus dobert aenaithesc dóib  
gonusícc na noe naithesca.

is é dono ro ráidh fri Diarmait mac Cerpaill  
isin Temraig

dia mbátar in taes admolta ag moladh in righ  
ocus a shídha ocus a shobés .

ro bói Aed dubh mac Suibne mac ríg dál  
nAraidi for béláib Bic meic Dé .

ocus Diarmait ro marb in Suibne sin

“Cé chomh fada is a bheidh cónaí ar dhaoine  
sa dún?” arsa fear diobh;

“cé chomh domhain is atá an abhainn?” arsa  
fear eile.

“cé chomh ramhar is atá saill na muice i  
mbliana?” arsa an tríú fear.

“Bás go tóin amárach,” arsa Beag.

An fear céanna a d’agaill naonúr  
agus thug an t-aon fhreagra amháin orthu  
agus a d’fhreagair leis sin a naoi ráiteas.

Is é leis a labhair le Diarmaid mac Cearbhaill i  
dTeamhair

nuair a bhí lucht a mhórtha ag moladh an rí  
agus a shíthe agus a shobhéas;

bhí Aodh Dubh mac Shuibhne mac rí Dhál  
Araide os comhair Bhig Mhic Dé;

agus is é Diarmaid a mharaigh an Suibhne sin,

“How long will there be dwellers in the fort  
out of which we come?” asked the first man of  
them.

“What is the river’s depth?” said the second.

“What is the thickness of bacon-fat this year?”  
asked the third man.

“*Pas go tóin amárach*,” answered Beg.

He it was that spoke with nine at once,  
and delivered them a single discourse  
that satisfied [i.e. answered and resolved] their  
nine discourses addressed to him.

Yet again he it was that in Tara enunciated to  
Dermot son of Cerbhall

(what time the official panegyrists lauded the  
king, his peace and his good ways) as thus:

Black Aedh son of Suibne, i.e. son of the king  
of Dalaradia, was in front of Beg mac Dé

(now it was Dermot that had slain that Suibne,

ocus ro gab Diarmait in mac for altrum .i.  
Aedh dub mac Suibni .

condebairt Bec: “atchiusa in coin conamail  
loitfios in síd sainemail.”

“a Bic cia cú?” ar Aodh.

“cú ruad cú áirithe bés is tú” ol Bec [ms. hipic  
ciæ quo araoth qur. quairie pes is tua alpec].

“caide amae?” ol Diarmait.

“ní annsa. in lámsa amne Aodha duib” ar Bec:

“is é dobéra dhigh thondaigh it beola a tigh  
Banbáin brughaid

ocus léne oenroisni immut

ocus bratt oenchaerach .

ocus cuirmm oenghráinne it curn .

ocus saill muicci ná ro genair for do méis .

agus thóg Diarmaid an mac ar altram .i. Aodh  
Dubh mac Shuibhne

agus dúirt Beag: “Feicim an cú conúil a  
loitfidh an sídhún sainiúil.”

“A Bhig, cén cú?” arsa Aodh.

“Cú rua, cú áirithe — b’fhéidir gur tú,” arsa  
Beag.

“Conas sin?” arsa Diarmaid.

“Ní ansa. Lámh seo Aodha Dhuibh,” arsa  
Beag,

“is í a thabharfaidh deoch bháis i do bhéal duit  
i dteach Bhanbháin, brughaidh,

agus beidh fallaing ó aon síol lín umat

agus brat d’olann aon chaorach;

i do chorn beidh cuirm aon ghráinne;

agus saill muice nach rugadh riamh ar do  
phláta;

and taken his son Aedh mac Suibne to rear),

and Beg said: “I see the gallant wolfdog that  
shall spoil the brilliant mansion.”

“What hound is that, Beg?” asked Aedh.

“A *cú ruadh* [wolf] — some *cú* or other — it  
might well be thyself,” Beg replied.

“How could that be?” queried Dermot.

“Easily said: that hand of Black Aedh’s

it is in sooth that in the house of Banbhan the  
hospitaller shall make a poisoned draught to  
enter thy mouth,

there being about thee at the same time a shirt  
derived from a single flax-seed,

with a mantle produced from a single sheep;

in thy horn: ale brewed from a single grain of  
corn;

on thy plate: bacon of a pig that never was  
farrowed;

ocus issí ochtach in tighi .i. féicc thuitfios it chenn  
iar th' airlech ód naimtib."

"Aedh Dub do marbad" or cách.

"nató" ol Diarmait: "acht dlomfaiter do as indErinn amach chena ocus ní taidheolla céin bám beosa."

cuirter iar sin Aedh dub i crích nAlban for innarba la Diarmait.

ocus nír léiced indErinn iartain céin bái Diarmait i ríghi.

agus is í maide mullaigh an tí, na frathacha, a thitfidh ar do cheann  
tar éis do do naimhde eirleach a imirt ort."

"Maraítear Aodh Dubh," arsa cách.

"Ná déantar," arsa Diarmaid, "ach díbrítear as Éirinn amach é agus fad is beo dom ní thríallfaidh sé ar ais uirthi."

Ansin cuireadh Aodh Dubh ar ionnarba le Diarmaid go críoch Alban,

agus níor ligeadh ar ais go hÉirinn é ina dhiaidh sin fad a bhí Diarmaid i réim.

while 'tis the main beam of the house — the ridgepole — that  
(after thy foemen shall have as good as done thee to death)  
shall fall on thy head."

"Black Aedh to the slaughter," all cried out.

"Not so," said Dermot: "but be he removed forth out of Ireland, and so long as I live he shall not revisit it."

By Dermot thereupon Black Aedh is in exile relegated to the land of Scotland

nor, so long as Dermot lived, was he readmitted into Ireland.

## Section 9

Bái tra cáin ocus smacht ocus recht Diarmata fó Erinn co coitchenn .

bátar a maeir ocus a rechtaireda ocus a fhianna for coinmedh sechnón [ms. sethnon] Erenn.

Bhí dlí agus smacht agus reacht Dhiarmada i bhfeidm ar fud Éireann go coiteann.

Bhí a mhaoir, a reachtairí, agus a fhianna ar coinmheadh ar fud Éireann.

Dermot's tribute, and discipline, and law prevailed in Ireland generally:

his stewards and his managers, also his regular soldiers in their billets, were throughout Ireland up and down.

lotar i crích Connacht in inbaid sin máir ocus baccláim ocus callaire [ms. cuallaire] in rígh i mailli fris .

ocus is éisidéin no bíodh [ms. bith] ic irfhócrá rompo

do'n tigh dia téighdís for oedhoighecht (*sic*) .

is amlaid dogníodh in callaire a irfócrá

.i. dorus in bali ocus in chaisteoill a rachtáis a minugud rempu

ocus contoigecht gáí Diarmata tarsno inn .

ní lámtha la hómun indríg cin a dhénúm sin rompo.

diabal imorro is é ro ling isin challaire do fhasluch in uilcc sin fair

ar dáigh cu ro fhásad olcc budh mó de.

Chuaigh sé, faoin am sin, agus maoir agus bacaigh, agus callaire an rí farais, go críoch Connacht;

an callaire a bhíodh rompu á fhogairt

don tigh chuig a dtéidís ar aíocht.

Is mar seo a dhéanadh an callaire a fhógra:

doras an áitribh agus an chaisleáin ina rachaidís a leagan rompu

agus fad ga Dhiarmada a bheith de leithead ann.

Ní leomhthaí, le eagla an rí, gan sin a dhéanamh rompu.

Diabhal, áfach, is ea a phreab sa challaire ag áiteamh an oilc sin air

le súil go bhfásfadh olc níos mó as.

At this particular time the king's stewards and sergeants accompanied him into Connacht;

also the king's herald, that used to precede them and to make proclamation

to any such house at which in quest of guestly entertainment they arrived.

And thus it was that the crier heralded them,

viz. to the effect that the town's gate, or the castle's, into which they had to pass must be demolished before them

so that Dermot's spear should pass in athwartwise;

a thing which (for the king's fear) there was none dared but to perform before them.

But Diabolus — he it was that violently possessed [lit. 'jumped into'] the crier now to urge the following evil thing upon him,

to the end evil greater yet should come of it.

## Section 10

Lotar fecht ann do thegh Aedha guaire  
i crích Máine i Connachtaib  
ocus rop égen a chaistiall sin do brisiud rempo  
ocus ria ngái in ríg.  
rusgab iarum ferg in tí Aedh ocus marbus gilla  
in gái .i. in callaire .  
ocus do chóid for teichem Diarmata iar sin i  
crích Músgraidi  
for comaircci espoic Senaigh .  
ár dá derbshiair máthair espoic Senaigh ocus  
máthair Aedha guairi.  
táncic espoc Senach leis iar sin co Ruadhán  
lotra  
ocus do rat ar chomairce Ruadáin é.  
dá shiair ro bátar oc Ruadán .i. Coel ocus  
Ruadhnat .  
ocus is iat sin ro oil espoc Senach [ms.  
Senaidh].

Chuaigh siad tráth go teach Aodh Ghuaire  
i gcrích Mhaine in gConnachta,  
agus b'éigean a chaisleán a briseadh rompu  
agus roimh gha Dhiarmada.  
Tháinig fearg ansin ar an rí Aodh agus  
mharaigh sé giolla an gha .i. an callaire  
agus d'imigh ar a theitheadh ansin ó  
Dhiarmaid go críoch Mhúscrai  
ar choimirche an easpaig, Seanach;  
mar beirt deirfear ab ea máthair an easpaig,  
Seanach, agus máthair Aodh Ghuaire.  
Tháinig an t-easpag Seanach leis \*iar sin\* go  
Ruán Lothra,  
agus chuir faoi choimirce Ruáin é.  
Beirt deirfear a bhí ag Ruán .i. Caol agus  
Ruanat.  
Iadsan a d'oil an t-easpag Seanach.

For they came once to Aedh Guaire's house  
in the land of Hy-Many in Connacht,  
whose castle must needs be breached before  
them and the king's spear.  
Then anger took Aedh; he slew the 'lad of the  
spear' (the crier namely)  
and anon, to escape Dermot, fled into the land  
of Muskerry  
and under protection of bishop Senach,  
for the bishop's mother and Aedh Guaire's  
were two sisters.  
Subsequently Senach the bishop brought him  
to Ruadhan of Lorrha  
and committed him to his safeguard;  
for two sisters that Ruadhan had: Cael and  
Ruadhnait,  
it was they that had reared bishop Senach.

ro hidhnaiccedh imorro Aedh guaire la  
Ruadán co Bretnu  
ár ní ro fhét beith indErind la Diarmait.

bái iarum do méd smachta Diarmata  
ocus a neirt for chách co nár fhét beth in  
Albain ná i mBretnaib oca .

co tánic indErinn doridissi co Ruadán  
gur foilgedh i talmain oc Ruadán.  
is ann búi Ruadán in tan sin áit a fuil  
poll Ruadáin innidh.

ro hinnised do Diarmait Aedh guaire do  
toigecht co hErinn doridisi  
ocus a beith i bhfoluch i talmain oc Ruadán.

Sheol Ruán, áfach, Aodh Ghuaire go dtí an  
Bhreatain  
mar nár fhéad sé fanacht in Éirinn le  
Diarmaid.

Ach, \*faoi dheoidh,\* bhí an oiread sin  
smachta agus cumhactha ag Diarmaid ar chách  
nár fhéad sé fanacht in Albain ná sa Bhreatain  
dá bharr.

Tháinig sé go hÉirinn arís go Ruán  
agus chuir Ruán i bhfolach sa talamh é.

Is é áit ina raibh Ruán an uair sin mar a bhfuil  
Poll Ruáin inniu.

Inseadh do Dhíarmaid Aodh Ghuaire a theacht  
arís go hÉirinn  
agus a bheith a bhfolach sa talamh ag Ruán.

By Ruadhan Aedh Guaire was bestowed  
among the Britons however,  
for by reason of Dermot he might not be  
anywhere in Ireland.

But such was Dermot's influence and power  
over others that because of him Aedh  
ultimately could not be either in Scotland or  
with the Britons;

so that he returned to Ireland to Ruadhan,  
who had him hidden under ground.

Where Ruadhan was then was at the spot in  
which Poll Ruadháin [i.e. ‘Ruadhan’s Pit’] is  
to-day.

It was told to the king that Aedh Guaire was  
come to Ireland again,  
and that Ruadhan held him concealed in the  
earth.

## Section 11

Luid Diarmait iarum do shaighid Ruadáin iar sin

ocus ro chuir a ara carpaít uadh do thabairt Aedho guairi ar écin amach ó Ruadán .

do chóid imorro in gilla isin regles ocus berar a ruscc uadh fó cétóir.

ros gab ferg imorro in rí de sin

ocus tánicc féissin co hairm ambúi Ruadán

ocus ro fiarfaig do Ruadán

cia hairm ambúi Aedh guaire .

ár ro fhidir ná habrad Ruadán brég.

“ní fhetarsa” or Ruadán “cia hairmm atá

acht minab fil fout áit atái.”

Chuaigh Diarmaid ansin ar thóir Ruáin iar sin

agus chuir sé a ara carbaid uaidh le hAodh Ghuaire a bhreith ar éigean amach ó Ruán.

Chuaigh an giolla isteach sa séipéal agus baineadh a radharc de ar an toirt.

Tháinig fearg, más ea, ar an rí dá bharrsan

agus tháinig féin mar a raibh Ruán

agus d’fhiafraigh de Ruán

cá raibh Aodh Ghuaire,

mar bhí a fhios aige nach n-inseodh Ruán bréag.

“Ní fheadar cá bhfuil sé,” arsa Ruán,

“mura bhfuil sé fút mar a bhfuil tú.”

Then Dermot repaired to Ruadhan,

and despatched his charioteer to recover Aedh Guaire from him forcibly.

The young man entered into the sanctuary, but on the instant was deprived of his eyes.

The king being now wroth at this,

he came to Ruadhan

and enquired of him

(for he knew that Ruadhan would not tell a lie)

where was Aedh Guaire.

Ruadhan made answer: “verily I know not where he is,

if he be not under thee even where thou art.”

do chóid in rí ass in regles amach iartain  
ocus ní tard dia óidh andébairt in clérech.

ro athchuimníg ann sin ina menmain andébairt  
Ruadán  
ocus forfetair conad i talmain fói ro búi Oed  
guaire.

táinnic Diarmait doridisi issin regles  
ocus atchonnairecc in choinnill for adhnad issin  
talmain fói  
áit ambúi Oedh guaire.  
ocus ro chuir Diarmait fer dia muir .i. Donnán  
a ainm do shaigid Aedha .

ocus ro gab for tochuitl in talman fair  
ocus ro benad a sedh fó chétóir as a lámaib.

tánnic co Ruadán iar sin ocus ro shléacht dó

D'imigh an rí as an séipéal amach ansin  
gan aird a thabhairt ar a ndúirt an cléireach.

Ach ina dhiaidh sin rinne sé athmhachnamh  
ina aigne ar a ndúirt Ruán  
agus bhí a fhios aige gur sa talamh faoi a bhi  
Aodh Ghuaire.

Tháinig Diarmaid arís isteach sa tséipéal  
agus chonaic sé an choinneal ar lasadh faoi sa  
talámh  
mar a raibh Aodh Ghuaire.

Chuir Diarmaid duine dá mhuintir, dárbh ainm  
Donnán, ag triall ar Aodh  
agus chrom seisean ar an talamh a thochait os  
a chionn  
ach baineadh a neart as a lámha ar an toirt.

Tháinig sé chun Ruáin ansin agus shléacht dó

The king departed out of the sanctuary then,  
nor any more heeded that which the cleric had  
said;  
but in his mind afterwards he recalled to  
memory Ruadhan's utterance,  
and recognised that in the ground under him  
where he had stood Aedh Guaire was.

\*Dermot returned to the sanctuary,  
and he saw a lighted candle beneath him in the  
ground  
where Aedh Guaire was.\*

He deputed a man of his people (Donnan was  
his name) to go down to Aedh,  
over whose head the same fell to dig away the  
earth;  
but his arms were reft of their power  
presently.

Thereupon he came to Ruadhan and made  
obeisance to him;

ocus ro sléacht in fer do dallad remi .

ocus ro bátar a fail Ruadáin iar sin

ocus is iat ata naeim a poll Ruadáin inidh.

tánic dono Diarmait féisin issin rigles .

ocus do rat féin Oedh guairi as in talmain

ocus is é sin poll Ruadáin aniu.

ructha laisin rígh Oedh a forcomul co Temraig

co ro crochta oca é isin glés doróine.

agus shléacht an fear a dalladh roimhe sin dó;

d'fhanadar ina dhiadh sin fara Ruán,

agus is iadsan na naoimh atá (faoi onóir) i  
bPoll Ruáin inniu.

Ach tháinig Diarmaid féin chun an tséipéil

agus rug sé féin Aodh Ghuaire leis as an  
talamh

ar a dtugtar Poll Ruáin inniu.

Thug an rí Aodh i ngeimhlibh leis go  
Teamhair

le go gcrochfaidís é in éiric na cleasaíochta a  
rinne sé.

the man also that previously was blinded made  
obeisance,

and thenceforth they abode with Ruadhan:

which two it is that to-day are reputed saints at  
Pollruane.

Now came Dermot himself into the church

and took Aedh Guaire out of the hole in the  
ground,

which to-day is called Pollruane.

By the king Aedh was brought in bonds to  
Tara,

where in recompense of all his contrivance  
Dermot would have had him hanged.

## Section 12

Do chóidh Ruadhán co Brénainn mbirra ar sin

dia breth i ndeoidh a chomairce

D'imigh Ruán ansin go Bréanann Bhiorra

lena bhreith leis ar lorg an té a bhí faoina  
choimirce.

Ruadhan in the mean time had sought out  
Brendan of Birr

for the purpose of taking him with him to  
retrieve his protégé,

ocus lotar diblínaib co Temraig .

bátar iar sin ac iarair a comairci ar in rígh .

isvertsom nár dlecht do'n eglais comairce do dénum forsin tí no millfed in recht rígda .

ár búi sárugud dé ocus daoine ann.

ro gabsat na cléirigh iar sin salmu escaine

ocus ro bensat a cluco forsin rígh.

atbathatar dá mac rígh déc i noenuair i Temraig indoidhci sin .i. dá dalta déc do'n rígh .

táncatar a naidedha do shaidin na cléireach  
ocus bátar ocá [ms. oco a] nertugud im tathbeoghugud na mac.

rogníset irnaighthi ocus ro tathbeogadh na micc.

Chuaigh siad araon go Teamhair.

Bhí siad ansin ag lorg an té a bhí faoin gcomairce ar an rí.

Dúirt seisean nár chóir don Eaglais comairce a thabhairt don té a mhillfeadh reacht an rí,

mar gur bhain sárú Dé agus daoine leis sin.

Ghabh na cléirigh ansin sailm na mallacht

agus bhual a gcloig in aghaidh an rí.

Fuair dháréag mac rí, dháréag dalta leis an rí,  
bás san aon uair i dTeamhair an oíche sin.

Tháinig a n-oidí chun na gcléireach  
agus bhí siad á ngríosadh na hóganaigh a athbheou.

Rinne siadsan urnaí agus tháinig an t-anam  
arís sna h-ógánaigh.

and the pair went on to Tara.

There they demanded of the king to have him whose safety Ruadhan had guaranteed;

but Dermot answered that to him who should have infringed royal law the Church had no right to extend immunity,

for that in so doing a violation of right both human and divine was inherent.

The clerics chanted psalms of commination now,

and rang their bells against the king.

That night, and in the one instant, died in Tara twelve sons of chiefs that were twelve in pupilage to the king;

whose respective guardians came to the clergy and with persistence exhorted them to resuscitate the youths.

The saints prayed, and the lads were recalled to life.

## Section 13

Bliadain lán dóib iar sin oc escaini Diarmata  
ocus oc imirt mírbul fair .  
ocus dobeired Diarmait firt for araile dóib.  
nír chuimgiset iarum nach ní dó  
nó cor gellsat nem do'n ferthigis  
conaprad fria Diarmait na cléirig do chaithem  
[ms. chathaim] a cotach.

luid in feirtighis co Diarmait  
ocus innisid dó na cléirig ac caithem a cota .  
conad amlaid sin fuaratar boeghal troiscçi fair.  
  
atchí Diarmait aislingthi in oidhci sin  
.i. crann móir do beith i Temraig

Chaith siad bliain ionlán ina dhiadh sin ag  
eascainí ar Dhíarmaid  
agus ag déanamh míorúiltí ina aghaidh,  
agus thugadh Diarmaid feart ar fheart dóibh.  
Níor fhéad siad aon lámh a dhéanamh air \*faoi  
dheoidh\*  
nó gur gheall siad neamh don stíobhard  
ach go ndéarfadh sé le Diarmaid gur chaith na  
cléirigh a gcuid bia.

Chuaigh an stíobhard go dtí Diarmaid  
agus inseann dó go raibh na cléirigh ag  
caitheamh a gcoda,  
agus ar a tslí sin fuair siad buntáiste troscайдh  
air.

Feiceann Diarmaid aisling an oíche sin  
.i. crann móir a bheith i dTeamhair

For a full year after this they anathematised  
Dermot  
and plied him with miracles,  
he giving them back prodigy for prodigy.  
But in the long run they prevailed nothing  
over him  
until to the house-steward,  
by way of procuring him to tell the king that  
now at last the clergy partook of a refection,  
they made promise of Heaven.

The house-steward went to Dermot  
and told him that the clergy ate a meal,  
so that in this wise [for it was not true] they in  
the matter of fasting won an advantage over  
him.

That night Dermot saw a dream:  
that in Tara was a great tree,

ocus a barr do rochtain co neola nime

agus a bharr ag sroicheadh nélalta neimhe

the top of which reached to the clouds of heaven

ocus a fhoscudh tar Erinn uili.

agus a scáth thar Éirinn uile.

and its shade over all Ireland.

atchí caecait [ms. 1.] ngall ocus dá gall  
aireghda atorro ac tescad in croinn .

Feiceann sé caoga Gall, agus beirt Ghall uasal  
ina measc ag teascadh an chrainn.

Fifty foreigners he saw (and among them two leading strangers) that felled the tree,

ocus cach ní no bendáis de no ícadhsom fó  
cétóir

Agus gach a dteascaidís de cuireadh seisean ar  
ais slán ar an toirt;

but all that which they chopped from it was continually made good again \*by him\* forthwith;

cur chuirset [in] oenfecht eisim ó'n chrann  
ocus cur trascuirset é .

ach chuir siad, le chéile, ón gcrann é agus  
threascair an crann,

\*together\* they put him from the tree and laid it prostrate,

conad é fuaim in chroinn ac tuitim ro dúisig  
eisim.

agus ba é fuaim an chrainn ag titim a dhúisigh  
é.

so that it was the falling tree's crash that awoke him.

“fior ón” ol Diarmait: “misi in crann

“Is fior seo,” arsa Diarmaid. “ Mise an crann

“Even so,” Dermot said: “I am the tree;

ocus is iat na gaill oca letradh na cléirigh oc  
timdibe mo shaegail .

agus is iad na cléirigh ag gjorrú mo shaoil na  
Gaill ag leadradh an chrainn.

the foreigners that chop it are the clergy cutting short my life,

ocus is leo ro thuitessa [ms. thuitisa].”

Agus is leo a thitfidh mé.”

and by them also am I fallen.”

## Section 14

Atracht in rí iarna márach ocus do chóid co hairmm a rabatar na cléirig.

“olc a ndernsabair” ar sé

“mo fhlaithessa [ms. fhlaithiusa] do lot ar bithin dam oc díten na firinni.”

“cid fil ann” ar Diarmait

“corop sí cétfairche millter indErinn t’fhairchese a Ruadáin . ocus do mhanaig dot fhácbál!”

“gu rab scíth lim co luath ar do rígise” ar Ruadán.

“bud fás do chathairse a Ruadain” ar Diarmait .

“ocus toichélait mucca a reilci.”

“bud fás Temair dono” ol Ruadán

“ocus ní bia áitreb co bráth innti.”

“go rab aithis for do chorpsa” ol Diarmait .

D’éirigh an rí lá arna mhárach agus chuaigh mar a raibh na cléirigh.

“Is olc a rinne sibh,” ar sé,

“mo fhlaitheas-sa a lot toisc mé a bheith ag cosaint na córa.

Cibé scéal é,” arsa Diarmaid,

“gurab i d’fhairche-se, a Ruáin, an chéad fhairche a mhillfear in Éirinn, agus go dtréige do mhanaigh thú!”

“Gura luath do réim ar feo liom,” arsa Ruán.

“Beidh do mhainistirse folamh, a Ruáin,” arsa Diarmaid,

“agus déanfaidh muca a reiligí a thóch.”

“Beidh Teamhair tréigthe, más ea,” arsa Ruán,

“agus ní bheidh áitreabh inti go brách.”

“Go raibh aithis ar do chorpsa,” arsa Diarmaid,

On the morrow the king rose and went to the place where the clergy were:

“ill have ye done,” he said,

“to undo my kingdom for that I maintained the righteous cause.

At all events,” he went on,

“be thy diocese the first one that is ruined in Ireland and, Ruadhan, may thy monks desert thee!”

The saint retorted: “may thy kingdom droop speedily.”

Dermot said: “thy see shall be empty,

and swine shall root up thy churchyards.”

“Tara shall be desolate,” Ruadhan said,

“and therein shall no dwelling be for ever.”

Dermot said: “may shameful blemish affect thy person,”

ocus ro mebaidh lethrosc Ruadáin fó cétoir.

“go ro cirrtar do chorpsa ó naimdib” ar  
Ruadán .

“ocus co ro scáilter do boill ó chéile co ná  
fagbaiter i noeninad.”

“go tí torc allaid dono” ar Diarmait

“co ro thochla in tilaig inadnadhmaiccfiter

co ro scáilter do thaissi .

ocus co rab conuall con allta fót reilic gach  
nóna ocus éigem gacha etarthratha innti .

ocus nárab [*ms. nar rab*] iat a manaig féin  
áitrebait innti.”

“in glún ná ro tócbadh remomsa dono” ar  
Ruadán

“ná ro hadhnaicter frit chorpsa é.”

is ann sin atchuingid Ruadán in dubthemell  
isin tellaig

agus phléasc leathshúil Ruáin ar an toirt.

“Ciorrú ar do chorpsa ag naimhdibh,” arsa  
Ruán,

“agus go scaiptear do bhaill ó chéile i dtreo  
nach bhfaighfear san aon áit iad.”

“Go dtaga torc allta, más ea,” arsa Diarmaid,

“an tulach ina gcuirfear thú go dtócha sé,

go scaiptear do thaisí;

agus go raibh conuall con allta ar fud do  
reilige gach nónin, agus béiceach gach eadartha  
inti;

agus nárbh iad a manaigh féin a bheidh ag  
áitreabh inti.”

“An ghlúin seo nár ardaíodh romhamsa,” arsa  
Ruán,

“nár adhlactar le do chorpa í.”

Ansin ghuigh Ruán an dúscamall ar an  
teallach

and straightway one of Ruadhan’s eyes burst.

Ruadhan said: “be thy body mangled by  
enemies,

and thy limbs disintegrated so that they be not  
found in the one place.”

Dermot said: “may there a wild boar come

that he grub up the hill on which thou shalt be  
buried,

and that thy relics be scattered;

also at nones continually be there in thy  
churchyard howling of ‘wild hounds’ [*i.e.*  
wolves], and the alarm-cry every evening;

neither be they its own monks that shall dwell  
in it.”

Ruadhan said: “the knee that was not lifted in  
reverence before me,

be not the same sepulchred with thy body.”

Then upon the royal hearth Ruadhan  
impreached the blackness of darkness:

co ná bia dé do chlethi i Temraig co bráth.

ionas nach mbeadh deattach de mhaide  
mullaigh i dTeamhair go brách.

that nevermore in Tara should smoke issue  
from roof-tree.

## Section 15

Is ann sin ro bái Diarmait oc  
déchsain chleithi in tighi.

“is bidba duit in cleithe úcut  
ciadonéchnagtar” or Ruadán:

“is é in cleithe sin dobibar it étan

iar do chláidedh do allmarchaib.”

“t’óigriar duit a chléirig” ar sé.

lecar in cimid dóib ass iar sin ocus  
dogniat síd.

conad ann aspert Diarmait in so:—

Ansin díreach bhí Diarmaid ag  
féachaint ar mhaide mullaigh an tí.

“Is namhaid duit an maide mullaigh úd,  
cé go bhfuil tú ag féacaint air,” arsa  
Ruán;

“is é an maide mullaigh seo a bhualfear  
san éadan ort

ar do theascadh lena gclaimhte ag  
allúraigh.”

“Breith do bhéil féin duit, a chléirigh,”  
ar sé.

Ligtear an cime saor leo ansin agus  
rinne siad síocháin

go ndúirt Diarmaid ansin mar a leanas:

Just then it was that Dermot looked at the ridgebeam \*of the  
house\*.

“That beam is hostile to thee;

that roof-tree it is that shall yet be hurled upon thy face  
as thou lookest up at it,

after that by them from over sea thou shalt have been stricken  
down.”

“Cleric, take all thy will,” the king cried.

Then their prisoner is enlarged for them, and both parties  
make peace;

whereupon Dermot said this: —

“Mairg thochrus fri cléirchib cell .  
mairg nó iarrann tenn i tenn;  
biaid Temair de co fás fán .  
dom thocharsa ocus Ruadhán”

“Mairg a throideann cléirigh na gceall,  
Mairg a lorgann déine comhraic;  
Beidh Teamhair go fás ar fán,  
Ó mo chointinn-se le Ruán.”

“Alas for him that to the clergy of the churches showeth fight;  
woe to him that would contend, with giving cut for cut;  
through this — through my dissension and Ruadhan’s —  
Tara shall be desolate and clean swept.”

## Section 16

“Olc a ndernsabair a chliarcha” ar sé

“mo fhlaithessa do milliudh.

ár ní bia Eire issna haimseraib déidhencha  
[ms. déigenco] ní bus ferr anás amail ro búi  
anossa .

acht cidh fil ann” ar sé

“acht co ndernat drochríga ocus rígdamnada  
[ms. domno] ocus cuitchetharna

coinnmed for bar cellaibse ann sin .

ocus gurab iat féin benfus a mbróga díob in  
bar tighib

“Is olc a rinne sibh, a chléireacha,” ar sé,

“mo fhlaitheas-sa a mhilleadh,

óir ní bheidh Éire sna haimsírí déanacha níos  
fearr ná mar a bhí go dtí anois.

Cibé scéal é,

níl i gceist ná go ndéanfadh drochríthe agus  
rídhambnaí, agus tiarnaí i bhfreasúra,

coinmheadh ar bhur gcealla ansin,

agus gurb iadsan féin a bhainfidh a mbróga  
díobh i bhur dtithe

He went on: “evil is that which ye have  
worked, clerics

— my kingdom’s ruination;

for in the latter times Ireland shall not be  
better off than at this present she will have  
been.

But in any wise

may it be so that bad chiefs, their heirs-  
apparent, and their men of war

shall quarter themselves in your churches  
then;

and be it their own [i.e. the inhabitants’] selves  
that in your houses shall pull off such people’s  
brogues for them,

ocus ní raibe do chumang acaib a gcur uaib.”

agus nach mbeadh sé ar bhur gcumas agaibh iad a chur uaidh.”

ye being the while powerless to rid yourselves of them.”

## Section 17

Lotar na cléirig dia tigh ocus a cimidh leo

Abhaile leis na cléirigh ansin agus a gcime leo

The clergy (their prisoner with them) started for home,

co ráncatar poll Ruadáin .

nó go dtáinig siad go Poll Ruáin.

and so to Pollruane;

ocus atchiat trícha ech ndubghlass co  
nddealbaib derrscaighthecha forro oc tiachtain  
ass in muir cucu

Chonaic siad \*ag teacht\* chucu as an muir  
tríocha each dúghlas i gcló dearscnach;

but first they perceived thirty dark-grey  
horses, super-excellent in shape, that issued  
from the sea and came towards them.

ocus do radsat do'n righ iat .

thug siad don rí iad;

These they presented to the king;

ocus ro fromad iat imm a rith

promhadh iad maidir lena rith

their running was tried [against his other  
horses]

ocus robtar luatha iat .

agus fuerthas mear iad.

and they proved the speedier;

ocus do chótar na heich issin riocht cétna  
doridissi bail as a táncatar.

Ach d'imigh na heich, sa riocht céanna ina  
raibh siad, ar ais go dtí an ball as ar tháinig  
siad.

but said horses then re-assumed the identical  
form [which they had worn in the sea] and so  
returned to the same place out of which at first  
they came.

batar sídaigh iar sin Diarmait ocus na cléirig.

Bhí síocháin idir Diarmait agus na cléirigh  
ansin.

After which Dermot and the clergy were at  
peace.

## Section 18

A mbúi Diarmait i narali oidhci ocus atchí dias dia shaighid.

andar leiss écosc cléirigh forsin dara fer

ocus écoscc láich for araile.

tecait dia shaigid ocus benait a miond ríg de

ocus dogniat mionn cechtar de .

ocus búi a leth o[c] cach fior díb ocus rannat atorro amlaid sin .

tiaghait uadh la sodhain.

diuchrus Diarmait as a chotlud iar sin ocus innissid a fhís.

“fior” ol Bec mac Dé ocus ar Cáiridh mac Finnchaeime .i. fili Diarmato:

“atá lindi breth th’aislingi duit .

Bhí Diarmaid ansiúd óiche agus feiceann sé beirt chuige.

Measann sé go raibh dealramh cléirigh ar dhuine acu

agus dealramh tuata ar an duine eile.

Tagann siad chuige agus baineann siad a chorónin rí de

agus déanann siad coróin an duine di;

bhí a leath ag gach fear diobh agus roinneann siad eatarthu mar sin í.

D’imigh siad uaidh ansin.

Dhúisigh Diarmaid as a chodladh ansin agus inseann a fhís.

“Fíor dhuit,” arsa Beag Mac Dé agus arsa Cáiridh mac Fionnchaoimhe (.i. file Dhiarmada):

“tá ciall do thaibhrimh againn duit;

It was when Dermot was of a night, and he sees two draw near him:

the one man, as he deems, wears a cleric’s semblance;

the other one a layman’s.

They come up to him, take off his king’s diadem,

make of it a diadem apiece

(either man of them having one half, for so they divide it between them),

and with that depart from him.

Dermot starts out of his sleep then, and tells his vision.

“Just so,” said Beg mac Dé and said Cairidh son of Finnchaemh [his mother] that was Dermot’s poet:

“thy dream’s interpretation we have for thee:

táirnic do fhlaithes” ar sé “ocus is  
deired dot righe

ocus do bíth do greimm flatha festo for Erinn

.i. roinn etir chill ocus tuaith issedh bias ann  
festa .

ocus issedh tirchanus roinn do minn rígsa

.i. roinn fhlaitheasa [ms. ruinnd flaithisa]  
Erenn etir thaith ocus eglais .

acht chena” ar sé “tiuccfo aimser bus doer  
eglaiss do thaith

co ná bia neimtheas egulsa

acht a beith fo chuinnmedh cáich .

tiuccfa dono olcc do’n tuaith ann sin

co commuirfi do’n mac ocus do’n athair ocus  
do’n bráthair fri araili

tá do fhlaiteas thart agus tá deireadh le do  
ríogacht;

tá do għreim flatha ar Éirinn teascta feasta;

roinn idir cill is tuath, is é sin a bheidh ann  
feasta.

Agus is é a thairngríonn roinnt do chorónach  
rí-se

.i. roinnt flaitheas Éireann idir tuath agus  
Eaglais.

Ach,” ar sé, “tiochfaidh an t-am nuair a bheidh  
an eaglais ina daor ag an tuath

i dtreo nach mbeidh pribhléid fearann cille ann

ach é a bheith ag teacht faoi choimheadh  
cách.

Leanfaidh drochairsma as sin ar an tuath

i dtreo go maróidh mac athair agus bráthair  
gaoil a chéile

Thy kingdom is determined, of thy reign there  
is an end,

and for the future thy princely grasp of Ireland  
is cast off:

division between Church and Lay namely, that  
is what shall subsist now;

and that which thy royal diadem’s partition  
forbodes

is even such another apportioning of Ireland’s  
sovereignty betwixt Church and State.”

He proceeded: “a time will come when  
Church shall be enslaved by State,

and when privilege of church-lands shall not  
exist;

but they shall be obnoxious to free quartering  
at the hands of all.

In lieu of this, however, evil shall overtake the  
State:

so that the son, the father, the kinsman [of  
what degree soever], shall kill each other,

coma[dh] derga airmm cáich as a fuilib .

conbebaid talam ocus mess crann ocus torad uisci tria ainfhíor cáich.”

agus beidh arm gach duine dearg as créachta a chéile;

tré éagóir chách millfear talamh agus meas na gcrann agus toradh an uisce.”

and every man’s weapon be red with another’s blood.

By perfidy of all men [fruits of] the earth shall perish, and mast of trees, and produce of the waters.”

## Section 19

Dogníter féiss Temrach la Diarmait iarsin.

marbaid Curnán mac Oedho mic Echach tirmcharna

ó [a] fuilit síol Máilruain la Connachte

duine ocon fleidh .

ocus luid for comairce dá mac Muirchertaigh mic Ercca .i. Fergus ocus Domnall.

cuirit sin ar comairce Choluim chilli é.

marbhar oc an rígh é a cinaidh a écóra.

Comórtar Feis Teamhrach le Diarmaid ina dhiaidh sin.

Curnán mac Aodha mhic Eachach Thirmcharna

— óna dtagann Síol Mhaoilruain i gConnachta  
—

mhabraigh sé duine ag an bhfleá,

agus chuaigh faoi choimirce bheirt mhac Muirchearaigh mhic Earca .i. Fearghas agus Dónall.

Cuireann siadsan faoi choimirce Cholm Cille é.

Maraítear ag an rí é in éiric a éagóra.

Tara’s festival is held by Dermot now:

at the actual banquet Curnan (son of Aedh son of Eochaid Tirmcharna,

*a quo* Síol Maeilruain in Connacht)

kills a man,

and places himself under protection of Muirchertach mac Erca’s two sons: Fergus and Donall,

who in turn put him under Columbkill’s guarantee.

The king has him slain in expiation of his misdeemeanour,

sóait Connachtaig for Diarmait a cinaid mic in rígh do marbadh .i. Churnáin.

luid Diarmait do innrad Connacht  
co ránicc cúil sibrinne .i. a ngar do dreimne.

tinólaid Colum cilli ú Néill ín tuaisceirt  
do dighail a chomairci for Diarmait.

tecait leis dono Fergus ocus Domnall dá mac Muirchertaigh mic Ercca.

ocus Ainmire mac Sédna rí chiniuil Conaill .

ocus Nindidh mac Duach .

ocus Aed mac Echach tirmcharna

co Connachtaib laiss.

D'iompaigh Connachta ar Dhiarmaid in éiric mac an rí a mharú .i. Curnán.

D'imigh Diarmaid ag ionradh ar Chonnachta  
gur tháinig go Cúil Sibrinne i gcóngar Chúil Dreimhne.

Tionólann Colm Cille Uí Néill an tuaiscirt  
chun a té a bhí faoina choimirce a dhíolt ar Dhiarmaid.

Tagann leis go Connachta, más ea,

Fearghas agus Dónall, beirt mhac  
Mhuircheartaigh mhic Earca,  
agus Ainmhire mac Shéadna, rí Chinéil  
Chonaill,

agus Ninnidh mac Dhuach,  
agus Aodh mac Echach Thirmcharna.

and Connacht turns on Dermot: impleading him for slaughter of their king's son Curnan.

Dermot proceeds to ravage Connacht,  
and reaches Cúil Sibrinne hard by Cúil Dreimne.

In order to avenge on Dermot his violated guarantee,

Columbkill gathers clan-Neill of the North.

Along with him Fergus and Donall (Muirchertach mac Erca's two sons),

Ainmire son of Sedna king of Kinel-connell,

Muiredach mac Duach,  
and Eochaid Tirmcharna's son Aedh,

proceed into Connacht.

doghní tra Fraechán mac Tenesáin drái  
Diarmata airbri druadh etir in dá shluagh .

is ann atbert Colum cilli:

“a dia cid nach ndingma itir in ceo ciachsa in  
Erind ar líon in tslóigh do boing bretha  
díob?”:—

“Slóigh do ching a timchioll chairn .  
's macán bithi nodusmairn;  
is é mo drái ní méra .  
mac dé is ferr nach congéna

Is álainn ferus alluag .  
gá [mbíth] Baetán rissin sluag;  
fola Baetán fuilt buidhi .  
bérada héraic fuirri”

Déanann, áfach, Fraochán mac Thineasáin,  
draoi Dhiarmada, fál druadh idir an dá shlua.

Ansin is ea a dúirt Colm Cille:

“A Dhia, cumá nach gcosnaíonn tú an slua ar  
an ggeo seo in Éirinn trína ndiúltaitear ceart  
dóibh?”

“Téann slóite timpeall cairn  
Is ógánach básaithe a bhraitheann siad;  
Is é mo dhraoi nach mairfidh;  
Is fearr nach gcabhródh Mac Dé.

Is álainn a bhaineann sé éiric  
As Baothán a mharú ag an slua;  
Béarfaidh mé éiric ar a son,  
Créachta Bhaotháin fhoilt bhuí.”

But between the two armies Frechan son of  
Tenesan (Dermot's wizard) set up ‘a magic  
barrier,’

and then it was that Columkill uttered:—

“Wherefore, O God, dost Thou not fend off  
from us \*this mist in Ireland through which  
justice is denied them?”

“A throng circles around a grave;  
it is a dead youth that they see;  
it is my magician that will not live;  
it is better that God's Son would not help.

It is beautiful how he exacts reparation  
for Baetán's murder by the throng;  
I will exact reparation for her,  
the wounds of Baetán of the yellow hair.”\*

## Section 20

Ticc Tuatán mac Dímáin mac Sharáin mic  
Chormaic mic Eogain mic Néill

ocus cuiridh in airbri ndruadh tar a chiond  
ocus lingid tairsi .

ocus benaiss in gáí do'n leth anaill inn ocus  
marbtar é .

Ocus is hé oeinfer namá ránicc bás do muir  
Choluim chilli.

muidhidh for Diarmait iar sin.

“isfri féine ndremain” ar Colum cilli .

conad de ro lil in aimm ann .i. cúil dremne nó  
dreimféine.

Tháinig Tuatán mac Dhíomháin mhic Sharáin,  
mhic Cormaic, mhic Eoghain, mhic Néill

agus cuireann an fál druadh tóin thar ceann  
agus léimeann thairis,

ach bhualt ga ón taobh thall isteach ann agus  
maraítear é.

Is é amháin, áfach, de mhuintir Cholm Cille a  
fuair bás.

Briseadh ar Diarmaid ansin.

“Is in aghaidh féinní dhreamhain é,” arsa  
Colm Cille.

Is uaidh sin a lean an t-ainm ann .i. Cúil  
Dreimhne nó Dreimhfhéinne.

Tuatán (son of Dímán son of Sarán son of  
Cormac son of Eoghan son of Niall) comes  
then,

capsizes the barrier

and clears it at one jump;

but on the other side a spear meets him, enters  
him, and he is killed.

Now of all Columbkill’s people he was  
the only man whom death reached.

Then Dermot is defeated.

“It is *fri féinnidh ndremain*, i.e. a case of [[a barrier](#)] opposed to a warrior that would not be  
denied,” said Columbkill;

whence the name Cúil Dreimne, otherwise  
Cúil Dreimhfhéinne, has prevailed.

## Section 21

Luidh Diarmait co Temraig ocus aspert fri  
Beg doridisi:

“a fhioss deimin cissi haidhed nombérad.”

aspert Beg: “ní cunntabairt són:—

Cichse a Temair .  
tar fert .  
a fert fogamraig .  
a fód . a muir .  
for iláthaib Bóinne .  
seoch lecco mic Mani .  
for Sadhb .  
for Sadhbrann .  
seoch Fhorbrech .  
for carn Dreimni .  
for Dollad .  
for Daboll .  
for Daiblíne .  
for Callainn .  
for Macho .  
for Tórainn .  
for Aiss .  
for Foidhne .  
etir Challainn ocus loch .  
do fomna Déissi .

Chuaigh Diarmaid go Teamhair agus dúirt le  
Beag arís:

“Bíodh a fhios go deimhin agam cén oidhe a  
sciobfaidh léi mé.”

Dúirt Beag: “Níl amhras faoi sin:

Céimneoidh tú as Teamhair,  
Thar feart,  
As feart torthúil  
As fód, as muir,  
Ar thuamaí na Bóinne,  
Seach Leaca Mhic Mhaine,  
Ar Shadhbh,  
Ar Shadhbharr,  
Seach Forbhreach  
Ar Charn Dreimhne  
Ar Dholladh  
Ar Dhabholl,  
Ar Dhaibhlíne  
Ar Challainn  
Ar Mhacha  
Ar Thórainn  
Ar Ais  
Ar Fhoidhne  
Idir Callainn agus Loch  
Do fhomna Déise.

Dermot went to Tara and again said to Beg:

“let me have certain knowledge what manner  
of death it is that shall carry me off.”

Beg said: “that is not matter of doubt:—

\*Thou wilt go from Tara,  
across a mound,  
from a fertile mound,  
from land, from sea,  
on the graves of the Boyne,  
past Leca mic Maine,  
on Sadb,  
on Sadbrann,  
past Foibrech,  
on Carn Dreimne,  
on the river Dollad,  
on the river Daboll,  
on the river Daibline,  
on the river Callan,  
on Armagh,  
on the river Torrent,  
on Aiss,  
on Foidne  
between Callan and  
Loch Dofomna Déise.

do lith áinfir .  
foilcfid Macha do chenn .  
atcifi bu bairrne .  
íba dhigh do duirb .  
génaid fer dub tuathchaech muicc nduib a  
ceandaib muc .  
cichsi domni .  
atcí éclaind fó mindaib .  
íba brachdig oenghráinne a ráith Bic .  
ann notcurtar a Diarmait.”

Mar shéan aonair  
Nífidh Macha do cheann.  
Feicfidh tú ba Bhoirne.  
Ólfair deoch de chruimh.  
Maróidh fear dubh ar lethshúil chlé muc  
dhubh as príomh-mhuca.  
Céimneoidh tú doimhne.  
Feiceann tú díbheargach faoi chorónacha.  
Ólfair deoch bracha aonghráinne i Rath  
Bheag.  
Is ann a chuirfear thú, a Dhíarmaid.”

For a solitary omen,  
Macha will wash thy head.  
Thou wilt see the cows of Burren.  
Thou wilt drink a drink with a worm in it.  
A dark one-eyed man will kill a black pig  
from the best of pigs.  
Thou wilt plumb depths.  
Thou seest a brigand under a crown;\*  
in Beg’s rath thou shalt drink a malt-drink of a  
single grain;  
and there it is that thou shalt be laid, Dermot.”

## Section 22

“Mo fhlaith dom éisi cia cruth ambia?” ol  
Diarmait.

Is ann cachain Bec so:—

“Mo ríocht i mo dhiaidh — cén chaoi ina  
mbeidh sí?” arsa Diarmaid.

Is ansin a chan Beag é seo:

“My kingdom after me — after what fashion  
shall it be?” asked Dermot;

and then it was that Beg enunciated this: —

“Olc bith aromthá .  
daera fir .  
saera mná .  
mess fás .  
fidh cáin .  
olc bláth .  
ili gáith .  
samh fliuch .  
ith nglass .  
immat buar .  
terc ass .  
midhbuidh tromm in gach téar .  
caeil tuircc .  
uilcc ríg .  
fior nolcc .  
guin gnáth .  
bith críon .  
lón ráth .  
atiat flaithi dodufiucfat .  
ó Niall co Niall .  
ó bruidhi co bruidhi .  
Niall i muir .  
Niall i nguin .  
Niall i tein .  
Niall dia .  
Niall fuba in cach naidhigh .  
iar coscradh Ailigh.”

“Is olc an saol atá chugam;  
Beidh fir daor,  
Mná saor,  
Meas crann folamh,  
Coill caoin,  
Bláth olc,  
Gaotha iomadúil,  
Samhradh fliuch,  
Arbhar glas,  
Iomad bó,  
Bainne tearc.  
Beidh muirir trom i ngach dúiche,  
Toirc seang,  
Ríthe olc,  
Ceart éagórach.  
Beidh bású ina ghnás.  
Beidh an bhith ar feo.  
Beidh rátha líonmhar.  
Is iad na ríthe a shroichfidh í i do dhiaidh:  
Ó Niall go Niall,  
ó fhearrann go fearann,  
Niall i muir,  
Niall i mbású,  
Niall i dtine,  
Niall i ndé.  
Niall le fogha gach oíche  
ar thoghail Ailigh.”

“An evil world is now at hand:  
in which men shall be in bondage,  
women free;  
mast wanting,  
woods smooth,  
blossom bad;  
winds many,  
wet summer,  
green corn;  
much cattle,  
scant milk;  
dependants burdensome in every country,  
hogs lean,  
chiefs wicked;  
bad faith,  
chronic killing;  
a world withered,  
raths in number.  
These be the princes that shall succeed thee: —  
[The kingdom shall revolve] from Niall to Niall,  
from land to land:  
a Niall by sea;  
a Niall in slaying;  
a Niall in fire;  
\*a Niall by day;\*  
a Niall to hew down in every night,  
after the wrecking of Ailech.”

## Section 23

“Tabar chucainn ár ndráithe [ms. ndraidhiu]”  
ar Diarmait

“co finnam an inann ní contirchanat dúinn  
ocus Becc.”

“amarus dogní foromsa” ol Becc.

luidh Bec as iarum tria luinne ocus  
ainNSEirrg ó Diarmait .

sluag már ina deoidh oc cuincid fháistine fair .

conacca Colum cilli ar a chionn .

bennachais dó.

“is amra in fháistine” ar Colum cilli:

“is ó dia atá in fioss mórsa tucad duit.”

“atlóchamar do Dia” ol Becc.

“Tabhair chugainn ár ndraoithe,” arsa  
Diarmaid

“féachaint an ionann a dtairngreacht dúinn  
agus tairngreacht Bhig.”

“Tá amhras air fúmsa,” arsa Beag.

D’imigh Beag leis ó Dhiarmaid ansin faoi  
fhearg agus faoi fhíoch

agus slua mór ina dhiaidh ag iarraidh fáistine  
air,

nó go bhfaca sé Colm Cille as a chomhair.

Bheannaigh dó.

“Is iontach í an fháistine,” arsa Colm Cille,

“is ó Dhia an fios mór seo a tugadh duit.”

“Beirimid a bhuióchas le Dia,” arsa Beag.

“Be our magicians brought to us,” Dermot  
said,

“that we ascertain whether it be the one thing  
that they and Beg forbode for us.”

“He doubts me does he,” says Beg;

and thereupon in great anger and in vindictive  
dudgeon goes out from Dermot,

having after him a great crowd that begged of  
him a prophecy,

and so on until he saw Columbkill that  
awaited him.

He saluted him,

and Columbkill said: “it is a marvellous  
prophecy;

from God comes this great foreknowledge that  
is vouchsafed thee.”

“God we thank for the same,” Beg answered.

“in fetarais lá do báis féin?” ar Colum cille.

“rotfetar ám a chléirig” ar Bec: “atát secht mbliadna dom shoegal.”

“is amra sin” ar Colum cilli “dia ndéntar friss má fíor dono” or Colum cilli.

“ní fíor” or Bec: “ní fil acht secht míosa dom shaegul.”

“iss maith más fíor” or Colum cilli.

“ní fíor” ar Bec: “ní fil acht secht nuaire in lái dom shaegul .  
commán ocsus sacarbic dom co luath!”

is iar sin ro berr in cléirech é  
ocsus do rat commun ocsus sacarfic do  
ocsus do chuaid dochum nimi.

“An bhfeadar tú lá do bháis féin?” arsa Colm Cille.

“Tá a fhios sin agam, a chléirigh,” arsa Beag, “tá seacht mbliana de mo shaol agam.”

“Is iontach sin,” arsa Colm Cille, “don té dá ndéantar amhlaidh leis,  
más fíor sin go deimhin,” arsa Colm Cille.

“Ní fíor,” arsa Beag, “níl ach seacht mí de mo shaol agam.”

“Is maith más fíor,” arsa Colm Cille.

“Ní fíor,” arsa Beag, “níl ach seacht n-uaire an lae de mo shaol agam.”

Comaoineach agus sacraimint dom go luath!”

Ansin thug an cléireach bearradh baithis dó,  
agus thug comaoineach agus sacraimint dó  
agus d’imigh sé ar neamh.

Columkill enquired then: “knowest thou thine own death’s day?”

“Cleric, I know it well,” quoth Beg: “there are yet seven years of my life.”

“That is a grand thing for him to whom it is so done;  
if indeed it be true,” said Columkill.

“It is not true,” Beg said: “there are but seven months of my life.”

“Good again, if it be true,” said Columkill.

“It is not true,” Beg said: “there are of my life but seven hours of the day  
— speedily let me have communion and the sacrifice!”

Then the cleric tonsured him,  
gave him communion and sacrifice,  
and he went [presently] to Heaven.

ro bói i tarrngairiu do Bhiuc trí góa [ms. do big .3.<sup>a</sup> goo] do radha ria techt do écaib .

ar nidébairt gaoi riam gusan uair sin.

ar oenlus iarum do dechaid Colum cilli ar a chionnsom .

ár ro fhitir a ég isin ló sin fó chétóir.

Bhí sé i dtairngreacht do Bheag trí bréaga a rá roimh dul in éagaibh,

mar ní dúirt sé bréag riamh go dtí an uair sin.

Tháinig Colm Cille d'aonghnó ina choinne

mar bhí a fhios aige go raibh sé ag fáil bháis ar an toirt an lá sin.

Now it had stood prophesied for Beg that before he attained to death he must utter three falsehoods [as above];

for up to that hour he never had told a lie.

For the same reason also it was that Columbkill sought him out,

for he knew that in that day he had to die incontinently.

## Section 24

Tuccaid iar sin a dráithe gu Diarmait

ocus ro fhiarfaig díob cissi bás no ragad.

“marbodh” ol in cétna drái:

“ocus léne oenroisne

ocus brat d’olainn oenchoerach

bias umat a naidhci do báis.”

Tugadh a dhraoithe ina dhiaidh sin go Diarmaid

agus d’fhiarfraigh sé dóibh cén bás a gheobhadh.

“Bású,” arsan chéad draoi,

“agus is fallaing d’eon síol líн,

agus brat d’olann aon chaorach

a bheidh umat oíche do bháis.”

His magicians [as aforesaid] were \*then\* brought to Dermot,

and he enquired of them what manner of death he should encounter.

“Slaughter,” said the first magician:

“and ’tis a shirt grown from a single flax-seed,

with a mantle of one sheep’s wool,

that on the night of thy death shall be about thee.”

“uruso lium a sechna” ol Diarmait.

“bádhud” ol in drái ali:

“ocus cuirmm oengráinde  
rusfáidfe in adhaigh sin.”

“losccud” ol in tress drái:

“ocus saill muicci ná ro genair  
issedh bias for do méis.”

“is écsamail [ms. exsamail] sin” ar Diarmait.

“Is furasta dom é sin a sheachaint,” arsa  
Diarmaid.

“Bá,” arsan dara draoi,

“agus is corm aon ghráinne  
a sheolfaidh anon thú an oíche sin.”

“Loscadh,” arsan tríu draoi

“agus is saill muice nach rugadh  
a bheidh ar do phláta.”

“Ní dócha sin,” arsa Diarmaid.

“A light matter it is for me to evade that,”  
Dermot said.

“Drowning,” said the second magician:

“and it is ale brewed of one grain of corn  
that thou shalt despatch that night.”

“Burning,” quoth the third wizard:

“and bacon of swine that never was farrowed  
— that is what shall be on thy dish.”

Dermot said: “all this is unlikely.”

## Section 25

Luid Diarmait iar sin for a cuairt rígi deissil  
Erenn .

ár iss amlaid no caithedh rí Temrach Erinn

.i. a Temraig illaighnib .

ocus a sidéin a Mumain .

D’imigh Diarmaid ina dhiaidh sin ar a chuairt  
rí deiseal Éireann,

óir is mar seo a chaitheadh rí Teamhrach féile  
Éireann

.i. ó Theamhair go Laighin,

agus as sin go Mumhain,

Then on his regal circuit Dermot [set out and  
travelled right-handed [i.e. south and west  
about] round Ireland,

\*for thus it was that the king of Tara toured  
Ireland,\*

that is to say: from Tara into Leinster;  
thence into Munster;

ocus as sin i Connachtaib .	agus as sin go Connachta	thence into Connacht,
ocus for cóicedh Ulad fó deoidh .	agus i gCúige Uladh faoi dheoidh	and *finally* athwart Ulster's province;
contoirched co Temraig i gcionn úidhe na bliadna forsin samfuin	nó go sroicheadh Teamhair i gclabhsúr thuras na bliana um Shamhain	so that at the end of a year's progress he would by <i>samhain</i> again reach Tara
do fritháilim na samhna ocus fer nErenn im féiss Temrach.	le freastal ar Shamhain agus ar fhír Éireann um Fheis Teamhrach.	in time to perform his <i>samhain</i> -tide office and to meet the men of Ireland at Tara's festival.

## Section 26

Dia mbái Diarmait laa nann forsiann cuairt sin confaco in laech cuice issintech.	Lá dá raibh Diarmaid ar an gcuairt sin, chonaic sé an laoch chuige isteach.	One day then as Dermot was on this circuit, he saw a warrior enter the house to him and: “whence comest thou?” he asked.
“can do dechais?” or Diarmait.	“Cad as a tháinig tú?” arsa Diarmaid.	“Not from any distance,” he replied:
“ní do chéin” ar sé.	“Ní ó chéin,” ar sé.	“come along and spend with me a night of guestly entertainment.”
“tair liumsa” ol in tóglaeach “co tórmala adhaigh noeghoidhechta lium.”	“Tar liomsa,” arsan t-óglach, “go gcaithfidh tú oíche aíochta liom.”	“Good,” said Dermot, “tell Mughain.”
“maith” ol Diarmait: “abair fri Mugain.”	“Tá go maith,” arsa Diarmaid, “abair <u>sin</u> le Mugain.”	“Not so,” she answered:
“nitó” ar Mugain:	“Ní hamhlaidh a bheidh,” arsa Mugain,	

“ní raghatsa [ms. radhatso] for cuiredh [ms. curith] céin bam beo .

ocus is tar mo shárughad dia nísairsi (*sic*)

ár is drochscél duit tocht for cuiredh.”

“ní rachaidh mé ar cuireadh fad is beo dom.  
cúirth] céin bam beo .

Agus má chaitheann tusa béis, is do mo  
shárú-sa a dhéanfaidh tú sin,

mar is drochscéal duit dul ar cuireadh.”

“so long as I live, never will I go on an  
invitation;

and if thou eat [with him], it is in my despite:

for to go upon an invitation will [so 'tis prophesied] have an ill event for thee.”

## Section 27

Téit Diarmait la Banbán do ráith bicc.

ó ro deissedar ann issin tigh

confaccatar ógmáí gcoim co nerrad  
nderrscaighthe istech.

“can do'n mnái?” ol Diarmaid.

“inghen damsá” ol Banbán

“ucus fáidfidh latsa innocht ar ulccaib ri  
Mughain [ms. ria Mumain] ór ná táinnic  
liumsa.”

“is maith lium” or Diarmait.

Chuaigh Diarmaid le Banbhán go Ráth Bheag.

Nuair a shuigh siad chun boird ann sa teach,  
chonaic siad ógbhean chaomh in éide  
dhearscnach chucu isteach.

“Cad as don bhean?” arsa Diarmaid.

“Iníon domsa,” arsa Banbhán,

“agus luífidh sí leatsa anocht mar olc ar  
Mhughain mar nár tháinig sí liomsa.”

“Tá go maith,” arsa Diarmaid.

With Banbhan [that bade him] Dermot goes to  
Rathbeg,

and when they were set down in the house

they saw a graceful young woman enter, with  
raiment that was rarely fine.

“Whence the woman?” Dermot queried.

Banbhan made answer: “a daughter to me she  
is

and, to spite Mughain because she came not  
with me, the girl shall this night be thy wife.”

“I am well pleased,” quoth the king.

dergaiter [ms. degoiter] leabaidh dóib co róisc taisealbadh bíd.

Cóiríodh leaba dóibh nó gur réitíodh bia os a gcomhair.

Pending the preparation of meat a bed was made for them, and [the meal being now ready]

## Section 28

“Maith a ben” ol Banbán fria a ingin: “in fil étach lat do’n rígh?”

“fil” ol indingen.

dobeir léne as in crieol (*sic*) ocus [bra]t .

ocus nusgaib in rí uimmi.

“is maith in léne” or cách.

“is dingbhála [ms. dinmalo] duit” ol Banbán “in léne oenruaissni .

ingen imtholtanach lium inningen uccut .

issí dorinne [inn]oenróissne do chur co nderna scuab de .

comlán immaire eiséin.”

“is maith in brat” or cách.

“Sea, a bhean,” arsa Banbhán lena iníon, “an bhfuil éadach agat don rí?”

“Tá,” arsan iníon.

Thóg sí fallaing agus brat as a ciseán

agus chuir an rí an fhallaing uime.

“Is maith í an fhallaing,” arsa cách.

“Fallaing do dhiongbhála,” arsa Banbhán, “is ea an fhallaing aon ghráinne lín seo.

Iníon dúilmhear liom an iníon úd.

Ise a chuir an t-aon ghráinne lín go ndearna punann de;

lán iomaire é sin.”

“Is maith é an brat,” arsa cách.

Banbhan said \*to his daughter\*: “Well, girl, hast thou brought raiment for the king?”

“I have,” she said,

and handed shirt and mantle,

which the king took and put on.

“Tis a good shirt,” said all.

“It is one worthy of thee,” said Banbhan, “being the shirt of one flax-seed:

a fanciful girl is that one there,

and she it was that sowed a single seed of flax and made a strike of it,

which then became a ridge-full.”

“Tis a good mantle,” cried all.

“is maith” ol Banbán: “d’olainn oenchaerach dorónad.”

“Is maith,” arsa Banbán, “d’olann aon chaorach a rinneadh.”

“Good it is,” said Banbhan: “of a single sheep’s wool ’tis made.”

## Section 29

Tucad iar sin biadh ocus lionn dóib.

Tugadh bia agus lionn dóibh ansin.

Then meat and liquor were supplied to them,

“is maith in tsail [ms. in shaill] muici nad ro genair” or Banbán.

“Is maith í saill na muice nár rugadh riamh,” arsa Banbhán.

and said Banbhan: “the bacon that never was farrowed is good.”

“cinnus?” or Diarmait.

“Conas?” arsa Diarmaid.

“How so?” asked Dermot.

“ní annsa . muc[a] ainighi ro gabtha scena dóib

“Ní ansa. Muca troma ar imríodh sceana orthu

“\*Easily said.\* It was pigs that were with young: they took knives to them

co tucta a noircc eistip até beoa

gur tugadh a mbanbhaí astu beo

so that their piglings (and they alive) were extracted from them,

ocus gurro biata.”

agus gur beathaíodh iad.”

and fattened afterwards.”

“is maith in choirm” ar cách.

“Is maith í an chuirm,” arsa cách.

“Tis good ale,” said all.

“iss maith” or Banbán: “is coirm oengráindi.

“Is maith,” arsa Banbhán, “is cuirm aon ghráinne í.

“Good it is,” said Banbhan, “ale brewed of a single grain of corn:

laa do chudadassa [ms. chódusao] amach do deiscin m’arathair ocus ro marbas ferán eighinn

Lá dá ndeachaigh mé amach ag féachaint ar m’ithir, mharaigh mé colúr;

it was one day that I went out to survey my tillage, and I killed a ringdove;

fríth grainne ina egán ocus ní fess cid arbar.

ro laad i cionn imaire co tucadh serrmír de .

ro cuiredh iarum conad é a arbar ocus a  
chuirm in so [ms. ann so].”

fuarthas gráinne síl ina eagán, ach níorbh eol  
céin t-arbhar é.

Cuireadh in iomaire é agus baineadh lán  
corráin de.

Cuireadh arís é ionas gurb é seo a ghrán agus a  
chuirm.”

in whose crop was found one grain, but of  
what cereal was unknown.

It was committed to a ridge however, and its  
yield was a sickle-full.

This again was sown, and this is its produce in  
the shape of ale” [lit. ‘this is its corn and its  
ale.’]

## Section 30

Ro déch iar sin Diarmait suas.

“is nua íochtar in tighi” ar Diarmait “ocus ní  
hóg a uachtar.”

“fechtas do chuamarne [ms. comarne]” ar  
Banbán “i curchaib do gabáil éisc

conaccamar cleithe in tige cugainn do’n fairge  
. .

dorónad liumsa ar a ingantus tech de.”

“is fior” olse Diarmait: “dobretha fáistini Big  
ocus na ndruadh dom oidhidse ocus dobretha  
aithrigi co léir .

D’fhéach Diarmaid in airde ansin.

“Is nua íochtar an tí,” arsa Diarmaid, “ach ní  
óg a uachtar.”

“Chuamar tráth,” arsa Banbhán, “i gcurach ag  
gabháil éisc

agus chonacamar maide mullaigh tí chugainn  
de dhroim na farraige.

Le barr iontais faoi, rinnead teach de liomsa.”

“Is fior,” arsa Diarmaid, “mar a tugadh  
fáistine Bhig agus na ndruadh faoi m’oidhe-se,  
agus tá athríogadh déanta go cruinn.

After this Dermot looked upwards,

and said: “the lower part of the house is new,  
but its upper-work is not recent.”

Banbhan answered: “it was once upon a time  
that in currachs we went to take fish,

and we saw towards us the ridgebeam of a  
house that floated on the sea.

For the curiosity of the thing I had a house  
made with it.”

Dermot said now: “truthfully was Beg’s  
prophecy \*and that of the druids concerning  
my death and the end of my rule\* uttered.

is é so mo techsa” ar Diarmait .

“amach dún a óga” ol sé.

lais sin [*ms. laisin*] lingidsium féisin do dul amach.

“Acc! is í so do shlige [*ms. shligid*]!” ar Aed dub a ndorus in tighi

ac tabairt in gáí ina bruinni co ro éimid a druim tríd.

sóaidh issin tech iar sin .

gabsat Ulaid amuig immon tech

ocus loiscester iarum in tech forru .

luidsium in tí Diarmaid issin dabaigh chormma co ro thuit féicce in tighi ina chionn [*ms. cn.*] comba marbh de.

Is é seo mo theachsa,” arsa Diarmaid.

“Amach linn, a laochra,” ar sé.

Leis sin cuireann sé féin léim as le dul amach.

“Féach! Is é seo an tslí!” arsa Aodh Dubh i ndoras an tí

agus é ag cur ga ina ucht gur bhris a dhroim tríd.

D’iompaig Darmaid ar ais isteach sa teach;

thimpeallaigh Ulaidh an teach lasmuigh

agus loisceadh ansin an teach sa mhullach orthu.

Chuaigh Diarmaid isteach so dabhach cuirme gur thit maide mullaigh an tí ar a cheann agus d’fhág sin marbh é.

\*This is the house appointed for me,” said Dermot.

“Out of the fort, warriors,” he said,\*

and with that \*he himself\* sprang to get out.

“\*No!\* This is thy way!” said Black Aedh in the doorway \*of the house\*,

giving him at the same a spear in the breast that pierced him through and so broke his spine.

Then Dermot turns back into the house;

on the outside, Ulster surrounds the dwelling,

and the same is burnt upon them [that are in it].

Dermot himself [seeking refuge from the flames] entered the ale-vat, and anon the mansion’s roof-tree fell on his head so that he died [*lit. ‘so that he was dead of it.’*]

## Section 31

Marbtar ocus loiscter corp in rígh ann a  
négmais a chind.

dobretha iar sin a chend ocus a thaissi co  
cluain mac Nóis

cor hadhnaicedh isin chlaoín ferta nó isin  
céiti .

ár is ann ro thogh féin a adnacal

in tan do throiscc i neglais bicc

dia ro híccadh do'n chenngalur

iar fertain a throsci fri noemaib Erenn

ocus iar néimded a ícca co riacht sin.

is do'n aidhid so ro canadh so:—

Maraítear agus loisctear ansiúd corp an rí,  
seachas a cheann.

Tugadh a cheann agus a thaisí go Cluain  
Mhac Nóis

agus adhlacadh iad sa Claonfhearta, nó sa  
Chéide,

mar is ansin a thogh sé féin é a adhlacadh

nuair a throisc sé san Eaglais Bheag

arna leigheas ón ngalar cinn

tar éis dó a throscadh a dhéanamh in  
aghaidh naoimh Éireann

agus gur diúltáiodh a leigheas gur tháinig  
ansin.

Is den oidhe seo a canadh é seo:

Thus perished the king; and his body was consumed  
all but the head,

which with his relics was carried to Clonmacnoise

and buried in [the slope called] the Claen Ferta or  
otherwise the Céite;

for there it was that he

(what time he fasted in Eglais Bheg,

whereby he was healed of his head-sickness

after he had done his fasting against the saints of  
Ireland,

his cure having previously been denied him)

had elected to be laid.

Concerning which death it was that this was  
pronounced:—

“Indóin dítin i ráith Bic .  
díth Diarmata fa muiric;  
díbdath flatha ilar cath .  
mairg fairccfi a imbrath.”

Conid í aidhed [ms. ag.] Diarmata mic  
Cerbaill in so

.i. cerrball .i. cerrbeol .i. bél cerr.

*Finit.*

“Ar an aoine i Ráth Bheag,  
Díthiodh Diarmaid ba cheannaire;  
Íde flatha — iolar cath —  
Mairg a sholáthróidh a mhórbaith.”

Gurab é sin oidhe Dhiarmada mhic  
Cearbhaill

.i. cearr bhall .i. cearrbheol .i. béal cearr.

*Finit.*

“The spell of shelter in Rathbeg  
— loss of Dermot that was . . .  
— extinction of a prince — abundance of battles —  
alas for him that shall contrive his utter destruction.”

And this is the death of Dermot son of Cerball

(which is as much as to say *cerrball*, i.e. *ceirrbheol*,  
i.e. *bél cerr*).

*Finis.*