

Forbuis Droma Damhghaire

The siege of Knocklong

Note to the reader

In her edition, Sjoestedt notes that the last four sentences of the text in Section 42 in her edition should logically appear at the end of Section 39. In this presentation, this material is rearranged accordingly. While Sjoestedt places the rhetorics in an Appendix, in this presentation they are incorporated into the text.

Section 1

Dá shaorclaind socheneoil batar ind
Erinn;

as iat luatter o sunn amach

.i. Fiacha Muilleathan mac Eoguin dalta Moga
Ruith

ocus Cormac mac Airt mheic Cuinn.

Ocus in oenlo ro marbait a dha n-athair i cath
Mucraimhe;

ind oenlo amh doronuit

Bhí beirt fhear in Éirinn agus b'uasal
sochineálach iad;

is orthu siúd a bheimid ag trácht as seo amach.

Is ionann iad agus Fiacha Moilleathan mac
Eoin, dalta Mhogh Roith

agus Cormac mac Airt mhic Choinn.

Maraíodh aithreacha na beirte an lá céanna i
gCath Mhucraimhe,

Gineadh an bheirt an lá céanna, *áfach,*

Two freemen there were in Ireland; of noble
stock were they

and it is of these two our tale will tell.

They were none other than Fiacha Moilleathan
mac Eoin who was a pupil of Mogh Roith,

and Cormac mac Airt, son of Conn.

It was on the same day that their fathers were
killed at the Battle of Mucraimhe.

It was on the same day also that they were
conceived

.i. in Mhairt re ndul a cath Muighi Mucraimhe;

ind oenló aili ruait .i. in Mhairt i cind secht mis on Mairt sin ocus dano da shechtmhisaignat diblinaibh.

Ro ghabh Cormac righi nEirenn fria ré fhoda;

i cinn treill iarum ro ghabh Fiacha righi Mhúnan fria linn Cormaic.

— 'sé sin le rá ar an Máirt roimh dhul go Cath Mhá Mhucraimhe.

Rugadh iad an lá céanna — 'sé sin le rá ar an Máirt seacht mí i ndiaidh na Máirt sin. Dá bhri sin, rugadh an bheirt acu taobh istigh de sheacht mí.

Ghabh Cormac rígh Éireann ar feadh i bhfad,

agus mar an gcéanna, ghlac Fiacha seilbh ar ríocht na Mumhan *le linn rígh Chormaic*.

— on the Tuesday before their fathers went off to fight in the Battle of Mucraimhe.

Therefore, they were born on the same Tuesday — seven months after the Tuesday of their conception — a space of seven months.

Cormac became King of Ireland and reigned for a long period.

Fiacha, too, became king of Munster *during Cormac's reign*.

Section 2

No bidh cach oc tuaruscайл tighi Oenghusa mac ind oicc do Chormac.

“Nu con fhir ei der [leg. eider] sin” ar Cormac.

“Cidh on?” ar siatt.

“Damad fhir” arse

“na chu bheinn-si i tigh scrutain ghaeisi m'aonar, amal bim,

Bhíodh fonn ar gach duine cur síos a dhéanamh ar Theach Aonghusa an Mac Óg do Chormac.

“Ní fíor pioc de seo,” a dúirt Cormac.

“Cén fáth nach fíor?” ar siadsan.

“Má b’fhíor é,” a dúirt Cormac,

“ní bheinn anseo i mo theach i m'aonar ag scrúdú gaoise faoi mar a bhím

Everybody was bent on describing to Cormac the house of Aonghus an Mac Óg.

“Nothing of this is true,” said Cormac.

“Why not?” said they.

“If it were true,” said Cormac,

“I would not be here all alone in my house of Wisdom-Studies as I usually am

gan tiachtain uadha-som dom fhis-sa

no gan a thiachtain fein”.

Or is amluid no bid Cormac i tighibh ruin a
aonar ag breith breithe,

ar ba he fein fa britheamh dho;

sesiumh iomorro ocus Cairbre Liffieachair
ocus Fithil

ro chuirset firbretha ocus senchus artus.

Ro hindised d'Aonghus sin

ocus ro ghab tus a fesa ocus a eoluis

ar forfidir as d'fhiabraighidh neith de bai in fer
amlaid sud ica eileaghadh, ocus ro faillsigid
d'Aonghus sin.

Ocus tainic la n-oen isin tech i raibi Cormac

ocus nir forbonn [leg. forlonn] do in cruth
ocus int ecasc i tainic

gan duine éigin a theacht uaidh chugamsa,

nó, fiú amháin, Aonghus féin.

Óir is amhlaidh a bhíodh Cormac i dtithe rúin
ina aonar ag tabhairt breitheanna,

mar breitheamh chomh maith le rí ba ea é.

Ba iad Cormac féin agus Cairbre Lifeachair
agus Fithil *, áfach,*

na daoine a chuir cúrsai dlí agus seanchais ar
bhonn daingean i dtús báire.

D'insíodh é seo go léir d'Aonghus

agus bhaileigh sé a chuid eolais agus feasa le
chéile

toisc gur foilsíodh dó gur mhian le Cormac
ceisteanna a chur air faoin ábhar sin.

Lá áirithe tháinig sé go teach Chormaic,

agus gan dada ina chruth a thaispeánfad

without a visit from somebody from Aonghus'
house

or indeed from Aonghus himself.”

For Cormac was accustomed to be in his
secret chamber giving judgments,

for he himself was judge as well as king.

It was Cormac himself and Cairbre Lifeachair
and Fithil *, however,*

who were the first to draw up the correct
procedures in matters of law and tradition.

All of this became known to Aonghus

and he collected all his knowledge and
wisdom together

for it was revealed to him that it was of this
that Cormac wished to question him.

On a certain day he appeared in Cormac's
house

but nothing *in his appearance* indicated

mar bud amhus do amhsaibh Cormaic thised ann

ocus do shuidh ishin leith ba sia o Chormac don tigh.

nár dhuine de ghnáthamhais Chormaic é.

Shuigh sé síos sa chuid sin den teach ba shia ó Chormac.

that he was other than one of Cormac's ordinary mercenaries

and he sat in the part of the house furthest removed from Cormac.

Section 3

Faidh immorro gach flaith ocus ro fiarfaigh [Co]rmac:

“In bhad tú in fer do bimis d'eileagadh?”

— “As me amh”, ar Aengus

“agus cidh uma ndernais mh'eileagadh?”

— “Air badhus duit do fhiafraigid dhiod mh'imthusa

ma ro fhetrais”.

— “Ra fhetur” or se.

— “In mbia turbhrod oram-sa?” ar Cormac.

— “Biaidh amh”, ar Aenghas

“ocus tucadh do ragha dhuid;

Is fáidh gach flaith, áfach, agus dá bhrí sin d'fhiafraigh Cormac:

“An tusa an fear atá á lorg againn?”

“Is mé do deimhin,” arsa Aonghus,

“agus cén fáth gur dhein tú mé a lorg?”

“Chun ceist a chur ort faoi mo chinniúint,

má tá an t-eolas sin agat.”

“Tá an t-eolas sin agam,” arsa Aonghus.

“An mbainfidh tubaiste dom?” arsa Cormac.

“Bainfidh, *go deimhin,*” arsa Aonghus,

“ach tá rogha agat.

However, as every prince is a prophet, Cormac enquired of him:

“Are you the man we are seeking?”

“I am indeed,” said Aonghus,

“and why were you seeking me?”

“Because I wanted to ask you about my future,

that is, if you have knowledge of it.”

“I have knowledge of it,” said Aonghus.

“Will disaster overtake me?” said Cormac.

“It will, *indeed,*” said Aonghus,

“but you have been given a choice.

<u>Cé acu is fearr leat</u>	<u>Which do you prefer</u>
in a túis no a medon no in fa dheoigh ragus fort in turbrod soin?"	— tubaiste a bheith ort i dtús nó i meán nó i ndeireadh do ríge?"
— “Tabar maith ar tus ocus fa deoigh dhamh” ar Cormac,	“Cuir an rath orm i dtús agus i ndeireadh mo ríge
“ocus intan bus fearr mu righi, a medhon mh’aeisi, tabhar claochlódh ar mu rathaibh; ocus cia ret eiter?” ar Cormac.	agus bíodh an mí-ádh orm agus mé i mbarr mo réime um meán aoise.
“Tria funirbthe . . . ” ar Aengus:	Ach, ar aon chuma, cén saghas tubaiste a bheidh ann?”
“Boidhith do thiachtain red linn cu mba hiaraidh en bho i Finnib ocus Luaidnib ocus i seacht colamnuib na Temhrach ocus it portaibh-si fadesin”.	“Galar bó a bheidh ann le do linn agus obair in aisce duit bó a fháil i bhFinnibh nó i gCúige Laighean nó i measc seacht dtreibh na Teamhrach nó i do cheantracha féin.”
— “Cia ret as-a tic damh-sa sin?” ar Cormac.	“Cén fáth go mbeidh <u>a leithéid de mhí-ádh</u> orm-sa?” arsa Cormac.
“Ni atber-sa frit-sa sin”, ar Aengus, “acht aenní aderim rit:	“Ní inseoidh mé é sin duit,” arsa Aonghus, “ach aon ní a deirim leat:
	— the disaster to occur at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of your reign?”
	“Give me prosperity at the beginning and end of my reign
	and when I am at the high point of my career at middle age let misfortune fall.
	What is it anyway?”
	“A cattle disease will occur in your time and you will search in vain for a cow throughout Finn and Leinster and the seven tribes of Tara and throughout your own territories.”
	“Why will this happen to me?” said Cormac.
	“I will not tell you that,” said Aonghus, “but I will tell you this one thing;

do mhaicne fein do tabhuit dot reir

ocus gan comairli do mna na do mogad na do
rechtaire do dhenamh”.

Ocus ro ceileabuir iarsin do Cormac ocus ro
imthigh don Brugh.

déan do chomhairle féin

gan comhairle mná ná mogh ná reachtaire a
dhéanamh.”

Leis sin, d’fhág Aonghus slán *do Chormac*
agus d’imigh abhaile go Brú na Bóinne.

be guided by your own decision

and do not accept the advice of a woman, or a
slave, or a steward.”

With that, Aonghus said goodbye to Cormac
and returned to Brú na Bóinne.

Section 4

Ocus do chan Cormac in laid ag tabhuit
tuaruscbala an oglaign da mhuinntir:

“Tarfas damh ar bru Temrach:
oclac aluinn ildeallbach.
Caeime ina gach caem a cruth-
timthugach oir na edguth.

Timpan aircit an-a laimh-
fa h-or derg teta an timpain.
Binne ina gach ceol fo nimh-
foghur tet an timpain sin.

Fleasc gu cairche ced-ceol cain.
uasa chinn fo dha n-enaib.
ocus na h-eoin (nír mhodh mer)-
bitis oc a airpheitedh.

Agus chan Cormac laoi ag tabhairt tuarascála ar
an óglach dá mhuintir féin i dTeamhair:

“Taibhsíodh dom i mbrú na Teamhrach,
óglach álainn ildealbhach.
Níos caoimhe ná gach caomh a chruth,
imeall óir ar a éadach.

Tiompán airgid ina láimh aige,
ba d’ór dearg téada an tiompán.
Níos binne ná gach ceol faoi neamh
foghar théada an tiompán sin.

Fleasc le cairche céad ceol caoin.
Os a chionn bhí dhá éan,
agus na héin sin (agus ní i módh mear)
bhídís á sheinm.

Cormac recited this poem in which he described
the young man to his people:

“There appeared to me on the mound of Tara
a beautiful, colourful young man.
Surpassing his beauty, handsome in appearance,
his garments embroidered with gold.

In his hand he held a silver tympan,
its strings of red gold:
sweeter than any music under heaven
the sound of those strings.

A bow of hide, making a hundred sounds
of sweet melody, over it were two birds.
And these birds were able to play the tympan
(and not incompetently either).

Do shuidh acum eraim ngrinn·
sethfaind dam in ceol caeinbhinn.
Tarfaidh co raithrenn iarsoin·
ba hedh medhrád dom menmoin.

Doním-si faitsine bhfhis·
coir gin gur ba coir eisdeacht fris;
Gidh olc maith libh a n-atbert·
ticfa gach ni ro tharngert.

Domgní doghrach fiad gach drong·
a ghairdi ro an acom;
Bronach oram ga dhul as·
failid lim in trath tarfas.”

Tarfas.

Shuigh sé síos in aice liom go grinn
agus sheinn sé ceol caoinbhinn.

Ba é mearadh do mo mheanma é.

Déanam fáistine fhíor
agus ba chóir éisteacht léi.
Cé olc nó maith libh a ndúirt sé,
titfidh gach rud amach de réir mar a thairngir sé.

Is é seo a rinne doghrach mé le gach dream eile.
Ró-ghairid a chuaireat;
mó bhrón a imeacht uaim.
Bhí áthas orm fad a bhí sé anseo liom.”

He sat close to me in friendly fashion
as he played the tympan
to inebriate my spirit.

I make a true and upright prophecy
so that it is right to listen to it.
Whether you like it or not,
everything he has prophesied will come to pass.

This is what has made me impatient
with every other type of company;
so brief his visit, sorrowful for me his leaving.
Joyful for me the period of his appearance.”

Section 5

Gabus Cormac in-a righi osin amach cu tainic
in bodhith;

ger amnus didiu Cormac,

ni ro rathaigh in bodhith no gu tainic,

ar is de ro bhui i cinniud soudh a fhlaithiusa
fair.

Lean Cormac ar aghaidh lena ríge ón tráth
sin amach go dtí gur tharla an bhódhít.

Cé go raibh Cormac glic *, ámh,*

níor thug sé an bhódhít faoi deara go dtí go
raibh sí tagtha i láthair.

Ba é seo cor na cinniúna dó i gcúrsaí a
fhlaithis.

Cormac continued to govern his kingdom until
the cattle disease struck.

Cunning as he was, *however,*

he failed to heed its advance until it had
arrived.

Fate had decreed that this would be the turning
point in his reign.

Tucadh tra a chana dligid do Cormac in bliagain-sin

as gach cuicedh do cuig cuigeduibh Eirenn,

.i. nai fichit bo as gach cuicedh;

ro fhoghuil Cormac in cain-sin fo seacht primhtuathaibh na Teamhrach,

ar dochoidh dith for a mbuaibh

ocus nir fhacaibh laim ar cula aigi cen fogail.

Tugadh, áfach, a chánacha dleathacha do Chormac an bhliain sin.

Tháinig siad ó gach cúige de chúig cúigí na hÉireann,

'sé sin le rá — 180 bó as gach cúige.

Roinn Cormac an cháin sin i measc seacht bpriomhthuatha na Teamhrach

óir bhí díth ar a gcuid bó

agus níor fágadh ar chúl oiread is bó amháin.

At all events, Cormac received the rents due to him that year

from every province of the five provinces of Ireland,

and this amounted to 180 cows from each of the provinces.

Cormac divided these among the seven chief districts of Tara

as the cattle disease had decimated their herds

and Cormac was not one to withhold generosity.

Section 6

Intan tairnic la Cormac foghui na mbo

Agus roinnt na mbó críochnaithe ag Cormac,

When Cormac had completed his distribution of the cows

is ann tainic a reachtaire .i. Maine Míbhriarach mac Miduaithe.

seo chuige a reachtaire Maine Míbhriathrach mac Mídhua.

his steward Maine Míbhriathrach, son of Mídhua, arrived.

— “A Cormaic, ar fhoghuis na bu?”, ar se.

“A Chormaic,” ar seisean, “an bhfuil na ba roinnte amach agat?”

“O Cormac,” said he, “have you distributed the cows?”

— “Ro fhoghlus”, ar Cormac.

“Tá,” arsa Cormac.

“I have,” said Cormac.

— “Nu chon fhetur-sa eim”, or in reachtaire,

“ni notimfuilngedh-sa re enoidhche oc imacallaimh a tigh Themhrach mad re hais mbo doberur toeb duit.

Ocus iss ed fodera son ar ro dithiged h’airgadha-sa uili”.

Ro chuir socht ar Chormac in ni-sin ocus ro raidh.

— “Cidh ron bai-siu, a reachtaire?

nach intan ro bui ni am laim do chuimnighis damh, in uair domroacht mu dlechtinus,

ar ni fhuil agum ni duit ocus ni h-al [leg. ni h-all] damh inndliged d’imirt ar nech;

o domroacht mu chain bliadna

ni fhuil agam foedal gu ceand mbliadhna”.

Dochoidh Cormac iar-sin na thech ngaeisi

“Níl a fhios agam cad a dhéanfaidh mé, mar sin,” arsan reachtaire,

“mar níl oiread is lón aon oíche fágtha agam do theaghlaich na Teamhrach.

Díothú na mbeithíoch *uile* is cúis leis sin.”

Chuir an ní sin buairt ar Chormac agus dúirt:

“Cad tá ort, a reachtaire?

Cén fáth nár inis tú an méid sin dom fad a bhí mo chánacha i mo sheilbh,

mar níl ní agam duit anois agus ní maith liom aon éagóir a imirt ar aon duine.

Ós rud é go bhfuil mó cháin *bhliana* faigte agam cheana féin

ní bheidh faic eile le fáil go ceann bliana eile.”

Chuaigh Cormac ar ais go dtí a theach gaoise iarsin

“I don’t know what to do then,” said the steward,

“I haven’t sufficient provisions for one night’s entertainment in Tara.

And the reason for this is that all the herds have died.”

This news upset Cormac and he said:

“What were you thinking of, steward?

Why didn’t you tell me this while I had something to give, while I still had my rents,

for now I have nothing to give you and I do not wish to inflict injustice on anyone.

As I have already received my tribute for this year

I will have nothing until next year’s tribute is due.”

After this exchange Cormac retired to his study

ocus bui ann oc scrudain gaeisi
gan nech dia timtereacht
acht muna tisda le biadh dho,
tri la ocus tri hoigthe.

agus lean sé ar aghaidh ag scrúdú gaoise
agus gan aon neach ag tabhairt cuairt air
ach amháin iadsan a thugadh an bia isteach dó.
D'fhan sé ansiúd ar feadh trí lá agus trí oíche.
and pursued wisdom
all alone without visitors
except for those who brought him food.
And he remained there for three days and
three nights.

Section 7

Do ghabh in reactaire iarsin ag iaraidh
fhoaedala don righ
gen imirt inndligid ar neach.

Ghabh an reactaire iarsin ar bheith ag iaraidh
teacht isteach breise don rí
ar shlí nach mbeadh éagórach *do neach*.

The steward then set about obtaining revenue
for the king
in such a way that no injustice would accrue to
anybody.

Ocus tainic cu torad a scruduidh leis.

Agus tháinig sé go Chormac agus toradh a
scrúdaithe leis.

And his endeavours bore fruit.

— “A Chormaic,” ar se,
“in eadh dotbeir i socht a n-ebert-sa frit?”

“A Chormaic,” ar sé,
“an é an méid a duirt mise leat fáth do
bhuartha?”

“Cormac,” said he,
“is what I have said to you is the cause of your
gloom?”

“Iss eadh”, ar Cormac.
— “Fuarus-sa duit foedala”, ar se,

“Is é, go deimhin,” arsa Cormac.
“Fuair mise bealach chun teacht isteach breise
a fháil,” ar sé,

“It is,” said Cormac.
“I have found a means of revenue for you,”
said he,

“ocus is doigh lim foicela fein condligi edalaís”.

“Caidhe sidhe?”, ar Cormac.

“In ndechedhuis ar tur ronna na h-Eirenn?” ar Maine.

— “Ni dhechadus” ar Cormac.

— “Dochuadhus-sa”, ar Maine,

“ocus fuarus cuig coicidh a nEirinn

ocus atait a do dib-sein i Mumain

ocus ni tucuis-si o ra gabais righi acht cain aenchoicidh aisdi.

Ocus dano is dibh in fer ro marbh h'athair i cath Muighi Mucraimhe

i. Mac Con mac Maicniad meic Luigdeach

“agus is dóigh liom go bhfeicfidh tú féin go bhfuil sé de réir dlí.”

“Cad é, más ea?” arsa Cormac.

“An bhfuil staidéar déanta agatsa ar rannta na hÉireann?” arsa Maine.

“Níl,” arsa Cormac.

“Tá sé déanta agamsa,” arsa Maine,

“agus fuair mé cúig cúigí in Éirinn

agus tá dhá cheann díobhsan i Mumhain

agus níor bhailigh tusa cáin ach ó cheann amháin díobh ón am a ghabh tú an ríche.

Agus chomh maith leis sin, is díobhsan an fear a mhabraigh d'athair i gCath Mhá Mhucraimhe,

’sé sin le rá — Mac Con mac Maicniá mhic Luigdeach

“and in my opinion, you yourself will recognise the legitimacy of it.”

“What is it, then?” said Cormac.

“Have you made a study of the divisions of Ireland?” said Maine.

“I have not,” said Cormac.

“Well, I have,” said Maine,

“and I have discovered that there are five provinces in Ireland

and that two of these provinces are in Munster.

Now, since you took over the kingship you have drawn taxes from only one of these provinces.

And moreover, it was one of these same Munstermen that killed your father in the Battle of Má Mucraimhe

— Mac Con mac Maicniá mhic Luigdeach

ocus ni forail duit-se cumal inn o Fhiachaigh

agus is ceart duit éiric a fháil ó Fhiacha

— and you must get compensation from
Fiacha

or is e is brathair do

— mar is deartháir Fiacha don duine a
mharaign d'athair

— for Fiacha is this man's brother

ocus is e ro ghab righi Muman iarum”.

agus ghabh Fiacha ríge na Mumhan iarsin.”

and it is he who has *now* succeeded to the
throne of Munster.”

— “Dothraei bennacht” ar Cormac

“Mo bheannacht ort,” arsa Cormac,

“My sincere thanks,” said Cormac,

“as fir dh[!]leged sin”.

“is fiordhleathach é sin.”

“that is certainly lawful.”

Ro gabustar-som uaill ocus forbhfhailtius de-
sin

Bhí an-áthas *agus uaill* ar Chormac de bharr
an chasadadh na taoide seo.

Cormac was overjoyed at this turn of events
and full of pride.

.i. mar do soisedh dho a innarba a hEirinn
ocus a lecud inte doridisi;

Bhí sé cosúil le fear a bheadh curtha ar
ionnarbadh as Éirinn agus a bhí glaoite ar ais
arís.

It was as if he had been banished from Ireland
and again recalled,

ba he sin met in forbhfhailtis tainic dho.

Ba é sin an méid áthais a tháinig air.

such was the extent of the joy that overcame
him.

Section 8

Docuas uadh iar-sin

do thinol ocus do thoghairm maithe ocus
urramaidhi Lethi Cuinn

ocus ro innis doibh

ocus tucsat uili bennachtain don rechtaire.

Iar n-agallaimh a shlóig do Cormac atbert

co na budh tolstanach leis airisium

no gu tised do sháthud a phubla i Mumain.

— “Na dena ider”, ar siat,

“acht ergat techta uait-si

do chuingidh na cumaile-sin

.i. cóica bo gu mbennuib airgit

Chuaigh timirí amach ó Chormac ansin

chun maithe agus móruaisle Leath Choinn
(leath thuaisceartach na hÉireann) a bhailiú le
chéile i mórtlionól

agus d'inis sé a scéal dóibh.

Thug siad uile a mbeannacht don reachtaire.

Iar n-agallamh a shlua do Chormac dúirt sé leo

nach mbeadh sé sásta

go dtí go mbeadh a phuball suite aige sa
Mhumhain féin.

“Ná dean faic,” ar siadsan,

“ach amháin timirí a chur chuig na
Muimhnigh

chun an cháin a bhailiú uathu

— 50 bó agus beanna airgid

Cormac *then* summoned

the chiefs and princes of Leath Choinn (the
northern part of Ireland) to assemble in
council

and he informed them of the steward's plan.

They expressed their gratitude to the steward
for this stratagem.

Having consulted his troops Cormac informed
them

that he would not rest content

until he had pitched his tent in Munster.

“Do nothing,” said they,

“except to send messengers to Munster

to ask for the tribute and payment for damages

— 50 cows and silver drinking horns

ocus cana cuigid	agus cáin chúige	and the provincial tax
ocus as dliged in ní-sin	agus is dleathach é sin	and all this is quite legal
ocus ni h-indliged	agus ní i gcoinne an dlí.	and not illegal
ocus ní était-sium gabail uime”.	Ní thabharfaidh siad an t-eiteach duit.”	and they will not reject the claim.”
Do chuir Cormac a echlacha	Chuir Cormac a eachlaigh	Cormac sent his horsemen
budh dhes da cuingidh sin co Fiachaigh .i. Tairec Turusach ocus Berraiddhi Inasdair.	Taireach Turasach agus Bearra an Aistir *ó dheas* chuig Fiacha leis an iarratas sin.	— Taireach Turasach and Bearra an Aistir south to Fiacha *with this request*.
Ocus atbert Cormac: “Dia nderntar freasabhra fríb	Agus dúirt Cormac: “Má tá freasúra ann,	And Cormac told the messengers: “If they oppose you
abraidh friu	abair leo	tell them
gen go n-agair ri riamh in cain		that even though no king has ever demanded the tax from them
ni fhuicebh-sa ni don cain	nach maithfidh mise dóibh pioc den cháin	I will remit nothing from what they owe me
ro dligius o ro gabus ríghi	atá le teacht chugam ó ghabh mé an ríghé,	since I took up the office of kingship.”
di neoch na toracht damh cose”	cé go nglacaim leis nár bhaileigh aon rí eile í go dtí seo.”	

Section 9

Dothaegat fodes iarum cu tech Fiachach

co tulaigh na righraidi frisan abar Cnoc
Raphann inniu.

Ro fearad fáilte re h-eclachaibh rígh Eireann
ann sin.

Ocus ro shlonnsat a n-aithiusc.

— “Cormac”, ar siat,

“ror cuir-ne [leg. roncuir-ne] cucaibh-si do
chuinghidh a dhligenais foruib”.

— “Caidhe sidhe?” ar fir Muman.

“Nói fichit bo fa dhó uaibh-si,

intan no berth aaeinfhect
[leg. a aeinflect] as gac cuiced

ocus ni ruc acht a leth-sin uaibh-si o ro gabh
righi.

Thaistil siad ó dheas ansin *go teach Fhiacha*

go dtí gur shroich siad an Rí Ráth ar a dtugtar
Cnoc Rafann inniu.

Cuireadh fáilte roimh eachlaigh rí Éireann

agus chuir siadsan éileamh an Ard Rí in iúl
d’Fhir Mhumhan.

“Cormac,” ar siad,

“a chuir sinne chugaibhse chun a dhleachtanna
a bhailiú uaibhse.”

“Cad iad siúd, go díreach?” ar Fir Mhumhan.

“Naoi bhfichead bó faoi dhó (360) uaibhse,

le tabhairt dó uair amháin as gach Cúige

agus níor thug sibhse ach leath den mhéid sin
ó ghabh sé ríghe.

They journeyed southwards then *to the house
of Fiacha*

until they reached the royal fort which today
bears the name of Cnoc Rafann.

The king of Ireland’s ambassadors received a
welcome

and they proceeded to deliver their message.

“Cormac,” said they,

“has sent us *to you* to collect what is due
from you to him.”

“What is that?” said the Munstermen.

“Twice nine twenties of cows (360) *from
you*

from each province is the tribute to be paid
once

and you have paid only half this amount since
he became king.

Ocus dano is eicen fadera do a cuingidh, eder,
.i. bodhith do thiachtain a seacht colamhnaibh
ocus i primphortaibh na Temhrach.

Ocus dano is sibh-si ro mharbh a athair
ocus is dligid cumhal do inn”.

Ro innis Fiacha dh’fheraibh Muman sin.

Atbertsat fir Muman na tibratis in dedha sin.
— “Acht chena”, ar iat,

“uair is ra h-eicin tancus uadha-sum

doberam-ne boin cech lis i Mumain do dia
fhoiridhin.

Ocus uair nár fharcaibhset againn ar n-aithre,
ni ba dín a tabairt do-som na tucusat;

Agus caithfidh sé an cháin a bhailiú, dáiríre
fire,
toisc gur bhual galar bó seacht dtuatha
treibheacha
agus príomhphoirt na Teamhrach.

I dteannta sin, is sibhse a mharaigh a athair
agus is dleacht éiric a thabairt dó dá bharr.”

D’inis Fiacha sin d’Fir Mhumhan.

Dúirt Fir Mhumhan nach d’ioctaidís an cíos
sin.
“Ach cheana,” ar siad,
“ós rud é go dtagann sé chugainn toisc é a
bheith in éigean,

tabharfaimid deontas dó. Bó ó gach lios i
Mumhan chun cabhrú leis ina chruchás.
Ach ós rud é nár leag ár n-aithreacha aon
dualgas orainne an cháin sin a íoc

And indeed, it is essential to him to collect it
as a cattle disease has hit the seven tribal
territories
and the chief strongholds of Tara.
Moreover, it was you, Munstermen, that killed
his father
and for this you owe him compensation.”

Fiacha informed the Men of Munster of this
matter.
The Men of Munster said that they would not
pay the tribute.

“However,” they said,
“as it is through necessity that he has come,
we will make a donation of a cow from every
farm *in Munster* to assist him in his need.

But as our own fathers have never imposed
such an obligation on us,

ni fuicfium a cind ár mac in ni-sin”

nílimid chun a leithéid d’ualach a chur ar ár micne féin.

we in our turn, have no intention of imposing any obligation to pay tribute to Cormac on our sons.

Ocus dano asbertsat fria Fiachaíd:

“Tiaghair uait-si dh’agallamh Cormaic,
ar is doigh nach úaid ro cuinged in cuatraime
[leg. cutraime] ud orainn”.

Cuir teachtairí chuig Cormac féin
mar ní dóigh linn gurbh eisean a chuir an t-iarratas trom sin chugainn in aon chor.”

Enquire of Cormac

if it is he himself who has demanded such a heavy tribute from us.”

Section 10

Tiaghuit tra echlacha Fiachach fris-sin,
.i. Cuilleand, Cosluath ocus Leithrinde Leabar.

Iarsin, chuir teachtairí Fhiacha

After that, Fiacha’s messengers

Ra siachtatar bud thuaidh cu Cormac

— Cuilleann, Cosluath agus Leithrinne
Leabhar

— Cuilleann, Cosluath and Leathrinne
Leabhar

ocus do raidset:

— chun bothair ó thuaidh agus tar éis bualadh
le Cormac dóibh

— set out on their journey northwards and
having arrived at Cormac’s house

“In uait

chuir siad ceist air:

they asked him:

rucadh in techtairacht ro chansat do techta?”.

“An uaitse, dáiríre,

“Is it really from you

— “Is uaim”, ar se.

atá na timirí seo ag teacht?”

that the messengers purporting to carry your instructions come?”

“Is uaimse,” arsa Cormac.

“It is from me,” Cormac said.

— “Mas uait”, ar siat,

“do berthar boin cech lis a Mumain duit dar
ceann do bennachta,

acht na derntar bes de”.

— “As ferr lim”, ar se

“cu mair mu dhliged do gres

inas in comha mor sin aeinfhecht”.

Ocus ro chuir a thechta ar culu fodes

ocus ro chuiningset in cain.

Ro tinolait fir Muman o Fiachaigh

ocus do raidh:

“Denaid bar comairli fris suit”, ar se.

Docoidh uathaibh Fiacha iarsin.

“Más uait,” ar siadsan,

“tabharfar bó ó gach lios sa Mhumhain duit
chun cabhrú leat in am an gháitair

ach gan béas a dhéanamh de.”

“Is fearr liomsa,” ar Cormac,

“mo dhleacht a fháil go rialta

ná deontas móraon uair amháin.”

Ansin chuir Cormac a thimirí ó dheas arís

ag iarraidh na cánach.

Tionóladh Fir Mhumhan arís le Fiacha

agus dúirt leo:

“Déan bhur comhairle féin faoin gceist seo.”

Agus é sin ráite aige d’imigh sé uathu.

“If it be from you, then,” said they,

“a cow from each farm in Munster will be
donated to you to oblige you

but this must not serve as a precedent.”

“I much prefer,” said Cormac,

“that my rights be *constantly* upheld

than receive a single large donation.”

Cormac sent his messengers back southwards
to Munster

to demand the tribute.

The Men of Munster were again summoned to
council by Fiacha

who said to them:

“Take a decision on this matter,”

and having said this he retired leaving them to
their deliberations.

Section 11

Doronad comairli eneachda aca-som dar a eisi

.i. dia roised da gach urramach dhibh

beith cin nach n-irdalta acht bleagan enbo

ucus cu roised co a marbad

ucus a mbeith cin biudh iardain is cach eicen
didiu di araili

ucus co mad ed nousfuasluiced docum sochair
in cain út do thoidhitin [*leg.* fhoiditin],

no con fhoighitnigfitis.

Tancatar iarsin ait i mbui Fiacha.

— “Cadhi bar comairle?” ar se.

“As i so.” ar siat.

— “Beiridh beannacthain”, ar se,

Tháinig siad ar shocrú ónorach ansin.

Fiú amháin agus gach duine den uaisle

agus gan ach bainne aon bhó aige

agus a bheith air an t-aon bhó sin a mharú

agus a bheith fágtha gan bia dá bharr gan
trácht ar chruatan eile

— fiú amháin, ina leithéid sin de chás

ní ghéillfidís d’iarratas Chormaic.

Tháinig siad ansin go dtí an áit ina raibh
Fiacha ag feitheamh leo.

“Cad é bhur gcinneadh?” ar sé.

“Is mar seo atá sé,” ar siadsan.

“Mo bheannacht oraibh,” arsa Fiacha,

They then proceeded to arrive at an
honourable decision:

If it should happen that each of the nobles
among them

were reduced to the condition of having only
the milk of a single cow

and having had to kill her

and so be left without food and then having to
endure all kinds of privations

and if the payment of the tribute would suffice
to procure peace

— even then they would not submit.

They came then to the place where Fiacha
awaited them.

“What is your decision?” he asked.

“It is this,” said they.

“Bless you,” said he,

“ar da mad ead no beith agaibh a foiditin
no raghuinn-si uaibh,
ait na cluinfid a foraihmet cu brath”.

— “Ocus nocha n-acmaing a gabala de fil
acainn”,
ol siat, “acht a shlan fon cuiced
ocus ni dhene sealbh sarugad
ocus ni toircenn iubail inndliged”.

Do cuatar a thechta do shaighidh Cormaic
iarum.

Imtusa bhfher Muman,
ro scailset a mna ocus a lenbha
ocus a n-almha ocus a n-indile
a n-indsibh ocus a n-ailenaibh ocus a n-eicendinaibh in cuicid

“mar dá gcinnfeadh sibh géilleadh do
Chormac
rachainnse uaibh
go dtí áit éigin nach mbeadh orm caint faoin
rud go brách arís.”

D’imigh a theachtairí ansin chun bualadh le
Cormac.
Maidir le Fir Mhumhan áfach,
chuir siad a mbantracht agus a leanaí,
chomh maith lena gcuid eallaí
go dtí na hoileáin agus na tearmainn taobh
istigh den chúige

“if you had submitted
I would have distanced myself from you
and further discussion of the matter.”

His messengers departed then for their
meeting with Cormac.
As for the Men of Munster,
they sent off their womenfolk and children,
their herds and their belongings
to the islands and places of refuge within the
province

ocus tancatar lucht a n-einig ocus a n-
engnuma
ait i mbui Fiacha cu Cenn Claire.

agus thionól an uaisle agus iad siúd a bhí in
ann aimr a iompar
móirthimpeall ar Fhiacha ag Ceann Cláire.

and the nobles and those capable of bearing
arms assembled
around Fiacha at Ceann Chláire.

Section 12

O ro siactatar a echlacha gu Cormac, ro
raidhset:
“Ni h-ansud”, ar siat, “foemhair do chain-si,
dene in ni bus maith lat cena”.

Ba h-irgrain la Cormac in ni-sin
ocus ro omhnuigh cu mor,
ar forfidir ro ba mana adha moir tiachtain ris
uma dhligid,
uair nach inndliged ro cuinned ocus se in
airdrigi Erenn.

Tugait ann-sin a primdraithi gu Cormac
.i. Citach Cithmor, Cect, Crota, Cithruad,

Nuair a bhual eachlaigh Fhiacha le Cormac
dúirt siad leis:
“Ní anseo atá do cháin le fáil agat,” ar siad,
“déan do rogha rud.”

Ba ghráin le Cormac an ní sin
agus bhí uamhan *mór* air
toisc gur léir dó gur mana oidhe a ríge é
go mór mór ó nár ghabh sé seilbh ar ard-ríge
Éireann go mídhleathach.

Tugadh a phríomhdhraoithe go Cormac ansin:
Ceathach, Cith Mór, Céacht, Crotha agus Cith
Rua.

When the horsemen reached Cormac they
informed him:
“No tax for you here;
Do as you wish in this matter.”
Cormac was incensed at this response
and indeed greatly horrified,
as it occurred to him that this was an omen of
a great calamity to his reign,
since he had made no illegal claim in his role
as high king of Ireland.
His chief druids were then summoned to
Cormac.
These were: Ceathach, Cith Mór, Céacht,
Crotha, Cith Rua,

oir batar sidhe fria re Cuind ocus Airt ocus
Chormaic ac faistine

ocus ní frith a n-eiliugad.

— “Deinidh co h-ullamh faitsine dham-sa”, ar
Cormac:

“Cidh bias damh don turus-sa teidhim?”.

— “Forfhinnfom-ne duit-si sin”, ar siat
“acht co tuga ré dún ra tur ar ar bfhaitsine”.

— “Doberthar”, ar se.

Dothaetsom i formnai i fesa ocus i n-eolusa
ocus do faillsigedh daibh cu mad de no ragad
olc do Cormac a tiachtain i Mumain.

Ocus tancatar do shaichtin Cormaic.

— “Cidh ro faillsigedh daibh?” ar Cormac.

Bhíodh fáistine ar siúl acu siúd le linn Conn
agus Art agus Cormac a bheith i réim

agus ní fuarthas locht orthu riamh anall.

“Ullmhaigh fáistine dom,” arsa Cormac leo,

“féachaint conas a éireoidh leis an turas seo go
Cúige Mumhan.”

“Déanfaimid é sin duit,” ar siad,

“ach beidh seal ag teastáil uainn chun na
tuartha a mheas i gcomhair na fáistine.”

“Tabharfar an seal sin daoibh,” arsa Cormac.

D’imigh na draoithe ansin i mbun feasa agus
eolais

agus foilsíodh dóibh go dtiocfadh olc as turas
Chormaic go Cúige Mumhan.

Tháinig siad ar ais ansin go Cormac.

“Cad a foilsíodh daoibh?” ar sé.

and all of them had exercised their function of
predicting the future under Conn, Art and
Cormac

and they had never been found to be at fault.

“Prepare a prediction for me,” said Cormac,

“find out what will be the outcome of this
expedition.”

“We will let you know that,” said they,

“provided we are given the necessary time to
examine the omens.”

“The necessary time will be given you,” said
Cormac.

They embarked then on their secret arts of
knowledge and sorcery

and it was revealed to them that Cormac’s
expedition to Munster would prove disastrous
to him.

They came back and approached Cormac.

“What was revealed to you?” asked Cormac.

— “As i an ni ro faillsigid dun”, ar siad, “gidh sain ind aisneis.	“Is sainiúil an ní a foilsíodh dúinn,” ar siad,	“This is what has been revealed to us,” said they.
Ocus is sarugud dun do dula-sa i Mumain.	“cuirimid in aghaidh do dhul go Cúige Mumhan.	“We disapprove of your expedition to Munster.
Ocus mad dia n dighea [leg. ndighea] in fortamlus fil uait-si fortha-san, biaidh uaidhibhb-sium fort-sa”.	Má théann tú <u>ann</u> , <u>bíodh a fhios agat</u> go bhuil <u>muintir na Mumhan</u> ag iarraidh cos ar bolg a imirt ortsá díreach faoi mar atá tusa ag iarraidh é a imirt orthusan.”	<u>Take note that</u> *if you go,* the domination you are seeking to impose on them they are seeking to impose on you.”

Section 13

“Apair, a Cithruaidh”, ar Cormac, “cidh ro foillsigid duit?”	“Inis dom, a Chith Rua,” arsa Cormac, “cad a foilsíodh duitse?	“Tell me, O Cith Rua,” said Cormac, “what has been revealed to you?”
— “Inni ra faillsigid”, ar Cithruadh: “Ni edaim a ghabhail duit-se a dula, ar fogebhu fort cheile neartfas for a dula.	“Ní féidir liomsa tú a chosc ó dhul <u>ar an turas seo</u> mar tá bean chéile agat a spreagfaidh tú chun tabhairt faoi,	“I cannot prevent you from going, for you have a wife who will encourage you to go;

Acht cena is de tic h'olcugud”;

ocus do raidh in rethorec-sa:

“A Chormaic, choir chostadaigh.

costaidh do ceil com ndlighidh. na hinnsaigh buair mborblachais. ar briathraibh raid rechtaire. a mheic Airt forfhetur-sa. formna cechat imthusa don turus-so triallmait-ne. ar claind Maeili Miscaidhe ar claind Chicuil coinbleachtaigh. na morairde annfhlatha. innsaigh cert is coir, a Cormaic”.

ach tóg aire, mar, tiocfaidh olc as.

Is é seo an rud a foilsíodh domsa,” arsa Cith Rua,

agus dúirt an reitric seo:

“A Chormaic, dean an rud atá ceart agus cóir ...”

but beware, for evil will result from this trip of yours.

This is what has been revealed,” said Cith Rua,

and he proceeded to recite a poem:

“O Cormac, preserve justice and right ...”

Section 14

“Cidh dano ra faillsigid duit-si, a Crota?” ar Cormac

— “Inní ro faillsigid dam indisfet duit-si” ar Crota,

ocus do raidh in rethorec so:

“Daimh coir, a Chormaic,
geibh coir, a Cormac,
ni coir sar ar saeirferuibh.
ra fiallachaibh coimceineoil. maирg cus tic drong Dairine. dirmann dighlach Derghine. a Dun Cuirc gu curadaibh. coisentar Cliu cladhairsing.
cach doib ar do dhaimh”. daimh.

“Cad a foilsíodh duitse, *ámh,* a Chrotha?”
arsa Cormac.

“Inseoidh mé duitse cad é a foilsíodh domsa,”
arsa Crotha,

agus dúirt an reitric seo:

“Déan an chóir, a Chormaic,
glac leis an gcóir, a Chormaic,
níl sé ceart an éagóir a dhéanamh ar shaorfhír.”

“What has been revealed to you, *then,* O Crotha?” asked Cormac.

“I will tell you what has been revealed to me,”
said Crotha,

and he recited the following rhetoric:

“Act with justice, O Cormac;
receive justice, O Cormac;
it is not right to act unjustly against freemen.”

Section 15

“Cidh ra faillsigid duit, a Checht?”, ar Cormac?

— “Inni ra foillsigid dham”, ar Cecht, “docluinfea-sa”,

ocus do raidh in rethorec-so:

“Crich Mogha.
Mairg gu ricfa
ruad a cuil glas a beoil. bruchtaidh badhbh brisc Be Neit. nert a neas. clodh for Conn. Conn fo chain. nach fo crich”.

“Cad a foilsíodh duitse, a Chéacht?” arsa Cormac.

“Cloisfidh tú an rud a foilsíodh domsa,” arsa Céacht

agus dúirt an reitric seo:

“Críoch Mhogha
— mairg duit má shroicheann tú í.”

“What was revealed to you, O Céacht?” asked Cormac.

“You shall hear what was revealed to me,” said Céacht,

and he recited the following rhetoric:

“The territory of Mogh,
misfortune on your reaching it.”
“The territory of Mogh,
misfortune on your reaching it.”

Section 16

“Cidh ro faillsigid duit, a Chithaigh?”
ar Cormac.

— “Inní ro faillsigid dhamh” ar Cithach
“forfinnfa-sa, .i.

“Scel leam duit, a meic Airt.
gabe oirbert bud beg bailc. ratbia ach. giabe ar crich. oniu amach. cu ti brath. munbhat gaeth. ni bat gnath. ni bha atri. adclo cach. bia gin ni. sgan chuid ngairt.
mairg tic ort, a meic Airt.
truadh in sen.
Maine mín. mortais scel”. Scel.

“Cad a foilsíodh duitse, a Cheathaigh?” arsa Cormac.

“An ní a foilsíodh dom inseoidh mé duit é,”
arsa Ceathach.

“Scéal agam duit, a mhic Airt

Is mairg duit
agus is trua an séan”

“What was revealed to you, O Ceathach?”
asked Cormac.

“I will tell you about it,” said Ceathach.

“... misfortune will descend on you,
O Son of Art, evil the omens”

Section 17

“Cid ra foillsigid duit, a Cith Mhoir?” ar Cormac

— “Ro cluinfi-sa he”, ar Cith Mhor .i.

“Cluinidh uaim, a clainn Chuinn.

gu mbia fuaim. bar creach cam. thuaidh fon tuind. tait fodhes. indre uirc. imrit olc. indlit airc. i crich Chuillt. coirgid lib. cuircer nglan. traethfait trogh. faenfait fer. maelfait magh. mairg dab din. Lurga lom. Colpta cael. or mis ta nach focul fir. acht seol soebh. a clann Chuinn. a Cormaic cain. costaidh cluin. cluinidh uaim”.

“Cad a foilsiodh duitse, a Chith Mhór?” arsa Cormac.

“Cloisfidh tú é,” arsa Cith Mór,

“éist leis seo, a Chlann Chuinn ...”

“What was revealed to you, O Cith Mhór?” asked Cormac.

“You will hear of it,” said Cith Mhór.

“Hear from me O descendant of Conn ...”

Section 18

Tuc-san fuath dona draithibh ar a tarmiusc uime ocus ro raidh:

“Ni sibsi nertfas orum-sa an turus-sa do dhula.

Acht cena dia faghbuinn-si bar n-eiliughadh-si

nonindecfainn oraibh”

— “Nu chan uaruis ocus nu con fhuighbheá”, ar siat.

Thug Cormac fuath do na draoithe ansin toisc gur ghabh siad ina choinne agus dúirt:

“Níl aon spreagadh le fáil agam uaibhse tabhairt faoin turas seo

ach má thiteann sé amach go bhfuil dul amú oraibh

ní imreofar díoltas oraibh.”

“Ní rabhamar mícheart go dtí seo agus ní bheimid mícheartanois,” a dúirt siad.

Cormac hated the druids on account of their opposition to him and he said:

“I am getting no encouragement from you to undertake this expedition

but in the event of your being proved wrong,

I won’t hold it against you.”

“You have never found us wrong and you never will,” they replied.

Conid he ni ar-a tarla a menma-seom beith oc
iarraidh a n-eilichti fo Eirinn

ocus ni fhuair.

Dáiríre fire, bhí Cormac ag iarraidh fianaise ar
fud Éireann chun locht a chur orthu

ach ní raibh faic le fáil ina gcoinne.

Cormac was making enquiries throughout
Ireland seeking evidence of their
incompetence

but no evidence was forthcoming.

Section 19

Conas tarla la n-ann do sheilg

ocus foram mil maige o Shidh
Cleitig sour tuaid.

Is annsidhe ro gluaisit a coin-siumh in fiagh-
sin

ocus dorala a muinnter-som uile a ndiaigh na
con

ocus ro facbad-som a aenur ansin,

cor fas ceo mor fair

ocus co tainic toirrthim codalta fair isin
tulaigh.

Ocus ba he doirchecht bui isin ciaich-sin

Tharla lá amhán go raibh Cormac amuigh ag
fiach

agus d'éirigh giorria as a phluais ón taobh
thoir thuaidh de Shí Chleitigh.

B'ansiúd a thosaigh na cúnna ar lorg an
ghiorria

agus lean a mhuintir uile na cúnna

agus fágadh Cormac ina aonar *ansin*.

D'fhás ceo mór

agus tháinig toirchim chodlata air ar an tulach.

Bhí an ceo dorcha chomh tiubh sin

It happened one day that Cormac was out
hunting

and a hare started up from the north-east of Sí
Chleitigh.

It was here that his hounds began to chase the
hare

and all Cormac's companions followed on
behind *the hounds*,

leaving Cormac alone *there*.

A dense fog descended

and sleep overcame him at the fairy hill.

So thick was the dark fog

cur bo doigh leo-som ba aghaidh ocus gia no canta ceoil ocus cuiuslinna do-som,	gur cheap sé gurbh í an oíche a bhí ann agus dá seinntí ceol an bpíob *dósan*	that he thought night had fallen and if the music of the pipes had been played to him
ni ferr do choideladh inas amail ro chodail fria fogurcheol na gcon imon cnoc im-a cuairt.	ní chodlódh sé níos símhe ná mar a chodail sé agus glór na gcon ar na cnoic móirthimpeall air <u>ina chluasa.</u>	he would have slept no sounder than he did, <u>lulled as he was by</u> the baying of the hounds in the surrounding hills.
Conad annsin atcuala in guth uasa ocus is eadh ro raidh sidhe .i.	B'ansin a chuala sé guth os a chionn á rá:	It was then that he heard a voice above him and this is what it said:
"Ardotrae, a Chormaic, caeim codultaig Cleitigh. Cid ni fuil fort'naimhdui. buan t'ainm os Eirinn. Eirig sunn soei toei frium ocus rom call. Cia cad on duisigh deogha suain saigsius suisium dinn dorcha dechet concudus. cia cat abhai-siu a ben. Barrfhinn Blaith Bairche be chaemh do chomhaeise cuigi nodcudnad cuairt coimgi, a Cormaic. cuir dhid do shuan. ardotaei, a Chormaic".	"Éirigh, a Chormaic chaoimh chodlataigh Chleitigh" Cid ni fuil fort'naimhdui. buan t'ainm os Eirinn. Eirig sunn soei toei frium ocus rom call. Cia cad on duisigh deogha suain saigsius suisium dinn dorcha dechet concudus. cia cat abhai-siu a ben. Barrfhinn Blaith Bairche be chaemh do chomhaeise cuigi nodcudnad cuairt coimgi, a Cormaic. cuir dhid do shuan. ardotaei, a Chormaic".	"Arise, O Cormac, gentle sleeper of Cleitheach." Cormac rose up then and his tiredness vanished as he saw at his right hand a radiant white- armed woman.

Section 20

Adracht Cormac iarsin ocus ro chuir a mertin de co n-acca da laim deis oca ingen lucair laimgheal	D'éirigh Cormac iarsin agus chuir a mheirtne de agus chonaic sé ar a láimh dheas cailín luachaireach láimhgheal.	Cormac rose up then and his tiredness vanished as he saw at his right hand a radiant white- armed woman.
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ba caeime do mhnaibh betha

ocus faiteran firaluinn uimpe ocus lene
orshnaith fria cnes

ocus do chuir-si failti re Cormac.

— “Cia cuires m’ fhailti?” ar Cormac.

— “Bairrfhinn Blaith Bairche,

.i. ingen righ Sidha Buirche a crich Laigean

ocus tucus-sa gradh dait-si, ocus nuchan uarus
h’agallamh cus anosa.”

— “Rabhása eimh am’codladh,” ar se,

“ra fogurcheol na con intan rom duiscis.”

— “Mo cubus amh,” ar an ingen,

“is olc in t-ord fir do leithédi-si sealg mil
maige do denam,

Ba chaoimhe í ná mná an domhain

agus gúna fiorálainn uirthi agus léine óir
shnátha lena cneas.

Chuir sí fáilte roimh Chormac.

“Cé hí a chuireann fáilte romham?” arsa
Cormac.

“Is mise,” ar sí, “Báirinn Bhláith Bhairche,

iníon rí Shí Bhairche i gCríoch Laighean.

Thug mé grá duitse cé nár bhfuair mé caoi
labhairt leat go dtí anois.”

“Dáiríre, bhí me i mo chodladh,” arsa Cormac,

“chuir ceol na gcon chun suain mé go dtí gur
dhúisigh tú mé.”

“Dar mo bhriathar, *go deimhin,*” arsan
cailín,

“is olc an mhaise do d’leithéidse seilg ghoirria
a dhéanamh.

Of all the women of the world she was the
most fair.

She wore a beautiful tunic and next to her skin
a dress of golden thread.

She proceeded to make Cormac welcome.

“Who is it that welcomes me?” asked Cormac.

“I am Báirinn Bhláith Bhairche,

daughter of the King of Sí Bhairche in the
province of Leinster.

I have fallen in love with you, but until this
moment I had no opportunity of speaking to
you.”

“Actually, I was asleep,” said Cormac,

“until you woke me up. The baying of the
hounds made me doze off.”

“Upon my word, *indeed,*” said the girl,

“it is not becoming for a man of your standing
to be hunting hares at all.

ar nir fhurail duit sealg mhuice no aighi amal
dognitis airdrigh romud,

or is d'aes ocbaid is du sin;

is é cradh crotha ocus dealbha doghni dhoibh

ocus iss eadh in serg samh he.

Ba cheart duit a bheith ag seilg muice fiáine
nó fia faoi mar a dhéanadh ard-ríthe romhat.

Níl an rud seo oiriúnach ach don aos óg

agus is crá crutha dóibh é. Milleann sé a
geruth is a ndealramh

agus is é an searg sámh é.

You should be hunting wild boar, or deer, as
high kings before you have been wont to do.

Hare hunting is only for youths

and it destroys their appearance

and it saps their energy.”

Section 21

Is ann atbert an ingen: “tar lim-sa, a Chormaic,
isin sith-sa innonn Cleitich

in baile i ta mo aide .i. Ulcan mac Blair ocus
mo muime .i. Maol Mhiscadach,

cu ro fhaier-sa lat in-a bhfhiadhnuisi er laimh
ocus ar leabaidh.”

— “Nucha ragh-sa eim,” ar se, “no gu tuctar a
logh dhamh”.

— “A Chormaic,” ar si “ro fleatar-sa in ni
iarai ocus na bhfhuil fot menmain,

“Tar liomsa isteach i Sí Chleitigh, a
Chormaic,” arsan cailín ansin.

“Is ann atá Ulcán mac Bláir, m’oide agus
Maol Mhisceadach mo mhuime ina gcónaí

chun go bhfaighe mé thú mar fhear agus mar
chéile leapan *ina bhfianaise*.”

“Ní rachaidh mé leat, *áfach,*” arsa Cormac,
“go dtí go dtugtar logha dom.”

“A Chormaic,” ar sise, “tá a fhios agam cad tá
le rá agat agus cad tá i d’aigne.

And then the girl said: “Come with me, O
Cormac inside the sí (fairy palace) of
Cleitheach

where my tutor Ulcán mac Bláir lives and my
nurse Maol Mhisceadach,

so that I may obtain you as my husband and
companion of my bed with their blessing.”

“I will not go, *however,*” said Cormac,
“unless I receive a reward.”

“O Cormac,” said she, “I know what you are
about to ask and I know what is on your mind.

.i. sochraiti shloigh d'iaradh	Tá tú chun cabhair a iarraidh chun tú a thionlacan ar do thuras.	You are going to ask for reinforcements to accompany you on your expedition.
ocus dober-sa dhuit int sochraiti druadh as ferr fuair ri romad	Tabharfaidh mise buíon draoithe duit a bheidh níos fearr ná iadsan de do shinsear	I will give you a company of druids surpassing those of any of your predecessors
ocus da ná coemsait ectrainn ni	agus ní bheidh aon eachtrannach in ann iad a sharú.	and whom no stranger can resist.
.i. tri h-ingena Maeil Miscaidhe,	Is ionann iad agus trí hiníonacha Mhaol Mhisceadaigh	These are the three daughters of Maol Mhisceadach
.i. Errgi ocus Eang ocus Eangain.	— Eirge, Eang agus Eangain.	— Eirge, Eang and Eangain.
Ocus tiagat sidhe i ndeilb tri caerach lachtna co ceannuibh cnama ocus gun-gobaib [<i>leg. gu ngobaib</i>] iarainn	Beidh siadsan i rocht trí chaora lachtna le cinn chnámha agus goba iarainn orthu.	And they will assume the form of three brown sheep with heads of bone and beaks of iron:
ocus cet a comlunn.	Is inchurtha iad le céad óglach.	they are equal in prowess to a hundred warriors.
Ocus ni tic nach dhibh i mbethad uaidhibh ar is amlaid itat co luas ainnle [= fainnle] ocus gu n-athlainmhe iarainne	Ní féidir le haon duine éalú uathu *ina bheatha*	No one can escape from them alive for they have the speed of the swallow and the agility of the weasel,
	mar tá luas na fáinleoige acu agus tá siad chomh lúsáilte le heasóg.	

ocus claidim ocus tuatha in domain do ghabail
doib

ni dipaigfea ar lou nach ar finda dhoibh.

Ocus dano atat dá fherdrai ann

ocus raguit duit-si beos

.i. Colptha ocus Lurga, dá mac Cichuil
Coinblichtaigh

ocus lucht in cuicidh uili cusa ricfat muirbhfit-
seom uili iat i bhffhir aeinfhir

munus imgabut,

ar is amlaidh itat cu nach gebet renna na
foebra.

Ocus cian gar beit ar aen friut

na dena comairle neich aili acht a comairle.

Dá mbeadh claimhte agus tuanna an domhain
ina gcoinne

ní scarfaí alt ná ribe díobh.

Chomh maith leo siúd tá beirt dhraoi fir
againn

agus rachaidh siadsan in éineacht leat freisin,

eadhon, Colpa agus Lorga dhá mhac
Chíochúil Choinbhlictigh.

Maróidh siad i gcomhrach aonair gach óglach
a thabharfaidh aghaidh orthu as gach cúige,

nó, ar a laghad, iadsan nach dteitheann rompu,

mar ní ghoinfidh sleá ná claíomh iad.

Chomh fada agus a bheidh siadsan i do
chuideachta,

ná glac comhairle ó aon duine eile ach
uathusan amháin.”

and if the swords and axes of the world were
to be directed against them

not a hair or joint of theirs would be severed.

As well as these, we have two male druids

who will accompany you also.

These are Colpa and Lorga, the two sons of
Cíochúil Choinbhleachtach.

They will kill in single combat all the warriors
of which ever province they enter,

at least all those who do not flee before them

for they are such that no one can injure them
with spear or sword-thrust.

And as long as they are with you

accept nobody's advice but theirs.”

Section 22

Ba failid la Cormac inni-sin,
ocus do chuir a bron de
ocus tainic lasin rigin isin sid in agaidh-sin
ocus ro fhai ar laimh ocus ar leabaid le
ocus do bui insin gu ceann tria la ocus tria
aidhche
ocus tucadh in tsocraidi sin do
ocus tainic roime có Temhraigh
ocus ni tuc da oidh a draithi fein
ocus ni dhenad a comairli
acht adhradh don luct ut ocus a comairli do
dhenumh.
Docuas uadha-sum iarum ar cenn a muindteri
ocus do roachtatar chuigi

Bhí áthas ar Chormac nuair a chuala sé é sin
ocus tháinig deireadh lena bhuairt.
Lean sé an ríon sí isteach sa sí *an oíche sin*
agus chodail siad araon in aon leaba
agus d'fhan ann ar feadh trí lá agus trí oíche.
Fuair sé an chuideachta a gealladh dó
agus d'fhill ar Theamhair na Rí.
Ón tráth seo amach níor bhac sé lena dhraoithe
fén
ná níor ghlac sé lena gcomhairle
ach thug omós don lucht eile agus rinne rud
orthu.
Thionól Cormac a mhuintir ansin *agus
bhailíodar uime*

Cormac was elated at hearing this
and his sadness left him.
He followed the fairy queen into the sí *that
night*
and slept with her in one bed
and he remained there for three days and three
nights,
and he was given the promised
reinforcements.
He then returned to Tara.
From this on he paid no further attention to his
own druids,
nor did he take their advice
but paid honour to the strangers and accepted
their counsel.
Cormac then summoned a meeting of his
people *and they gathered around him*

ocus do innis doibh in tsochrute fuair

agus d'inis a scéal dóibh *faoin gcabhair a fuair sé*.

and when he informed them of the help he had received

ocus bat failid uili de sin.

Bí áthas orthu *go léir* mar gheall ar an gcasadh na taoide seo.

all were overjoyed *by this*.

Section 23

Ro coimheirigh Cormac roime imach iarsin

Chuir Cormac agus a shlua chun bótair iarsin

After this, Cormac set out on his march

ocus tainic in agaidh sin cu Comar na Cuan

agus san oíche chéanna sin tháinig siad chomh fada le Comar na gCuan

and arrived that night at Cumar na gCuan,

risin abar Comar Cluana hIoraird aniu

ar a dtugtar Cumar Cluana hIoraird inniu.

the place that is known today as Comar Cluana hIoraird.

ocus gnisit ann-sin botha ocus belscalá

Rinne siad *ansin* bothanna agus foscaí

The army *then* set up huts and shelters

ocus ron suidhighidhedh longphort fon innus-sin acu.

agus longfort san áit seo.

and established headquarters on this spot.

Ra coimheirigh tra Cith Ruadh asin longport siardhes

D'éisigh Cith Rua ansin as an longfort agus ghabh siar ó dheas

Then Cith Rua rose up out of the camp and proceeded to the south-west

cu rainic or in tsrotha.

go dtí gur shroich sé bruach an tsrutha.

until he reached the stream.

Con faca araile laech forusda finnliath don leith aili don tsrut,

Chonaic sé ansiúd ar an taobh eile den sruth laoch ard foltiath.

Here he saw a grey-haired warrior of imposing stature, on the other side.

.i. Fis mac Aithfis mac Fíreoluis [*leg. meic Fíreoluis*] a crich Laigean

primdrai na criche

ocus bai cach dibh og acalluim a chele

ocus ro fhiaraigh Fis do Cith Ruadh c'ait i mbui Cormac cona sloguibh.

Do frecair Cith Ruadh ocus doronsat in laidh etorra.

Fios mac Athfhis mhic Phíoreolais ó chríocha Laighean a bhí ann

agus b'shin é príomhdhraoi na dúiche sin.

Thosaigh an bheirt ag caint lena chéile

agus d'fhiafraigh Fios de Chith Rua cá raibh longfort Chormaic suite.

D'fhreagair Cith Rua é agus rinne siad an laoi seo eatarthu:

This was Fios mac Athfhis mhic Phíoreolais from the territory of Leinster

and he was chief druid of this region.

They began to converse with each other

and Fios asked Cith Rua where Cormac and his troops were encamped.

Cith Rua answered him and between them they made up this lay:

Section 24

[C].

“A Comur na Cuan anocht·
ata in sluagh a n-a longport.
Ar na ngreassadh tar linn lé·
do clainn Mhaeili Miscaidhche”,

[F].

“Abair frium, a Chithruaidh chain·
cid tic Cormac a Temraigh?
Airdri na fath cus anocht·
nir ghnath a beith a longport”.

Cith Rua:

“I gCumar na gCuan anocht,
tá an slua ina longfort
ar chomhairle
clainne Mhaol Mhisceadaigh.”

Fios:

“Abair liom, a Chith Rua dhil,
cad chuige gur fhág Cormac Teamhair na Rí?
Go dtí anocht ard-rí agus fáidh ba ea é
— ní gnách leis a bheith i longfort.”

Cith Rua:

“At Cumar na gCuan
the army is encamped tonight
at the instigation
of the children of Maol Mhisceadach.”

Fios:

“Tell me, O gentle Cith Rua, why has Cormac left Tara? Until tonight he was a high king renowned as a sage — it is not a normal thing for him to be in a military camp.”

[C].

“D’iaraidh chumail Airt meic Cuinn-
ar ua nOilella Oluim.
Is cana cuicidh gan brath-
nar chuinnigh Conn Céadchathach”.

[F].

“Doberat Cormac gin cain-
clann Cichail; rus bia comghair
Millfit macdhacta gu clé-
na sillitu siabhairthe”.

[C].

“In a [leg. Ina] tacra budh fa sruth fis-
a mic Aithfhis mic eoluis
Beit co mis dergfait tonna-
os laechrad lerg liatroma [leg. Liatroma]”

[F].

“Mairg theit a Mumain na marc-
a meic fhir Crodha Caecat.
Bidh treadh linn in chonghair cain-
bias duibh tre comdhail comainm”

[C.]

“Ni ba damh-sa nach ba holc-
mis is raithi is bliagain o anocht.
O bhias sai na suadh amne-
Mogh Ruith ria ngasrad Claire”.

Cith Rua:

“Ag iarraidh éirice Airt mhic Choinn
atá sé ó Oileall Óloim.
Chomh maith leis sin, tá an cháin chúige nár
bhailigh Conn Céadchathach ag teastáil uaidh.”

Fios:

(“Beidh Cormac gan cháin;
tá clú ar Chlann Chíochúil.
Millfidh siad óglaigh
le neart siabhránachta” ?)

Cith Rua:

(“Is sruth feasa do chuid cainte,
a Athfhios mhic Eolais.
Ar feadh míosa beidh tonnta dearga
os cionn na laochra ar learg liathdhroma” ?)

Fios:

(“Mairg don té a théann isteach i Mumhain
na n-each, a fhíor-mhic Chró Caogad.”)

Cith Rua:

“Ní tharlóidh aon olc domsa
go ceann mí is ráithe is bliain ó anocht;
go dtí go mbeidh saoi na suadh
— Mogh Roith — tagtha chuig gasra Chláire.”

Cith Rua:

“He has come to demand recompense for the
killing of Art mac Coinn from the descendant
of Oileall Ólom. As well as this, he wants the
legitimate provincial tax which Conn
Céadchathach never actually collected.”

Fios:

(“Cormac will receive no tribute.
The children of Cíochúil will be acclaimed;
they will destroy the youthful warriors.”)

Cith Rua:

(“In your speech is a stream of knowledge,
O Athfhis mac Eolais.
For a month the waves will be red
over the warriors” ?)

Fios:

(“Woe to him who enters Munster
of the horses, O True Son of Cró Caogad.”)

Cith Rua:

“Nothing evil will happen to me for a
month and a quarter and a year from tonight,
until the sage of sages, Mogh Roith
arrives before the youthful troops of Cláire.”

[F].

“As maírg ara tibri a treas·
Donn Dáirine deallbh dileas
ocus Failbhe fer eichrinn·
re techt a n-iath n-ecomlainn”.

[C].

“Ni ba ferr nal [leg. dál] Mogha Corb·
na Fiachach in la bus lorg.
Bud gnimh uaile don dis dil·
budh leo cís Cuaine Comair”.

A comar.

Fios:

(“Maírg don té a ionsaíonn
Donn Dáirine na dea-dheilbhe
agus Faíbhe cróga
i bpairec an Áir.”)

Cith Rua:

“Ní go maith a thiocfaidh siad as,
na daoine a ionsaíonn Mogh Corb nó Fiacha.
Gníomhartha uaille a dhéanfaidh an dís sin.
Is leo a bheidh cíos Chuan Comair.”

Fios:

(“Woe to him who attacks
Donn Dáirine of the noble looks
and Faílbhe the man of valour
when they enter the battlefield.”)

Cith Rua:

“No better will fare those who oppose
Mogh Corb or Fiacha in the day of pursuit.
Great exploits will these two perform,
the tribute of Cuan Comar will be theirs.”

Section 25

O thairnic dona draithibh a n-imacallaim,
ocus rop olc a bhfaitsine don tsluagh,
atcualatar graigbertaigh ocus tarbhchoin turusa
ocus gille echraide
ocus ro aisneset do Chormac, ocus asbert
Cormac:
“Imthigidh,” ar se, “ocus marbhthar in dara
drai libh

Chuir na draoithe críoch lena gcuid cainte
agus dáiríre fire ba olc an fháistine í don slua.
Tharla gur chuala seirbhísigh agus giollaí
eachra agallamh na ndraoithe
agus d'inis siad an scéal do Chormac.
“Imígí,” arsa Cormac, “agus maraigh an dara
draoi

The druids concluded their conversation
and indeed it boded evil for Cormac's people.
The servants and horse-boys had, however,
overheard the conversation
and had reported it to Cormac.

“Go,” said Cormac, “and kill one of the druids

ocus bualtar araile cu ná rabh acht innarsan dia
anmain and."

Ro faillsigid dona draithibh inni-sin

ocus imscail cach dibh o araili.

Imsoi Cith Ruadh isin longpurt ar cula fo
ecasc nduaithnidh

ar daigh na tardta aithne fair;

imsoi iarum in drai aili roime fodhes

ocus impaidh a agaidh fo tri ar na sloughuibh

ocus cuiridh anal druidechta fuithibh tre dian
draidhechta

cu ro láastar in sluagh uili fó énecasc ocus
encruth ris-sium fein

.i. ite forusta findliatha uili amail bai-sium.

Ocus o ticedh cach dibh dar in sruth a ndegaid
in druadh

agus greasáil an duine eile go dtí nach mbeidh
ach an dé ann."

Foilsíodh é seo do na draoithe

agus scar siad ó na chéile.

D'fhill Cith Rua ar an longfort agus
bréagriocht air

i dtreo, nach n-aithneofaí é.

Thaistil an draoi eile ó dheas *, áfach,*

agus d'iompaigh a ghuíis ar an slua faoi thrí.

Lena chumhacht draíochta shéid sé anáil
siabhráin ina dtreo

agus de phreab tháinig riocth an draoi féin ar
gach duine díobh.

Deineadh fear folcliath ard — cosúil leis an
draoi féin — de gach fear a bhí ann.

Bhí siad i ndiaidh dul trasna an tsrutha ar lorg
an draoi um an dtaca seo,

and beat up the other to within an inch of his
life."

This was revealed to the druids

and they separated one from another.

Cith Rua returned to the camp in a disguised
form

so that he would not be recognised.

The other druid proceeded southwards *,
however,*

and three times he directed his face to the
army.

Through his occult power, he turned on them a
magic breath

and as a result every man in the crowd took on
the appearance of the druid himself.

Each man became a grey-haired imposing
figure such as the druid himself was.

They had crossed the stream in pursuit of the
druid

gabdais for imescargain [leg. imesargain] a cheli

ic malairt mong ocus ic cirtlam ocus ic atlugadh tuaithbil

ocus do gabudh cach dibh na mealldurna mogайде dar tulphairt aighthi araili,

ar ba doigh la gach fear dibh ba he in drai in te [leg. inte] itceth.

ach ansin, chas siad ar a chéile agus thosaigh an choscairt.

Bhí tarraingt gruaige ar siúl, coimheascar géibheannach,

gach buille fiochmhar ag freagairt do gach buille fiochmhar eile ar ghnúis agus ar bhrollach

toisc gur chreid gach duine gurbh é an draoi féin a bhí á ionsaí aige.

and now they turned on each other and the massacre began.

There was pulling out of hair, struggling, giving blow for blow

and each one delivering mighty savage strokes on the breast and face of the other

for each one believed that it was the druid himself that he was attacking.

Section 26

O ro rathaig in sluagh inni-sin,

rop ingnath leo in imthuarcain bai etarra

ocus ro raidset: “Ata slogh comuigheach oc cathugud frinn

no ra hímreadh diandraidhechta orruind.”

Imsoe uadhaibh in drai iarum iar facbail in tsloigh fon n-innus-sin.

Faoi dheireadh thug an slua faoi deara an rud a bhí ar siúl

agus b’ ionadh leo an raic go léir a tharla eatarthu.

“Tá dream éigin eachtrannach ag troid inár gcoinne,” a dúirt siad,

“nó tá siabhrán dian á chur orainn.”

Agus an siabhrán seo orthu, d’imigh an draoi uatha *ansin* ar a bhealach féin.

When at last the army perceived this,

they wondered at the fracas that had taken place among them.

“An alien throng is fighting against us,” they said,

“or some powerful magic has been used.”

The druid turned aside from them then, leaving the army in this state of confusion.

Ro faillsigid immorro do Chormac

gur bo diandraidhechta ro himreadh forro

ocus asbert a muintir do thabairt cuigi isin
longpurt ar cul

ocus dorat tromachmhusan dona draithibh frisi
tart taebh .i. Colptha *et reliqua*.

Ocus atbertsat sidhe nar bat cintuigh

uair nach riu ro comairleiced na sloig do chur
im mach.

Ar ai sin ro eirghetar

ocus tucsat anal druadh fon sluagh

ocus ro imriset dian draidhechta forro

ocus ro soidhedh in sluagh in a n-ecusg féin
iarum.

Cuireadh in iúl do Chormac *, áfach,*

gur cuireadh an slua faoi dhraíocht thréan

agus d'ordaigh dóibh teacht ina láthair go
rúnda.

Rinne sé gearán géar faoina dhraoithe. 'Sé sin
le rá Colpa agus a chomhghuaillithe mar bhí
muinín aige astu.

Dúirt siadsan, áfach, nár bh iad féin a bhí
ciontach

toisc nár bh iad a chomharlaigh an slua
imeacht ar an eachtra seo.

Iarsin, d'éirigh na draoithe

agus thug anáil draíochta faoin slua.

D'imir í seo diansiabhrán orthu

agus d'aistríodh gach duine den slua ar ais go
dtí an riocht féin *iarsin*.

It was made known to Cormac, however,

that they had been the victims of powerful
magic

and he ordered his people to be brought to him
privately in the camp

where he made a savage complaint against the
druids in whom he had placed his trust, that is
Colpa and his companions.

They said, however, that it was not their fault,

as it was not they who had given the order to
attack.

After this, they rose up

and directed a magic breath at the army

and worked intense magic.

As a result of this, each one recovered his own
form.

Section 27

Batar in slúag annsin co dubac drochmenmach

moircnedach fo coir Leighis ocus othrusa

gin gu raibhi dianbas no marbh daine eturra.

Tancatar rompu arnamarach siar

i mBec Magh ocus i Coill medoin ocus tar
iarthar deiscirt Midhe

co rancatar cu h-Ath in tsloig, risin abar Ath
na n-irlann aniu.

Doghniset botha ocus belscalann annsin, ocus ro
saidhset a pupla.

Ocus gabsat a luch [leg. luch[t]] fesa ocus
eoluis for fegad nel firmaminnti uaisdibh.

Dochuaidh dano Crota dar in ath siar sechtair

con faca cuigi drui na criche ba coimhnesa
dho.

Iar sin, bhí an slua do dubhach
drochmheanmnach,

mórchneách agus cor Leighis ag teastáil uathu,

cé nár maraíodh aon duine díobh sa raic.

Lá arna mhárach ar aghaidh leo arís siar

go Beaghmhá agus go Coill Mheáin agus thar
iardheisceart na Mí

go dtí gur shroich siad Áth an tSlua, eadhon
Áth na nIarlann inniu.

Rinne siad bothanna agus foscaí *ansin* agus
chuir suas a bpubaill.

Agus ghabh a lucht feasa agus eolais ag
féachaint ar néalta na firmiminte os a gcionn.

Chuaigh Crotha *, áfach, * siar thar an áth

agus chonaic chuige draoi na críche ba
chóngaraí dó.

After this, the company was depressed and in
low spirits.

The men were covered with wounds requiring
medical treatment *and sick-maintenance*,

but there were no *sudden deaths or* fatal
casualties among them.

Next day, they set out westwards

to Beaghmhá and Coill Mheáin and over the
south-west of Mí

until they reached Áth an tSlua which today is
known as Áth na nIarlann.

Here they set up huts and shelters and erected
their tents.

Their seers set about examining the clouds in
the firmament above them.

Crotha, however, crossed over the ford to the
west

and there he saw coming towards him the
druid of the neighbouring territory.

Fer Fátha a comhainm sidhe.

Ro fhiarfuigh sidhe do Crota cia doroine in
muirnd ocus in tsesilbh, fria h-ath atuaidh
ocus dorindi in laidh ocus do freacair Crota.

Fear Fátha b' ainm dó siúd.

D'fhiabraigh sé de Chrotha an chúis a bhí leis
an ngleo agus an raic ag an áth aduaidh.

Rinne sé laoi agus d'fhreagair Crotha é:

Fear Fátha was his name.

He enquired of Crotha the cause of the tumult
and disturbance to the north of the ford

and he recited a lay to which Crotha replied:

Section 28

[F.F.]

"Ga muirnd sut ra h-ath atuaidh·
sloinn, a Crota, masat uain
Innis duin-ne gin gnímh ngrod·
cia le ndentar in longport?"

Fear Fátha:

"Maidir leis an raic seo
ag an áth aduaidh, a Chrotha,
má tá an t-am agat agus más toil leat é,
inis dúinn cé atá sa longfort?"

[Cr.]

"Mar ra Cormac ad gnatha·
a fil sunn, a fhir Fhatha
Is lais dognither anocht·
guna shluaghuibh in longport".

Crotha:

"Is é Cormac atá ann,
a Fhir Fhátha.
Is eisean agus a shluaithe
a rinne an longfort."

[F. F.]

"Cidh dia tancatar na sloigh?·
sloinn, a Crota, masa choir
Ga crich a tiaghat gen chair·
is ga toisc gatat iaroidh?"

Fear Fátha:

"Cad chuige teacht na sluaite?
inis dom é sin, a Chrotha,
más cóir;
cá bhfuil siad ag dul agus cén fáth?"

Fear Fátha:

"As regards that disturbance to the north, at the ford,
O Crotha tell us, if you have the time,
and without turning it into a disagreeable task
— tell us who has set up camp there?"

Crotha:

"It is Cormac who is there,
O Fear Fátha:
it is he and his troops
who have set up camp there."

Fear Fátha:

"Why have the troops come?
Tell me this, O Crotha,
if you consider it right.
Where are they going and why?"

[Cr.]

“Clann Cichuil dosfuc atuaidh-
ocus mac meabluch Midhualth
D’iaraidh cumail Airt meic Cuind;
ar ua nOililla Ouluimm”

[F.F.]

“Is maирg teit ra h-imad sloigh-
d’iaraidh cumul minab coir
Cu ro iarad Fiacha fair-
cumul Eogain a athair”.

[Cr.]

“Da cló slúagh Muighi Rathá-
in a tacra, a Fhir Fhatha.
Nít ain sluagh Múman na mbenn-
conat ria beim it’ leithcenn”

[F.F.]

“Gidh iat-san no beith a lín-
ni mo do berdais a snímh
Immar atat budh gnim nduird-
maирg theit chucu tria comurn”.

Crotha:

“Thug Clann Chíochúil ón tuaisceart iad,
chomh maith le mac meabhlaч Mhídhua,
chun éiric bhás Airt mhic Choinn
a fháil ó ua Oilealla Óloim.”

Fear Fátha:

“Is maирg don té a théann le hiomad slua
ag iarraidh éirice go héagórach
nó go n-iarrfaidh Fiacha
éiric bhás Eoghain, a athair féin”

Crotha:

“Má chloiseann sluaite Mhá Rátha thú,
a Fhir Fhátha,
ní shábhálfaidh slua Mhumhan na mBeann
tú ó chlabht sa leiceann.”

Fear Fátha:

“Agus a líon a bheith go mór, fiú
ní laghdóidh sé sin ar an gcreach.
Beidh gníomhartha fraochmhara ar siúl.
Mairg don té a théann ina gcoinne”

Crotha:

“The family of Cíochúil have brought them from the North
as well as the deceitful son of Mídhua
to get compensation for the killing of Art mac Coinn
from the grandson of Oileall Ólom.”

Fear Fátha:

“Woe to him who travels with an overlarge company
to claim compensation that may not be justified
until Fiacha claims compensation
from Cormac for the death of his father.”

Crotha:

“If the army of Má Rátha hears you,
O Fear Fátha,
the army of hilly Munster
will not save you from a blow.”

Fear Fátha:

“Great their numbers,
no less their destruction.
Violent action;
Woe to him who approaches them”

Section 29

A h-aithle na himacallmha-sin dona draithibh

atcuálatar gille thurusa ocus graigbertaigh
ocus daescarsluagh gnena [leg. gne na] h-
imarbhadha a n-imagallaim na ndruadh

ocus dochuatar tar in sruth a ndeagaidh in
druadh ba h-anaithintiu dhoibh

ocus rucsat leo run bais ocus oigedha dho.

O ro rathaigh in drai sin ro impo for in sruth

ocus tuc tri builli don fhleisc draidhechta do
bui n-a laim don tsruth

gur eirigh ocus gur fhorbair frisin sluagh.

Ocus is amhlaidh ro bhai in slogh,

ocus drong mhor dhibh ar ndul dar in sruth
siar i ndeghuidh in druadh

Tháinig agallamh na ndraoithe chun críche
ansin

agus bhí giollaí eachra agus daoscarshlua i
ndiaidh a gcuid cainte a chloisteáil.

D'imigh siadsan trasna an tsrutha ar thóir an
draoi anaithnid

agsu rún daingean acu é a chur chun báis agus
oidhe.

Agus a fhios sin a bheith ag an draoi,
d'iompaigh sé thart *don sruth*

agsu thug trí bhuille den fhleasc dhraíocha a
bhí ina láimh aige don sruth

agus lom láithreach d'éirigh sé ina thuile os
comhair an tslua.

Agus is mar seo a bhí an slua.

Bhí dream mó� daoine ar an taobh thiar den
sruth *ar thóir an draoi*

The druids' conversation came to an end

but the horse attendants and the menials had
overheard them

and they crossed over the stream in pursuit of
the druid who was unknown to them

and they fully intended to put him to death.

When the druid became aware of this he
turned to the stream

and gave it three blows of the magic wand
which he held in his hand

so that it rose up in a deluge in front of the
crowd.

And the crowd was like this.

A large number had already gone over to the
western side of the stream *in pursuit of the
druid*

ocus drong mor ele isin sruth

agus dream móir eile istigh sa sruth féin

while another large group was actually in the river

ocus ro gabhudh ic a bhfhoirach sidhe o ro
fhorbair in sruth

*agus níorbh féidir leo dul ar aghaidh leis an
tuile sa sruth*.

and the deluge in the river stopped their advance.

ocus imsoei in slogh aniar ocus anair

Bhí an slua ag iompú aniar agus anoir

The others pushed back and forth

dia furtacht

ag iarraidh iad siúd a bhí san uisce a thabhairt
slán.

in an effort to rescue them.

ocus dochuaidh in drai as fai-sin.

Leis sin, d'éalaigh an draoi ar shiúl uathu.

While all this was going on, the druid slipped away.

Batar immorro in slog co dubach
drochmenmnach imon sruth on trath-sin cusin
trath cetna arnamharach

Bhí an slua go dubhach drochmheanmnach
móirthimpeall ar an sruth *, áfach,* ón tráth sin
go dtí an tráth céanna lá arna mhárach.

From that time on until the same time next day, the crowd stayed around the stream in low spirits *, however*.

conid annsin rossoiset na druidh fria n-ealaduin druidhechta gur cuirseat in sruth n-a
inat fein feibh ro bui roime.

Ansin, chuir na draoithe an sruth ar ais ina
riocht ceart arís trína n-ealaín *draíochta*.

Then the druids resorted to their magic arts and replaced the stream in its original place.

Section 30

Iarsin dano dochoidh Cormac cona shloghuibh
dar in sruth

Iarsin, chuaigh Cormac agus a shluaithe trasna
an tsrutha

After this, Cormac and his army passed over the stream

ocus ro gabsat rompa dar Dubhchaill frisin
apur Fidh dammaiche inniu,

agus ghabh rompu thar Dubhchoill, eadhon
Fiodh Dhamhaiche inniu

and proceeded past Dubhchoill which is known as Fiodh Damhaiche today.

cur gabsat i Magh Leathaird frisin abar Magh Tuaiscirt

ocus i Crund-Mhagh frisin abar Magh Gabra inniu

ocus i Mag nUachtair frisin abar Magh Raidhne

ocus i bhfhorfhairsing na slighiudh fon n-innus-sin

gur ghabsat is na bocaighibh Báinfhliucha frisin abar Sliab Eblinne

cur gabsat ic Formaeli na bhF-hian ra dubachuibh deridh lai.

Is annsin ro gab Cect for fegad aoir ocus fhirmaminnti uas na sluaghuiibh

ocus dodhechaid siar gu Duibh-Gleand risin abar Gleand Salach aniu.

Co nfeca cuigi araili laech forusta finnliath

dar bu comainm Art an drai

agus go Má Leathaird, 'sé sin le rá Má Thuaiscirt

agus go Cruinnmhá ar a nglaotar Má Ghabhra inniu

agus go Má nUachtair, 'sé sin le rá Má Roighne.

San áit a d'éirigh an tslí níos fairinge

gabh siad isteach sna Bocaí Báinfhliucha, eadhon Sliabh Eibhlinne

agus shroich siad Formhaol na bhFiann le dúchan dheireadh lae.

B' ansin a thosaigh Céacht ag féachaint ar an aer agus ar an bhfirmimint os cionn na sluaite

agus d'imigh siar go Dubhghleann, 'sé sin le rá — Gleann Salach inniu.

Chonaic sé chuige laoch maorga folcliath eile.

Draoi ba ea é siúd agus Art an t-ainm a bhí air.

From this on to Má Leathaird now called Má Thuaiscirt;

then on to Crunn-Mhá which is now known as Má Ghabhra;

then to Má nUachtair known now as Má Roighne.

Then, as the way opened up,

they made their way into the Bocaí Báinfhliucha now called Sliabh Eibhlinne

and from thence to Formhaol na bhFiann which they reached at sundown at the end of the day.

It was here that Céacht began to look at the sky and the firmament above the troops

and he proceeded westwards to Dubhghleann which is called Gleann Salach today.

There he saw coming towards him another grey-haired, distinguished-looking warrior.

This was the druid Art.

ocus ro gab cach dib oc imagallaimh ra a cheli
ocus occ fiafraigid scel d'aroili

ocus ro fhas as-sidhe cur bo ron [leg. roen]
imurbhadha etorra

ocus doronsat in laidh:

Thosaigh siad ag agallamh a chéile agus ag
lorg scéala

go dtí gur éirigh iomarba eatarthu

agus rinne siad an laoi seo.

They both began to converse *and each asked
the other for news*.

A discussion developed between them

and they made a lay:

Section 31

[A].

“Cidh dia tancubar, a Cect-
atuidh a tir Mhuighi slecht? (?)
Cidh ro gluais ind seiscuse [leg. seis cuse].
for leis co Crich Fhormaeile?”

Art:

“Cad chuige go bhfuil tú ag teacht aduaidh,
a Chéacht, ó thír Mhá Sléacht?
Cad chuige gur għluais an dream tormánach seo
chomh fada le Críoch Fhormáile?”

[C].

“Bodhith tainic gu Temhraigh.
Farir, is mor rosmedhraich
D'iarraidh bón cech boin dibh soin-
isé ar turus o Temraigh”

Céacht:

“Bódhít a tháinig go Teamhair.
Faraoir, is mór an dí-chéille a leanann í.
Is ag iarraidh bó in áit gach bó a cailleadh
atáimid ag teacht.”

[A].

“Gin gurub sinne ruc bar mbu.
A clanna Cuinn gu caemhchlú,
Tarcamuir duibh boin cech lis-
a bhferunn Fhiachach fidhlis”.

Art:

“Cé nár bh é sinne a rug bhur mba,
a Chlann Chóinn go caomhchlú,
d'ofrálamar bó ó gach lios
i bhfearrann Fhiacha Fidhlis daoibh.”

Art:

“Why have you come, O Céacht
southwards from Má Sléacht?
Why has this noisy throng
arrived here in Críoch Fhormáile?”

Céacht:

“A cattle disease has broken out in Tara.
Alas, it has given rise to great folly.
Seeking a cow to replace every cow that died
is the purpose of our journey from Tara.”

Art:

“While it was not we who took your cows,
O Family of Conn of noble fame,
we did offer you a cow from every *lios*
(farmstead) in the territory of Fiacha Fidhlis.”

[C].

“Is fearr linn ár cain cu brath-
ocus cumhal n-ar curaidh
Ina in sruaimh-sin, cia mad mó-
is a thabuirt ind aenló”.

[A].

“Nucha beruit boin cu brath-
o feruibh Muman seoch cach
A cumhail na a cain gan acht.
dar bur laim-sin, madh mallacht”.

[C].

“Mad da cloisedh Cairbre in clair.
int aithiusc raidi, a Artain
ocus Cormac in tuir thenn-
no bethea gen do chaeimhchenn”

[A].

“Ni mó lim Cairbri is Cormac-
na in da araid nous fognath
A m-bethaidh Mogha Corb cain-
ocus Fhiachach Muillethain”

[C].

“Da clo Artchorb is a clann-
bidh brisc bruar gu luath i nglenn
Nochu ragha it’ bethaid de-
bidh buan doit a n-e craite”.

Céacht:

“Is fearr linn ár gcáin go brách
agus éiric ár gcuraidh (Art mac Coinn)
ná an deontas fial sin
ach é a thabhairt in aon lá.”

Art:

“Ní bhfaighidh siad bó go brách
ó Fhir Mhumhan....”

Céacht:

“Dá gcloisfeadh Cairbre an Chláir
an méid atá á rá agat, a Artáin,
nó Cormac an laoch teann
bheifeá gan do chaomhcheann.”

Art:

“Ní mó liom Cairbre agus Cormac
ná an dá ara atá ag freastail orthu
fad a bheidh Mogh Corb caoin
agus Fiacha Moilleathan ann.”

Céacht:

“Dá gcloisfeadh Art Corb agus a chlann thú
bheadh raic gan mhoill sa ghleann.
Ní rachfá as i do bheatha.
Mhairfeadh a bhfuath duit go deo.”

Céacht:

“We prefer our continuous tax system
and compensation for our hero
(Art mac Coinn, Cormac’s father)
to a single donation.”

Art:

“They will never get a cow
from the Munstermen”

Céacht:

“If Cairbre an Chláir were to hear
what you said, O Artán,
or if Cormac the stout champion were to hear,
you would be minus your handsome head.”

Art:

“I care no more for Cairbre or Cormac than
I do for the two charioteers that serve them
while noble Mogh Corb
and Fiacha Moilleathan are alive.”

Céacht:

“If Art Corb and his children were to hear you,
there would be a savage outburst at once in the
glen and you would not come out of it alive.
Their hatred of you would last forever.”

[A.]

“Ni mó lim Artchorb, a fhir·
na a fil d’aindribh tuaidh n-a thigh
In cein bes is tir amne·
agam dhín Dond Dairine”

[C.]

“Dá clo Ceallach mac Cormaic·
is Artur feta fairneirt
Bidh duit bus diamair in dal·
nocut ain do diabhuldan”.

[A.]

“Nochu mó lim Artur ard·
ina a gilla glan gle-gharg
In cein bias i n-a bethaidh·
croibhderg Caeiridhe Crechaidh”.

[C.]

“Da cloisedh cuan na curad·
in tsamail doibh fher Muman
No bertha meall dar do dét·
ocus no bertha cruidhchrecht”.

[A.]

“Ma da cloised Mumha min·
slógh mar iat-san i n-a tir
no bhetis beoil bana dhe·
cin almhai, cin indile”.

Art:

“Ní mó liom Art Corb, a fhir,
ná a bhfuil d’annireacha aige thuaidh ina theach
chomh fada is atáim sa thír seo
agus Donn Dáirine agam do mo dhíonadh.”

Céacht:

“Dá geloisfeadh Ceallach mac Cormaic
agus Artúr cróga an fhornirt thú
bheadh bás diamhair i ndán duit
agus ní shábhálfadh do bhriochtaí go léir thú.”

Art:

“Ní mó liom Artúr ard
ná a ghiolla glan gléharg
fad a bheidh Caoraí Creacha
ina bheatha.

Céacht:

“Dá geloisfeadh Cuan na gCuradh thú,
agus comórtas á dhéanamh agat
idir Fir Mhumhan agus iad,
gheofá clabht sna déada agus goin dhian.”

Art:

“Dá geloisfeadh Mumha mhín
go raibh slua mar iadsan ina thír
bheadh béis agus iad bán le heagla ann,
daoine gan tréada, gan innile.”

Art:

“Art Corb is no more to me, Man,
than his houseful of women up in the north
while I am in this area
and Donn Dáirine my protector.”

Céacht:

“If Ceallach mac Cormaic were to hear you
or indeed valiant Artúr of the mighty strength,
your fate would be in doubt
and your spells would not save you.”

Art:

“Great Artúr means no more to me
than his clean, bright, rough servant
while the red hand of Caoraí Creacha
is there.”

Céacht:

“If Cuan na Curad were to hear you
comparing them to the men of Munster
you would get a blow in the teeth
and a severe injury.”

Art:

“If gentle Mumhan were to hear
of a crowd like this inside her territory
there would be faces white with fear,
without herds, without cattle.”

[C.]

“Bi i tost is tairnic do dhail·
is obur mhir imarbhaidh.
Ni thic don tshuagh tacras tu·
freacra na tri coicead friu”

[A.]

“It fir-aithesc ni ba brec·
slonn tall dod’ sluagaibh, a Checht
Itbera cach dibh nachtan·
‘olc in turas tancamar’ ”

Céacht:

“Bí i do thost agus cuirimis deireadh
leis an dál amайдeach seo.
Ní féidir leis an slua a dtugann tusa tacaíocht dó
an fód a sheasamh in aghaidh na dtrí Chúige.”

Art:

“I do chuid cainte
ná bíodh bréag.
Abair leis an slua, a Chéacht:
‘Is olc an turas ar a dtángamar’.”

Céacht:

“Be quite and let us conclude this meeting.
It is a foolish matter for discussion.
The army that you support
cannot stand against three provinces.”

Art:

“In your genuine response
there will be no lie,
O Céacht go and tell your armies:
‘It is an evil journey we have undertaken’.”

Section 32

O atcualatar na sloig ocus na sochaide
ro fergait cu mor
ocus dorala imach cu dian ocus gu dreamhan
a ndeghaidh in druadh dar glenn siar
ocus atbereadh cach re cheli dibh:
“Faghbhadh in drai bas ocus aidhedh libh.”
Imsoi in drai a aigid forro

Nuair a chuala na sluaite agus na sochaithe sin
tháinig fearg mhór orthu
agus ar aghaidh leo do dian agus go dreamhan
i ndiaidh an draoi siar thar an ngleann
agus bhí gach duine díobh á rá lena chéile:
“Bás agus oidhe don draoi.”
D’iompaigh an draoi a aghaidh orthu

When the army and the company heard this
they were enraged.
Fiercely and violently they went off
in pursuit of the druid westwards over the
glen,
saying to each other:
“Death and destruction to the druid.”
The druid, however, turned his face to them

ocus teit i muinicin a dhea

ocus cuirid anal druadh ind aier ocus i
firmimint

con derna neul ciach os cinn in tsloigh

gur thuit forro ocus gur cuirestar i loeibricht
meraighthi

cu ro ela in drai uaidhibh.

Iarsin dano

as i comairle doronsat

o ro bu mela leo na draithi uli do elad
uaithibh:

slechtaire ocus lorgaire rompa ar slicht in
druadh

ocus beith in a mbuidhnibh ocus ina
ndrechtaibh na dhiaigh.

agus chuaigh i muinín a dhé

agus chuir anáil draíochta san aer agus san
fhirmimint

gur deineadh néal ceo os cionn an tslua.

Thit sé orthu agus cuireadh siabhrán agus mire
orthu dá bharr.

Agus iad a bheith sa tsáinn sin

d'éalaigh an draoi uathu agus d'imigh leis.

Ba mhéala leo na draoithe go léir a bheith ag
éalú

agus rinne siad comhairle

and placing his confidence in his gods

he directed a druidic breath into the sky and
the firmament.

This formed a dark cloud over the crowd.

Then the cloud descended on them making
them dazed and bewildered,

so that in the confusion,

the druid slipped away from them.

After this, *however,*

they were aggrieved that all the druids had
escaped

and they decided

to send a scout and a searcher before them on
the trail of the druid

while they themselves would follow on *after
them in groups*.

Ocus dobatar seacht lá cona n-oighthibh isin longpurt soin

ocus dronga mora dhibh for lurg

ocus ní ro fhetsat tect dia tigh ar mhet an breachta ro imir in drai forro.

Ocus dano ba mebal leo gia ro fhettais

ar no taispenad an drai a lorg doibh cecha maidne

for beilgibh ocus berntaibh ocus athaibh

ar daigh a mbuaidherthi ocus a n-imscarta ria a muindtir.

Seacht lá agus seacht n-oíche a bhí siad sa longfort sin

agus dreamanna móir díobh ar lorg

agus níor éirigh leo teacht ar ais chuig an teach ar mhéid na mbriochtaí a d'imir an draoi orthu.

Agus chomh maith leis sin, ba mheabhal leo mar a chuir an draoi amú iad.

Lean siad an lorg a d'fhág sé gach maidin

thar altáin agus bearnaí agus áthanna

ar dhóigh a chuir buairt orthu agus a scar óna muintir iad.

They spent seven days and seven nights in this camp

while large numbers of them searched for the druid.

They were unable to return to their house because of the powerful spell the druid had put on them.

And, moreover, they were led astray still further,

for each morning the druid showed them traces of his whereabouts,

leading them up cliffs and through ravines and over fords

to afflict them and to separate them from their companies.

Section 33

Ro ghabh omhon mor Cormac annsin,

ar ba doigh lais gur ba turbrodh dia sloghadh

Ghabh uamhan móir Cormac ansin

mar ba dhóigh leis gur treascaíodh a shluá

Cormac became very fearful, then,

as he considered that his army had been overthrown

ocus na toirsitis a muinter chuigi.

Ocus do ghabh oc eiliugad na ndruadh batar
aigi fein ocus atbert friu:

“Caidhe bar tarbha-si damh-sa,” ar se,
“madh ro marbad mo muindter
cin fhis cin forcloisin damh ocus gin fortacht
uaibh-si dhoibh?”

— “Ni ramarbhu iat idir,” ol siat,
“acht suainbrect seachtmaine dorat in drai
forro
ocus doberam-ne doridisiu ar culai”.
Is ann-sin docuatar-san i forbha a bhfhesa
ocus an-eolusa [*leg. a n-eolusa*]

ocus ro cursat a suainbrect dona sluagaibh
ocus do roachtsad chuca i bhforba na
seachtmaine.

agus nach bhfillfheadh a mhuintir chuige arís.

Agus thosaigh sé ag cáineadh a ndraoithe féin
iarsin á rá leo:

“Cén tairbhe sibhse dom.
Maraíodh mo mhuintir

agus níor thug sibhse aon fholáireamh dom
roimh ré agus níor thug sibh aon chabhair
dóibh?”

“Níor maraíodh in aon chor iad,” ar siadsan,
“ach chuir an draoi suanbhriocht seachtaine
orthu
agus bainfimidne é sin díobh.”

D’imigh siad leo ansin i mbun feasa agus
eolais
agus chuir siad an suanbhriocht ar ceal.
D’fhill na sluaite ar an longfort ansin ag
deireadh na seachtaine.

and that they would never again return to him.

And he began to berate his own druids saying:

“What use are you to me
since my own people have been killed

without previous warning from you and
without your coming to their assistance?”

“They have not been killed, at all,” said they,
“a sleep-spell has been placed on them by the
druid. This will last a week.
*We will remove it from them.”

Off they went then, to practise their occult arts
and secret knowledge
and they counteracted the sleep-spell
so that they returned to the camp at the end of
the week.

Section 34

O ra siachtadar a muindter gu Cormac

ro coimerigh roime i cenn sheta ocus
imthechta

co riacht co h-Ath Cuili Fedha risan abar Ath
Croi iniu,

ocus ro shuidigset longport annsin.

Dorala do Chíthach dula amach

d'fegad aieoir ocus ffirmiminti

ocus dorala fer a comaeisi fein dó .i. Dubhfhis
mac Dofhis

ocus do fhiarfuigh cach dibh scela d'aroili,

ocus do raidh Dofhis ocus do fhreagair
Cithach ocus doronsat in laidh eturra.

Nuair a tháinig a mhuintir chomh fada le
Cormac

chuir sé chun bóthair arís agus ar aghaidh leis
go dtí

gur shroich sé Áth Cúile Feá, 'sé sin le rá, Áth
Croí an lae inniu

agus shuigh sé longfort ann.

Tharla ansin gur imigh Ceathach amach

chun scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an aer agus ar an
bhfirmimint

agus bhual sé le fear a chomhaoise féin —
Dubhfhios mac Dofhis

agus d'iarr scéala air.

Labhair Dubhfhios agus d'fhreagair Ceathach
é agus rinne siad laoi eatarthu:

When his people had returned to Cormac

he set out once again on his path and
expedition.

He reached Áth Cúile Feá which today is
known as Áth Croí

and set up camp there.

It transpired, then, that Ceathach, went out
to examine the sky and the firmament

and there he met a man of his own age —
Dubhfhios mac Dofhis

and each of them asked news of the other.

Dubhfhios spoke and Ceathach answered him
and between them they made a poem:

Section 35

[D.]

“A Chithaigh, canas tanac·
slounn, i tiribh do namhat?
I tir do namhat amne:
ca tanac? ca rot teidhe?”

[C.]

“O Mhúr Té thanac ille·
gu Cuil Feaga Formaeile
A Mumain teidhim cin gheis:
A Dhuibhfhis, a meic Dhofhis”.

[D.]

“Cidh dia teidhe-si i Mumain?
slonn gin cairdi, mas chubaid
Tagair do dail, cia do sét?
ga slógh ga dtai forchoimhet?”

[C.]

“Do dhingbáil druadh in tire.
teidhim marom coimhdhíne
Coiscidh Cormac bhidh cumhan·
righa mora na Muman”

Dubhfhius:

“A Cheathaigh, conas a tháinig tú
anseo go thír do naimhde?
Go thír do naimhde dáiríre fire.
Cad as a dtáinig tú?”

Ceathach:

“Ó Theamhair a tháinig mé anseo
go Cúil Fheaga Formáile,
agus rachaidh mé isteach i gCúige Mumhan
gan freasúra, a Dhubhfhis mhic Dhofhis.”

Dubhfhius:

“Cad chuige go bhfuil tú
ag teacht go Cúige Mumhan?
Inis é sin dom más mian leat;
cá bhfuil tú thríall? cé hé an slua atá agat?”

Ceathach:

“Is chun draoithe na tíre seo a dhiongabháil
a tháinig mé fén agus mo chomhdhaoine.”

Dubhfhius:

“O Ceathach, how have you come
to the territories of your enemies?
How did you come?
Where are you going?”

Ceathach:

“From Tara I have come
to Cúil Fheá Formáile.
I go to Munster without hindrance,
O Dubhfhius, Son of Dofhis.”

Dubhfhius:

“Why are you going to Munster? Tell me truly
if this suits you; discuss the situation;
what route are you taking
with the company which you supervise?”

Ceathach:

“It is to ward off the druids of the region
that I have come along with my companions”

[D.]

“Gach toisc fa tancuis ille-
cu brath nocha comaillfe
Biaidh nel áir uasaibh a moigh-
bhidh beg bar ngrain, a Cithaigh”.

A Cithaigh.

Dubhfhiös:

“Ní chomhlíonfar
do bhearta go brách.
Beidh scamall os bhur gcionn ar an má.
Is beag is fiú bhur ngráin.”

Dubhfhiös:

“The purpose for which you have come
will never be fulfilled. There will be a cloud of
slaughter above your heads on the plain;
your hatred is of little consequence, O Ceathach.”

Section 36

A h-aithle na laidhi-sin ra hinnised do Chormac

gur bá olc faitsine na ndruadh dhó.

“Ní fhetaim-si,” ar Cormac “a didhuil forro

ár gid in lucht ro thriall a marbadh ni ro fhetsat

ocus is forro ra imerset mela”.

Cu nad annsin ro aithin Cormac gan a luadh ider intan ticfatuis.

Arna mharach immorro gabsat rompa

I dhiaidh na laoi sin insíodh do Chormac

gurbh olc fáistine na ndraoithe *dó*.

“Ní féidir liom díoltas a imirt orthu,” arsa Cormac,

“mar níor éirigh, leis an lucht a bhain trial as iad a mharú

agus is orthu féin a imríodh méala.”

Thug Cormac ordú dóibh *ansin* gan caint faoin rud sin a thuilleadh *nuair a d'fhillfeadh siad*.

Lá arna mhárach *, áfach,* ghabh siad ar aghaidh arís

After this lay, Cormac was informed

that the druids' predictions boded ill for him.

“I cannot wreak vengeance on them,” said Cormac,

“for those, who attempted to kill them were unable to do so

and it was on them that punishment was inflicted.”

Cormac *then* gave orders that the affair was not to be talked about when they returned.

Next day, however, they set out

i bhfairsiung slighedh i cenn Mairtine
Muman

gu rangatar co Druim Medhoin Mairtine
dar bha comhainm Ardcluin na Fene ocus
Mucfhalach mhuc Daire Cerbe
righ Medhoin Mairtine,

frisin apar Imliuch Ibhair aniu

ocus ro shuidhighset longport isin du-sin.

Teit Cithmor asin longport siar dhes,
d'fheгад nel ocus aoir
co bfesadh ord in tsloigh.

Is and dorala dhó araili laech finnchas
forbhailid

.i. drai Medhoin Mhairtine dar bu comhainm
Medhran drai

agus an tslí ag fairsingiú rompu amach i dtreo
Mhairtine Mumhan,

go dtí gur shroich siad Druim Meáin Mairtine.
Ardchluain na Féne agus Mucfhalach mac
Dáire Ceirbe ba chomhainmneacha don áit.

Rí Mheáin Martine ba ea Ceirbe.

Imleach Iúir a thugtar ar an áit sa lá atá inniu
ann

agus shuigh siad longfort san áit sin.

D'imigh Cith Mór amach as an longfort siar ó
dheas ansin

ag féachaint ar na néalta agus ar an aer
chun an tslí ar aghaidh don slua a dhéanamh
amach.

Is ansiúd a bhual sé le laoch foltfhionn
taitneamhach.

Draoi Mheán Mairtine ba ea é agus Meadhrán
b' ainm dó.

on an open path heading for Mairtine
Mumhan.

They reached Druim Meáin Mairtine
which is also known as Ardchluain na Féne
and Mucfhalach mac Dáire Ceirbe.

This Ceirbe was king of Meáin Mairtine.

The area is called Emly today,

and it was here that they encamped.

Cith Mór emerged from the camp and
proceeded towards the south-west
examining the clouds and the sky
to discern a way forward for the army.

It happened that here he met another warrior
with blond hair and a most pleasant
appearance.

This was the druid of Meán Mairtine, and his
name was Meadhrán.

ocus ro gabh cach dhibh ar acalduim a chele
ocus ic fiafraigid scel

ocus do raidh Medhran in laidh ocus do
freagair Cithmor:

Thosaigh an bheirt ag agallamh a chéile agus
ag lorg scéala.

D'aithris Meadhrán laoi agus d'fhreagair Cith
Mór é:

They began to converse with each other and
each asked the other for news.

Meadhrán recited a lay and Cith Mór replied:

Section 37

[M.]
“A Chithmoir, gu fir freagair-
gá lá thanac ó Themhair?
Caidhi hord o sin ille-
borb nech muna fiafraighe?”.

[C.]
“Día luain duin gu Comar cruaidh-
is Dia Mairt co h-Ath in tSluaig
Dia cedain (conar cain gle)-
co mullach fain Formaeile”.

[M.]
“Caidhi bar n-ord dia Dardain?
innis duinn a Cithmhoir chaeim.
Cidh ro bar roeg in seul soin?
Cidh ro bar soebh re seachtmhoin?”

Meadhrán:
“A Chith Mhór, freagair mé go fior,
cén lá a d'fhág tú Teamhair?
Cén bealach a thaistil tú ó shin i leith
mura miste leat m' fhaifraí?”

Cith Mór:
“De Luain shroicheamar Cumars, agus
Dé Máirt bhaineamar Áth an tSlua amach;
conair chaoi ghlé a bhí again Dé Céadaoin
go Mullach leargnach Phormáile.”

Meadhrán:
“Cén clár a bhí agaibh Déardaoin?
Inis é sin dúinn, a Chith Mhór chaoimh.
Cén treo a ghabh sibh? Cén fáth go
raibh sibh ar seachrán ar feadh seachtaine?”

Meadhrán:
“O Cith Mór, tell me the truth,
on what day did you leave Tara?
What happened since then?
It is only a surly person that wouldn't enquire.”

Cith Mór:
“On Monday we came to hard Comar
and on Tuesday we arrived in Áth an tSlua.
On Wednesday — a bright pleasant path
— we came to the summit of the slope of Formhaol.”

Meadhrán:
“What was your situation on Thursday?
tell us that, O gentle Cith Mór,
what was your choice of direction? How is it
that you were wandering around astray for a week?”

[M.]

“Ord na h-Aeine, in meabair lat·
a Chith Mhoir cuicid Connacht?
Cia leith raghthair dia bar ngairm·
isin maidin dia Sathairn?”

[C.]

“O chuil Fegha dhuin alle·
co Druim Medhoin Mairtine
Ord na h-Aeine duid gin dailbh·
gu Cnoc na Cenn dia Sathairn”

[M.]

“Caidhi bur n-ord o-so amach·
innis duin masat eolach
Má roetar slonn co tai·
a Chith Moir, cin imargai”.

[C.]

“Bemit annsin co triamain·
mí ocus raithi ocus bliadain
Bid duaidh do Leith Mogha ar mbaigh·
bidh cruaidh ar modh, a Mhedrain”

[M].

“Gach a ndingne dh’ulc d’ar ro·
tárruster ort ind oenlo
Madh lais tall budh terc a treoir·
bid fann do cert a Cithmoir”.

A Cithmoir

*Meadhrán:

“An gcuimhin leat cad a tharla Dé hAoine,
a Chith Mhór ó Chúige Chonnacht?
Cen treo a d’imigh sibh
maidin, Dé Sathairn?”

Cith Mór:

“Ó Chúil Fheaga
go Droim Mheán Mairtine
— b’ shin é ord na hAoine
agus go Cnoc na gCeann Dé Sathairn.”

Meadhrán:

“Cén clár atá agaibh as seo amach?
Inis é sin dom le firinne,
a Chith Mhór,
má tá an t-eolas sin agat.”

Cith Mór:

“Beimid anseo go triamhnach
mí agus ráithe agus bliain.
Is maig do Leath Mhogha ár dteach;
Beidh ár módh go crua, a Mheadhráin.”

Meadhrán:

“Go dtite an t-olc sin go léir
a luaigh tú
ar do cheann féin
in aon lá a Chith Mhór.”

*Meadhrán:

“Do you recall your programme for Friday,
O Cith Mór of the Province of Connacht?
Which direction did you take
on Saturday morning?”

Cith Mór:

“From Cuil Fheá
to Druim Meáin Mairtine
— on Friday
and on to Cnoc na gCeann on Saturday.”

Meadhrán:

“What is your programme from this on,
tell us if you know it
and if you can declare it
without deceit, O Cith Mór.”

Cith Mór:

“We will remain here in a state of weariness
for a month and a quarter and a year.
Our presence will be unfortunate for Leath Mhogha;
our methods will be tough, O Meadhrán.”

Meadhrán:

“All the evil you have predicted
you will do to us,
may it fall on yourself
on one day O Cith Mór.”

Section 38

Imsoei cach dhibh o cheli dh 'aithle na laidhsin

ocus teit Cithmor ar amus in longphuirt

ocus do bhi in slógh annsin cu mucha lai ara
bharuch.

O thainic an maitean ro coimeirigh Cormac
con a shloghuibh

ocus tancatar rompa gu Cnoc na Cenn gur
gabsat longport ann.

Is ann-sin atbert Cormac ra Cithruadh fern a
pupla do shadhud.

Ocus arai ni ro eirigh Cithruadh,

ár forfitir nach fétfadh in puball do shadhudh.

Do dhechatar dano slóig in choicid ar deisibh
ocus ar triaruibh

D'iompaigh gach duine diobh óna chéile i
ndiaidh na laoi sin

agus d'imigh Cith Mór ar ais go dtí an
longfort

agus bhí an slua ansiúd go dtí mochdháil na
maidine.

Nuair a tháinig an mhaidin d'éirigh Cormac
lena shluaithe

agus ar aghaidh leo go Cnoc na gCeann agus
shuigh siad longfort ann.

Is ansin a dúirt Cormac le Cith Rua fearn a
phubaill a shá.

Níor éirigh Cith Rua as an áit ina raibh sé *,
áfach *,

mar chonacthas dó roimh ré nach mbeadh sé
in ann an fearn a shá sa talamh.

Chuaigh laochra an chúige amach ámh ina
mbeirteanna agus ina dtriúir

They both turned away from each other at the
conclusion of this lay

and Cith Mór went off in the direction of the
camp.

The company remained encamped until early
next morning.

When morning came, Cormac and his
company arose

and came to Cnoc na gCeann and set up camp
there.

It was here that Cormac told Cith Rua to insert
the stake for his tent.

Cith Rua, however, did not arise

as he perceived that it was impossible to erect
the tent.

The warriors of the province went, then, in
two's and three's

for cnocaibh ocus for tulchuibh impuibh dia bhfegad.

Ocus atbert cach re chele dhibh:

“Atat daimh dil ann [leg. dilann]

ocus cliath bernadha ced iníu i Cnuc na Cenn

ocus ita damghaire shochaide ocus forngaire slogh.

Ocus bid he a ainm o aniu cu brath: Druim Damhghaire”.

Is ann ro raidh Cormac: “Fadectsa, a Chithruaidh”, ar se,

“sáidh mu pupaill mar no shaidhtea pupaill mh’ athar ocus mu shenathar,

ar ní as so raghat no gu tardthar mu chain damh no cu rom eitichter uimpe”.

ar chnoic agus ar thulacha máguaird chun radharc a fháil ar an dúiche.

Agus dúirt gach duine díobh lena chéile:

“Tá dámh dhil ann

agus slua a sháródh céad fear inniu ar Chnoc na gCeann

agus tá ann dámhgháire sochaí agus forgháire slua.

Agus beidh an t-ainm Droim Dámhgháire air ó inniu go bráth.”

Is ansin a dúirt Cormac: “Anois, a Chith Rua,” ar sé,

“sáigh mo phuball mar a sháiteá puball m’ athar agus mo sheanathair,

óir ní rachaidh mé as seo go dtí go dtabharfar mo cháin dom nó go dtí go ndiúltófar dom í.”

to climb the hills and heights surrounding them to get a better view of the area.

They said to one another:

“There is a pleasant company here,

a battalion fit to take on a hundred men is gathered here *today* in Cnoc na gCeann.

There is the clamour of the company and the loud yells of the crowd.

Let the hill be known as Droim Dámhgháire (the Ridge of the Assembly Calls) from today to eternity.”

It was there that Cormac said: “Now, Cith Rua,

erect my tent as you were wont to erect the tents of my father and my grandfather,

for I will not leave here until my taxes are either paid or withheld.”

Section 39

Gabhus Cithruadh iarsin ar a sádhud ocus ic gabhail férne na pupla don talmain

ocus ni ro dhipad ar fér nach ar fonn uadh fern na pupla

ocus do scithiged in drai ocus ro raid:

“atci so, a Chormaic,

ocus gin gur ghabhuis aithne uaim-si

as reil dait ar in cleith-si in ro raidhsem-ne
friut ria tiachtuin a Temhraigh”;

ocus do raidh in retorec.

“Adchi in cleith sin, a Chormaic.

Cid attuais-si taidbit. ni cor ra Conn nordhairc. fhaithius Temra thairnic. Na tep fer na fonn. forbuis for mac nEoguin. ni ba duibh bus deolaidh. slicht sidhuihi seolaidh. Sidha Cleitich ceolaigh. coiscifter thall treoraibh. taoth in cath for Chonn. Comluis mac meic cachta. Mogh Ruith remgarb garta. d’foiridhin a dhalta. tuaslufidh na tarta. tairrngeridh don tsluagh. seolfaidh rá gail nguinig. co mba duibhsí a dhuiligh. gebhuidh Fodla fuliligh. ocus Albuin uidhigh. Fiacha fuinigh fuan. fodh fhearr feis i Temhraigh. a chur Codhuiil cernaigh ag torruma in teghlaigh. an da arann dar meanmain. ro hor Tragha Lí. ole in damh fadera. biaidh crua is na bera. biat colla cin cenna. scérthair righ fria reabha. sernfaidit slóigh sleagha. Don choir chena adchi”. adchi.

Thosaigh Cith Rua ar an obair ansin, ag iarraigd cuaille an phubaill a shá isteach sa chnoc

ach ní ghlaicfadh an féar na an fonn leis an bhfearn *uaidh*.

Tháinig tuirse ar an draoi agus dúirt:

“Féach ar seo, a Chormaic,” ar sé,

“cé nár luaignh mé é seo,

is léir duit ón gcuaille seo gur fíor an méid a
dúirt mé leat roimh Teamhair a fhágáil”,

agus rinne sé reitric a aithris:

“Féach ar an gcuaille seo, a Chormaic ...”

Cith Rua then tried to drive an alder post into the ground for the erection of the tent

but neither grass nor earth would receive the tent pole from him.

The druid became weary of this and he said:

“You see this, O Cormac;

even though I didn’t warn you about it
beforehand

this pole proves the truth of what I told you before leaving Tara.”

And he proceeded to recite a rhetoric:

“Look at this pole, O Cormac ...”

Fodla fuliligh. ocus Albuin uidhigh. Fiacha fuinigh fuan. fodh fhearr feis i Temhraigh. a chur Codhuiil cernaigh ag torruma in teghlaigh. an da arann dar meanmain. ro hor Tragha Lí. ole in damh fadera. biaidh crua is na bera. biat colla cin cenna. scérthair righ fria reabha. sernfaidit slóigh sleagha. Don choir chena adchi”. adchi.

Foreimdhig tra Cithruadh in pupall do shádhudh
cu ro raidh Cormac.

“Cle is mana fort, a Chithruaidh,
cid dochuaidh do nert intan na ro fhetais in phupall do shadhadh?

Ni ghabhudh didiu in tulach fern na pupla acht amail bidh ar cloich no saidhthea”.

“Nucon edh itú”, ar Cithruadh, “nach biath do nirt ocum a sadhudh,
acht is tria ainfhir ro trialladh”

Theip ar Chith Rua an cuaille a shá isteach sa chnoc *, áfach,*

agus dúirt Cormac leis:

“Brú, breo is luascadh ort, a Chith Rua;
cad a tharla do do neart nach bhféadfá an fearn a shá isteach sa talamh?

Níl an cnoc ag ligean an cuaille isteach ann *áfach*, tá sé cosúil le bheith ag iarraidh carraig a pholladh.”

“Ní hé nach bhfuil an neart agam chun é a shá isteach,” arsa Cith Rua,

“is de bharr an éagóir a deineadh a d’éirigh an diúltú seo.”

However, Cith Rua was defeated in his efforts to drive the pole into the earth

and Cormac exclaimed:

“Woe and misfortune to you, O Cith Rua,
what has become of your strength that you cannot insert the pole?

For the hill is not allowing the tent pole into it; it is like trying to penetrate a rock.”

“It is not that I haven’t the strength to insert it,” said Cith Rua,

“it is because of the attempted injustice that this rejection has occurred.”

Section 40

“Atcluine sut, a Colptha, i n-apair in sendrai,
ocus forfeimidh sádhad na pupla
ocus said fein i”.

“Éist leis an seandraoi, a Cholpa,” arsa Cormac,

“níl sé in ann an fearn a chur isteach sa talamh,

sáigh féin isteach é.”

“Listen to what the old druid says, O Colpa,” said Cormac,

“he failed to erect the tent,
now you erect it yourself.”

Ro gab Colptha fern na pupla n-a laimh
ocus ro gab oc tathair ocus oc beim ar
Cithruadh
ocus tuc forba n-ecomluinn
ocus sinedh romor for a churp
cu taillfitis meic mhidhaeisi idir cech dá asna
do
ocus ro fhuirim fria talmain an feirn-sin ocus
ní ro ghab lár uadh;
ro bui dia nertmhaire chena ró sháith
co nderna briscbruar dhi o foréimid a sathad.
“Cidh dogentar andfusa?” ar Cormac.
“Dogentar,” ar Cith Ruadh ocus ar cach arcena
“sloigh mhora do tabairt cucainn.”
Ocus tucait, ocus doronait longinata mora ann

Thóg Colpa fearn an phubaill ina láimh
agus thosaigh ag magadh faoi Chith Rua.

Chuaigh sé i mbun oibre ansin go dícheallach
agus síneadh chomh mór sin ina chorpa
go bhféadfadh fear meánaosta dul idir dhá
easna ann.

Ach mar sin fén níor ghlac an talamh leis an
gcuaille *nuair a sháigh sé é i gcoinne na
talún*.

Bhí iarrachtaí Cholpa chomh dian sin
gur deineadh smidiríní den fhearn.
“Cad tá le déanamh anois?” arsa Cormac.
“Níl le déanamh,” arsa Cith Rua agus gach
duine eile leis,
“ach slua mór a chur chugainn anseo.”

Tháinig an slua agus rinne siad fráma mór
adhmaid cosúil le creatlach loinge

Colpa took the tent pole in his hand
and he began to censure and revile Cith Rua.

He set about the work with enormous energy
and his body was so stretched
that middle-aged men could pass between
every two of his ribs.

He drove the stake against the ground but the
earth would not accept it.

So forceful were his efforts
that the stake broke into fragments.
“What is to be done now?” asked Cormac.
“This is what must be done,” said Cith Rua,
and all agreed with him,
“a large number of men must be summoned.”

This was done and they proceeded to construct
great frameworks as if they were building a
ship to support the tent.

ocus ro sáidhed cinn na cleath is na sailghibhsin

ocus is fon n-innus-sin doronad in longport uile.

As de ata ‘Long Cliach’ inniu .i. don tsuidhiugud-sin.

agus chuir siad deirí na gcleitheanna isteach ann

agus sa tslí sin rinne siad puball.

Is ón eachtra sin atá an t-ainm ‘Long Chliach’ — Cnoc Loinge ar an áit sa lá atá inniu ann.

They put the ends of the posts into it.

It was in this way that the whole camp was erected

and this is why the site is known today as ‘Long Cliach’ — the Ship of Cliach.

Section 41

Ocus ro raidh Colptha ra Cith Ruadh.

“Ro bhai deitbir dhait-si gia madh leasc lat in turus-sa,

ar gi be dheoch gi be na deoch i mbethaid asin cuiced-sa

ni tusa raghas”.

“Ba deitbir on,” ar Cithruadh,

“uair forfhetur-sa a mbia dhamh dhe ocus do Chormac

ocus no thairmeascfaind-si imbe tiachtain mina nertadh sibh-si fair

Dúirt Colpa le Cith Rua:

“Ba leasc leat teacht ar an turas seo agus cúis mhaith leis,

mar cibé duine a rachaigh as an gCúige seo beo,

ní tusa a rachaigh.”

“Is fior go raibh cúis chóir agam,” arsa Cith Rua,

“óir thuig mé go hiomlán cad a bheadh i ndán dom féin agus do Chormac chomh maith.

Bheinnse in ann stad a chur leis ach gur neartaigh sibhse Cormac i mo choinne

Colpa said to Cith Rua:

“You had a just cause for not relishing this expedition

for whoever goes or does not go alive out of this province

you will not be one of the survivors.”

“I had a just reason indeed,” said Cith Rua,

“for I knew full well the consequences not only for myself but for Cormac also,

and I could have prevented him from setting out if you had not encouraged him.

ocus mane dernadh bhar comhairle.

Ocus dano ni ba ferr dhuibh-si in cuiced thancabar

uair ni ragha neach uaib i mbethaid as in cuiced-sa.

Ocus dano,” ar se, “in pubul-sin na ro fhétusa na ro fhétuis-si do shadhudh;

ni tibherthea a tigh Temrach hi, min bad sibh-se,

acht inní ro tarasnuigh athair ocus sen athair do, .i. asa rect ocus asa bhfirimne, is as no chuinegad a cain.

Giar ba fir tra in fhaitsine-sin

ni thuc Cormac dia oidh hí,

na inte dosroine”.

agus ghlac sé le bhur gcomhairle.

Chomh maith leis sin, ní mó an tairbhe daoibhse ná dom féin bhur dteacht *don chúige*

óir ní rachaidh oiread is duine amháin díbh as an gcuige seo beo.

Féach freisin ar an bpúball seo. Ní raibh tusa ná mise in ann é a shuíomh anseo,

ní thógfáí as Teamhair in aon chor é ach amháin gur chuir tusa do ladar sa ghnó.

Ní iarrfadh Cormac cánacha ach amháin nuair a bheidís de réir dlí agus nósanna a athar agus a sheanathar.

Is fior an fháistine a rinne mise do Chormac *, go deimhin,*

ach níor thug sé aon aird ar an bhfáistine

ná ar an duine a rinne í.”

He accepted your advice.

Moreover, your coming to this province is no better for you than for me,

for not a single one of you will make your way alive out of this area.

As well as that, look at this tent that neither you nor I could set up.

It would never have been brought out of house of Tara if you hadn’t intervened.

Cormac would have followed his father and grandfather and would have asked for tribute only in accordance with justice and truth.

The prediction which I made to Cormac about this matter is true *indeed*.

But Cormac paid no heed to it

nor to the man who made it.”

Section 42

Is amlaidh immorro boi int inad i mbai
Cormac cur bo íseal leis he

ocus gur bo hard lais int inadh a raibhi Fiacha
ocus fir Muman.

Ocus ro gheallsat a draithe do-sum

ce med i latrad in baile ingebdais [leg. in
gebdais] cun toicebhduis uas cach

ocus ro iar Cormac orro-som sin.

Ocus tucsat dó amail ro gheallsat

ar ro arduighset an cnoc-sin iar taibsin cóicait
cubat uas cach,

gin gub fir a beit amlaid.

Tharla sé áfach gur cheap Cormac go raibh an
áit ina raibh sé féin go híseal

agus an áit ina raibh Fiacha agus Fir
Mhumhan go hard.

Gheall a dhraoithe dó

go dtógfaidís a láthair os cionn cách.

D'iarr Cormac orthu é sin a dhéanamh

agus rinne *siad an méid a bhí geallta acu a
dhéanamh*.

D'ardaigh siad an cnoc caoga bunlámh *os
cionn cách*

— níor ardaigh, dáiríre fire, cé go raibh a
chuma sin air — siabhrán a bhí ann ó thus.

It happened, however, that Cormac considered
the place in which he was to be low

and that the high ground was occupied by
Fiacha and the Men of Munster.

His druids had promised him

that they would increase the height of it for
him so that he could look down on everybody
else.

Cormac asked them to do this

and they did *as they had promised*.

They raised the hill fifty cubits above the rest

— this was an illusion brought about by
magic.

Section 43

Batar annsin teora la ocus teora oighthi ac suidhiugudh a longphuirt.

Docuas uadhaibh iardain do chuinghidh a cana
onus a chumhaile ocus ni tucait.

Tancas o Chormac arna mharach do
chuinghidh chomlainn einfhir ar fhearuibh
Mumhan.

Ro cuinged o fearaibh Mumhan dail teora la
onus teora aigche ar Chormac

ar daigh co bhfinndais cia no tincfeadh ocus
no gebhudh do laim acu in comhlann,

ar ro bu cinnte ac Cormac in cuicer no
ghebhadh do láimh comhlann.

Doratadh o Chormac in dail-sin.

Chaith siad trí lá agus trí oíche ansin ag
suíomh an longfoirt.

Idir an dá linn d'imigh teachtairí amach ó
Cormac chun na cánacha a bhailiú, ach obair
in aisce a bhí ann.

Lá arna mhárach thug Cormac cuireadh d'Fhir
Mhumhan teacht i gcomhair chomhrac aonair.

D'iarr Fir Mhumhan trí lá agus trí oíche air

chun a n-óglaign a roghnú

ach bhí fhios ag Cormac cheana cérbh iad na
hóglaign a roghnódh sé féin.

Dheonaigh Cormac an mhoill.

They spent three days and three nights there
setting up the camp.

Meanwhile, messengers were sent *from him*
to collect the tax and the compensation but
nothing was forthcoming.

The next day, Cormac sent out a summons to
the Men of Munster challenging them to
single combat.

The Men of Munster requested *from
Cormac* a consultation period of three days
and three nights

in which to choose their warriors.

The request was granted *by Cormac*.

Cormac had already decided on the five who
would take part in the challenge on his
account.

Doronadh comhairli ag feraibh Mumhan frisin
re sin

ocus ro chindset gach aen dibh no gebhudh do
laimh.

Ocus is eadh frith oc feruibh Muman do
thincsin an comhlainn: ochtar ar cethri cetaibh

ocus enainm for cech fichit dibh-sein ocus
taisech for cech fichit

ocus in t-ainm no bidh for an taiseach iss edh
no bidh for a fichit

ocus dano ba comhlunn fichit in taiseach

ocus ba comlunn nonbur gach fer in gach
fichit.

It é annso na h-anmanna ro batar for na
fichtibh

.i. fiche Finn ocus fiche Failbhe,

fiche Finghen, fiche Ferghus,

fiche Fiacha, fiche Finnchad,

*Rinneadh comhairle ag Fir Mhumhan leis an
ré sin.*

Roghnaigh siad cé acu a throidfeadh sa
chomhrac aonair.

As an iomlán roghnaigh Fir Mhumhan 408
bhfeair *chun an cath a thabhairt*.

Rinne siad iad a roinnt i ngrúpaí, fiche i ngach
grúpa

agus ainm thaoiseach an ghrúpa ar an mbuíon
ar fad.

Bhí an taoiseach in ann fiche a throid

agus gach fear eile sa ghrúpa in ann naonúr a
shárú.

Seo ainmneacha na mbuíonta:

Fiche Finn, Faílbhe,

Finghen, Fearghus,

Fiacha, Fionnchadh,

*During this time, the Munstermen came to a
decision

and selected those who would take part in
single combat.*

The Munstermen selected 408 men in all *to
fight the battle*.

They were to be divided into groups of twenty
with a single name for each group — that of
the *taoiseach* (leader).

The name which the *taoiseach* bore was also
that of his group of twenty.

The *taoiseach* was a fighter of twenty men

and each man in his group was capable of
fighting nine.

Here are the names of the groups:

Fionn, Faílbhe,

Finín, Fearghus,

Fiacha, Fionnchú,

fiche Dond, fiche Daire,
fiche Domnall, fiche Forgarb,
fiche Tren, fiche Mureadhach,
fiche Treinfhear, fiche Feilimidh,
fiche Donnchad, fiche Conall,
fiche Cobthach, fiche Dubthach,
fiche Dael, fiche Dinertach,
fiche Diarmud, fiche Ciar,
fiche Crimthan.

Donn, Dáire,
Domhnall, Forgarb,
Tréan, Muireadhach,
Tréanfhear, Feilhmidh,
Donnchadh, Conall,
Cobhthach, Dubhthach,
Daol, Dineartach,
Diarmad, Ciar,
Criomhthan.

Donn, Dáire,
Dónall, Forgharbh,
Tréan, Muireadhach,
Tréanfhear, Feidhlimidh,
Donnchú, Conall,
Cofthach, Dufthach,
Daol, Dineartach,
Diarmaid, Ciar,
Criofthan.

Section 44

Ro gabustar dano Mogh Corb, mac Cormaic
Cais meic Oililla Oluim do láimh laidhiud

gach fir no raghadh o fheraibh Muman asin
comlunn.

Freisin, Mogh Corb mac Cormaic Chais
mhic Oileall Óloim, a bhí mar spreagaire

ag gach trodaire ó Chuige Mumhan agus é i
mbun chomhrac aonair.

Also, Mogh Corb, son of Cormac Cas, son
of Oileall Óloim undertook the office of
'Inciter'

for each of the Munstermen who engaged in
single combat.

Ro gabhustar didiu Cairbre Lithfacair mac Cormaic do láimh láidhiud gach fir no ragadh o Leith Cuinn isin comhlunn.

Act ni ro ghaibh nach dhibh do laimh dul isin comlunn

acht in cuicer druadh tuc Cormac as Sith Cleitigh

.i. Colptha ocus Lurga, Errgi ocus Eng ocus Engain.

Cairbre Lifeachair *mac Cormaic, ámh,* a bhí *mar spreagaire* ag Leath Choinn.

De na Laighnigh, áfach, níor ghlac leis an gcomhrac aonair

ach na cúig draoithe a thug Cormac leis ó Shí Chleitigh,

'sé sin le rá: Colpa, Lorga, Eirge, Eang agus Eangain.

However, Cairbre Lifeachair *mac Cormaic* was inciter for combatants on the side of Leath Choinn.

None undertook the task of single combat *, however,*

except for the five druids that Cormac had brought with him from Sí Chleithigh.

These were: Colpa, Lorga, Eirge, Eang and Eangain.

Section 45

Tainig tra Colpa roime siar cu Raithin in Imairic

i lleith aniar thuaidh d'Ath na nOc, frisin apar Ath Colpa inniu.

Do deochaidh Finn Fidhrinde

do thincsin Colptha cu Raithin in Imairic ra hAth Corcomaigen aniar dheas

frisinn abar Ath Colphtha [leg. Ath Colptha] beos.

Ghluais Colpa siar ansin go Ráithín an Iomardaigh,

aniar aduaidh ó Áth na nÓg. Áth Cholpa a ghlaotar ar an áit anois.

D'imigh Fionn Fírinne

siar ó dheas taobh le hÁth Chorcamaighin chun bualach le Colpa ag Ráithín an Iomardaigh.

Colpa then proceeded westwards to Ráithín an Iomardaigh,

to the north-west of Áth na nÓg. This ford is now known as Áth Cholpa.

Fionn Fírinne proceeded

south-west by Áth Chorcamaighin to meet Colpa at Ráithín an Iomardaigh

(Áth Cholpa).

Ocus a dhá bhfhear laidhthi leo .i. Mogh Corb
ocus Coibre.

Gabhustar cach dhibh og agallaimh araili

ocus oc tincsin in chomhluinn. Ocus mar
ráinic do chach dib isin áth

robtar inilldhírghi na h-urchair

ocus robtar cruaidh na crideadha

ocus roptar bailce na beiminna;

beridh cach dibh beim ar beim dia cheili fon
tuaraim-sin ocus fregra fon tacra.

Ocus ro bui cach dhibh oc imesarcain a cheli

gu tancatar dubhuchu deridh lai;

No ragduis immorro eoin ar cromluamain tria
chorp Find;

Bhí a spreagairí — Mogh Corb agus Cairbre
— in éineacht leo.

Thosaigh an bheirt acu ag comhrá lena chéile
ar dtús

agus ansin thosaigh an troid ar shroicheadh an
Átha dóibh.

Ba dhíreach na hurchair,

ba chrua na croíthe,

b' ollmhór na béimeanna,

gach duine den dís ag leadradh a chéile,

béim ar bhéim *sa tslí sin*,

go dtí go dtáinig duibhe agus deireadh lae
orthu.

Bheadh éin, agus iad ag eitilit, *ámh,* in ann
sleamhnú isteach agus amach trí ghonta chorp
Fhinn.

They were accompanied by their inciters
Mogh Corb and Cairbre.

Each one of them engaged the other in
conversation

and then the fight began as they reached the
ford.

Straight were the casts,

cruel the hearts,

mighty the blows,

slash for slash *in this manner*,

each one trouncing the other

until darkness set in at the end of the day.

Birds in flight could slip in through the
wounds on Fionn's body *, however.*

acht cena ni raibhi nach comhardha or churp
Cholptha,

ár ní geibhtis renna ná ilfaebra he

ar mhét a druidhechta.

Acht cena ro scarad Colptha fa tri ra armaib
isin lo-sin,

ocus doratait ardaínicne air a n-ecmais
marbhtha.

Ocus ro dealuighset o tancatar dubacha deridh
lai

ocus dochoidh cach dhibh dia longport.

Maidir le Colpa áfach, ní raibh rian ar a chorp

toisc nach raibh lann ná sleá in ann é a
pholladh

de bharr a dhraíochta.

Baineadh a chuid arm de áfach trí huaire i rith
an lae

agus cé nar maraíodh é d'fhulaing sé morán
tubaiste.

Le titim na hoíche scar siad ó na cheile

agus d'fhill ar a gcampaí.

but as for Colpa he bore no trace of hurt,

for spear and lance could not penetrate him

— so great was the power of his magic.

Colpa was, nevertheless, deprived of his arms
three times during the day

and as a result sustained considerable damage
without being killed.

When darkness fell at the end of the day they
separated from each other

and returned to their respective camps.

Section 46

Ba crechtach crolinntach Finn in aigche sin

ocus ro gheall a briathar dhó cu mad hé no
thincfedh in comlunn do arna barach;

ro thinc Finn tra in comlunn gu cenn tri lá fon
tuaruim-sin

Bhí Fionn go créachtach crólinnteach an oíche
sin

ach mar sin féin gheall sé go dtroidfeadh sé
arís lá arna mhárach.

Lean sé ar aghaidh sa tslí sin ar feadh trí lá

That night, Fionn was sore and bloody

but honour demanded that he fight again next
day.

Fionn continued the struggle for three days in
this manner

ocus dorochair iarsin

iar ndul do Colptha i formna a feasa ocus a eolusa a dhiabaldain ocus i muinighin a dea.

Dorochratar tra in fiche Finn la Colptha on mud-sain.

Ocus ni nar bat cruidhi na cridhedha

ocus ní nar bat bailce na beimeana

ocus ní nar bat inilldirghiu na hurchair uaidhibh do Colptha,

acht níis raba diabaldan acu do freacra dho.

go dtí gur maraíodh é faoi dheireadh

tar éis do Cholpa a neart draíochta a bhailiú le chéile agus dul i muinín a dhé.

Mar an gcéanna le fiche eile. Mharaigh Colpa iad go léir *iarsin*.

Níor tharla an treascairt de bharr easpa cróga

na cruabhéimeanna

ná urchar díreach uathu i gcoinne Colpa.

Tharla an tubaiste toisc nach raibh in arm na Mumhan fear a dhionghála le fáil ó thaobh draíochta de.

until at last he fell

as a result of Colpa gathering together the full force of his magic powers and invoking his god.

In a similar way, Fionn's twenty fighters were killed by Colpa *after that*.

This massacre occurred not because hearts were not stout,

nor hard blows struck,

nor accurate casts made by them against Colpa,

no, their defeat was due to the fact that they had no magic to match his.

Section 47

O thairnic tra in comhlunn-sin, tainic Lurga for in ath cedna

ocus ro fhuacair comhlunn for feruibh Muman.

Nuair a bhí an comhlann sin thart tháinig Lorga *ansin* go dtí an áit chéanna

agus d'fhogair comhrac aonair ar Fhir Mhumhan.

When that fight had ended, Lorga *then* approached the same ford

and challenged the Men of Munster to single combat.

Ro tincedh o na Failbibh sin.

Dodhechaid Failbhe mac Fedhuigh isin comhlunn.

Ocus rob inilldirach ro freagradh an comlunn aigi ocus ba cruidh ocus ba calma.

Ocus eimilt a innisi in engnamha doronadh isna comhlannuibh-sin uili ar as í a n-innisi cetna beos.

Is amlaid-sin tra ros caithit ocus ros dithaighit lucht in chomhluinn uili ó feraibh Muman.

Con drochair ochtmoga ocus da céad ann d'feruibh Muman

ocus ni thiced o Chormac isin comlunn acht Colptha ocus Lurga iar sealuibh ocus sistibh.

Cunad annsin ro dhiultsat fir Muman in comlunn aeinfhir.

Seal bhuión Fhaílbhe a bhí ann ansin

agus thug Faílbhe mac Feá aghaidh ar Lorga.

Ba chrua agus ba chalma an troid a rinne sé.

Ní bheadh ann ach meilt ama na heachtraí go léir a deineadh sa chomhlainn sin a áireamh

ach i ndeireadh na dála maraíodh na Muimhnigh uile a ghlac páirt sa chomhrac aonair agus níor fágadh fear inste scéil diobh beo.

San iomlán, thit 280 laoch d'fhir Mhumhan *ann*

agus as slua Chormaic níor throid ach Colpa agus Lorga *i ndiaidh a chéile*.

I ndiaidh an ruathair sin dhiúltaigh na Muimhnigh dul ar aghaidh leis an gcomhrac aonair a thuilleadh.

It was now the turn of Faílbhe's group

and Faílbhe mac Feá himself advanced to the fight.

Stoutly and bravely he fought.

It would be a waste of time to recount all the glorious deeds performed during this series of single combats.

The fact is that all the Munstermen who engaged in single combat were killed without exception.

In all, 280 of the Men of Munster had fallen *there*,

and on Cormac's side only Colpa, and Lorga who succeeded him, had actually taken part in the battle.

So, after this, the Men of Munster refused to fight any more in single combat.

Section 48

Ro cuingedh o Chormac comhlunn cét ar feruibh Mumhan.

Dodhecharat atuaidh ann-saidhe tri h-ingena
Mhaoli Miscaidhche

.i. Errgi ocus Eng ocus Engain,

in deilbh tri caerach leachtna

gu cnesaibh congnai,

gu cennuibh cnamha,

gu nguilbnibh iaruind,

gu neimh dhitha ced ra h-uair comhluiann.

Ocus dano ní isgeibhdis [leg. niís geibhdis]
renna na foebra in betha loe na finna dhoibh.

D'fhógair Cormac comhlann céad ar Fhir Mhumhan ansin, 'sé sin le rá comhrac ina mbeadh céad fear ar gach taobh.

Ba um an dtaca seo a ghabh trí iníon Mhaol Mhisceadach

— Eirge, Eang agus Eangian

— ó dheas.

Trí chaora donna — b' shin an cruth a bhí iontu,

craiceann adhairce acu,

cinn chnáimhe,

goba iarainn acu

agus gal nimhneach ag teacht uathu a leagfadh céad fear i bpáirc an áir.

I dteannta sin, ní fhéadfadh lann ná sleá ribe dá lomraí a ghearradh.

Cormac then called for a military combat in which a battalion of one hundred men on each side would take part.

It was at this point that the three daughters of Maol Mhisceadach

— Eirge, Eang and Eangain

— marched southwards.

They had taken on the form of three brown sheep

with impenetrable skins of horn,

heads of bone,

and beaks of iron

distilling poisonous vapours capable of killing one hundred men at the hour of battle.

All the spears and lances in the world were incapable of cutting a strand of their fleeces *, moreover*.

Ro tinced o feruibh Muman in ‘comlunn ced’

ocus ra coraighit na cliatha cruidhi
conacalltha do ghaibh coirrbreaca cruidh gera
i llamibh leo,

gu leibenn sciath retrannach i timchill in
tsloigh

ucus tri chlaidibh troma thortbhuiuledha a n-
intighibh dhoibh

gu sleaghuibh sodhibraicthe leo ra hairitin
aidh agus irgaili ucus ra tinnscetul deabhtha.

Ocus o ro comhraicset

anes ucus atuaidh

imsou cach co a chele dhibh.

Rinne Fir Mhumhan ullmhú don ‘chomhlann
céad’ seo.

Rinne siad sleánnna crua géara daingeana as
craobhacha *crua* agus d'iompair siad iadsan
ina lámha.

Bhí mór daingean de sciatha *réaltacha*
timpeall ar an slua

agus trí chlaíomh réiteacha troma *ina dtruaillí
acu*

agus lanna a bhi éasca le síriú i gcroílár catha
acu agus iad ag déanamh ar shuíomh an
chomhraig.

Nuair a bhual an dá bhúion sin ar a chéile

— dream amháin ag teacht aduaidh agus
dream eile ag teacht aneas

— chas siad ar a chéile agus thosaigh an
treascairt.

The Men of Munster prepared for this
'Comhlann Céad'.

From hard branches they made solid, sharp,
enduring spears to carry in their hands

and with a rampart of starry shields
surrounding the company

and three heavy hard-striking swords in their
scabbards

and with lances easy to aim in the press of
battle, they advanced to the fray.

When the two companies met

— one coming from the north, the other from
the south

— *they turned on each other and* the fight
began.

Section 49

Ro chaithset fir Mumhan forcla a n-arm in la-sin

oc ursclaighi ocus oc imditen a corp ar na caeiribh.

Ocus ciar bat inilldirghi na h-urchair ocus giar bhat bailciu na beimeanna o fheraibh Mumhan do nacaeribh [leg. na caeribh]

ni ro dipad ar lo nach ar finna dhoibh

ocus dano ni ra chumhcaiset-som ní do feruibh Mumhan in la-sin, acht brudh aimh ocus éidid.

Ocus o thancatar cricha in lai ocus urthosach na h-oighthi

imsoe cach o chele dhíbh

ar amus a longphort.

Chaill Fir Mhumhan an chuid ba mhó dá n-arm an lá sin

agus iad ag iarraidh iad féin a chosaint ó ionsaithe na gcaorach.

Ba dhíreach urchair na Muimhneach *leis na caoirigh*, ba throm a mbéimeanna, ach dá ainneoin sin,

níor gearradh ribe de lomraí na namhad.

Níor éirigh leo *ar an lá sin, ámh,* ach a ngléasanna catha féin a mhilleadh.

Ag deireadh lae agus crónachán

chas an dá bhúion i leataobh

agus d'imigh gach dream díobh chuig a longfort féin.

The Men of Munster lost the best part of their army that day

warding off the attacks of the sheep and defending their bodies from them.

Though accurate the aim and heavy the blows which the Men of Munster directed at the sheep,

not a rip of their hair was cut.

All the Munstermen succeeded in doing on this first day *, however,* was to smash their own weapons and armour.

At the end of the day *and the beginning of night*,

the two companies *separated and*

went off to their respective camps.

Section 50

Tancatar dano i mucha lai arna mharach fon
tuaraim cedna i freacar in chatha ocus
immarainic imesarcain doibh isin ath.

Ocus nir bo finncloistena do cetra cuicedaibh
Eirenn co a longportuib

sceallghar na sciath

ocus cruidhbheimnac na claidium

ocus briscbruar na n-arm

ocus imesarcain na curad fris na caeirigh.

Ocus ciar buh cruidh ocus ciar bu curata ro
freadrait na cairigh o na sloghuibh in la-sin,

araidhe dochuatar na cairigh treothu ocus
tarrsa

ocus ros dicennsat co leir

ocus ro facbad in drong-sain insin

bonn fria medhe ocus meidhi fri bonn ocus
doit fria doit

Go moch ar maidin lá arna mhárach, *áfach,*
dhruid an dá thaobh le chéile agus thosaigh an
treascairt agus an leadradh arís *ag an áth*.

Chuala ceithe cúigi na hÉireann agus a
longfoirt torann an chatha

— briseadh sciath,

béimeanna claimhte,

milleadh arm

agus fothram na laochra agus na gcaorach.

Fiú amháin agus na Muimhnigh ag troid go
calma luathlámhach *leis na caoirigh ar an lá
sin*,

d'imigh na caoirigh tríothu agus tharstu

ag dícheannadh na n-óglach *go léir*.

D'fhág siad ansiúd iad,

bonn le méidhe agus méidhe le bonn, gualainn
le gualainn

Early next morning, *however,* they came
again and fell to smiting and battering each
other *at the ford*.

It was no pleasant sound the four provinces of
Ireland and their camps heard

— splintering of shields,

resounding blows of swords,

smashing of armour

and massacre of warriors *by the sheep*.

Even though the company fought fiercely and
heroically *with the sheep on that day*,

the sheep went through the ranks and over
them

and cut off the heads *of all* of the warriors

and they left all the troop in that place,

heel to headless neck, headless neck to heel,
shoulder to shoulder

ocus doronsat na cairigh dumha da n-eduighibh ocus da n-armuibh ocus carn dia cennaibh

ocus forfacuibhset fon tuaraim-sin

ocus imsoe cach o araili dhibh co a longportaibh.

Ocus beruit fir Muman faidhbh a muindteri leo.

Conad amlaith sin dorochuir int ochtar ar cethri cedaib d'feruibh Mumhan.

O thancatar [*leg. thairncetar*] immorro na comlunna-sin

ro rathaigset fir Mhuman cur bho iluch damhraidi moiri rous dith uili amhlaidh sut.

Ocus is edh doronsat foi-sidhe a n-ainfiallach do leacud

ocus ni ro tincset in comhlunn eitir o sin imach.

agus rinne na caoirigh trí charn — carn dá n-éadaí, carn dá n-airm agus carn dá gcloigne

agus d'fhág siad iad sa tslí sin.

Ansin d'fhill siad ar a gcampa.

Bhailigh Fir Mhumhan taisí a muintire.

Fuair 480 fear bás sa chath *ar an tslí seo*.

Bhí a fhios ag na Muimhnigh gurbh iad na caoirigh a ba chúis leis an slad

agus ní rachaidís ina gcoinne a thuilleadh.

and the sheep made heaps of their clothes and their weapons and their heads

and left them there *in this manner*.

Then they returned to camp.

Then, the Munstermen gathered up the remains of their people.

This was the way in which the 408 Men of Munster fell.

The Munstermen concluded that this complete disaster was due to the sheep

... and they would fight no more.

Section 51

Ro cuingedh in cain iarsin o Chormac ocus ni tucadh do.

Is annsin adubairt Cormac ra a druidhibh:

“Caidhi in ní ro gheallabhair dam-sa?”

— “Ca ret do gheallsam duit?” ar siat.

— “Do gheallabar dhamh”, ar se,

“tart do thabairt ar lucht in chuicidh-si,

ocus srotha ocus uisge in cuicid do dhicleith

acht na mbiath dibh ocum fhoghnámh fein
ocus ac foghnam mu shloigh.

Ar ni toebh rem nert fein doratus

na doberim

acht is edh ro gheallabhur-si dano,

D’éilih Cormac na cánacha ar Fhir Mhumhan
arís *iarsin* ach diúltaíodh iad dó.

Labhair Cormac lena dhraoithe ansin:

“Nár gheall sibh rud éigin a dhéanamh dom?”
ar sé.

“Cad a gheallamar duit?” ar siadsan.

“Gheall sibhse dom,” ar sé,

“triomach a chur ar an gcúige seo.

Gheall sibhse dom na srutháin a thriomú agus
an t-uisce a chur faoi cheilt

ach amháin an méid a bheadh ag teastáil uaim
féin agus ó mo shlua.

Ní hé i mo neart féin *a chuir mé mo mhuinín

ná* a chuirim mo mhuinín

ach *freisin* sa ghealltanás a thug sibhse dom

After this, Cormac again demanded the tribute
but it was refused.

Cormac then addressed the druids:

“What is this you promised me?”

“What did we promise you?” they asked.

“You promised me,” said he,

“to cause a drought in this province;

you promised me that the streams and water
would be concealed

except for what I need for myself and for my
army.

For it is not in my own power that I have put
my trust,

nor indeed do I put my trust now,

but *also* on the promise you made to me

gach eicendail budh ail damh do thabairt ar an cuiced

cruatan agus crá a thabhairt do mhuintir na Mumhan.

to inflict every calamity I desired on this province.

gan chath, gan chomlunn uaim-si doibh

Sa tslí sin,ní bheadh aon ghá le cath a chur

In this way the necessity of engaging them in battle will be avoided

acht an eicen doberthai-si forro

agus táim ag brath ar an dua a chuirfidh sibhse orthu

and I depend on the trouble you can cause them

no gu nam toire-sa mu riар cu h-ait a mbeinn”.

chun mo chánacha a fháil uauthu.”

to have my tribute brought to me.

Section 52

Ra dhichelsatair iarsin uisgi in cuicidh uili

Chuir na draoithe an t-uisce i bhfolach iarsin

The water supplies were then concealed by the druids

acht in cutraime no foghnad do Chormac ocus da sluagh,

taobh amuigh den mhéid a bheadh ag teastáil ó Chormac agus a shlua.

except for what was needed by Cormac and his troops.

ocus ni raibhi dicheilt doibh-sidhe forro.

Níor cuireadh an t-uisce i bhfolach orthusan.

The water supplies were not concealed from them.

Ocus dano tucsat tart ocus ita ar lucht in cuicid uili

Thosaigh an spalladh *ansin* agus luigh sé go trom ar an tir *go léir*,

Drought set in *then* and lay heavily on the *entire* land,

iter daine ocus almhai ocus innile.

ar na daoine agus ar na beithígh.

on the people, their herds and cattle.

Ro cuinghedd in cain iarsin o Chormac ocus ni tucadh do.

D'éiligh Cormac na cánacha arís ach dhiúltáigh na Muimhnigh géilleadh dó.

Cormac again demanded the tribute and again it was refused.

Is e ní arroimpaset fir Mumhan iarsin, uair nach scemnta nó sirthi doghnidh Cormac:

loimm ocus ass ocus medg do thabairt cuca o a muindteruibh
a ngach inad a mbitis.

Ro hinnised do Chormac sin ocus ro raidh fria draidhibh:

“Cidh dia ndingnet fir Muman aitidiugud damh-sa
gin gu faghbhat uisce cein fogabhat ass ocus loim ocus medg?”.

— “Ni duilghi lin-ni”, ar siat,
“a llacht do breith o na buaibh
inat na husgedha do dhiclith ar na sloghuibh”.

Conadh ann-sin rucsat a lacht o na buaibh.

Ocus dano tucsat tart for echaibh ocus cairibh ocus buaibh ocus ar uilibh innilib in cuicid.

Um an dtaca seo ní raibh Cormac á n-ionsaí a thuilleadh agus ina ngátar bhí laochra na Mumhan *iarsin*

ag fáil bainne agus meidhg óna muintir
i ngach ionad a mbídís le fáil.

Insíodh é seo do Chormac agus dúirt lena dhraoithe:

“Conas a ghéillfeadh Fir Mhumhan dom
agus bainne agus meadhg le fáil acu in ionad uisce?”
“Ní sé níos deacra dúinne,” arsna draoithe,
“bainne a gcuid bó a bhaint díobh
ná an t-uisce a chur faoi cheilt.”

Ghabh na draoithe ansin ar bainne na mbó a chur de dhíth orthu
agus *, mar sin,* thit an triomach ar chaoirigh, ar bha, ar chapall agus ar na beithígh go léir *sa chuíge*

Since Cormac was making no further sudden attacks on them, the strategy resorted to *then* by the Men of Munster

was to obtain milk and whey from their people,
wherever such was available.

Cormac was informed of this and he said to the druids:

“How can the Men of Munster be expected to submit to me
since they still have milk and whey in place of water?”
“It is no more difficult for us,” said the druids,
“to take the milk from their cows
than to hide the water from them.”

The druids then proceeded to deprive the cows of their milk
and *so* the drought fell on horses, sheep and cows and all the cattle of the province.

Ocus cia mad idir sloghaib in cuicid uili no betis ní mo do boghéimnígh ocus do shitrigh ocus do sreodhfadaigh doghendais almhai in cuicid.

go dtí nach raibh fuaim eallaigh le cloisteáil sa limistéar ar fad *in ainneoin líon na ndaoine sa chúige*.

Despite the number of people in the area, no lowing of cows was to be heard, no sound of horses or cattle throughout the whole region.

Section 53

Ro cuingheth in chain iarsin o Chormac ocus ni tucadh do.

D'éisigh Cormac na cánacha uair amháin eile agus dhiúltaigh Fir Mhumhan dó arís.

Cormac again demanded the tribute and again met with refusal.

Is e ni doronsat fir Mumhan iarsin,

Thosaigh Fir Mhumhan ar ligean fola iarsin sa chruachás ina raibh siad.

The Men of Munster now resorted to blood-letting.

fuil do lecud as a n-almhaibh ocus as a n- innilibh

Tharraing siad fuli a n-eallaí

They let the blood from their herds and cattle

ocus a tabuirt i leastráibh ocus a tabairt cuca i featanaibh.

isteach i soitheach agus d'ól siad an fhuiil trí fheadán.

flow into vessels and they imbibed it through a tube.

Ocus is edh roghnitis, drucht do tinol gacha madanraíd

Bhailigh siad drúcht na maidine

What they did was: they gathered the dew each morning

ocus a chur triasin fuli

agus mheasc siad leis an bhfuil é

and mixed it with the blood

ocus a lecud amlaidh sin

agus d'fhág siad mar sin í

allowing it to set

no gu ndernad linnfhuil de

agus san fhoirm thanaí seo

so that it became a kind of watery blood

ocus a h-ol iarsin tria cuisleannaibh ocus tria fedanaibh.

Cidh tra ro fannuigeadh iat-som de-sin
ocus, ro lethnuighset a tengha ocus ruc[oi]dh
a n-urlabra uathaibh
act ruc a luth ocus a lathar, ruc a nert ocus a
tract ocus a seitir uaidibh,
conadh ar eicin do thuicedh nech dibh ní do
irlabhra ó a chele.

Section 54

O ro rathaigh Fiacha a mbeith ar bru bais ocus
ecca ocus oigeda fon n-innus-sin do raid friu:

“Gach recht co h-eicin”, ar se, “dealluighter
dhibh fein

ocus gach ni ro chuinigh Cormac ocus ima
tainic o bic gu mor, tabhur do”.

bhí siad in ann í a ól *trí fheadán*.

Ach mar sin féin, de bharr a ngéarchéime,
d'éirigh siad lag

agus d'at a dteangacha go dtí go raibh sé
deacair dóibh labhairt.

Chaill siad a neart agus a luadar agus a mbrí

agus is ar éigean a bhí siad in ann iad féin a
thuiscent an t-am a d'éirigh leo caint ar bith a
dhéanamh.

to be taken through a stalk or pipe.

In this desperate plight, *however,* the people
grew weak

and their tongues began to swell so that they
were unable to speak;

they lost their agility, their energy, their
strength and vigour,

so that they could hardly understand each
other when they spoke.

When Fiacha realised that they were at the
brink of death in this appalling situation he
said to them:

“Every law holds until necessity intervenes —
this is clear to yourselves

— so, give Cormac everything he has
demanded, whether great or small.”

Do cuas uaidib iarsin do shaichtin Chormaic,
ocus do raidh in tecta:

“A Chormaic”, ar se, “gach ní uma tanacuis o
bhic cu mor, doberthar duit”.

Do eirigh borrfad ocus diumus romor a
Cormac ocus a maithibh Lethi Cuinn de-sin

ocus do raidset fria Cormac:

“Ní ra gaibter feibh na ferunn”, ar siat, “on
righ ghebus in chain-sin

o nach tucadh dhó co Temhraigh hí,

no gu tardtar ní bhus ail ocus bus inbail ocus
bus anduthcha ocus bus airrius ar in cuiced-sa
gu brath

a n-inad a imluaidh o a tigh”,

ar ro ba doigh leo-som nach ar ben sluagh no
dligeadh in ro chuinnigh Cormac gin gu
tucadh sluagad fair dia cuingid.

Cuireadh teachtaire *uathu* chuig Cormac
ansin.

“A Chormaic,” ar seisean, “tabharfar gach rud
atá ag teastáil uait duit, idir bheag agus mhór.”

Nuair a chuala Cormac agus maithe Leath
Choinn an teachtaireacht sin d'éirigh borradh
agus diámas iontu.

Dúirt uaisle Leath Choinn le Cormac:

“*An rí a fhaigheann an cháin sin,* nár ghlaca
sé le fearann ná ómóis,

mar níor tugadh an cháin go dtí Teamhair na
Rí.

Ach tabharfar íde agus crá náireach don
chúige seo go deo na ndeoir

toisc é a dhíbirt óna thigh.”

Cheap an uaisle nár sháraigh Cormac an dlí
agus mar sin, nach raibh sé ceart brú a chur air
dul i mbun slógaidh chun a chánacha
dlisteanacha a fháil.

A messenger was *then* sent to Cormac
from them.

“O Cormac,” said he, “everything for which
you came will be given you, whether small or
great.”

On hearing this, Cormac and the nobles of
Leath Choinn swelled with overwhelming
pride.

The nobles said to Cormac:

“Let the king who receives this tribute accept
no honours or land

since the tribute was not brought to him to
Tara.

But let a disgraceful, humiliating punishment
be meted out to the people of this province in
perpetuity,

on account of driving him from his home.”

The nobles considered that Cormac did not
transgress the law by his demands and thought
that he should not have had to undertake an
expedition to collect his taxes.

Section 55

Ocus ro thogad acu-san in ail ocus in
anduthcha

dobertha ar an cuicedh ar aen risin cain úd

ocus a rochtain dho dia thigh.

Ocus as í anduthcha ro togad ann:

biadh budh ingantach ocus budh ingnathach
do thabairt in gach raithe o gach righ abhus da
gach righ budh thuaidh

ocus o gach righdamna abhus da gach
rigdamna budh thuaidh,

ocus o gach oicthigernd abhus da gach
oictigern budh thuaidh

ocus mac nó ingen gach fir ibhus i laimh gach
fir budh thuaidh

frisin cain-sin do chomallaimh

Rinne na maithe rogha iarsin de na pionóis
náireacha

a chuirtí ar na Muimhnigh i dteannta na
gcánach

agus as sin amach bheadh orthu na cánacha a
iompar go Teamhair.

Cuireadh na pionóis seo a leanas orthu:

Gach ráithe bheadh ar gach rí abhus an bia ab
fhearr agus ab iontaí le fáil a thabhairt do gach
rí thuaidh;

mar an gcéanna le gach *rídhamhna* abhus le
gach *rídhamhna* thuaidh

agus gach ógthiarna abhus le gach ógthiarna
thuaidh

agus mac *nó iníon ó gach fear abhus le gach
fear thuaidh mar* ghiall

agus mar urra go ndíolfaí an cháin.

The nobles then made a selection of the
following humiliating condition

to be imposed on the province along with the
taxes

— which were required to be taken to Tara.

This was the penalty imposed on them.

Each quarter year, each king in the south was
obliged to send to each king in the north the
best and rarest of foods;

the same held for each *rídhamhna* (heir
apparent to the kingship) in the south to each
ridhamhna in the north,

and for each *ógthiarna* (sub-chieftain) in the
south towards each *ógthiarna* in the north

and a son or daughter from every man in the
south to be put into the hands of every man in
the north

as a guarantee of the payment of the tribute.

ocus intan nach fuighthe sin o gach fhir ibhus
a mhac no a ingen do mharbad

ocus gial nua dara eisi ocus in biadh do ic
iarum.

Ocus dano naomhad gacha toraid no fhasfudh
i crich Muman d'idhnacul budh tuaidh

gan dul a n-airiumh chána ná smachta.

Tancatar techta Cormaic rissin.

Ocus ro floemhadh ac feraibh Muman in cain-
sin ciar forlunn

ar mhet na heicne i rabhutar.

In easpa cánach

chuirfí na gialla chun báis

agus bheadh orthu gialla eile a chur ina n-
ionad chomh maith leis an mbia.

Chomh maith leis sin, bheadh orthu an naoú
cuid de bharra na Mumhan a chur ó thuaidh

i dteannta na ndualgas eile.

Thángadar teachtairí Chormaic leis sin.

Ghlac Fir Mhumhan leis na coinníollacha
troma seo

de bharr a ngéarchéime.

Whenever that was not paid,

the son or daughter was to be killed

and a new hostage provided and the food to be
delivered after that.

Moreover, the ninth part of all crops grown
within the Munster region was to be sent to
the north

in addition to the other obligations.

Cormac's messengers came with this.

The Men of Munster accepted the *harsh*
conditions

because of the predicament they were in.

Section 56

Intan tra ro bhatar Dairine ocus Dergthine isin
ghabhadh-soin

is and do riacht athair mathar Fiachach
Mullethain isin mordhail cuca,

Agus Dáirine agus Deargthine sa tsáinn seo,
áfach,

tháinig athair mháthar Fhiacha Mhoilleathain
chun agallaimh leo.

Just when Dáirine and Deargthine found
themselves in this predicament, *however,*

the father of Fiacha Moilleathan's mother
arrived to confer with them.

.i. Dil mac Da Creca

o ata Druim nDil isna Deisibh,

ocus o atat Crecraighe na hEirenn

ocus do ghabh Fiacha ar a acallamh ocus do
raidh:

“Caidhi bar ndraidecht-si?

bur ndraidecht in leithi-sea?

intan na hetuidh furtacht, na foiridin, forne
isin gabad i tam?”.

“Ni thic dhín,” ar Dil.

“Fort a conaingcel”, ar Fiacha,

“ar, gen gu tised dhibh acht uisce namma do
thabairt duin,

ni aomhfamais in cain úd

cein no beth nech i mbethaid isin cuiced;

Dil mac Da Creiche ab ainm dó siúd

agus is ón bhfeair sin a ainmnítear Droim nDil
i nDéise Mumhan.

Is uайдhsean, chomh maith, a shíolraigh an
treibh sin Creacraighe na hÉireann.

Chuir Fiacha ceist air:

“Cá bhfuil do chuid draíochta go léir anois?

Cá bhfuil draíocht an deiscirt?

Cén fáth nach bhfuil sibh in ann faic a
dhéanamh *dúinn sa ghéarchéim seo*?”

“Níor éirigh linn” arsa Dil.

“Níor éirigh,” arsa Fiacha,

“níor éirigh libh uisce a sholáthar dúinn, fiú.
Ach uisce a bheith againn

ní ghéillfimis don bhóramha,

fad is a bheadh duine amháin beo sa chúige.

His name was Dil mac Da Creiche

and Druim nDil in Déise Mumhan is called
after him.

From him, also, the Creachraí tribe of Ireland
is descended.

Fiacha asked him:

“Where is all your magic now?

Where is the magic of the south?

How is it that you cannot help us in this
appalling situation?”

“We haven’t succeeded” said Dil.

“No,” said Fiacha,

“if you had provided water only,

we would never have conceded the tribute

— not as long as one person remained alive in
the province.

ocus in bhfetrais bhós”, ar se “nech aile isin cuiced-sa dia tised ar bhfoiridhin?”

“Ni fhetar amh”, ar Dil “acht mene thised dott oidi-fein, do Mhogh Ruith,

ár is ra laimh-sidhe doronus-sa h’altram-sa.

Ocus dano is é ro thairngair dait-si in la rot rucadh

in fhorbhuis i ta Leth Cuind fort aniu

ocus ni thic do neach h’foiridin muna thi dhe-siumh

ár is i Sith Cairn Breacnatan,

ic Ban Buaininn, bandrai ingen
Dergdhualagh

ro fhoghluiinn Mogh Ruith foghluim na seacht ceidbliadhan.

An bhfuil aithne agat ar aon duine *sa chúige* a chabhródh linn?”

“Níl, *go deimhin,*” arsa Dil, “ach amháin Mogh Roith, b’fhéidir, d’oide féin.

Ba le cabhair uaidhsean a d’altramaigh mise tua.

Ina theannta sin, ba eisean a rinne an réamhfháistine lá do bhreithe

go dtitfeadh an fhorbhais seo Leath Choinn amach.

Mura bhfuil Mogh Ruith in ann cabhair a thabhairt duit ní éireoidh le haon duine.

Chaith seisean an chéad sheacht mbliana dá shaol ag foghlaim draíochta agus gintlíochta

i Sí Charn Breachnatan

faoin mbandraoi Banbhuaná, iníon Deargdhualach.

Do you know of anybody in the area who could help?”

“No, *indeed,*” said Dil, “except perhaps for your own teacher Mogh Roith,

for it is with his aid that I fostered you.

Moreover, it was he who made the prediction on the day of your birth

that the siege by Leath Choinn which you are under today would take place.

If Mogh Roith cannot help you nobody can,

for Mogh Roith spent his first seven years occult training

in Sí Charn Breachnatan

under the direction of the druidess Banbhuaná, the daughter of Deargdhualach.

Ocus dano ni fhuil i Sidh ná gan Sidh ibhus na thall

draidhecht nach derna,

ar ni dhechaid duine con a churp d'feruibh Eirenn d'foghlum draidhechta a sidhuibh, acht Mogh Ruith.

Acht cena ni dhigne gan loighideacht mor,

ar ni ro hairichleadh do dochmus na dh' anoir na d'fhiadhuchud anallana

ocus ní tucsabar dia bur n-oidh he”.

Agus *, ina theannta sin,* níl, taobh istigh den sí ná taobh amuigh de, abhus is thall,

draíocht nach ndearna sé,

agus i measc Fhir Éireann níor fhoghlaim aon duine riamh draíocht i sí ach Mogh Roith amháin.

Mar sin féin, ní dhéanfaidh sé dada gan ardtuarastal.

Is cuma leis do dhochma is do ghradam

agus dáiríre fire is beag an t-ómós a thug tusa dósan ach oiread.”

Neither inside nor outside of the *sí* dwelling place nor in any other place, is to be found *moreover*

a form of magic which he has not practised,

and among the Men of Ireland, Mogh Roith is the only one who ever learned the magic arts within a *sí*.

However, he would do nothing without a large recompense,

for he has no interest in your predicament, nor in your status,

and you, for your part, have paid little attention to him.”

Section 57

“Ga luaighidheacht is doich lat-sa do chuinghidh dho?” ar Fiacha.

“Ro ba doich lim,” ar Dil “ailgeas criche ocus feruinn dó,

“Can a bheidh uaidh, an dóigh leat?” arsa Fiacha.

“Críoch is fearann is é is mian leis, ceapaim,” arsa Dil,

“What price will he demand, do you think?” asked Fiacha.

“Land and territory is what he desires, that is my opinion,” said Dil,

ar is iar gcul ocus is cumang lais in baile i tá .i.
Inis Dairbre”.

“Dá [leg. Dar] ar mbreithir”, ar siat

“gidh in treas ri bhus ail dho do bheth uadh for
Mumain co brath, doberthar dho,

gin gu tucadh d’foiridin dun acht usge nama”.

Adubratar fir Mumhan ra Dil:

“Datraei bennacht”, ar siat,

“ocus eirg ris sin ocus fiarfhuig do Mogh
Ruith ind etfa foiridin

ocus da n-eta beimit-ne uili fo chís ocus chain

do-fein ocus d’fir a inuidh n-a dhiaigh,

da mac ocus da ua ocus da iarmhua

ocus a breth-fein do fair sin

“mar airíonn sé go bhfuil a áit féin — Inis
Dairbhe — *ró-iargúltá agus* ró-chung dó.”

“Dar ár mbriathar,” ar siadsan,

“más mian leis duine dá shliocht a bheith ar an
tríu rí i gCúige Mumhan go síoraí, tugtar dó é,

muna dtabharfaidh sé ach an t-uisce ar ais
dúinn.”

Ansin, dúirt Fir Mhumhan le Dil.

“Gabhaimid buíochas leat

agusanois téigh **láithreach bonn** agus fiafraigh
de Mhogh Roith an bhféadfadh sé cabhrú linn.

Más féidir, tabharfaimid cáin agus bóramha

dó féin agus dá shliocht,

dá mhac agus dá ó agus dá gharmhac

agus is féidir leis a choinníollacha féin a
leagadh síos.

“for he considers the place where he is now —
Inis Dairbhe — too remote and too narrow
for his taste.”

“By our word,” said they,

“even if he wants one of his descendants as a
third king of Munster in perpetuity, let it be
given him,

even if all he does is to provide us with
water.”

Then the Men of Munster said to Dil:

“Accept our thanks

and go at once to ask Mogh Roith if he can
help us.

If he can, we will all pay tax and tribute

to him, to his successors after him,

to his son, his grandson and his great grandson

and let him set his own conditions.

gin gu tuca dun acte inní [leg. act einní] dá bhfuil foirnd do dingbhail dín”.

Ní iarraimid faic air ach sinn a fhuascailt ón ngátar seo”.

We ask nothing from him except to get us out of this mess.”

Section 58

Do chuaidh roime iarum Dil i cenn sheda ocus imthechta

D’imigh Dil ar aghaidh iarsin

Dil *then* set out on this journey

cu riact cu Dairbre

agus lean air go dtí gur shroich sé Inis Dairbhe.

and eventually arrived at Inis Dairbhe.

ocus o rainic ro bendach do Mogh Ruith

Bheannaigh sé do Mhogh Roith

He saluted Mogh Roith

ocus do fherastar Mogh Ruith failte fris ocus atbert:

agus chuir seisean fáilte roimhe, á rá:

and Mogh Roith made him welcome and asked:

“Canas tic Dil?” ar se.

“Cad as a dtáinig Dil?”

“Where has Dil come from?”

“As Sleibh Cind Claire”, ar se,

“Ó Shliabh Cheann Chláire,” arsa Dil,

“From Sliabh Cheann Chláire,” Dil replied,

“in bhaile ita cuicid Muman um Fhiachaigh”.

“an áit ina bhfuil Cúige Mumhan uile bailithe timpeall ar Fhiacha Moilleathan.”

“the place where the province of Munster is assembled around Fiacha.”

“Cinas atathar annsin?”, ar Mogh Ruith.

“Conas atá an misneach acu?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“How are you getting on?” asked Mogh Roith.

“Is olc atathar and gud dalta-sa,” ar Dil.

“Tá droch-bhail ar do dhalta ann,” arsa Dil.

“Your student is in poor condition there,” said Dil.

“Cidh ón?” ar Mogh Ruith.

Do innís Dil iarum na h-ildraidhechta ocus na h-ileicne roi merset [leg. ro imerest] draithe Cormaic orro,

ocus dano Cormac i forbuis a n-ardchnoc draidhechta osa cinn

ac nougudh a chisa ocus a chana fein orro.

“Cidh ma tancais-si fris sin?”, ar Mogh Ruith.

“Ni ansa”, ar Dil,

“fir Mumam rom cuiristar dot accallaimh-si

ocus da fiafraigidh dhid in etfa a bhfoiridin

ocus da tised did sodh a ndraidhechta forsin luct úd,

cach sochar do crich ocus do thir ocus do thalmam bus ail duid rat fia.

“Cén fáth?” arsa Mogh Roith.

D’inis Dil an scéal dó *ansin* mar gheall ar dhraíocht agus ar bhriochtaí dhraoithe Chormaic

agus *, ina theannta sin,* conas mar a d’ionsaigh sé Fir Mhumhan ó bharr cnoic draíochta

agus bóramha á héileamh aige uathu.

“Cad is cúis le do theachtsa?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Ní hansa,” arsa Dil,

“chuir Fir Mhumhan mise chugat chun caint leat

agus iarraidh ort teacht i gcabhair orthu.

Dá n-éireodh leat draíocht an namhad a shárú,

thabharfaí duit gach a n-iarrfaí orthu maidir le críocha agus fearainn.

“How is that?” asked Mogh Roith.

Dil told him then, about all the magic and spells with which Cormac’s druids had afflicted them

and *, moreover,* how Cormac from the summit of an enchanted hill had besieged them

and demanded tax and tribute.

“Why have you come to me, then?” said Mogh Roith.

“It is not difficult to answer that,” said Dil,

“the Men of Munster sent me to speak to you,

to ask you if you would come to their aid.

If you succeed in turning back these peoples’ magic,

every request you make for land and territory will be granted.

Ocus gidh edh budh ail duit gach treas rí tre
bithu betha uait for Mhumain

no raghadh duid”.

Ina theannta sin, más mian leat duine de do
shliocht a bheith mar thríú rí sa Mhumhan *go
brách*

deonfar é sin duit chomh maith.”

Moreover, if you desire that every third king
of Munster be one of your own descendants in
perpetuity,

this will also be granted *to you*.”

Section 59

“Nuchun edh amein na budh dual damh righe
do ghabail.

Acht ni hedh ro chuineghuinn forro,

gidh doneinn a bhfurtacht

ocus is doigh nach fuil dibh sin eicean nach
soidhfinn-sea dib,

uair ita briathar mh'oidi-se, .i. Shimoin meic
Guill meic Iarguill,

ocus Petair ris na soeidfider orum mo dana
cein bear beo”.

“Apair dano”, ar Dil,

“mad ghebhe do laimh foiridin forro cia
loighidheacht ocus cia comha chuingi?”.

“Ní hé nach n-oirfeadh an ríche dom,” arsa
Mogh Roith,

“acht ní he sin an rud a iarrfaidh mé orthu

má chabhróidh mé leo.

Ní dóigh liom go bhfuil a geruachás chomh
dian sin nach bhféadfainn iad a fhuascailt.

Tá urra agam ó m'oide Síomón mac Goill
mhic Iarghoill

agus ó Pheadar féin nach dteipfidh m'ealaín
draíochta orm fad a bheidh mé beo.”

“Inis dom mar sin,” arsa Dil,

“cén tuarastal a bheadh uait agus tú ag cabhrú
leo?”

“The kingship, *although it is due to me,*”
said Mogh Roith,

“is not what I would ask of them

if I were to assist them.

I think, moreover, that they are not in such
desperate straits that I am unable to extricate
them.

I have the assurance of my teacher Síomón
mac Goill mhic Iarghoill

and Peter, also, that my art will never fail me
while I am alive.”

“Tell me then,” said Dil,

“if you were to undertake to help them, what
fee would you demand?”

Section 60

“Ni ansa,” ar Mogh Ruith.

“Ced mbo mbóthana mblaithedrocht
mbleaghain;

ced muc mucclasa;

ced ndamh ndaimhghnímha;

ced n-ech n-echerma;

coica leann cainedroct cliatha;

ingen fhir no dhara fir bus ferr thoir do crud
[leg. do chruthradh] cloinne damh ria,

daigh am soercland om aithribh,

cur bat saerclanna mu clanna oa maitribh,

gu rup rem clainn shamhailter cech ogthigernd
soer ar soerclannacht;

“Ní hansa,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“100 bó bainne le seithí bíána orthu;

100 muc ramhar,

céad damh gníomhach,

100 ráschapall,

50 brat caoindreach cliathach,

iníon an fhir is fearr nó an dara fir is fearr sa
chúige seo chun sliocht a sholáthar dom.

Ós rud é gur de shaorchlann mé féin ó thaobh
m'aithreacha de,

sa tslí chéanna is mian liom mo leanaí a bheith
den tsaorchlann chomh maith ó thaobh a
máithreacha de,

i dtreo go measfaí uaisleacht gach ógthiarna
saor ó mo chlannsa;

“Not difficult to say,” said Mogh Roith,

“100 milch cows with shining milk-white
hides,

100 well-fattened pigs,

100 working oxen,

100 racehorses,

50 splendid cloaks of criss-cross weave;

a daughter of the best or second-best man in
the province to provide me with children,

so that just as I am of noble birth from my
fathers,

so I desire that my children be noble also by
reason of their mothers,

so that it may be by comparison with my
family that the nobility of every free ógthiarna
be judged;

taisigheacht marcshluagh [leg. marcshluaign] rig Mumhan,

ar daigh cu rab alladh righ coicidh ar fhear mh' inuidh do gres

ocus ni gebhtar ris tria bhithu, act gu ra comalltar frium-sa gach ní gealltar dham;

fer comhairli ocus sanais uaim ag righ Mumhan

ocus dia nderntar a comairli sidhe biaidh buaidh furre;

a mheath, nó a éc da n-innisi do neoch aili in run ro cluin se ocon righ acht mar bhas maith lais in righ;

dala do thabairt dom shil

ocus triar i frithchetfaidh in righ ocus fer a lamha deise

ocus mu ragha do thir Mhuman do thabairt damh,

an chéad áit i marcshluua rí na Mumhan

i dtreo go mbeadh gradam rí chúige ag m'ionadaí de shíor.

Chaithfi na coinníollacha seo go léir a chomhlíonadh gan teip go brách.

Ina theannta sin, d'ainmneoinn fear léinn agus feasa mar chomhairleoir do rí na Mumhan

agus dá leanfadhbh an rí a bhriatharsan bheadh an rath air.

Bheadh an rí in ann, áfach, an comhairleoir a íslíú nó a chur chun báis dá scaoilfeadh sé nithe a bheadh faoi rún.

Do mo shliochtsa, chomh maith, an ceart a bheith acu dálí a thionól

agus triúr ag freastal ar an rí agus duine amháin ar a láimh dheas.

Éilím, chomh maith, mo rogha d'fhearrann na Mumhan

the first place among the cavalry of the king of Munster

so that my representative will always have the status of a provincial king

and that these conditions shall never be infringed but that everything promised to me will be fulfilled.

Moreover, a man of counsel and wisdom will be appointed by me as advisor to the king of Munster

and if the king follows his counsel fortune will smile on him.

This counsellor, moreover, may be demoted or put to death according to the king's judgment should he dare to reveal any of the royal secrets.

For my descendants also, a right to convene meetings (?)

and three men in attendance on the king and one at his right hand.

I furthermore demand, that the territory of my choice in Munster be given me

am-ar [leg. amar] thimcillfit mu ghille ind oen ló,

gan maer, gan etarla gan urlamhus righ Muman ar an bhferann sin tria bithu,

gan ghiall do ghabail ar fhir mh' inaidh

acht a eachlasc dara eis

nó glac righ Muman d'iadhadh um cael a choisi.

Ocus nuchon aithnim-si dom shil merbhe na metacht do dhenamh

acht atberim riu dul i sochraide righ Muman i cath ocus i comlunn

dar cenn bendachta ocus chomallta friu a loighidhechta.

Dia tardthar immorro dhamh-sa sin

toet Mogh Corb mac Cormaic Chais meic Oililla Oluim

— an méid a d'fhéadfadh mo ghiollaí a thimpeallú in aon lá.

Ní cheadófaí do rí na Mumhan údáras a chleachtadh taobh istigh den chríoch seo *go brách*,

ná giall a éileamh ó m'ionadaí ann,

ach amháin eachlasc a fhágáil ann

nó dúnadh doirn Rí na Mumhan timpeall ar alt a choise. (?)

Ní ghlacaim leis go bhfuil mo chlann ciontach i laige ná i meatacht

agus molaim dóibh taobhú le rí na Mumhan i gcath agus i gcomhlann

i gcuimhne a gcomhcheangail.

Más inghlactha ar luaigh mé, *áfach,*

tagadh Mogh Corb mac Cormaic Chais mhic Oilealla Óloim chugam

— as large as my servants can encircle in one day.

The king of Munster never to exercise authority or representation over this area;

not to demand a hostage from my representative

but only that his horsewhip be left behind
or to close the hand of the king of Munster around his ankle.

I do not acknowledge my race as being guilty of weakness or cowardice

and I recommend them to join the company of the king of Munster in battle and skirmish

as a reminder and acknowledgement of mutual debts.

If, then, all that I have mentioned is acceptable,

let Mogh Corb son of Cormac Cais, son of Oileall Óloim come, along

ocus Donn Dairine ocus maithe Muman
arcena

dar cenn choicidh Muman ocus gabhat forro a
comalladh-sin

ocus ragat-sa leo fesin.

Ocus asbert mu briathar co ndingeb-sa in
eicin-sin dibh”

*agus Donn Dáirine agus maithe Mhumhan
chomh maith*

chun urraí a chur ó thaobh na Mumhan de, le
comhlíonadh na gcoinníollacha.

Fillfidh mise *féin* in éineacht leo

agus ó mo thaobhsa féin de,

tabharfaidh mé mo bhriathar go bhfuasclóidh
mé iad ón ngéarchéim seo.”

*and Donn Dáirine and the nobles of Munster
as well*

and guarantee to me on behalf of the province
of Munster that these conditions will be
fulfilled.

I myself will return with them,

and in my turn

I will give you my word that I will deliver you
from this predicament.”

Section 61

Tainicc Dil ris-sin aniar cu roacht co Claire,

ait i raibhi Fiacha cu sloghu Muman uime.

Gabsat ann-sin fir Muman oc iafraighidh
meisnigh an druadh

ocus ba beg la cach a ghuth.

Thaistil Dil aniar ansin agus shroich sé Ceann
Chláire.

Bhí Fiacha ann roimhe agus Fir Mhumhan
bailithe timpeall air.

Chuir siad ceist ar Dhil *ansin* mar gheall ar
fhreagra an draoi

agus bhí guth gach duine chomh lag sin nach
raibh ann ach cogar.

Dil, then, made his way eastwards and reached
Chláire

where Fiacha and the Men of Munster were
assembled.

They began to question him *then* about the
druid's intentions

and each voice was reduced to a whisper.

Ra indis Dil meisneach in druadh ocus a loighidheacht ocus a chura dhoib.

“Dobertar do-sum sin uili”, ar fir Muman.

Ocus ro coimeirigset na cuir

ocus ro naiscset ar feruibh Mumhan imma righ a comallamh dar a cenn

ocus ro chomluidhset imtheacht ar cend an righdruadh.

D’inis Fiacha dóibh an freagra a thug Mogh Roith air faoi thuarastal agus urraí.

“Tugtar gach rud a d’iarr sé orainn dó,” arsa Fir Mhumhan.

D’éirigh na hurráí

agus deineadh an nascadh *ar Fhir Mhumhan chomh maith lena rí*.

D’imigh i gceann aistir ansin agus Fiacha in éineacht leo chun bualadh leis an rí-dhraoi.

Dil informed them of the druid’s intentions, his fee and the guarantees he gave them.

“Let all that he asked for be given him,” said the Men of Munster.

The guarantors rose

and formalised the contract made by the men of Munster along with their king

and they set out to contact the king-druid.

Section 62

O rancatar tra co Dairbre ro feradh failte friu

ocus ro bui reir freastail ocus fritholmha ar a cinn,

ar ba deimhin la Mogh Ruith co ricfaitis.

Ocus ro ghabh Mogh Ruith ar a bhfosdad

ocus ro gabhsat-som ga obadh ocus ro raidset:

Ar shroicheadh Inis Dairbhre dóibh *áfach* fearadh fíorchaoin fáilte rompu

agus deineadh freastal agus friotháileamh orthu.

Bhí Mogh Roith cinnte roimh ré go dtiocfaidís.

Rinne Mogh Roith iarracht moill a chur orthu ach dhiúltaigh siad dó, á rá:

When they arrived at Inis Dairbhre *however* they were welcomed

and received with great hospitality.

Mogh Roith, of course, had been certain of their arrival.

Mogh Roith sought to detain them

but they refused saying:

“A fhír shochair” ar siat “ucus a chul
urbhaidhi,

is mor in gábad i dtát fir Muman

ucus recuid a leas a bhfoiridin

ucus gach ar chuingis ataim-ne ra a
aishudhudh [leg. aisughudh] ucus ra
comalladh duit ucus naisc foirnd”.

“Naiscfe-sa”, ar se

“ucus ni raghum gu muchu lai imarach”.

Batar ann-sin

ar cainfreastail ucus fritholamh

ucus gabhus Mogh Ruith occ gairdiugud forro
ucus oc iafraghidh scel dibh.

Ocus do raidh in rethoirc-sa ucus do freagair
Mogh Corb.

“A fhír shochair agus a chosainteoir ón olc,”
ar siad,

“tá Fir Mhumhan i ngéarchéim

agus cabhair ag teastál uathu chun iad a chur
thar an ngátar.

Táimidne réidh sinn féin a nascadh le do
choinníollacha má tá tusa sásta ó do thaobhsa
margadh a dhéanamh linn.”

“Glacaim leis an socrú,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“ach ní fhágfaidh mise an áit seo go dtí go
moch maidin amárach.”

D’fhan siad ann, mar sin,

agus deineadh freastal orthu go caoin agus go
haoibhinn.

Bhí Mogh Roith féin go meidhreach leo agus
d’iarr scéala orthu.

Rinne sé reitric a reacaireacht agus d’fhreagair
Mogh Corb air.

“O privileged man,” said they, “ and protector
against evil,

the Men of Munster are in dire straits

and stand in need of your help.

We are ready to meet all your demands and
bind ourselves by contract to fulfil them if you
on your part conclude the contract with us.”

“I agree to bind myself to the contract,” said
Mogh Roith,

“but I will not leave here until early tomorrow
morning.”

They remained where they were then,

and were entertained and attended to most
pleasantly,

and Mogh Roith himself began to make merry
with them and ask them for news.

Then Mogh Roith recited a rhetoric which
Mogh Corb answered.

“Sceul do chein, cluinnit libh. sloinnidh meid mna ocus fir. Indis duin. a Mogh Corb. berta bedg. buadhais borb. brigh ua Cuinn. ro dan cloe. Conrosoe. ronbaidh balc. briathra mbecht. rontraigh tart. traeththa ar neart íta ar slogh. segda run. deoga dil. dichleas dluimh. dia tis linn. A Mogh Ruith. ratfia maith. uann i muich. misi ris. ris fom rath. bect mu clann. cu bann brath. bidh maith mor. medhar gnimh. triar cinn cleith. fria dreich righ. fear dia dheis. cin dailbh ndis. cech treas guth. da run ris. na ria soer sech do shil. ben chiuin caem. togha ar tir. ratfia dal. nar tigh oil. Commus mar. marcshluagh mhoir. Misi libh. lathar nglonn. laifeat cenn. Chormac crom. claiiset brict. buidhnibh guth. cu mba lir. sibhne i sruth. Soefet fir, feidm fria len. cu mba buan bias an scel”. Scel.

As a aithle-sin ro gab Mogh Ruith oc
iafraighidh na comlunn

ocus ina torchuir isna comlunnaibh

ocus ro innis Mogh Corb dho uili:

“Trom amh linn sin”, ar Mogh Ruith,

“ocus da [leg. dar] ar mbreithir,” ar se,

“dia n-edam-ne toeth dias ann cech fer dib-sin

ocus toeth fuilled fair

ocus toeth in coicer dorat in ardainicin sin ar
an coiced”.

Thosaigh Mogh Roith *iarsin* ag cur
ceisteanna orthu mar gheall ar na cathanna a
cuireadh

agus an méid daoine a maraíodh iontu

agus d’inis Mogh Corb an scéal ar fad dó.

“Is oth liom an gnó seo ar fad, *go deimhin,*”
arsa Mogh Roith,

“agus dar ár mbriathar,

más féidir linn, gheobhaidh beirt bás in áit
gach duine a maraíodh

agus a lán ina dteannta,

chomh maith leis an gcúigear a rinne an méid
sin slada ar an gcúige.”

Then Mogh Roith began to enquire about the
battles fought

and about the numbers that had fallen in them

and Mogh Corb told him all.

“We are sorry to hear of this, *indeed,*” said
Mogh Roith,

“and by our word,” said he,

“if we are able, two men will die for every one
of these

and many more will perish besides,

along with the five who wrecked such havoc
on the province.”

Section 63

Gabsat ann-sin co mucha lai ara barach.

Is ann-sin do raid Mogh Ruith ra a dalta .i.
ra Ceannmhar

a thaichim conaire do thabhairt chuigi

.i. a da dhamh chuana choilgdirghiu as
Sleibh Mis

.i. Luath Tren ocus Loth Lis

ocus a charpat caemh curata cairthind

cona fheirtsibh findruine,

con imead gheam corrmhocuil,

guna comleithibh glaine

D'han siad ansiúd go dtí mochdháil na
maidine.

Ansin, dúirt Mogh Roith lena dhalta — Ceann
Mór

— a ghléasanna taistil a thabhairt dó:

a dhá dhamh *uaisle* shlioctha ó Shliabh Mis

— Luath Tréan agus Luath Lis ab ainmneacha
dóibh siúd;

a charbad álainn cathrach caorthainn

lena thaobhanna gloine

agus a charrmhogail lonracha

agus a chrann fearsaide fiondruine.

They remained there, then, until early next
morning.

It was then that Mogh Roith called on his
student Ceann Mór

to bring him his travelling equipment;

his two noble sword-sleek oxen from Sliabh
Mis:

Luath Tréan and Luath Lis were their names;

also, his beautiful warlike chariot of mountain
ash

with its axle-trees of white bronze

and its profusion of gleaming carbuncles

and its two glass sides.

ocus ba comhsholus la ocus aghaidh don lucht no bidh ann.	Ba chomhgheal lá agus oíche do lucht taistil ann.	Day and night were equally bright in it.
Ocus a cholgdeut drumannglas	Ina theannta sin, bhí a chláiomh cam liath aige,	There were also his grey curved sword,
ocus a ghoithne umaidi	a mhiodóg chré-umha	his bronze dagger,
ocus a dha shleig cruaidi coicrinne	dhá shleá *chrua* le cúig chraobh sa ghabhal	his two hard five-forked spears
gu cranduibh suarcaibh sodhibhraicthe;	*lena crainn so-aimsithe*	with their easy-to-aim hafts
co semannaibh fithe findruine;	agus seamanna cré-umha <u>sa chrann</u> .	and rivets of <u>gleaming</u> bronze;
con a sheichid tairb maeluidir i bhforfairsiung a carpait	Bhí seithe a tháinig ó tharbh donn maol mar chlúdach ar an gearbad,	then, the hide of a brown horn-less bull to cover the whole surface of the chariot
ar sesaibh ocus sliastaibh fai.	ar na suíocháin agus ar gach taobh de.	including the seats and sides.
Guna shochraite shluaghaidh lais .i. tricha ar ced,	Thaistil a shochraid in éineacht leis, céad is tríocha	His retainers accompanied him to the number of 130
amhuil asbert Cormac mac Cuilleannain:	faoi mar a dúirt Cormac mac Cuilleannáin:	— or as Cormac mac Cuilleannáin put it:
“Ba forneirt a theglach o theighedh for set im charpat in righ druadh tricha fer ar ced”.	“Ba mhór a theaghlaigh agus é ag gabháil na slí, timpeall ar charbad an rí-dhraoi bhí 130 fear.”	“Great his household as he set out on a journey, surrounding the king-druid’s chariot were 130 men.”

Section 64

Ro coimeirighset iarsin ocus tancatar rompa amach

ocus ro bhui Mogh Ruith oc miniughudh dia dhalta gach neith amhlaidh so ocus asbert:

“Cingthe, a Cennmhair choscuruigh. do clodh catha Corb. cu ro soeitter sealg. senbhan-sidhe dearg. is delbh da eis anmachta. inni ga dtai gheall. cu ro dhluidhi drong. an do saighne seall. Sleacta mu roisc rindamn cia ro bot he is becht. Do bher catha Cuilt gan neimhe gan nert. Ni amhthar mu daim dhamhraighi. co lúth goeithi im ghort. do Chormac mac Airt. ernfait uath is olc. Domroichet mu shulmaire. suigts nirtu niath. Dom roich mu colg ndeaghneimhnach. frithalta mo sciath. scail ma ghoithne umhaidi. oircius occuind ath. gu foirbream feidm Fir da liach cu rob cenn uas chach. Catha diana direcra dermara na ndruing. Dairine ocus Dergthine. domnat for Leth Cuinn. coraigh mu cliabh crephnaisce ceim fria hilar inn. damhna dambiat óic fo aill. ailme calma cing. cingthea, a Cennmair”.

Gabsat rompa iardain i cend shed a ocus imthechta

ocus dochuaidh Mogh Ruith in a charpat.

Ocus do raithset na maithe sin ris:

“Cia thoghas crich ocus ferann duit?”, ar siat.

“Ni do neoch erbabhat-sa sin eidir”, ar Mogh Ruith, “acht damh fein.

Ocus tabhur úir gach tíri dara ragh dhamh

Thosaigh an turas ansin agus le linn dóibh a bheith ag gluaiseacht

bhí Mogh Roith ag míniú gach rud dá dhalta agus rinne sé reitric a reacaireacht.

They started off then, and as they proceeded forward

Mogh Roith was explaining everything to his student and as they travelled he recited a rhetoric.

Lean siad ar aghaidh mar sin

agus Mogh Roith ina charbad an t-am ar fad.

D’fhiabraigh na maithe de:

“Cé roghnóidh *críoch agus* fearann duit?”

“Ní chuirfidh mé an cúram sin ar aon duine ach orm féin amháin,” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Tabharfaidh sibhse sampla d’úir dom ó gach dúiche agus sinn ag dul tríthi

They continued on their course *meanwhile*,

Mogh Roith all the while riding his chariot.

The nobles asked him:

“who will select land and territory for you?”

“I will entrust that task to nobody at all but to myself alone,” said Mogh Roith.

“You will bring me a sample of earth from every area we pass on the way

ocus finnubbh for a boludh an crich bús fhearr
dhibh ocus thoghfat in crich-sin;

ni thiber aithber ar neach acht oram fein gidh
maith gid olc hi”.

agus ón mboladh aisti roghnóidh mé an talamh
is fearr do m’fhearann.

Más maith nó saith an rogha ní chuirfidh mé
an milleán ar aon duine ach orm féin amháin.”

and I will find out from its smell which is the
best and I will choose that area for my
territory.

Whether the choice be good or bad I will
blame nobody but myself.”

Section 65

Tancatar rompa gu Glinn Bethbhe i crich
Corcoduibhne

ocus rucadh úir Bethbha chuigi

ocus tuc a bolud fo a shroin.

Ocus atbert in rethorhec ic a dichur.

“A Bethbhe bhinech brocach brugumach. a Bhretach bhir chairrgech. a bare uar anaibinn. a cro cael cuar cumang. bat adhbha chuan caibhdhium.
bat imlearg echtrann. ni bhat adhbha sochaide. ni mhettfa nach caelfa. a gleand betach Bethbha”. a Bethbha.

“Nucan í-so crich gebut-sa dar cenn mu
loighidhechta”.

“Nucon fhalaifeter fort eidir”, ar siat:

Thaistil siad ar aghaidh mar sin go Gleann
Beithbhe i ndúiche Chorca Dhuibhne

agus tugadh sampla d’úir na háite do Mhogh
Roith.

Chuir sé an sampla chun a shróine agus
bholaigh é.

Chaith sé uaidh é agus dán á rá aige:

“Ní hé seo an fearann a roghnóidh mé mar
thuarastal,” ar sé.

“Níl dualgas ar bith ort glacadh leis,” arsa
uaisle Fhiacha.

They travelled onwards to Gleann Beithbhe in
the area of Corca Dhuibhne

and a sample of soil from Beithbhe was
brought to Mogh Roith.

He put the sample to his nose and smelled it.

He discarded it however and recited a poem.

“That is not the territory I will take as my
fee,” said Mogh Roith.

“It will by no means be imposed on you,” said
Fiacha’s nobles.

Tancatar rompa iarsin cu Crich Eogunachta
Corcoduibhne Ciarraige.

Ocus tucadh a huir dho

ocus nis ra ghaibh

ocus do raidh in rethorec oca dichar.

“Concenn Cuachbel. creachfaidt comaighthe. coisrian ceithern. cro rinnra rind cuma ulach as ocus inn ocus ilar fian ocus ectacnom ocus ulach ferguba. ocus milled ban ocus cirred con”. Concend.

“Ni gebh-sa so”, ar se.

“Ni ragha fort eidir”, ar siat.

Tancatar rompa iarsin cu hAes Cuile ocus co
hEalla

ocus tucad úir in da crich dhó

ocus do raidh in rethorec ic a ndichur:

Tháinig siad iarsin chomh fada le Críoch
Eoghaineachta, Corca Dhuibhne, Ciarraí.

Tugadh sampla úire do Mhogh Roith anseo
chomh maith

agus ní raibh sé sásta leis

ach chaith sé uaidh é agus an dán: “Conchenn
cuachbel” á aithris aige.

After this, they reached Críoch Eoghaineachta,
Chorcha Dhuibhne, Kerry.

Here, as before, a soil-sample was brought to
Mogh Roith

but he was not satisfied with it.

He discarded it as he recited the poem:
“Conchenn cuachbel”

“Ní thógfaidh me an chríoch sin,” ar sé.

“Ní gá duit í a thógáil,” a dúirt maithe na
Mumhan.

*Tháinig siad iarsin go hAes Chúile agus go
hEalla,

agus tugadh úir ón dá áit dó,

ach chaith sé uaidh iad, agus an dán: “Cuile
bega binacha” á aithris aige.*

“I won’t take this area,” said he.

“It won’t be yours,” said they.

*They then continued to Aes Cuile and to
Ealla,

and samples of earth from the two territories
was brought to him,

but he discarded them as he recited the poem:
“Cuile bega binacha” *

“Cuile bega binacha. ealla chuileach chorrmhiluch. comhdail geinnte is gaduiged. gleann cu n-echtaibh ilardhaibh. adhbha fhiadhmhuc nainshescair. enach fiadhmhil forodhur. cuithech lenach lanshaluch. fegha loma ilatracha learg. ainbtech ra innisi. ilar buidne benn. bebais bas da mbunadachuibh bet cin aicme noiracais. aibnib railgibh run. rotaibh rubaib riglesaib. ronnaib cathraib cul”. cula.

Tancatar rompa gu Crich Cairiche,

risin abar Muscraigdi Fheaga aniuia

ocus tucadh uir na crichi-sin do,

ocus do raid aca dicur.

“Tir mhin ainmhin, tir fhliuch thirim tir aibind anaibhinn. tir fphantach thulchach. tir blaithedrocht brathar. Ní umfaemu-sa in tir”. Tir.

“Ni ghebh-sa on,” ar se, “ocus ni
sharuighiuibh mo braitre,

uair foghebhut nech aili dia sarugudh”.

Tancadar rompaiar-sin [leg. rompa iar-sin] cu
Tech Forannain Fhinn,

frisin abar Cenn Abhrat inniu.

“Nuchan as-so ragat-sa”, ar Mogh Ruith,

Tháinig siad iarsin go Críoch Chairiche.

Múscaí Fheá is ainm don áit sin inniu.

Tugadh sampla d’úir na háite dó

ach chaith sé uaidh é agus an dán: “Tír mhín,
ainmhín” á aithris aige.

They arrived then in Críoch Chairiche

which today is known as Múscaí Fheá

and again some earth was brought to him

but he laid it aside and he recited the poem:
“Tír mhín, ainmhín”

“I won’t take this,” said he, “ and I will not
dispossess my brothers,

for they will find someone else willing to
dispossess them.”

They travelled on *then* until they reached
Teach Forannáin Fhinn

known today as Cenn Abhrat.

“I will not move out of this place,” said Mogh
Roith,

“cu ra toghthar mu crich ocus m’ferand,

ar ni ar rochtain cusan sluagh ro etfad crich na ferann do chuingidh forro”.

Tucad cuigi-sin ann-sidhe úir Cliach Mail mheic Ugaine a Min-Mairtine Muman.

Conudh ann asbert oca tuarasbhail ocus oca hobadh.

“Cliu chathach chonghalach. Cliu echtagh urbadhach. Cliu uathmhar aicsinach, Cliu fhliuch lochanach. lir a conach. lir a husgai. lir a hantaic. ged a himaire. lir a catha. lir a haile. lir a heigmhe. aidble a huilc, ile a slada a saruighthi. sligi churad Cliu”. Cliu.

“Inathar galair Muman sin,” ar se,

“ocus belach bodhbha ocus aircne.

Ní gheb-sa eiter.

Ocus dano bidh machuiri nachtan cin cu pedh inniu”.

“go dtí go mbeidh mo chríoch *agus m’fhearann* féin roghnaithe agam,

óir, ní féidir liom fearann agus limistéar a éileamh agus mé i láthar na dála.”

Tugadh dó ansin sample d’úir ó Chlú Máil mhic Ughaine i Mín Mhairtine Mumhan.

Scrúdaigh sé é ach chaith sé uaidh é agus an dán: “Clú chathach” á aithris aige.

“San úir sin,” ar sé, “tá galair na Mumhan le fail

agus an bealach chun millte agus mí-áidh.

Ní ghlacfaidh mé léi.”

“until I have made a choice of land and territory for myself.

Once I have reached the Assembly I cannot demand land and territory from them.”

There was brought to him then, the soil of Clú Máil mhic Ughaine from Mín Mhairtine Mumhan.

He examined it but discarded it as he recited the poem: “Clú chathach”

“In this soil,” said he, “are the diseases of Munster

and the road to destruction and misfortune.

I won’t take it on any account”

Section 66

Tancas uadaibh-sium iurdain [leg. iardain] ar cenn úire Chorrchaille Meic Con,

.i. Cailli Menne meic Erca meic Degadh

frísín abar Firmhaighi inniu.

Is aire atbertar Cailli mac n-Eirc ris, ar ro bhatar a mheic ann.

.i. Menne mac Erca ocus Uatha mac Erca ocus Ailbhe mac Erca.

Ainm ele do Firmuighi Méne,

ar imut a mianaigh isna sleibibh fileat imbe

ocus dano cloch mhein in gach ghurt ann bheos.

Ainm ele dho, Corr Cailli meic Con,

Ón áit sin ghluais siad ar aghaidh *iarsin* go dtí Corrchaille Mhic Con,

'sé sin le rá, Caille Méine mac Earca mhic Dheagha.

Firmhaighe a ghlaotar ar an áit sa lá atá inniu ann.

'Sé an fáth go bhfuil an t-ainm Caille mac nEarca ag gabháil leis an áit ná gur mhair a mhic ann

— Méine mac Earca, Uatha mac Earca agus Ailbhe mac Earca.

Tá ainm eile ar an áit chomh maith Fir Mhaighe Méine

ar iomad an mhianaigh atá sna sléibhte máguaird

agus dáiríre, tá cloch mhianaigh le fáil i ngach gort ann go fóill.

Gabhann ainm eile fós leis an áit — Corr Caille Mhic Con.

From there, they *then* proceeded to the area known as Corrchaille Mhic Con,

that is: Caille Méine mac Earca mhic Dheagha

and which is known today as Fearmaí.

They reason why the region is called Caille mac nEarca is because his sons lived there

— Méine mac Earca, Uatha mac Earca and Ailbhe mac Earca.

It has another name as well Fir Maighe Méine

— on account of the large quantity of mineral ores in the mountains surrounding the area,

and indeed, a mineral-bearing stone is still to be found in every field.

It has still another name: Corr Caille Mhic Con

ar rob é ruidlius Clainne Dairine,

ocus is ann ata Rosach na rígh

ocus is ann ro bhai Mac Con no gu tucadh
Cath Cinn Abhratt.

Rucudh chuigi-sium iarum úir na crichi-sin

ocus ro raidh na briathra-sa oc a tagha ..

“Sliab um fhígh.

figh um magh. magh cu srothaihh sainemlaibh. fo midhabunn. fo sruthabunn. fo nemhleith. rasuighthe sealg. sernfaid slechtaibh. sluaghuibh sochaidibh solmhaibh. airdíbh echtghonaighaigsig anaimrinnid. iarann fou, iarunn forro. fir mhu mna fir mu maic. fir mu cliom. fir muichit. fir dianaibh togairter do neimib nathrach do chaidib dracon. co lutha lonnáidi co lainnibh langhaile. mar luisin lanadhbhuiil. fo lasair lainerdha. letras fraech for cocnus figh silas sliabh”. Sliab.

Bhain seisean go speisialta le Clann Dáirine

agus is ann atá Rosach na Rí

agus is ann a bhíodh Mac Con go dtí gur
cuireadh Cath Cinn Abhrat.

Tugadh *ansin* úir na críche seo do Mogh Roith

agus ba í seo an úir a roghnaigh sé, á rá:

“Sliab timpeall ar choill.”

for he belonged in a special way to Clann Dáirine

and it is here that Rosach na Rí is situated

and Mac Con lived here until the Battle of Ceann Abhrat took place.

The soil of this area was *then* brought to Mogh Roith

and this was the earth he chose as his own saying:

“Sliab um figh”

Section 67

Ro faem-som tra in tir-sin ocus asbert ra
clannaib ag tabairt a teasta

.i. coimhneimh inntibh ocus comchonnailb
ocus comthuaichlius fria nathrachuibh etorra-
sein,

Roghnaigh Mogh Roith an téar sin *mar seo*
agus labhair sé lena chlanna ag tabhairt
comhairle a leasa dóibh:

“a nimheadas agus a gcairdeas a bheith ar aon
chéim

So Mogh Roith made his choice of this
territory and addressing his people he made
certain recommendations to them:

“to be equally venomous and affectionate,

ar is amlaid bít-sein ocus nai nathracha dib oc
doth isin n-aoinnit

ocus as i lianchaire bís etorra

cu nach mo leasaighius gach naithir dibh in t-
en berius fein ina gach en archena bis isin nit.

“Is amlaidh-sin erbaim-si dom claind a mbeth
i n-aeingnim

ocus cein bheth amlaidh

ní béra crich impaibh a n-imarcraigh

ocus níis lemha nech acht in ní [*leg. in ti*]
foirgea airdri in coicidh;

ár ní ra daingnib eli doberim-si toebh dhoibh,

acht ra a connailbhi fein eturra,

ocus ra hemghibh mo chor

— a bheith cosúil le naoi nathair in aon nead
amháin.

Ní chuireann nathair amháin a leas féin roimh
leas nathrach eile

mar bíonn siad an-cheanúil ar a chéile.

Is mian liom mo chlann a bheith ar aon aigne
agus fad a bheidh sé sin amhlaidh

ní chuirfidh na críocha máguaird ina coinne,

mar, ní le daingne eile a thugaim tacaíocht
dóibh

ach leis an gcairdeas eatarthu,

le dílseacht don chonradh

and as wily as *nine* serpents living in the
one nest.

Their nature is to have so much affection for
each other

that no one of them prefers his own good to
the good of the others.

This is how I wish my family to be — to act
together in harmony

— and while such is the case

the area around them will not resist their
growth

It is not by guarantees that I give my support

but only by means of their own affection,

being ready to abide by the contract

ocus ra muinnteras shil Fhiachach.

Intan dano na comallfa cach dibh fria cheile sin,

is ann raghuid in lucht da tabhraim-si sochar aniu ar tairr mu clainne-sa,

co mberat a bhferunn uathaibh

co mba hiaraid iat fein ar inndith [leg. ar in ndith] ragus forro ind,

ocus con n-eipre in fer dona sleibibh impaibh

‘nach he-sud in tir i ra butar Fir Maighi seghdha?’.

Is airi atberair Fir Maighi seghdha dibh

ar is eadh erbaim-si friu, ildana ocus seghdhacht acu

ocus fer imarbhadha Muman tria bithu”.

agus le maireachtail go siochanta le siol Fhiacha.

Nuair a tharlaionn afach go mbionn siad ag troid lena cheile,

is caoi i sin do na daoine a bhfuil me ag cabhrú leo anois teacht agus an lámh láidir a imirt orthu

agus a bhfearann a bhaint díobh.

Sa chás sin, rachaidh siad i léig agus imeoidh siad as amharc ar fad de bharr mí-áidh agus cruatain.

Agus déarfaidh fear an tsléibhe máguaird:

‘Nach í seo an chríoch a bhí ag Fir Mhaighe séaghainn tráth dá raibh?’

Is é seo an fáth a nglaoim Fir Mhaighe séaghainn orthu,

mar, molaim dóibh a bheith séaghainn i ngach dán, uaisleacht a bheith acu

agus troid ar thaobh na Mumhan i gcónaí.”

and living in friendly terms with the descendants of Fiacha.

When it happens, however, that they are at variance with each other,

this will be the opportunity for the very people I am helping today to come and oppress my family

and deprive them of their land,

so that they will disappear from destitution

and the man from the mountains surrounding them will say:

‘Wasn’t this the territory that the famous Fir Maighe once occupied?’

It is for this reason that I call them the renowned Fir Maighe

for I recommend them to the skilled in every craft, to have a noble bearing

and to be men who will always fight for Munster.”

Section 68

“An hí sin crich thoghai?” ar siat

— “As i,” ar sé.

“Cia raghus dia cuma ocus dia midhemhain na criche-sin dait?” ar siat.

“Mac caich a dhalta,” ar se,

“ocus tiaghuid mo dhalta-sa”.

Ocus batar ead na daltaí

.i. Muchet, dia ta Corco Muichit in Uibh Conaill

ocus Bent, dia tat Benntraidhi fo Eirinn

ocus Buirech dia tat Ui Buirigh i Crich Fossaigh moir

i coiccrich Ua meic Caille ocus Ua Tassaigh,

“An í seo an chríoch a roghnaigh tú duit féin?” ar siad.

“Is í go deimhin,” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Cé rachaidh amach chun í a mharcáil agus a thomhas duit?” ar siad.

“Is ionann dalta duine agus a mhac féin,” a dúirt Mogh Roith,

“rachaidh mo dhaltaí amach chun í a rianú.”

Ba iad seo a dhaltaí:

Muichead: is ón duine seo a ainmnítear Corca Mhuicheid in Uíbh Chonaill.

Beant: is ón duine seo seo a ainmnítear Beantraighe na hÉireann.

Búireach: is ón duine seo a thagann Uí Bhúirigh i gCríoch Phosaigh Mhóir,

i gcomhchríoch Ua mhic Caille agus Ua Tasaigh.

“Is this the territory you have chosen for yourself?” said they.

“It is indeed,” said he.

“Who will go to mark it out and measure it?” said they.

“A man’s student is the equivalent of his son,” said Mogh Roith

“my students will go,” said he.

His students were:

Muichead: and from him is named Corca Mhuicheid in Uíbh Chonaill.

Beant: from him comes every Beantraí throughout Ireland.

Búireach: from him comes Uí Bhúirigh in Críoch Phosaigh Mhóir

in the territory of Ua mhic Chaille and Ua Tasaigh.

ocus Dil mor mac Da Creca o ata Druim nDil
ocus Crecraigdi fo Eirinn,

ocus Ceannmhar a Chaire Comain a Cloenloch
na nDeisi.

Ro coimeirighset iarsin na gilli-sin ocus ro
raidhset.

“Cinus midfider in tir, a aidiu inmain?” ar siat.

“A hord ar an indeoin,” ar Mogh Ruith,

“i. o tha Figh in Uird a nOrbraidhi co
hIndeoin is na Deisib.

Ocus in mir o tha sruthanna [leg. sruthan[n]a]
na Tuadcaille frisin apar Gleann mBrighdi
inniu,

cusin rod da sileann sruth na nOithin (?)

fo nGiusaigh nglais ngabhanaigh renfas a caill
ar Colaem”

Dil Mór mac Da Creiche: is ón duine seo a
ainmnítear Droim nDil agus Creacraighe na
hÉireann:

Ceann Mór ó Chaire Comáin i gClaonloch na
nDéise.

D’eirigh na giollaí seo ansin agus d’fhiabraigh
siad de:

“Conas a dhéanfaimid an limistéar a thomhas,
a Oide Ionúin?” ar siad.

“Ón ord go dtí an inneoin,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“ ’sé sin le rá, ó Fiodh an Oird *i nOrbhraí*
go dtí Inneoin sna Déise

agus an mhír ó shruthán Thuathchaille
(Gleann Bhríde inniu)

go dtí an áit ina bhfuil sruth na nOithin (?) ag
gabháil faoin ród

agus ag dul trí choill ghlás ghabhlánach
Ghiúsaigh go Colaomh.”

Dil Mór mac Da Creiche: from him is named
Druim nDil as well as the Creacraí throughout
Ireland.

Ceann Mór: from Caire Comáin in Claonloch
na nDéise.

These young men arose then and asked:

“How is the land to be measured, O Beloved
Teacher?”

“From the hammer to the anvil,” said Mogh
Roith,

“that is, from Fiadh an Oird *in Orrery* to
Inneoin in the Déise

and the area from the streams of Tuathchaille
— now called Gleann Bríde

— to the road under which the Oithen stream
(?) flows

through the green branching wood of Giúsach
to Colaomh.”

Section 69

Tancatar rompa siar dhes ocus Muichit i remhthus accu

ocus ro gabh-side claen in tseda focetoir

ar ro faillsigid do cu mad thiar no bhiath a aitreabh iardain.

Ocus tancatar rompa do Bunraidi bud dhes

ocus do Cleitig ocus do Dundailche Finnlethet

ocus do taeibh shlechta an leith sair gu direach

ocus do Glind Brigdi

ocus do Carnd Tigernaigh meic Deghaid.

Ocus ro gabustar Buirech i remtus reampa

ocus gabus cloenad in tseuda focetoir

ar forfidir cumad ris indes no biath clann ocus cined do.

Ocus tancatar rompa co Gluair Fer Muighi Fene

Ghabh na daltaí siar ó dheas ansin agus Muichead chun tosaigh orthu.

Ar dtús, chuaigh sé ar bhealach claon,

mar, foilsíodh dó go seadódh sé san iartha ar ball.

D'imigh rompu ó dheas go Bunraithe

agus go Cleitheach agus go Dúndailche Finnleithead,

go Gleann Bríde

agus go Carn Tighearnaigh mhic Dheaghaidh.

Ghabh Búireach rompu ansin

agus d'imigh seisean sa treo mícheart ar dtús,

mar, foilsíodh dósan go seadódh sé féin agus a chlann sa deisceart.

Shroich siad Gluair Fhearmaí Féine ansin,

The students started out towards the south-west with Muichead leading the way.

At first, he took a false route

for it was revealed to him that his home would henceforth be in the west.

They proceeded southwards to Bunraithe,

to Cleitheach, to Dúndailche Finnleithead,

going directly

to Gleann Bríde

and to Carn Tiarnaigh mhic Dheagha.

Búireach then acted as guide

and he went in the wrong direction at first

for he foresaw that it was in the South that his family and race would settle.

And they arrived at Gluair Fhearmaí Féine

ocus suas do Clugh na Cruithnechta;	ar aghaidh leo go Cloch na Cruithnechta;	and up to Cloch na Cruithnechta;
do Lic Failmir;	go Leac Fhailmhír,	to Leac Fhailmhír;
do Glinn Cusaigi Croilinnche;	go Gleann Cuasaighe Crólinnche,	to Gleann Cuasaighe Crólinnche;
do Bern na nGall ind airter Tailche Aedha,	go Bearna na nGall *lastoir de Thailech Aodha*,	to Bearna na nGall *in the east of Tailech Aodha*;
do Bern Doire Cailli Monad,	go Bearna Doire Caille Móna	to Bearna Doire Caille Móna
risin abar Bern Leachta Ua Setna aniu;	— Bearna Leachta Ua Séadna is ainm don áit sin inniu	which is called Bearna Leachta Ua Séadna today;
do Charn Aedha meic Lidhne;	— go Carn Aodha mhic Líne,	to Carn Aodha mhic Líne;
do Lic Uidhir;	go Leac Uidhir,	to Leac Uidhir;
do Charn Maelglasain;	go Carn Maol Ghlasáin,	to Carn Maol Ghlasáin;
d'Ath Cille Buinden;	*go hÁth Cille Buinden,*	*to Áth Cille Buinden;*
d'Ath da abhunn.	go hÁth dá Abhann.	to Áth dá Abhann.

Section 70

Ocus co Tech Forannain Find doridhisi,

ait i ra bhatar na sloigh ocus Mogh Ruith ara cind.

“In ra crich-sibh sin?” ar se.

“Ra crichsam,” ar siat.

“As doigh lim,” ar se, “ro facetsabair ní dia n-ebert-sa fríbh cin timcheallad,
ar a luas tancabar”.

“Ní ro facoibh-sium,” ar siat.

“Tuguidh bur mbunna damh”, ar se.

“Doberum”, ar siat.

Atnaidhit iarum a mbunnu dhó, cunad ann
isbert Mogh Ruith:

I ndeireadh thiar, tháinig siad ar ais go Teach Fhorannáin Fhinn.

Bhí an slua ann agus Mogh Roith i gceannas orthu.

“Ar chríochnaigh sibh bhur saothar?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Chríochnaíomar é,” ar siadsan.

“I mo thuairimse, lig sibh cuid den limistéar a luáigh mé ar lár,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“ós rud é go bhfuil sibh tagtha ar ais chomh luath seo.”

“Níor fhágamar tada ar láir,” a dúirt siad.

“Taispeáin dom boinn bhur gcos,” ar seisean.

“Taispeánfaimid,” ar siad.

Thaispeáin siad a mboinn dó *ansin* agus rinne sé reitric a aithris.

Finally, they arrived back at Teach Fhorannáin Fhinn

where the assembly was being held with Mogh Roith presiding over it.

“Have you completed the task?” *said he.*

“We have,” said they.

“It appears to me,” said he, “that you have omitted some of the area I described,
considering your hasty return.”

“We have omitted nothing,” they said.

“Show me the soles of your feet,” said he.

“We will,” said they.

They presented the soles of their feet to him *then* and Mogh Roith recited a rhetoric.

“Buind fria brath. brigh fria dloimh. cindmheath cath. digla doigh. o brig Uird sair ni chel. co brig mbain. Indeoin aedh. on tsruth thes. dian tuar brig. co sruth tuaidh. sluaigh nar thib. cindbhea dham. fó cach colg. re ndul amach Indeoin ord. Cindbea damh. fho bar sciath. a glinn Brighdi. co hAth Cliach. inarbaid sein. cid na conn. bed fo mblag. for mbia fonn maирг romhuidh. Dil rom ceallt. Cennmhar Muichit. Buirech Bent. or nar cumbrig fria bect. daib bus olc. fia munter. cind bhea damh. toradh tuind. ni bat gluind faenfait buinn”. Buinn.

Section 71

“Cidh rom ba dhamh, a Mhuicit?” ar Mogh Ruith.

“Ro faillsigid dhamh”, ar Muichead,

“comadh rium aniar no biadh mo crich ocus mh’ferann

ocus nír ail dam mu dhiceall fein do dhenamh.

“As fir,” ar Mogh Ruith,

“is and bhias ocus ni bha tusa ros mela”,

ocus asbeart.

“Rae Muchet meic Muichit ní rop é ros mealá.

Terci thiri air ocus imat feagha”.

“Cén díobháil a deineadh dom, a Mhuicheid?”
(?) arsa Mogh Roith.

“Foilsíodh domsa,” arsa Muichead,

“go mbeadh mo chríoch agus m’fhearann
díreach ar aghaidh romham thiар
agus níor mhaith liom failí a dhéanamh air.”

“Is fior,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“is ann a bheidh tú agus ní bheidh rath ró-
mhór ort.”

Leis sin, rinne sé rann a aithris:

“Críoch Mhuicheid mhic Mhulcheid ní bheidh
an rath uirthi,

teirce thíre agus iomad feá”

“What have you for me (?), O Muichead?”
asked Mogh Roith.

“It was revealed to me,” said Muichead,

“that it was in front of me to the west that my
land and territory would lie,

and I did not wish to treat it with neglect.”

“It is true,” said Mogh Roith,

“that it is there you territory will be and you
will not be over-prosperous.”

With that he recited a verse:

“The territory of Muichead mac Mulcheid, it
will not be over-prosperous;

a shortage of land and an over-supply of
wood.”

“Cidh ram ba dhamh, a Bent?” ar se.

“Mo shenordhacht ocus mu crine,” ar se,
“ucus ní raba a n-aghuid chaich.

Rop sen imshnimh tu go atclainn (?) do gres”

— “Cidh ram ba dam, a Bhairech?”, ar se.

“Ra faillsigid dam

cu mad isin crich rat caighius imad-sa do biath
clann ocus cinedh dhamh.

“Robiatha a Bhuirech . . .

ni radhbiathat uille caich anis ocus anuas ort,

ocus ni dech tar teinidh gu leth do shil do
gres.”

— “Cidh rom ba dhamh, a Cennmair?”

“Cén díobháil a deineadh dom (?), a Bheaint?”
arsa Mogh Roith.

“Táim sean agus críonna,” ar seisean, “agus ní
maith liom a bheith in aghaidh cách”

“Cén díobháil a deineadh dom (?), a
Bhúirigh?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Foilsíodh dom,” arsa Búireach,

“go mbeadh mo chlann agus mo chine
seadaithe i gcrióch a bheadh cairdiúil (?) duit.”

“Is san áit sin a bheidh siad, a Bhúirigh,” arsa
Mogh Roith,

“ní beidh lámh gach duine aníos agus anuas
ort

agus ní rachaidh do shíol thar tine do leith (?)
go brách”.

“Cén díobháil a deineadh dom, a Chinn
Mhóir?” (?) arsa Mogh Roith.

“What have you for me (?), O Beant?” asked
Mogh Roith.

“I am old and weary,” said he, “I will not be
against everyone”

“What have you for me (?), O Búireach?”
asked Mogh Roith.

“It was revealed to me,” said Búireach,

“that it would be in an area where there was
great respect for you (?) that my family and
land would be.”

“That is where it will be, O Búireach,” said
Mogh Roith.

“Everybody’s arm will not be against you

and your descendants will never go over a fire
and a half (?)”

“What have you for me (?), O Ceann Mór?”
asked Mogh Roith.

“Ro faillsigid dhamh,” ar se,

“cu mad frium aniar no biath crich ocus feran
damh

ocus nir ail dam cumhcugud fair.”

“Rop cumhang crich ocus ferann do shil do
gres,” ar se,

“rob slat acair do slat ocus t’fuadach do gres.”

“Cidh ram ba damh, a Dil?” ar se.

“Immon cedna,” ar Dil.

“Ni rab tarba h’feruinn duib,” ar se,

“acht h’ainm ar ein crich nama,

ocus do shil fo Eirinn iarum sin .i.
Creacraidi,

ocus ni rab nidh fogabhtar sin in gach inad hi
cirbrech a n-aitreabu,

“Foilsíodh dom,” arsa Ceann Mór,

“go mbeadh mo chríoch agus m’fhearrann san
iarthar

agus ní raibh fonn orm é a chungú.”

“Go raibh do chríoch agus d’fhearrann go tearc
i gcónaí,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“agus go raibh slat an fhóréigin agus an
fhuadaigh anuas ort de shíor.”

“Cén díobháil a deineadh dom (?), a Dil?”
arsa Mogh Roith.

“An rud céanna, a bheag nó a mhór,” arsa Dil.

“Ní dhéanfaidh d’fhearrann aon tairbhe duit,”
arsa Mogh Roith,

“ach beidh d’ainm ar aon chríoch amháin

agus do shíol ar fud Éireann *iarsin*, ’sé sin le
rá Creacraighe

— agus ní bheidh rud ar bith le fáil ina n-
áitribh ag sladaithe

“It was revealed to me,” said Ceann Mór,

“that my land and territory would lie to the
west

and I did not wish to confine it.”

“May the land and territory belonging to your
descendants be always scanty, said Mogh
Roith,

“and may the rod of oppression and flight
follow you always.”

“What have you for me (?), O Dil?” asked
Mogh Roith.

“The same, more or less,” said Dil.

“You land will be of no profit to you,” said
Mogh Roith,

“but your name will be given to one area

and afterwards, your descendants — the
Creachraí — will spread throughout Ireland,

and nothing will be found in plundering their
houses

innas cach inad aili a nEirinn.

nach mbeadh le fáil acu in áit ar bith (?) eile
...”

that wouldn't be found in any other place (?)
in the country”

Tothucht na crich moire adubartus bid ar in
crich sea

ocus ni bia a n-imarcadh impaib

ocus gu mbia a longport tri la ocus tri hoigthi
is na Deisibh

ni bhiad a n-imarcadh inntib acht []

ocus co lann imarcadh acu-san on a Deisibh.

Ocus bid ris in bhfhounn-soin saimhealtar gach
fonn maith a nEirinn”.

Is annsin ro athnaisc-sium forra a choraibh.

Ansin, nasc Mogh Roith ar an gconradh iad.

It was then that Mogh Roith bound them
formally to their contracts.

Section 72

Ocus ro choimheirigset rompa co sleibh Cind
Claire

D'imigh siad leo ansin go sliabh Cheann
Chláire

Mogh Roith led them up the mountain of
Ceann Cláire

airm i mbui Fiacha co bhferuibh Muman.

áit ina raibh Fiacha agus Fir Mhumhan
bailithe le chéile.

to where Fiacha and the Men of Munster were
assembled.

Ro choimeirigset fir Muman um Fiachaigh
d'ferthuin failte ra Mogh Ruith

ocus tucsat uili cennacht ocus loighidheacht
do

ocus ro raidset gu comhallfatais in cennacht
ocus in loighidheacht-sin

“ra a shil ocus ra sheimedh ó ar macuib-ne
ocus ó ar n-uaib”.

“Ocus caidhi do ragha tochmuirce?” ar siat.

“Eimhne, ingen Aenghasa Tirig,” ar se “dalta
Mhogha Corb.”

Ocus is uaiti ainmniter Cul Emhne aniu.

“Ocus da mad fherr le mu mac-sa .i. Buan,
rofhaiedh lais.”

Do cuiredh a rogha na h-ingine-sin ocus as e
rogha ruc sí:

D’éirigh siad uile ina seasamh roimh Mhogh
Roith agus fearadh fáilte roimhe.

Ghlac siad leis an gconradh agus leis an
tuarastal a bhí uaidh

agus gheall siad dó na coinníollacha a
chomhlíonadh

agus “go ndéanfadh a síol agus a mic agus a n-
óí mar an gcéanna.”

“Cé atá ag teastáil uait mar leannán luí?” ar
siad.

“Roghnaím Eimhne, iníon Aonghusa Thírich,
dalta Mogh Corb, mar leannán luí dom,” arsa
Mogh Roith.

Is uaithise a ainmnítar Cúil Eimhne sa lá atá
inniu ann.

“Más fearr léi mo mhac Buan ná mé féin.”
arsa Mogh Roith, “is féidir léi feis leisean.”

Tugadh an rogha don ainnir agus is í seo an
rogha a rinne sí:

All arose and welcomed Mogh Roith

and they all accorded him the command and
the fee he demanded

and they promised to fulfil these obligations

in the case of his descendants as well —
“with gentleness by our own sons and
grandsons”.

“And who is it you choose as your fiancée?”
said they to Mogh Roith.

“I choose Eimhne, daughter of Aonghus,
Mogh Corb’s student,” said he.

It is from her that Cúil Eimhne gets its name.

“If she prefers my son, Buan, she may sleep
with him,” said Mogh Roith.

A choice was given to the girl then, and her
choice was this:

“In ti is tuaithi [leg. tuai[chle]]

ocus riaruighit fir Muman

ocus dobheir shochur do cach

is lais fhaifet-sa”.

Ra athnaiscset na cuir ann sin ra gach ní
arcena.

“An duine is críonna

agus an duine a bhfuil smacht aige ar Fhir
Mhumhan

agus an duine a thabharfaidh dídean do chách

— sin é an fear a luífidh mise leis,” ar sí.

Ansin, rinne siad réiteach an chonartha a chur
chun críche.

“The man who is the most wise

and who is most capable of controlling the
Men of Munster

and who will provide security for all

— that is the man I will sleep with,” said she.

With that, they bound themselves by contract
to all that had been previously arranged.

Section 73

O thairnic sin ro choimheirighset fir Muman
uili

co hait a raibi Mogh Ruith ocus na maithi-sin.

“Masa mithid libh-si,” ar se, “bhur foiridhin
innosa

abraid ga foiritin raghus foruib do na
heicendaluib a taithe?”

“An t-uisci tra,” ar siat.

Tháinig Fir Mhumhan go léir le chéile iarsin,

san áit ina raibh Mogh Roith agus na huaisle.

“Másanois an t-am chun cabhrú libh,” arsa
Mogh Roith,

“inis dom cad tá ag teastáil uaibh chun sibh a
fhuascailt ón éigeandáil?”

“Tabhair uisce dúinn, *go deimhin,*” ar siad.

After that, all the Men of Munster came
together

to the place where Mogh Roith and the nobles
were assembled.

“If the time has come for me to help you,”
said Mogh Roith,

“tell me what is it you want done to deliver
you from your difficulties?”

“Give us water, *indeed,*” said they.

“Caidhi Cennmar innosa?” ar Mogh Ruith.

“Ata sunn,” ar Cennmar.

“Domroicheat mu shleatha draidhechta uait.”

Tugadh do

ocus faluigset ind aier ocus ind fhirmamint
ocus faca neach gur toirinn ibfaired a
troigeadh.

“Caide Ceannmhar?”

“Sunn”, ar Cennmhar.

“Tabuich,” ar se, “in baile . . . dtí rinn na
slighi.”

“Loighidhecht dam?” ar Cennmar

“H’ainm for in sruth”, ar Mogh Ruith;
gabus araill oc tabuch in talman ocus oc
iaraidh an uiscáil

“Cá bhfuil Ceann Mór *anois*?” arsa Mogh
Roith.

“Táim anseo,” ar seisean.

“Tabhair mo shleá dhraíochta dom,” arsa
Mogh Roith.

Tugadh dó í.

(Chaith Mogh Roith an tsleá suas sa spéir
agus san áit inar thuirling sí bhrúcht tobar
fioruisce amach.)

“Cá bhfuil Ceann Mór?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Táim anseo,” arsa Ceann Mór.

“Cuardaigh an áit inar imigh rinn na sleá
isteach sa talamh,” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Cén tairbhe dom é?” arsa Ceann Mór.

“Beidh d’ainm ar an sruthán ann,” a dúirt
Mogh Roith leis.

D’imigh Ceann Mór ansin chun an talamh a
chuardach *agus chun an t-uisce a aimsiú*

“Where is Ceann Mór *now*?” asked Mogh
Roith

“I am here,” said he.

“Get me my magic spear,” said Mogh Roith.

It was brought to him.

(Mogh Roith cast the spear into the air

and a well sprang up in the place where the
spear fell.)

“Where is Ceann Mór?” asked Mogh Roith.

“I am here,” said Ceann Mór.

“Search for the place where the point of the
spear entered the earth,” said Mogh Roith.

“What recompense will I get for this?” asked
Ceann Mór.

“The stream will be named after you,” said
Mogh Roith.

Ceann Mór went off then to examine the earth
and to find the water

ocus do radh Mogh Ruith in rethorec oc
iaraidh ind usci bes .i.

“Aliu srut sainemhail.
snaei deoga de ailibh.
aliu sribh shomblasta.
Siar tuaid imne.
aliu es fuaraidi.
usci treall.
na traigh na taircebhу.
co bethne blann,
blaiseat na haigme.
ra heachtuibh ord.
blaisedh an Muilleathan.
blaisedh Mogh Corb.
blaiseat na hechrada.
ra cairptibh clis.
blaisedh Luat tren.
blaisedh Loth Lis.
blaiseat in Mhairtine.
blaisedh in mal.
blaiseat in Dergthine.
deogha dia al”.

agus fad a bhí sé ag lorg an uisce rinne Mogh
Roith reitric a aithris:

“Áilim sruth sainiúil,
sníonn deochanna ó aillte,
sruth sobhlasta
siar ó thuaidh;
áilim eas fuer,

blaiseadh an Moilleathan (Fiacha) é,
blaiseadh Mogh Corb é,
blaiseadh an t-eachra é,

blaiseadh Luath Tréan é,
blaiseadh Luath Lis é,
blaiseadh an Mhairtine é,
blaiseadh an mál é,
blaiseadh an Deargthine é.”

Aliu

and Mogh Roith recited this rhetoric while the
water was being sought:

“I invoke a special stream,
drops seep through rocks;
a stream of pleasant taste
to the north-east.
I invoke a cool waterfall

let (Fiacha) Moilleathan taste it,
let Mogh Corb taste it,
let the horses taste it,

let Luath Tréan taste it,
let Luath Lis taste it,
let the Clan Martine taste it,
let the prince taste it,
let the Deargthine taste it.”

Section 74

Intan tairnic sin is and ro mhebaidh
comhdaingne talman don uisci;

robu mhor a fhuaim ocus rob opair do cac uili
an imdhiten ar an uisci.

Ocus adubairt Cennmhar ac forcloistin an
uisci ria siu atcuala cach a fhuaim .i.

“Sithal lan.
sithal shlan.
luigsim fein
ra cach mal.
sithal shuain.
sithal shamh.
berur uaib.
do chinn shluaig.
d’Fiachaigh mal.
Sithal glain.
sithal gart.
um righ mborb.
sithal shlan.
sithal shuain.
berur uaibh.
do Mhogh Corb.
sithal aircit
ocus oir

Lena linn sin, bhris oscailt sa talamh agus
thosaigh an t-uisce ag brúchtadh amach.

Ba mhór a fhuaim agus bhí ar gach duine é
fín a chosaint ón ruathar.

Chuala Ceann Mór fuaim an uisce roimh an
gcuid eile den slua agus rinne sé dán:

“Síothal lán
síothal slán
geallaim féin
do gach flaith.
Síothal suain
síothal síamhe
beirtear uaibh
chuig ceannairí an tslua,
chuig Fiacha — an flaith;
síothal ghlan
síothal gharta
do rí borb;
síothal slán,
síothal suain
beirtear uaibh
do Mhogh Corb.
Síothal airgid
agus óir

When he had completed this the solidity of the
earth was fractured by the onrush of water.

The noise was great and everyone was forced
to protect themselves from the eruption.

Ceann Mór had heard the sound of the water
erupting ahead of the others and he recited the
rhetoric:

“A full vessel, (of water)
a health vessel,
I myself promise
to every prince.
A vessel of rest,
a vessel of contentment
let it be taken by you
to chiefs of the company,
to Fiacha the prince,
a pure vessel,
a generous vessel,
for a rude king
a vessel of health,
a vessel of rest,
let it be taken by you
to Mogh Corb.
A vessel of silver,
and of gold,

ocus cruain.
Sithal shigh
ocus righ
ocus ruain.
lutar lib
ocus uaibh
do Mhogh Ruith.
is d'Fir Chorb.
is do Buan.
ludsat fein.
fект fo tri.
ra fecht fath.
bect for righ.
baidhfe tart.
beofaid brigh.
foirfhidh cact.
soifidh sith".

agus cruain;
síothal síthe,
síothal rí
síothal laoich.
Lúcháir oraibh
agus uaibh
ar Mhogh Roith
is ar Fhir Chorb
is ar Bhuan
is orm féin
faoi thrí;

beofaidh brí,
fillfidh síth."

Sithal.

and of enamel.
A vessel of peace (?)
and of a king,
and of a champion (?)
Joy to you,
and from you
to Mogh Roith
and the Men of Corb
and to Buan
rejoice yourself (?)
three times

strength will revive,
it will bring back peace."

Section 75

O thairnic dona maithibh a ol do rer tidhnacuil
in druadh,

is ann adubairt Mogh Ruith:

"ibhidh sút", ar se,

"co tuca

Nuair a bhí an t-uisce a sholáthair an draoi ólta
ag na huaisle,

dúirt Mogh Roith leo:

"Ólaigí suas é sin," ar seisean,

"chun

When the nobles had finished drinking the
water the druid had procured for them,

Mogh Roith said to them:

"Drink up that," said he,

"to get back

lúth ocus lathar	bhur neart agus bhur mbrí,	your strength and energy,
ocus lancoibledh gail ocus gach nert ocus tract	bhur ngal agus bhur ngaisce	your warlike vigour and your power
ocus enech	agus bhur maorgacht	and dignity."
dhaibh."	a fháil ar ais arís."	
Dos rala cum an uisci iarum an a mbuidhnibh ocus an a ndrechtaibh	Dáileadh amach an t-uisce orthu *ansin* i ndiaidh a chéile	The water was distributed then, group by group,
ocus dos farluicset fair uile eider daine ocus eochu ocus almha gur bat daitinigh;	agus d'ól gach duine agus gach beithíoch a sháith.	until it was received by all, both by men, horses and cattle, until all were satisfied.
ro scailedh iarum int uisci-sin fo chach for amas a muinnteri	Scaoileadh amach an t-uisce ansin i measc na ndaoine go léir	The water was then distributed all about to their people
ocus ro scailedh uaidhibh-sidhe fo glenntaibh ocus aibhnibh ocus tiprataibh in cuicidh	agus isteach i ngleannta agus in aibhneacha agus i dtoibreacra an chúige.	and it was dispersed into the glens, rivers and wells of the province.
ocus ros cuiredh [leg. ro scuiredh] in scithlim draidhechta bai forro dibh	Cuireadh ar ceal ansin an mheirbhe dhraíochta a bhí orthu.	The magic exhaustion which had oppressed them was lifted
ocus ro faillight na h-uscadha do cach fon n- innus-sin.	Ba léir do chách *ag an am sin* go raibh an t- uisce ar ais.	and at this time the return of the water became apparent to all.
Tugait immorro alhai ocus innile in cuicidh cusna uscaibh	Tógadh eallaí go léir an chúige go dtí an t- uisce *ansin*	The herds and cattle of the province were then led to the water
ocus atibhset cur bat dáithinigh.	agus d'ól siad a sáith.	where they drank to their satisfaction.

Section 76

Ro curset fir Muman iarum iluch
commaidhmhe.

Ocus ro clos gu longport Cormaic sin.

Ocua docuas o feruibh Muman da innisi do
Chormac

ocus do neamchomall na cana

ocus d'fhuagra in eisidha.

Ro ghabh grain ocus omhon Leth Cuinn um
Chormac annsin

ocus ro crithnighset

ocus ro ghabh a n-airi cur fhir a ndobratar a
ndraidhe fein riu,

oc tairmeasc a sloighidh impaibh.

“Datrae bendacht, a Mhogh Ruith”, ar fir
Muman,

“ocus in cutraime ro gealladh duit, bera uile
gen gu tugtha dhuín d'foiridin,

Thóg Fir Mhumhan gáir chatha ansin

agus chualathas í i longfort Chormaic.

Cuireadh teachtairí *ó Fhir na Mumhan*
chuig Cormac á rá

nach ndíolfaidís na cánacha

agus go raibh an sos cogaidh curtha ar ceal.

Rug gráin agus uamhan ar shlua Leath Choinn
um Chormac ansin

agus do chrith siad

nuair a chuir siad san áireamh an méid a dúirt
a ndraoithe féin leo

nuair a chuir siad i gcoinne an tslógaidh i dtús
báire.

“Beannacht ort, a Mhogh Roith,” arsa Fir
Mhumhan,

“thabharfaí do thuarastal *a gealladh* duit de
bharr an ruda seo amháin

The Men of Munster then raised a battlecry

and it was heard in Cormac's camp.

Messengers were sent from the Munstermen to
inform Cormac

that the tax would not be paid

and to renounce the truce.

Then Cormac and the men of Leath Choinn
were seized with hatred and horror

and they trembled

as they took into consideration what their own
druids had said to them

when they opposed setting out on the
expedition.

“A blessing on you, O Mogh Roith,” said the
Men of Munster,

“the recompense that was promised you would
be given for this one thing alone

acht int usca nama”.

— “Nuchon air ata m’incesact eiter, ar bur foiridin.

Acht is mo adaghar a neamhchomall rem clannuib ocus rem chinedh dar mh’eisi in tsochuir doratabair-si dhamh.”

Tucsat-som uili a mbennachta da gac aen do comaillfedh

ocus tuc Mogh Corb ocus Donn Dáirine ocus na cuir ar cena.

— an t-uisce a thabhairt ar ais dúinn.”

“Ní hé go bhfuil brón orm in aon chor toisc gur chabhraig mé libh,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“ach tá imní orm nach gcomhlíonfar an conradh le mo chlann agus le mo chine i mo dhiaidh.”

Chuir Fir Mhumhan *uile* a mbeannacht ar chách a ghlaicfadh leis na coinníollacha

agus rinne Mogh Corb agus Donn Dáirine agus na hurraithe an rud céanna.

— giving us water.”

“It is not that I begrudge helping you,” said Mogh Roith,

“but what I greatly fear is that after my time the contract made with me will not be fulfilled in the case of my family and race.”

All of them gave their blessing to everyone who would abide by the conditions.

Mogh Corb, Donn Dáirine and the guarantors did the same.

Section 77

Ro fiafruigh Mogh Ruith arnamharach:

“Ga cabhuir is fearr libh raghus duibh innosa?”

“An cnoc do thairnium”, ar siat,

“ár is mor in muich ocus in phlaíd dhun

ar námaid do beith uas ar cinn i n-ardcnoc druidhechta

Maidin lá arna mhárrach d’fhiabraigh Mogh Roith diobh:

“Cén chabhair is fearr libh uaim inniu?”

“An cnoc a ísliú,” ar siad,

“mar is mórr an núis agus an phlá dúinn

ár naimhde a bheith os ár gcionn ar chnoc siabhránta

Next morning, Mogh Roith asked them:

“What kind of help would you prefer me to give you today?”

“To lower the hill,” said they,

“for it is a great nuisance and a plague to us

to have our enemies away above our heads on an enchanted hill

ocus sinn fein i bhfan,

ocus conad [leg. conid] radarc dhun a bhfhegad uain suas ar airdi.”

“Tabhur mh’agaidh risin cnoc,” ar Mogh Ruith;

ocus tugadh on co hinilldireac.

Ocus o thugad dochoid-sium i muinighin a dhea ocus a cumhactha

ocus ro aidhbligh he fein cu nar bhó nemhairdi he anas in cnoc,

ocus ro mheduigh a chenn co mba meidether re hardchnoc ara mbiath daire cailli moire,

gur ghabhustar uamon cid a muinter fein roime.

agus sinn féin a bheith thíos anseo *le fána*

ag féachaint aníos orthu.”

“Iompaigh m’aghaidh i dtreo an chnoic,” arsa Mogh Roith.

Deineadh é sin lom láithreach.

Ansin, chuaigh Mogh Roith i muinín a dhé agus a chumhactha

agus mhéadaigh sé é féin go dtí go raibh sé chomh hard leis an gcnoc féin.

Mhéadaigh sé é féin níos mó ná sin, fiú, agus sa deireadh bhí a cheann chomh mór le cnoc ard agus crainn darach ag fás air.

Um an dtaca seo tháinig eagla agus uamhan fiú amháin ar a mhuintir féin roimhe.

while we ourselves are down here on the slope

and we are unable to see them except by looking upwards.”

“Turn my face to the hill,” said Mogh Roith.

This was done immediately.

Then Mogh Roith concentrated on his god and his power

and he enlarged himself until he was no less high than the hill itself.

He further enlarged his head until it was as big as a high hill crowned with a large oak forest.

At this point even his own people became terrified of him.

Section 78

Is andsin doroacht comalta dho-som cuigi

.i. Gadhra a Druim meic Criadhnaidhi,
mac derbhshethar Ban Buanaindi, bandrai
ingine Deirg Dualaigh;

d'furtacht ocus d'foridin do Mogh Ruith
táinic.

Ocus ba soidhealbha i lleth ra Mogh Ruith do
bhí a dhealbh in la-sin, ocus ra feruibh Muman
ar cena.

Ba heitigh aineachtac a dealbh ocus a ecosc i
lleth ra Cormac cona sluagaibh

.i. iss é garbh giusaidhi ocus méidether
rightech a chenn,

meidether righchaire ceachtur a dha shul ria a
cenn aneachtair,

a gluine na deagaid ocus a escudu reme.

Is ansin a tháinig a chomhalta chuige

— Gadhra, ó Dhroim mhic Chrianaí.

Mac le deirfiúr Bhanbhuaná *bandraoi*

iníon le Deargdhualach ba ea é.

Tháinig seisean chun lámh chúnta a thabhairt
do Mhogh Roith.

An lá sin, b'álainn a chruth do Mhogh Roith
agus d'Fhir Mhumhan.

Ar an taobh eile den scéal, áfach, b'uafásach
agus b'arrachtach a chruth do Chormac agus
dá shlua

agus é chomh garbh le crann giúise agus
chomh hard le teach rí.

Bhí an chuma sin air go raibh a shúile chomh
mór le coire ríoga.

Bhí a ghlúine taobh thiar de agus a ioscaidí
chun tosaigh.

It was then that a comrade of his arrived

— Gadhra, from Droim mhic Chrianaí.

He was the son of the sister of Banbhuaná
the druidess,

the daughter of Deargdhulach.

It was for the purpose of helping and assisting
Mogh Roith that he had come.

On that day, his appearance was beautiful as
he presented himself to Mogh Roith and the
Men of Munster.

On the other hand, to Cormac and to his army
his appearance seemed monstrous and ugly,

he appeared to be as rough as a pine tree, and
as tall as a king's house.

Each of his eyes appeared as large as a royal
cauldron above his head.

His knees were behind him and the backs of
his knees in front.

Gabhullorg iarnd mhór na laim.

Araid odhur ghlás imbe

guna lan do chongaib ocus do chnámaib ocus
d'adharcaibh,

boc ocus reithe na leanmain

gu ngabhudh crith ocus omhon gach nech
atceth fon n-ecasc sin.

Ocus ro fiafruigh Mogh Ruith de:

“Cidh ima tainic?”

“Tanac”, ar se, “do thabairt creath ocus
uamhain for na slogaibh

ocus do tabairt neirt mhna siuil in cech fhir
dhibh re huair catha ocus comhluind.”

Ocus do riacht roimhe fon ecusc-sin co Druim
nDamgaire

ocus tainic fo tri a timcheall in chnuic

ocus a tri bodharbheicedha ass

Bhí gabhal-lorga mhór iarainn aige ina láimh.

Bhí brat odhar-ghlas uime

agus é lán d'ingne agus de chnámha agus
d'adharca.

Poc agus reithe á leanúint timpeall na háite

agus critheagla agus uamhan á gcur aige ar
gach duine *a chonaic é sa riocht sin*.

Chuir Mogh Roith ceist air:

“Cad is cúis le do theacht?” ar sé.

“Tháinig me,” arsa Gadhra, “chun critheagla
agus uamhan a chur ar an slua

agus chun neart mná i leaba luí seoil a
thabhairt do gach fear dióbh le linn catha agus
comhlainn.”

D'imigh Gadhra ar aghaidh ansin sa riocht seo
go Droim Dámhgháire

agus rinne sé an cnoc a thimpeallú trí huaire

agus lig se trí bhodharbhéic as.

He carried a large iron fork in his hand.

He wore grey-brown mantle around him,

hung about with talons, bones and horns.

A buck goat and a ram followed him about

and all who saw him in this guise were seized
with fear and trembling.

Mogh Roith asked him:

“Why have you come?”

“I came,” said he, “to make the troops tremble
with horror

and to make sure that at the hour of battle their
strength would be no greater than that of a
woman in labour.”

Gadhra proceeded forward in this guise to
Droim Dámhgháire

and he made a circuit of the hill three times.

Three times also, he uttered a deafening roar.

ocus ro thaispenustar doib he fon n-innus-sin
gur ghabh grain ocus omhun uili iat,
co rucastar leath luidh ocus
lanchoibhliadh o gach fhir dhibh.

Ba uamhnach an radharc é sa riocht sin.
*Rug gráin agus uamhan orthu uile
agus bhain sé leath a misnígh agus lán a
laochais de gach fear diobh.*

He was a terrifying sight *in this guise*.
*They were all filled with horror and terror,
and he deprived all their warriors of
half of their courage and all of their military
prowess.*

Section 79

Ros facuibh fon n-innus-sin

D'fhág sé slua Chormaic ansiúd ansin agus
drochbhail orthu.

He left them in this state

ocus tainic roime cu h-airm a mbai Mogh
Ruith.

Tháinig sé ar ais chuig Mogh Roith

and came to where Mogh Roith was.

Ocus ro bai Mogh Ruith ica fhiafraigidh dhe in
nderna na tosca risi tainic,

agus d'fhiadraigh Mogh Roith de *an raibh
gach rud déanta aige a bhí leagtha amach aige
le déanamh

Mogh Roith asked him if he had done what he
had set out to do

ocus ica fhiafraigidh dhe beos cinnus
toethsaitis na slóigh,

agus d'fhiadraigh sé fós* ar claíodh iad

and also enquired if Cormac's men had
succumbed

in a n-aenuibh

ina nduine agus ina nduine

one by one,

nó n-a ndrechtaibh

nó i ndréachtaí

or in groups

no n-a bhfhichtibh,

nó ingrúpaí d'fhiche duine

or in twenties

nó n-a cedaibh.

Ocus adbert Mogh Ruith tosach na laidi ocus
do freagair Gadhra:

nó i ngrúpaí de chéad duine.

Rinne Mogh Roith an chéad chuid de dhán a
reacaireacht agus thug Gadhra freagra air.

(Is é an rud atá sa dán ná an méid atá ráite
cheana féin sa phrós.)

or in hundreds.

Mogh Roith recited the first part of a poem
and Gadhra answered him.

(The poem repeats what has already been said
in prose.)

[M. R.]

“Cidh dia tanaic, a Ghadra?
In re dogra brigh mbechta?”

[G.]

“Do tabairt creatha is uamain;
sunn ar sluaghreibh na h-echtra”.

[M. R.]

“Innis duin do gnim gaili-
in ba gaire gnim Cormaic?”

[G.]

“Beicfid, buirfid re deogail-
beit ar seolaib slóigh Cormaic”

[M. R.]

“In ba i n-aenuibh no i ndeduib,
no n-a ndrechtaibh ro didbuid”

[G.]

“Bid i n-aenuib ’s a ndeduib-
taethsat siritiu siabhraid”

[M. R.]

“In ba i fichtibh no a cedaibh-
no n-a drechtaibh ra tuirim?”

[G.]

“I bhfichtib ced is dreachtaibh-
toethsat clann Chuinn na curad”.

[M. R.]

“Cidh na marbha na sluagha-
is na tuadha ro thinol?”

[G.]

“Ni leicen dano be bannba [leg. be Bannba]-
snifes a tharbha cidh on”.

Cidh.

Section 80

Do bhatar annsin andis [leg. a ndis] oc
furnaimh in catha

ocus Gadhra n-a ecosc feín.

Ocus gabhus Mogh Ruith for seidedh in cnuic,

D’han an bheirt acu ansiúd agus ullmhú don
chath á dhéanamh acu.

Bhí Gadhra ina riocht féin um an dtaca seo.

Ghabh Mogh Roith ar analú i gcoinne an
chnoic ansin.

D’éisigh anfa chomh fiochmhar sin dá bharr

Both of them remained there making
preparations for the battle

and Gadhra had now assumed his own proper
form.

Mogh Roith began to breathe against the hill

ocus ni fhetad fer do Leith Cuind bheith i n-a bhoith

ar mhet na h-ainbhthine

ocus ní fletatar an draithi [*leg.* a ndraithi]
canas tainigh dhoibh ind ainbthine.

Gabhustar Mogh Ruith amlaid-sin for seitedh
in cnuic

ocus ro raid na briathra-so:

“Soeim atsoeim muna soeim dluma doirche. soeim bricht. soeim brechta, soeim dechtha doilbhthe. Soeim ard. Soeim adhbul. Soeim gac adberaidh. Soeim tulach do thulaigh comdar tubhaidh for traigh. traethfat-sa cnoc ceann a cenn. comben-sa fria athuinn. Soeim gac nadbul as. soeim gach at tar ais ibhfiche eo. ibfichi sceo danum dur. Danum danum neim im nert ua Cuinn cur. Colptha Lurga luath gun behat san ath. Ergha Eng is Engain no chu cengair cach. bidh cruibhleacht ar cruibh. Creaman nadan lat. bidh fidhlann ar cnoc bidh arait ar at. Cein chomhaillfet frium clanna Eogain ain. Bidh doibh in maith moir biaidh in fhlaith na laim. Da ndiultat rem cloind. Cinedh Fiachach feart biaidh a ndine an-ulc cin righe cin reacht. Cinfidh o Mogh Corb. cuaine raith fria a re. righfaid is as recht. a secht mba se. Seidim-si druim ndamh. seidis gaeis liagh gom. seidis gaba gual. seidis neimh uar omh. ni rob inann sin. Seidis banfaibh bruth. acht rob inann sodh. soéis resin onsrraith. imroacht in drai. im dechad-sa. imdechad-sa uadh leacais comblicht cnoc. Simon consoeias”.

Section 81

Do cuaidh tra an cnoc ar neicfni

n-a dlumuibh dubhai ocus n-a choire chiach

nach raibh oiread agus fear amháin *ó Leath Choinn* in ann fanacht taobh istigh dá phuball

le neart na gaoithe.

Ní raibh a fhios ag draoithe Chormaic, áfach,
cad ba chúis leis an stoirm.

Lean Mogh Roith ar aghaidh leis an séideadh i
gcoinne an chnoic

agus giota reitriče á reacaireacht aige.

and no man of Leath Choinn was able to
remain in his tent

due to the force of the wind that arose.

Cormac's druids, however, did not know the
origin of the storm.

Mogh Roith continued to blow against the hill

as he recited a piece of rhetoric.

The hill *then* disappeared from view,

covered in a dark cloud and a misty whirlpool.

gumba lor dh'uathbhas d'oes-midhbadh

gair in tsloigh

ocus tairmgrith na n-ech ocus na carpat

ocus briscbruar na n-arm oc beim in cnuic ra a
bunad.

Sochaide tra don tshluagh ro fhacuib i
croilighi mbais

ocus ra fabhuit uile fa choir dubhaighi ocus
droichmenman.

Ro ba maidhium la fira Muman sin

ocus ro cuirset ilaich commaidme ocus ro bo
buadhugad mor leo.

Cidh tra in forbhfailtius ocus in t-aineas

ro fhuair in sluag thuaidh roime-sin,

tainic ar in sluag fo dhes.

An bron immorro ocus in dogaillsi

ro bui ar in sluag thes roime-sin

Ghabh eagla agus uamhan sluaite an namhad

ar chloisteáil gártha shlua Fhiacha dóibh,
torann na n-each agus na gcarbad

agus clonscairt chlainhte ar bhun an chnoic.

Bhí saigheada an bháis á bhfulaingt *ansin*
ag cuid d'arm Chormaic

agus chuir casadh na taoide seo
drochmheanma agus scéin iontu.

Chuir an cor seo sa saol, áfach, gliondar ar
Fhir Mhumhan

agus thóg siad gáir chatha chun a meidhir a
chur in iúl.

Ghlac an bhrí agus an ghal

a bhí in arm Leath Choinn *roimhe sin*

seilbh ar shlua na Mumhan *ansin*

agus thit *an brón agus* an drochmheanma

a bhí i sluá an deiscirt *roimhe sin*

The enemy ranks were filled with fear

at the cries of Fiacha's troops,
the tumult of horses and chariots

and the clashing of arms against the
foundations of the hill.

A part of Cormac's army were *then*
suffering the pangs of death

and the onslaught left them all in a state
bordering on despair.

This turn of events delighted the Men of
Munster

and they gave a great shout of exultation to
express their joy.

The enthusiasm and delight

that once possessed the army of the north

now possessed the army of the south.

The sorrow and despair

that had afflicted the company of the south

do dechaid ar in sluag budh thuaid.

Batar amhlaidh-sin co madain.

ar shlua an tuaiscirt *ansin*.

B'shin é mar a d'fhan cúrsaí go maidin.

now afflicted the company of the north.

That is how matters remained until morning.

Section 82

Ro rathaigh Leth Chuind annsaidhe sodh a dana forro.

Ocus ro ghabh Cormac occ eiliugud n andruagh [/*eg.* na ndruagh] ro bhatar aigi fein.

Is annsin ro eirigh Colptha ra h-imnaire an chairighthi thuc Cormac fair

ocus ro ghabhustar a sciath dubh duaibhseach

for a cliu i ra bhutar se fichit fertraigh cona bille iaruind n-a timcheal

ocus a clairebh trom tortbhuilleach

a ndeaid tricha caor comdlutta

ocus a dha shleagh dhubha dhethaighi dhuabhsacha n-a laimh.

D'airigh slua Leath Choinn *ansin* gur casadh a ndraíocht agus a ngintlíocht orthu féin

agus thosaigh Cormac ar an milleán a chur ar a dhraoithe féin.

Leis sin, d'éirigh Colpa ina sheasamh agus náire air mar gheall ar achasáin Chormaic.

Thóg sé a sciath dhubbh dhuabhsach

ina láimh chlé. Sheas an sciath sin caoga troigh ar airde agus bhí imeall iarainn aici.

Thóg sé ina láimh a chláiomh trom tortbhuilleach

ina raibh tríocha caor *comhdhlúthá* miotail,

chomh maith lena dhá shleá *dhubbha* uamhnacha.

The men of Leath Choinn now felt that their magic arts had been turned against them

and Cormac began to put the blame on his own druids.

Thereupon Colpa got up, full of shame at the accusations Cormac had levelled at him.

He took his black gloomy shield

which stood fifty feet high, with a rim of iron about it, on his left arm.

He took in his hands his heavy, hard-smiting sword

in which there were embossed thirty *compact* metal balls,

as well as his two *black* straight fearsome spears.

Ocus do chuaidh fein a ndeilb bhuirb brogda
bachlachdha

i ra butar da fhichit dec traighedh ar airdi
gan imtoicheall airium na etuigh acht sin.

Tainic tra Cairpre Lifacair dia laidhiud

ocus tancatar rompa siardes as an longphort i
freacar in comlained.

Chuaigh sé féin i ndeilbh bhorb bhroghach,
bhachallach,

240 troigh ar airde

gan a chuid éadaigh a chur san áireamh.

D'imigh Cairbre Lifeachair in éineacht leis
ansin mar spreagaire

agus thiomáin siad leo siar ó dheas chun an
chatha.

He then assumed a rude, horrible, grotesque
shape,

standing 240 feet tall

irrespective of his clothing.

Cairbre Lifeachair came with him *then* as
his inciter

and they made their way south-west out of the
camp to join in battle.

Section 83

O atcondadar fir Muman sin ro raidset ra
Mogh Ruith:

“A fhir shochair ocus shochraite [*leg.*
shochraide],

ata sunn Colptha i freacur in comluinn
feibh as duaibhseaca thainic riam”.

“Cia thic lais?” ar Mogh Ruith.

Nuair a chonaic Fir Mhumhan an méid sin
dúirt siad le Mogh Roith:

“A Fhir shochair,” ar siad,

“seo chugainn Colpa agus é réidh chun catha
agus cruth chomh harrachtach sin air nár
fhacamar a leithéid riamh.”

“Cé atá in éineacht leis?” arsa Mogh Roith.

When the Men of Munster saw this they said
to Mogh Roith:

“O Venerable Man and Ally,

here is Colpa all ready to give battle

and he comes in as horrible a shape as has
ever been seen.”

“Who is accompanying him?” asked Mogh
Roith.

“Cairpre Liffacair,” ar siat.

“Caidhi Cennmhar inosa?” ar Mogh Ruith.

“Sunn”, ar Cennmhar.

“Eirigh”, ar se,

“onus freitche frithailimh in aithigh ud.”

“A aide inmhain,” ar Cennmhar,

“ra shires-sa in domun tair ocus siu immaille
frit-sa

onus ni ro raidhis-si frim-sa cath na comlunn
riamh.

Ocus dano ci peadh a ndernus ni dernus in
comhlunn aeinfhir,

ci peadh do thincsin do berainn a raen ra cach
a freacor áid nó irghoili.”

“Coiméirigh, arai-sin,” ar Mogh Ruith, “onus
ragat-sa fein lat.”

“Cairpre Lifeachair,” a dúirt siad.

“Cá bhfuil Ceann Mór *anois*?” arsa Mogh
Roith.

“Táim anseo,” arsa Ceann Mór.

“Éirigh, mar sin,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“agus téigh ar ghala aonair leis an mbodach
seo.”

“A oide ionúin,” arsa Ceann Mór,

“Tá an domhan thoir siúlta agam leat

agus níor iarr tú orm riamh anall dul i gcath ná
i gcomhlann.

*Cibé rud a rinne mé, áfach, ní dhearna mé
comhrac aonair riamh.*

Pé scéal é, déanfaidh mé mar is gá *i gcúrsaí
cogaidh agus coimhlinte*.”

“Ar aghaidh linn, mar sin,” arsa Mogh Roith,
“rachaidh mise in éineacht leat.”

“Cairbre Lifeachair,” they answered.

“Where is Ceann Mór now?” asked Mogh
Roith.

“Here,” said Ceann Mór.

“Get up,” said Mogh Roith,

“and give battle to this boor.”

“O beloved teacher,” said Ceann Mór,

“I have travelled in the eastern world and
stayed there with you

and you have never before asked me to engage
in battle or conflict.

And whatever I may have done *, however,* I
have never fought in single combat.

However, in matters of war and conflict I will
undertake whatever offers.”

“Come along then,” said Mogh Roith, “I
myself will accompany you.”

Section 84

Comlais Mogh Ruith co Ráithín animairic
ra h-ath aniar-dhes ocus Cenmhar mailleris
(?) [leg. maille ris]

Ocus is amlaidh thainic Mogh Ruith mar
bhud he fein tísed isin comhlunn,

feibh is ferr thicedh riam

con a sciath ilbreac reltanac fair,

con a bhole findargait uime

ocus claidebh curata i n-ardghabhail for a
cliú

ocus a dha shleig niamdha neimhnaca i
lamhuib leis.

Ocus tainic fon tuarum-sin cona
armghaisced

con eisidh [leg. co n[d]eisidh] i Ráithín ind
imairic re h-áth aniardhes.

D'imigh Mogh Roith ansin go Ráithín an Iomardaigh
ag an áth thiar theas *agus Ceann Mór maille leis*.

Bhí an chuma sin ar Mhogh Roith go gceapfaí go
raibh sé féin réidh chun páirt a ghilcadh sa
chomhrac.

Bhí cruth chomh maith air agus a bhí riamh.

Bhí a sciath bhreac réaltach aige

lena imeall airgid.

Bhí a chlaíomh curata *go hard* ar a chliathán *clé*
aige

agus ina lámha bhí a dhá shleá niamhracha
nimhneacha.

Ba sa riocht míleata sin

a shroich sé Ráithín an Iomardaigh *agus an t-áth
thiar theas*.

Mogh Roith then proceeded to Ráithín an
Iomardaigh and the ford at the south-
western side *and Ceann Mór along with
him*.

It appeared as if Mogh Roith himself
intended to fight.

*His appearance was as good as he had
ever been.*

He carried his speckled starry shield

with its rim of white silver,

his warlike sword hung high on his thigh
at his left side

and in his hands he held his two gleaming
venomous spears.

It was in this manner, equipped with his
military weapons

that he reached <his military weapons that
he reached> Ráithín an Iomardaigh, and
the ford at the south-west.

Cidh tra mar do thocbhadh Cairbre
Lithfacair atuaidh ar aen ra Colptha,

ro thocbad Mog Corb ar aen ra Cennmhar.

Or rob iat-sin a bhfhiadhuise ider thosach
ocus dered cein ro batar oc ferthain a
comluinn

ocus is acu ro bhui fir ocus derb

na moireicenn ro imir cach for a cheli dhibh.

Do ráid Mog Ruith ra Cennmhar:

“Domroiched mo chloch neme ocus mu lia
laime

ocus mo comlunn cet ocus mo dhithdergad
ar mo naimdiu”;

ocus tucad do ocus ro boi ica molad

ocus ic cor breachta neme inti

Ag an tráth céanna, tháinig Colpa agus Cairbre
Lifeachair an tslí aduaidh.

Tháinig Mogh Corb araon le Ceann Mór.

Bhí an bheirt seo — Cairbre agus Mogh Corb — i
láthair an t-am ar fad *nuair a bhí an comhrac ar siúl*

agus is acu siúd atá eolas cruinn cneasta

ar na béisiméanna fiochmhara cathacha a thug na
laochra agus iad ag leadradh a chéile.

Ansin, dúirt Mogh Roith le Ceann Mór:

“Tabhair dom mo chloch nimhe, mo lia láimhe,

mo chomhlann céad agus mo dhíthdheargadh ar mo
naimhde.”

Tugadh an lia láimhe dó agus thosaigh sé ar é a
mholadh

agus chuir sé briocht nimhneach air

At the same moment Cairbre Lifeachair
accompanied by Colpa, arrived from the
north.

*Mogh Corb arrived accompanied by
Ceann Mór.*

It was those two — Cairbre and Mogh
Corb — who were in the presence of the
combatants from first to last,

and it is they who have true and accurate
knowledge

of the savage blows which the warriors
rained on each other.

Then Mogh Roith said to Ceann Mór:

“Bring me my poison-stone, my hand-
stone,

my hundred fighter, my destruction of my
enemies.”

This was brought to him and he began to
praise it,

and he proceeded to put a venomous spell
on it,

ocus doraidh in rethoirec-so:

“Ailim mo lic laime,
narub thaidbhsí thaidhi.
Bidh breo brisfes bairi.
re cath crodha Clairi.
mu cloch thein tac then.
bidh nathair derg dhobhair.
mairg cus bhfillfe a foruim.
Bidh murescang mholach.
fod secht cong ndec rodhaim.
ider thonnaibh treall.
Bidh badhbh ider bhadhbhuibh.
Scerus corp re hanmuin;
bid naither noisnadmuibh
um corp Colptha allmhair.
o thalmain co a chenn.
anbhoic sleamhan bhirchenn.
in rot ruibhnech rightenn.
Bidh dris agarbh intenn.
mairg aticfa timceall.
mo draic thairptech thenn.
Canfait uais is ugdaír.
mairg coa sinfe
asurdghail do Colptha sdo Lurga.
laifider fo all.
in trascradh nos trascrann.
is fasdar no fastann.
is nascad nos nascann.
Mar bhís feith im crann.

agus rinne sé an reitric seo a reacaireacht:

“Áilim mo lia láimhe,
nára taibhse é ach breo
a bhrisfidh báire
le cath cróga.
Mo lia crua tine,
bíodh sé ina nathairdhearg dhobhair.
Má chriosláonn sí duine — is mairg dó.
Bíodh sé ina eascann mhara
idir thonnta na farraige.
Bíodh sé ina bhadhbh idir bhadhbha
a scarfaidh corp le hanam.
Bíodh sé ina nathair naoi-snáidhmeach
timpeall ar mhórchorp Cholpa
ón talamh go dtí a cheann.
Bíodh sé ina nathair shleamhain cheannbhiorach;
ina roth ruibheanta ríoga.
Bíodh sé ina dhris gharbh dheilgneach.
Má chriosláonn sí duine — is mairg dó.
Mo dhraig thairpeach theann.
Beidh uaisle agus údair ag cur síos
ar an mairg a cuireadh ar dhaoine nuair a chas sí leo.
Brisfidh sí gal Cholpa agus Lorga
i gcoinne aille.

Fostóidh sí duine
mar a fhostaíonn féithleann crann.

and he recited the following rhetoric:

“I beseech my Hand-Stone —
That it be not a flying shadow;
Be it a brand to rout the foes
In brave battle.
My fiery hard stone —
Be it a red water-snake —
Woe to him around whom it coils,
Betwixt the swelling waves.

Be it a sea eel —
Be it a vulture among vultures,
Which shall separate body from soul.
Be it an adder of nine coils,
Around the body of gigantic Colpa,
from the ground to his head.
The smooth spear-headed reptile.
The spear-armed, royal, stout wheel
Shall be as a galling, strong, thorny briar;
Woe is he around whom it shall come,
My fiery, stout, powerful dragon.
Nobles and warriors shall relate
The woe of those whom it shall reach;
The high valour of Colpa and of Lorga;
It shall dash against the rock.

The bonds which it binds on,
Are like the honey-suckle round the tree.

Coiscfider a bhfhoghuil,
methfaider a monair.
beit a cuirp fa conuibh.
Ar ath olair air.
Co mberdais leo leanaibh
cin troit is cin deabaidh.
a coscar re a cennaibh.
ce madh eadh budh ail”.

Cuirfear cosc lena dtreascairt,
teipfidh ar a ngaisce;
iosfaidh an mac tíre a gcoirp
ag áth móir an áir.
Beidh leanaí in ann
a gcinn agus a gcreach a bhrefth leo.”

Their ravages shall be checked;
Their deeds shall be made to fail;
Their bodies shall be food for wolves;
At the great ford of slaughter.
So that children might bear away,

Their trophies and their heads.”

Ailim.

Section 85

O tairnic sin

dos fuc i láimh Cennmair ocus ro raidh fris.

“Intan ticfa Colptha san ath cugat

teilc-si in cloch isin ath ocus dom breitir”, ar
se,

“as derb leam-sa

con dinge[b]a gnimha gaili Colptha dit.”

Ar theacht chun deireadh na reitrice dó,

thug Mogh Roith an lia láimhe do Cheann
Mór, agus dúirt *leis*:

“Nuair a thiocfaidh Colpa chomh fada leis an
áth

caith an chloch isteach san uisce agus dar mo
bhriathar,

mar táim cinnte

go geasfaidh sí gníomhartha gaile Cholpa i
leataobh uait.”

When he had come to an end,

Mogh Roith placed the stone in the hand of
Ceann Mór and said to him:

“When Colpa comes to you at the ford,

throw the stone in, and believe me,

for I am certain if it,

that it will divert Colpa’s feats of valour from
you.”

Do roacht iar sin Colptha co Raithin ind imairic re h-ath,

ocus cein ro bui Colptha oc tiachtuin on longport conice sin,

do chuir Mogh Ruith anal draidhechta n-a adhaigh fo thuaidh,

con derna sin cor bhat foithe fergacha feoghghoirte clocha ocus gaineam in talman

o tha in longport cusan ath.

Co mba meiditer la Colptha na tairneth cos for talmain do

ar a mhét no letraitis ocus no loiscdis na foithe,

ocus cor bhaat saghalerlabra letratacha maighseisc ocus murain na mona

ac dlomad ocus acc eicet air.

Ocus cor bat tuirc trotacha trebliadhnaigh tulfhoit ocus morbai in mhaighe ar énghair ocus ar aimgrith cuigi.

Ghluais Colpa ar aghaidh go dtí *an t-áth ag* Ráithín na Iomardaigh iarsin

agus fad a bhí sé ar an tslí *ón longfort*

rinne Mogh Roith anáil druadh a dhíriú ó thuaidh ina choinne.

D'éirigh clocha agus gaineamh na talún in aghaidh Cholpa dá bharr, mar a bheadh caora feargacha tine á loscadh agus á chiapadh

an turas ar fad ón longfort go dtí an t-áth.

Is ar éigean a bhí sé in ann a chosa a chur ar an dtalamh

mar bhí sé barrloiscithe agus ruadhóite de bharr an teasa,

agus toir na maighe *agus muiríneach na móna* ina madraí alta

ag amhastrach agus ag screadaíl *air*,

agus bhí mar a bheadh toirc fhíochmhara (agus trí bliana slánaithe acu) agus seangáin na maighe ag screadaíl agus ag fothramáil ina threo

After this, Colpa set out for the ford at Ráithín an Iomardaigh

and while he was on the way from the camp

Mogh Roith dispatched a magic breath northwards against him

so that the stones and sand of the earth became furious devastating balls of fire

all the way *from the camp* to the ford.

Only with difficulty could Colpa put his foot on the ground

as the fire singed and scorched him

and the sedges of the plain *and the bent-grass of the marsh* turned into raging dogs

barking and screaming at him.

It was as if fierce, three-year-old, wild boars and ants of the plain were all screaming together and making a great noise at him.

Ocus cor bhat daimh dedla dimora agarbha iar
reamur muinetha moirsciach in muighi

oc beicidhaigh ocus oc buirfedaigh oc a
roachtain.

Ocus ro ghabh grain ocus omun fon n-innus-
sin Colptha.

agus bhí mar a bheadh na sceacha aistrithe go
daimh fhíochmhara *ollmhóra* ramhra
gharbha

agus iad *ag béiceadh agus* ag búireach go
huamhnach ina choinne.

Maidir le Colpa sceimhlich siad ina bheatha é.

And it was as if the bushes of the plain were
savage, immense, rough, fat-necked oxen

who roared and screamed at his approach.

Seeing all this, Colpa was filled with dread.

Section 86

Mogh Ruith immorro, teit-sein i ndeilbh n-
aineactha ndimhoir fó a shamhuil-sium.

Sillis Colptha dar ath fo dhes fair-sium
ocus forfidir ba se doroine na h-anrechta ut
batar forsin muigh.

Ocus dano ba hingnad lais Mogh Ruith do
bheith fo armghaisced ocus se dall
ocus do raidh in retoric-sa:

“Gas atu atuarat cind. *et rel.*”

Mhéadaigh Mogh Roith é féin iarsin go dtí go
raibh sé i riocht fathaigh.

Chonaic Colpa é *ó dheas den áth*

agus bhí sé cinnte ansin gurbh eisean a rinne
an siabhrán

a chiap é agus é ag taisteal na maighe.

Chuir sé iontas air, áfach, go raibh Mogh
Roith faoi arm, mar bhí sé dall.

Rinne Colpa reitric a reacaireacht

Mogh Roith, however, assumed a shape that
was immense and imposing.

Colpa *saw him to the south of the ford

and* came to the conclusion that it was he
who had produced the strange phenomena

he had encountered on the plain.

He was amazed, however, to find Mogh Roith
bearing arms, as Mogh Roith was blind,

and he recited a rhetoric

Do freagair Mogh Ruith co feigh ocus co feochair ocus do raidh an retoric .i.

“Fearta druadh dolbaim-si *et rel*”.

Section 87

O thairnic dona draithibh an imacallamh-sin,

gabsat oc gnó.

Ocus dochuaidh Cennmhar foramus in atha

ocus nis faca Colptha con eisidh [leg. con [d]eisidh] ar ur in atha

ocus cureas in cloich roime san áth

ocus doghni murescang shith-remair dhi,

feibh atcuadhamur romuinn.

Ocus atnaidh Cennmhar fein a ndeilbh cloiche, for an ath.

agus rinne Mogh Roith freagairt air go dian dásachtach.

to which Mogh Roith responded with keenness and severity.

Nuair a chríochnaigh na draoithe an t-agallamh sin,

bhí sé in am tosú ar an obair i gceart.

D'imir Ceann Mór i dtreo an átha

agus ní fhaca Colpa é go dtí go raibh a shuíomh tofa aige ar an mbruach.

Chuir Ceann Mór an lia láimhe isteach san áth roimhe

agus deineadh eascann mhara ramhar de go lom láithreach

mar adúramar cheana féin.

Ansin, chuaigh Ceann Mór i riocht cloiche *ag an áth*

When the druids had completed this exchange,

the time had come for military action.

Ceann Mór went off towards the ford

and Colpa did not see him until he took up his position on the bank.

Ceann Mór now threw the hand-stone into the water *before him*

where it was immediately transformed into a fat sea-eel,

as we have already described.

Ceann Mór stationed himself on the ford in the form of a stone,

Cloch mor immorro bai isin ath soighter iside i richd Cenmhair.

Gabhaidh iarsin anfadh for an ath, amal tonna dileand

i llo crudhghaeithi earraig fo anfad in mhormara.

Ocus ba dethbir do ceachtar n-ai inni-sin,

or ba doig la clannaibh Cuind um Cormac

ba druidhecht ocus diabaldan Moga Ruith ro comlaisetar na tonna-sin,

ocus ba doigh la Fiacha ocus la fira Muman

ba druidhecht ocus diabaldan Cholptha no chomhlai in moranfad-sin

for lar in mor-muighi n-a bhfhiadhnuisi,

agus díreach ag an am céanna tháinig athrú mór ar chloch mhór a bhí i lár an átha i dtreo go raibh sé i riocht Chinn Mhóir.

Lena linn sin, thosaigh anfa agus gaoth mhór ag séideadh a chuir an abhainn ina tuile tar an áth

mar thonn mhara lá *crua-ghaoithe* earraigh.

Bhí an dá ghrúpa cinnte dearfa de bhunús an tarlaithe seo.

Cheap Clann Choinn um Chormac

gurbh é Mogh Roith a ba chúis leis na tonnta de bharr a chuid draíochta agus gintlíochta.

Ar an taobh eile den scéal, cheap *Fiacha agus* Fir Mhumhan

gurbh é Colpa *, de bharr a chuid draíochta agus gintlíochta,* a ba chúis leis an tuile

ar an maigh rompu.

moreover, a large stone which already stood at the ford, took on the appearance of Ceann Mór.

At this moment, a storm arose over the ford and the river rose up in flooding waves

as a storm at sea on a spring day *with a strong wind*.

Both parties were convinced of the origin of this:

Clann Choinn, as they surrounded Cormac, believed

that it was Mogh Roith who had caused the waves by means of his magic and devilry,

while Fiacha and the Men of Munster believed

that it was the magic and devilry of Colpa that had caused this huge tempest

in the midst of the great plain before them.

curgabh uromon ceathra coiged Eirenn fon samail-sin.

Pé scéal é, *leis an radharc sin,* tháinig eagla agus uamhan ar cheithre cúigí na hÉireann an lá sin.

The four provinces of Ireland were filled with horror at the sight.

Section 88

Ni h-indister tra comlunn na coimeascar do dhenam do Cennmar ocus do Colptha annsin

ocus ni he Colptha na taircedh,

or, intan atconnaic ecasc Cennmhair isin ath,

sceindis cuigi

ocus imselais tri beiminda dho don claidem
mor mhilita bui n-a laim

co taillfedh mac midaeisi i fuillshlicht gac
beime dhib isin cloich.

Sceindis an escang cuigi-sium ann saide
ocus gabus tulpart a édain ocus a aighthi fair

Ní instear anseo scéal an chomhraic idir Ceann Mór agus Colpa *, áfach*.

Níorbh é Colpa a shéan an comhlann in aon chor,

mar, nuair a chonaic sé rocht Chinn Mhóir ag an áth,

léim sé os a chomhair

agus thug trí bhéim dá chlaíomh mór cathach a bhí ina láimh aige dó.

Bheadh spás d'fhear meánaosta san eitre fhuilteach a d'fhág sé ar an gcloch ó gach buille díobhsan.

Leis sin, thug an eascann fogha faoi Cholpa
agus fuair greim ar a cheann agus ar a éadan.

The story of the encounter between Ceann Mór and Colpa is not related here *, however.

It was not Colptha who refused combat*.

When Colpa got a glimpse of the likeness of Ceann Mór at the ford,

he sprang at him

and dealt him three blows of the mighty warlike sword he held in his hand.

A middle-aged man would fit into the track of blood left in the stone from each blow.

With that, the eel sprang at Colpa

and grasped him by the head and forehead

ocus gabsat seachnon ind atha co tancatar fecht fo tri n-a thimcheall

ocus Colptha a n-uachtar gach re fecht ocus in eascong in fecht aili.

Ro scarad Colpha ra armaibh ann sin ocus ro bruighmhinaigit im a lamhaib.

Ro fortamlaigh tra in escong for Colptha,

ocus benais fria chnes, ocus tig timcheall a neirt

ocus doni noi snadma dhi im-a churp fria a dhoitibh anechtair

ocus tic traigh dhi fai ocus traigh uasa

ocus intan no triallad coisceim do breith

do beired sí builli da herr dar an cois nous tocphadh

ocus do beredh beim dhe fria talmain

Roll siad timpeall an átha faoi thrí.

Uair amháin, bhíodh an eascann in uachtar agus Colpa in uachtar uair eile.

Lena linn sin, deineadh bruscar d'airm Cholpa *agus bhí sé scartha óna airm dá bharr sin*.

D'éirigh leis an eascann ansin an lámh uachtair a fháil ar Cholpa.

Thosaigh sí ag alpadh a chraicinn fad a bhí a neart ag teip air.

Rinne sí naoi snaidhm di féin timpeall chorp Colpa ó bhaithis go bonn.

Choinnigh sí cos amháin Cholpa ardaithe *agus an chos eile íslithe*

agus gach uair a rinne sé iarracht céim ar aghaidh a thabhairt

thug an eascann buille dá heireaball dó *don chos ardaithe*

a leag é de phlimp *ar an talamh*.

so that they rolled around the ford three times,

Colpa on top at one time and the eel at another.

At this point Colpa was deprived of his weapons for they were crushed into fragments.

The eel then succeeded in getting the upper hand of Colpa,

biting into his skin and overcoming his strength.

The eel formed itself into nine knots around Colpa's body from the shoulders down

and holding one foot up and the other foot down,

and every time that Colpa endeavoured to take a step forward

the eel gave a blow of her tail to the leg he tried to raise

so that he hit the ground with a bang.

ocus intan no thocbad a cheann

no gheibhedd an escong ider a dha carpat in
blagh ba sia uaithi don cinn,

ocus imseladh beim dhe frisin sruth.

Gach uair a d'ardaigh sé a cheann

fuir sí greim níos daingne *ar bhaithis a
chinn* air *idir a dá chorrán*

agus theilg sí i gcoinne an tsrutha é.

Whenever he raised his head

the eel used to get a grip *of the top of his
head between her two jaws*

and fling him against the current of the stream.

Section 89

O atconnuic Mogh Corb gur fortamluigh an
eascang for Cholptha,

atbert ra Cennmhár:

“Fort do colaingcel”, ar se,

“is olc dhuid gan ní do maisi an ecta ocus clu
marbhtha an aithigh do beith fort”.

Is ann sin ro gabh Cennmhar sleagh
draidhechta Mogha Ruith n-a laim,

ocus saidhis hi a Colptha os a chinn co fortren
feramail

ocus aithnes Mogh Corb dhe a imdhiten fair.

Nuair a chonaic Mogh Corb go bhfuair an
eascann an lámh uachtair ar Cholpa,

dúirt sé le Ceann Mór:

“Brú is breo ort,

is móir an trua é gan tairbhe agus clú a bhaint
as marú an bhodaigh seo.”

Leis sin, thóg Ceann Mór sleá dhraíochta
Mhogh Roith *ina láimh*

agus chuir sá di go dian dásachtach thar
cheann Cholpa.

Thug Mogh Corb foláireamh dó aire a
thabhairt.

When Mogh Corb saw that the eel had got the
upper hand of Colpa

he said to Ceann Mór:

“Bad luck to you,

it is a pity not to profit from this affair and to
forego the fame of killing this boor.”

At this, Ceann Mor took the magic spear of
Mogh Roith in his hand

and thrust it with force and manliness at Colpa
over his head.

Mogh Corb warned him to be on his guard.

Sceindis Cennmhar chuigi iarum

co claidem mor mleta Mogha Ruith, con
selustar beim dho,

con tobacht a cenn de.

ocus facbus in cend ann sin

ocus tic for tir

ocus toitid a taem-laem gen aidechta [*leg.*
genaidechta] air ocus a thaisi marbhtha ocus
mele.

Sceindis Mogh Corb isin ath

ocus gabhus in cenn

ocus tic lais.

Léim Ceann Mór ansin i dtreo Cholpa

agus thug buille dó le claíomh *móir* cathach
Mhogh Roith

agus bhain sé an ceann dá chorp.

D'fhág Ceann Mór cloigeann Cholpa san áit
inar thit sé.

Tháinig sé suas ar an mbruach.

Tháinig babhta meirtne agus bróin air.

Chuaigh Mogh Corb go dtí an t-áth, áfach,

fuair sé greim ar an gcloigeann,

d'imigh leis agus cloigeann Cholpa á iompar
aige.

Ceann Mór then sprang at Colpa

with the great warlike sword of Mogh Roith
and gave him a blow

which struck off his head.

Leaving the head where it had fallen,

Ceann Mór came up on the bank

and he was seized with a blazing attack of
mortal weakness and depression.

Mogh Corb, however, advanced to the ford,

grasped the head

and made off with it.

Section 90

Imsoei Coirbri Litfacair dia longport;

ni gebhtha fior n-aenfhir rá fer dia shil co brach,

acht cu mad arm neich dom shil-sa do biath aigi”.

“Tabair frim-sa in mbreithir-sin”, ar Mogh Corb,

“or as me thuc in cenn leam

ocus is me fhuil re comalladh do shocchair

ocus as í m’ingen ro thoghais

ocus ni mesa mhe fein oldas Cennmhar”.

“Dober-sa ón”, ar Mogh Ruith,

“cein chomalla do coracais frium-sa,

acht gu rub arm fir dom shil-sa lais nach fer dod shil-sa”.

ní theipfeadh ar aon duine dá shliocht i gcomhrac aonair go deo

ach arm duine de mo shíol féin a bheith á iompar aige.”

“Tabhair domsa an bua sin a luaign tú,” arsa Mogh Corb,

“mar is mise an duine a thug an cloigean ar ais

agus is mise a chomhlíonfaidh an conradh.

Chomh maith leis sin, is m’íníónsa a roghnaigh tú mar leannán luí duit féin,

agus, ar aon chuma, níl mise pioc níos measa ná Ceann Mór.”

“Tugaim an bua sin duit, mar sin,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“a fhad is a chomhlíonfaidh tú na coinníollacha.

Ach caithfidh gach duine de do shíolsa arm duine de mo shíolsa a iompar.”

no man among his descendants would ever fall in single combat

provided only that he was using the arms of one of my descendants.”

“Let me have the privilege you have described,” said Mogh Corb,

“for it is I who have brought back the head

and it is I who am to fulfil your contract,

moreover, it is my daughter you have chosen for yourself,

and, anyway, I am no worse than Ceann Mór.”

“*Yes,* I will bestow this privilege on you,” said Mogh Roith,

“as long as you fulfil the conditions.

But every man descended from you must bear the arms of a man descended from me.”

Ocus atbert an rand.

“Mad arm fir do shil Mogha
Cusan cathghail re a cura
Taethsat leo ocus fosraegat
acht nar shaebhat a cura”

“Ni saebobhthar fort-sa sin co brath”, ar Mogh
Corb.

“Ocus dod’chubhus, dena faitsine dhun

ocus forfindam uait in mbia maith d’ar sil
eider nó aitheirge oruinn fein.”

“Biaidh,” ar Mogh Ruith,

“ocus geba fein rigi Muman

ocus geinfidh uaidh sochaide ghebus”.

Ocus do raidh an rethoric:

“La Mogh Corb cathuigim, *et reliqua*”.

Agus rinne sé an rann:

“Ní chuirfear do chonradh ar ceal go deo,”
arsa Mogh Corb,

“agusanois, ós agatsa atá bua na
réamhfhaisnéise,

déan fáistine faoin ádh nó mí-ádh a bheidh
orainn féin agus ar ár sliocht.”

“Beidh an t-ádh leat,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“agus gabhfaidh tú féin ríocht na Mumhan

agus beidh an rath ar shliocht do shleachta.”

*Agus rinne sé reitric a reacaireacht:

“La Mogh Corb cathuigim, *et reliqua*.**

And he said the verse:

“Your conditions will never be set aside,” said
Mogh Corb,

“and now, in view of your precognition,

make a prediction for us, to find out if fortune
will smile *on us and* on all our
descendants.”

“Fortune will smile on you,” said Mogh Roith,

“and you yourself will occupy the throne of
Munster.

*Your children’s children will be
prosperous.**

*And he recited a rhetoric:

“La Mogh Corb cathuigim, *et reliqua*.**

Aidhed Cholptha ar' Ath na n-óc in-sin
ocus is o Cholptha ainmnighther o sin ille.

Seo, mar sin, oidhe Cholpa ag Áth na nÓg
agus tugtar 'Áth Cholpa' ar an áit ó shin i
leith.

This then, is the tragic death-tale of Colpa at
Ath na nÓg,
and ever since, the place is known by his name
— 'Áth Cholpa'.

Section 91

Badar annsin co mucha lai ara bharach,
ocus ro coiméirigh Lurga maiden mhoch ar in
ath cedna i freacar in comlain ocus Cairbre
Lithfacair leis,
ocus do freagair Ceannmhár o
feruibh Muman sin
ocus Mogh Corb leis
ocus a lia laime ocus sleagh
draidechta Mogha Ruith n-a laim.
Ocus is eimhilt cena tuaruscайл
airm ocus eidigh gac enn duine thic isin
comlainn d'indisi;
is airi-sin fhacabhair cein innisi.

D'han siad ansiúd go dtí mochdháil na
maidine lá arna mhárach
agus d'éirigh Lorga go luath *ar maidin* agus
ghluais *chun an átha chéanna* chun an
chatha *agus Cairbre Lifeachair leis*.
Tháinig Ceann Mór chomh maith ar son Fhir
Mhumhan.

Bhí Mogh Corb in éineacht leis
agus bhí an lia láimhe agus sleá *dhraíochta*
Mhogh Roith *ina láimh* aige.

Ní gá cur síos a dhéanamh anseo ar arm *agus
cathéide* na laochra agus iad ag dul i ngleic
lena chéile.

Mar sin, fágfar gan insint é.

They remained there until early next day
and Lorga arose early in the morning and
proceeded to the *same* ford to continue the
battle *, accompanied by Cairbre Lifeachair*.
Ceann Mór, too, arrived on behalf of the
Munstermen.
He was accompanied by Mogh Corb
and he carried the Lia Láimhe and the magic
spear of Mogh Roith in his hand.

It is unnecessary, to describe the arms and
armour of each one taking part in the combat.

Consequently, it will not be described.

Section 92

O do riacht Ceannmar co Raithin ind Imairic
ra h-ath aniar-dhes

gabustar Lurga ga fhegad ocus ga agallaimh

ocus ba tren ocus ba tairptec in treinfer sin

ocus ba mor a omhun ar Cheannmhar in la-sin

ocus ro geallustar a aidi dho co mbherad
coscar ocus commaidim Cennmhair lais i
ndigail Colptha.

Is amlaighd bui Ceannmar in la-sin co nar bo
mesa lais bas ocus aidhedd d'fhaghail

min badh fosaidh a traig

ocus min bhadh cruaidh a cride

ocus min bhadh badbdha a beim

Nuair a shroich Ceann Mór Ráithín an
Iomardaigh ar an taobh thiar theas den áth,

ghabh Lorga ar fhéachaint air agus ar chomhrá
leis.

Ba thréan agus ba thairpeach an laoch seo,
Lorga,

agus bhí Ceann Mór ar critheagla roimhe *ar
an lá sin*.

Ina theannta sin, gheall a oide do Lorga go
maródh sé Ceann Mór mar dhíoltas ar mharú
Cholpa.

Maidir le Ceann Mór áfach, b'fhearr leis, an lá
sin, bás a fháil

go honórach agus é ag troid go calma cróga

agus a chosa go seasmhach,

a chroí go crua,

a bhéimeanna go millteach,

When Ceann Mór reached Ráithín an
Iomardaigh, to the south-west of the ford,

Lorga began to look him over and to question
him.

The warrior was strong and violent

and on that day Ceann Mór was terrified of
him.

Moreover, his tutor had promised Lorga that
he would slay and slaughter Ceann Mór in
revenge for Colpa.

As for Ceann Mór, on that day he would have
preferred death and destruction

at the hands of Lorga

provided he could confront him honourably

with his feet steady,

his heart hard,

his blows destructive,

ocus min badh innilldirech a urchar

*a aimsiú go cruinn,

his aim accurate,

ra frithailimh Lurga

ag troid le Lorga,*

a n-inad na meraighechta

ná é a bheith siabhránach

rather than be subjected to the bewildering
enchantment

dorala do in la roimhe

faoi mar a bhí an lá roimhe sin

he had endured on the previous day

oc frithailimh Colptha;

agus é i ngleic le Colpa.

in his encounter with Colpa.

ocus gabsat for acallaimh araili

Bhí agallamh ar siúl acu ar dtús

They engaged each other in conversation

ocus tug cach dib freacra fon cas da chele ann-
sin.

agus rinne siad an cheist a phlé.

and discussed the case between them.

Gabus Cennmar for amus ind atha ocus a lia
cloichi n-a laimh

Ghluais Ceann Mór ar aghaidh ansin go dtí an
t-áth agus an lia láimhe ina ghlac aige.

Ceann Mór then advanced to the ford, his
handstone in his hand,

ocus gabus ica molad ocus ica h-etarghui
ocus ic faitsine ind air doghenad,

Thosaigh ar é a mholadh agus d'iarr sé air an
slad a dhéanfad sé a chur in iúl dó.

and he began to praise it and beseech it and to
predict the slaughter it would cause.

ocus teit i muinigin a dhea ocus primhdruadh
in domuin .i. Mogh Ruith

Chuaigh sé i muinín a dhé agus i rídhraoi an
domhain, is é sin le rá — Mogh Roith,

He put his confidence in his god and in the
chief-druid of the world — Mogh Roith

ocus do raid:

agus rinne sé rann a aithris:

and he recited the *rann*:

“Lia cloiche,
cloch cena gun beba
lia chael tiugh thana
arm togha ros maela.
Lia shillfes darsealla gun alla
lia lingfes. tar tonna.
gun croma gun cama.
Mar do thraethais in argain
tria shurdgail cruaidh Colphtha
isin arguin tria cuirdib
eirg co tolchair tri borrfaidh
gnim conchair dith Lurga.
Lia logha,
lia chomha lia luagha.
lia briga.
lia bechta.
lia buadha,
lia Aitheoir.
lia Dhaineoil.
lia caileoir.
lia catha.
lia Mogha.
lia Simoin.
lia dimhor.
lia data. lia fhoirfes baidh muimnech gan aslach. lia cuingim. lia tuirmhim mlia [leg. tuirmhimm lia] tastach. lia línfus na hatha in deilbhfhuatha
lia rainfes na bracha dar bruacha. lia traethfus in eaclach. romtriall-sa. lia shraeinches. lia maidhfes,
mo lia-sa.”

“Lia cloiche;
lia caol tiubh tana;

lia a léimfidh thar tonnta
gan chromadh, gan chamadh.
Faoi mar a sháraigh
tú Colpa trí ghal chrua,
sa tslí chéanna,
imigh go tairpeach chun
go dtifidh Lorga leat.
Lia logha,

lia bri,

lia bua;
Lia Eitheoir,
lia Dhaineoil,

Lia catha,
lia Mhogha,
Lia Shimeoin,

mo lia.”

“A flat stone,

A narrow dense, thin stone.

A stone that will spring over waves,
Without stooping or curving.
As you overpowered in the contest,
by hardy valour, Colpa,

Go forth strongly in fierce action,
Until by you shall Lorga fall.
A valuable stone,

a powerful stone,

a victorious stone,
Ethor’s stone,
Daniel’s stone,

A battle stone;
Mogh [Roith]’s stone,
Simon’s stone,

my stone.”

Section 93

O tairnic an imcallam-sin,
tainic Lurga isin ath
ocus do fhregair Cennmhar co cruidh,
ocus imselustar cach dhibh builli ar builli da
cheli
ocus freagra fon tacra.

Acht chena ger calma in comlunn-sin,
ni ro dipaid arm chehtar de ar loe nach ar
finda do curp na edghadh cehtar n-ae.

Ni na dingnedis tra na loeich-sin gu cruidh
ocus gu curata in comlann-sin;

acht dodechaid etarra in ‘neirt-lia catha’ ocus
‘in comlunn ced’ ocus ‘in forrach sochaidi’

Nuair a bhí an dán seo críochnaithe
ghluais Lorga ar aghaidh go dtí an t-áth
agus thug fogha fiochmhar faoi Cheann Mór.
D’ionsaigh siad a chéile béis ar bhéim,
cosaint agus ionsaí gach re seal.

D’ainneoin straighn an chomhraic, áfach,
theip ar gach duine den bheirt corp nó éadach
an duine eile a straighpeáil.

Níorbh é nach raibh an bheirt laochra ag
tabhairt aghaidh ar a chéile go cróga calma,
áfach,

ach go raibh siad scartha óna chéile,
mar, bhí an ‘lia catha’, ‘an comhlann céad,
‘cloíteoir na míllte’

When this poem had been completed,
Lorga came to the ford
and attacked Ceann Mór furiously.
They wielded blow after blow at each other
and defence succeeded attack.

Despite the ferocity of the fight, however,
the arms of either of the warriors failed to cut
a bristle or hair of the other’s body or even his
clothing.

This was not because the heroes were not
engaging in the fight savagely and heroically,
however,

but because of the fact that the ‘Energy-Stone
of Battle’, ‘the hundred-fighter’, ‘the
Vanquisher of Multitudes’

.i. in muirescang mhór mileta dar bo comainm Mongac Mhaeithremur,

ocus imsceinn side co Lurga feib ro sceind gu Colptha

ocus dodechaid discail do na laechaibh trit-sin,

ocus dodechaid forrach do Lurga.

Ocus ba deitbir on,

or is ann teighedh a neim draidechta da gac
aen frisi mbeanadh in eascang, ó no benadh
fris.

Ocus ní fada ro anustar Cendmhar ra leacadh
comluinn eaturra

cin a riachtain fein cuca gun selustar beim don
sduagh loinn [leg. sduaghloinn] tinn teindtighe
bui n-a laimh

cu tall a cenn de

co ndechaid a n-aier

— an eascann *mhór mhíleata* mhara
Mongach Maoth Ramhar

— tar éis Lorga a ionsáí díreach faoi mar
d'ionsaigh sí Colpa.

I ndeireadh na dála, fuair sí an lámh uachtair
air.

Níorbh aon iontas é sin,

mar, gach uair a bhain sí alp as, d'imigh a
nimh dhraíochta isteach ina chorp.

Níor dhein Ceann Mór aon mhoill, ámh, *gan
leanúint leis an gcomhrac eatarthu*

ach léim de phreab ar Lorga agus le buille
tairpeach uamhnach feargach dá thua bhreoga

bhain sé an ceann de Lorga.

Scinn an ceann suas san aer le brí an bhuille
laochta sin

— the great valorous sea-eel called Mongach
Maoth Ramhar (hairy, wet, fat)

— had sprung at Lorga just as she had sprung
at Colpa,

*and so the two warriors were separated from
each other by this*

and eventually Lorga was defeated.

And this was only to be expected

as the eel's magic poison entered the body of
whoever she bit.

Ceann Mór, however, did not delay overlong
in allowing this engagement between them to
continue.

He approached them and with a savage blow
of his terrible, angry, steady, flaming axe

he swept the head off Lorga.

It flew up into the air

ocus ni roacht lar,

intan ro ghabh Ceannmar co hathlum ocus co
hiarannta.

Conadh amhlaidh-sin dorochair Lurga.

ach le léim luathbheartach luaineach, fuair
Ceann Mór greim air agus é ag teacht anuas

sular bhual sé leis an talamh.

Ba sa mhodh sin a d'éag Lorga.

but with a leap of great agility Ceann Mór
caught it

before it touched the ground.

It was in this manner that Lorga died.

Section 94

Cid tra cein ro bas oc denamh an comluinn

Bhí na sluaite tagtha le chéile ó gach aird chun
an comhlann ag an áth a fheiceáil

ach bhí deacrachtaí acu radharc maith a fháil
ar an méid a bhí ag tarlú.

The crowds had gathered from every quarter
around the ford to watch the fight.

is amlaidh batar dídertha

do na sloghaibh boi oc faircsi in comluinn da
gac aird imon áth

ocus bai cach dib ga radh.

“A dhe da n-adhram”, ar siat,

“do mheallaид dun med in anfaidh ocus imat
an uiscail isin ath

Bhí gach duine díobh á rá:

“A Dhia, a adhraimid,

maolaigh dúinn an stoirm agus laghdaigh an
méid uisce san áth

Every man of them was saying:

“O god, whom we adore,

reduce for us the strength of the storm and the
amount of water in the ford,

confacmis an draic theindtighi doní in
comlunn úd,
ocus gu mbeth ní dia tuaruscbaile againd.”

i dtreo go mbeimid in ann an draig thinrí atá
ag déanamh na slaiseála a fheiceáil
agus tuarascáil a thabhairt uirthi.”

so that we may see the fiery dragon (the eel)
who is doing the fighting
and be able to give an account of it later.”

Section 95

Is ann-sin ro ghabh in beisd dring sin ath fo
thuaidh
i slichtlorg Cairbre Lithfacair,
fo seisilbh sloigh Cormaic,
ocus gabhustar Ceannmhar n-a deghuid ic a
fasdud ocus oc a hacaldaimh
ocus gá rádh fria nar dlich-si Cairbre
Lithfacair do leanmain,
ocus gur bha bron la firu Muman a dul ar <ar>
amus in tsloigh, cu mad iat fhein doberad ind
aineicein budh ail doibh forru.

Is ansin a ghabh an phéist ó thuaidh san áth
ar lorg Chairbre Lifeachair
fad a bhí an clampar go léir ar siúl i measc
bhuíon Chormaic.
D'imigh Ceann Mór ina diaidh ag iarraidh
srian a chur ar an draig
agus á rá léi nach raibh sé ceadaithe dul i
ngleic le Cairbre *Lifeachair*.
Dúirt sé léi go raibh Fir Mhumhan chun a
ndíoltas féin a bhaint amach ar mhuintir
Chormaic agus go mbeidís míshásta dá
ndéanfadhbh sise é.

Ghlac an draig leis an argóint sin

After that, the dragon bounced to the north of
the ford
in pursuit of Cairbre Lifeachair
amidst the noisy tumult of Cormac's army.
Ceann Mór went off in pursuit of the dragon
in an effort to hold her back,
telling her that it was not lawful to pursue
Cairbre Lifeachair
and that the Men of Munster would be
annoyed if she turned on the crowd as the
Munstermen themselves wanted to inflict their
own revenge on Cormac's forces.

Ar da mad tusca risad-si

ni tharaiste guin na forgamh na comaidhium
aci.

Ocus gabustar Cennmhar oc a fasdud amlaid-
sin

ocus oc tabairt a tuaruscbara ocus atbert:

“Fos, a muinceach Mhaeithremur.

A peisd a cael a ruadh a lath breac. a aitenn ruad iarremhar a malach ruadh mhidhremhar. a cran shuileach coilgremur. a tenga derg teindtighi. gun a craes ar comlasad. a anal dian duibhnelach. Amar ceo tar garbcnocaibh. leic ar gcul in caemmacamh o nach comlunn comadais. na tuc sár ar saerclannuibh. um Fhiachaigh Mor Muillethan. dalta in druadh dodronasdar. eirg cu coir at cetaicnedh.
loigh ar laimh min mor Mhogha,

ra fet is ra fos.

Fos”.

Imsoi sí iar sin n-a richt ocus n-a cruth fein

ocus do dechaid cach fo thuaidh ocus fo des

agus cé gur shroich sí Cairbre Lifeachair i
dtosach ar gach duine eile

níor dhein sí aon dochar dó.

Lean Ceann Mór ar aghaidh ag iarraidh í a
shrianadh *mar sin* agus a gal chatha a
mhaolú.

Lean sé leis á rá léi:

“Tóg go bog é a Mhaoth Ramhar na muine
fada

luigh síosanois i nglac mhín Mhogh Roith

ar do sháimhín só.”

Even though she was the first to reach Cairbre,

she did not harm him or inflict any wound on
him.

And Ceann Mór continued to hold her back in
this way,

explaining the position to her, and saying:

“Easy, Easy, O long-necked Mhaoth Ramhar
....

lie down now in the gentle hand of the great
Mogh Roith,
calmly and quietly.”

After this, she returned to her own shape and
form

(as a handstone),

Tháinig a rioc *agus a cruth* fén inti iarsin,

’sé sin le rá gur deineadh lia láimhe di arís

agus d’imigh an dá shlua ar ais ó thuaidh agus
ó dheas

and the two armies went off north and south

da arus ocus da longport iarsin co maiduin.

go dtí a longfoirt féin *iarsin* chun feitheamh
leis an maidin.

to their respective camps *after this* to await
the morning.

Section 96

Iarsin tra ro coimeirighset na cairigh madan
mhoch ara barach

ocus as amlaidh badar sein

con dath lachtna forra

gu cruidh-cennuibh cnamha,

gu cnesaibh codhnaidhi,

gu nguilbnibh iaraind,

gu luas ainnle [= fainnle]

gu n-athluime iaraindi

gu n-athluime, en [leg. n-athluime en,]

gu tairesin chet ra huair comhluinn ocus
irghaili.

Ar maidin mhoch lá arna mhárach *, áfach,*
d'éirigh na trí chaora

— seo an chuma a bhí orthu:

bhí dath lachtna orthu;

bhí a gcinn go crua cnámhach;

ábhar adhairce ina gcráine;

goba iarainn acu;

luas fáinleoige acu;

lúfaireacht easóige acu;

luaineacht éan eitilte acu.

Bhí acmhainn acu céad fear a mhilleadh i
bpáirc an áir.

Early next morning, *however,* the sheep set
out for battle,

and this is what they looked like:

they were drab-brown in colour,

their heads were hard and bony,

their skins were of horn,

they had iron beaks,

speed of swallow,

agility of weasel,

mobility of bird on the wing.

They had the power to destroy one hundred
men in the press of battle.

Section 97

“A fhir shochair tra”, ar fir Muman,

“atat sunna cetna i richt tri caerech lachtna

ocus cetfer n-armach bhis i croilghi ocus i
mbas uathaibh”.

“Dingebhut-sa dhibh iat”, ar Mogh Ruith.
“Ocus na bidh a n-eгла foruibh”.

Ocus ro fhiafraigh do Cennmhár:

“Caidhet na haidme druidhechta thucus-sa it
laimh ra frithailimh an lochta ut?”

“Itat agum”, ar Cennmhar.

Ocus rob iat sein .i.

tallann teined Shimoin

ocus clocha gaine Daineoil

ocus spongea Eitheoir Ilcrothaig,

“A Fhir Chosanta,” arsa Fir Mhumhan,

“seo chugainn arís iad i riocht caorach lachtna

agus acmhainn acu céad fear a chur i gcrólí
an bháis.”

“Ná bíodh aon eagla oraibh,” arsa Mogh
Roith, “cuirfidh mise smacht orthu.”

Labhair sé le Ceann Mór ansin:

“Cá bhfuil an trealamh draíochta a thug mé
duit chun déileáil leis an dream seo?”

“Tá na nithe sin go léir anseo agam,” arsa
Ceann Mór.

Ba iad siúd:

tallann thine Shimeoin,

breochlocha Dhaineoil,

sponcán Eitheoir Ilchruthaigh.

“O Man, our Protector,” said the Men of
Munster,

“here they are, back again, in the form of three
drab-looking sheep

and they are capable of bringing one hundred
men to a bloody death.”

“I will tame them for you, have no fear,” said
Mogh Roith.

He then said to Ceann Mór:

“Where are the magic instruments I gave you
to deal with this crowd?”

“I have them here,” said Ceann Mór.

These were:

the tinder box of Simon,

the flint of Daniel,

the kindling wood of Eitheoir Ilchruthaigh.

ocus tugadh i laim Mogha Ruith

ocus is aire robdar é sin na hadbaír:

ar dig [leg. ar d[á]ig] co mbeath cruas cloiche
a cridhibh ocus a cennuibh doibh

ra huair comlann.

Ocus loiscthigi teined ocus aentaigi datha
frisna caeiribh.

Section 98

Imselustar Mogh Ruith tri beimenna don
tallann ar na clocha

cu ro ghabh gu hathlum ocus co hait na tri
dlaithe spuinge

ocus dosfuc i forfhairsing a etaigh

ocus ro chan in rethoirec-sa:

“Fo cuan chain coimeirghid *et reliqua*”.

Tugadh do Mhogh Roith iad

*agus is é seo an chúis a bhí leis na hábhair
sin:*

i dtreo go mbeadh cruas cloiche i gcroíthe
agus i gcinn Fhir Mhumhan

i bpáirc an áir

agus loscadh timpeall orthu ar aon dath leis na
caoirigh féin.

These were given to Mogh Roith

and the reason for these instruments

and their purpose was to produce the hardness
of stone in the hearts and heads of the
Munstermen

at the hour of battle

and a scorching flame of the same colour as
the sheep.

Bhuail Mogh Roith trí béisíneanna den tallann
ar na clocha

agus thóg go héadrom agus go héasca trí
dlaoithe an sponcain

agus chuir isteach i bhfilleadh a chuid éadaigh
iad

agus rinne sé reitric a aithris:

“Faoi chuan caoin, éirigí”

Mogh Roith struck three blows of the flint
against the stone;

quickly and easily he procured the three sprigs
of touch-wood

which he transferred to the fold of his garment

and he recited this rhetoric:

“Under a gentle harbour, arise” etc.

Atbert Mogh Ruith iarum ra Cennmhar.

“Feg lat na habhrasa-so in at aicde irlamha beos?”.

Do fheg Cennmhar ocus do raidh.

“As maith”, ar se “doroine da shaigh ocus fhercoin”;

ocus dusfuc ar a laimh chuice dia dheimhniugad

ocus rous leicc uadh ar lar doridisi,

ocus ro choraig a n-aighthe fo thuaidh fris na cairibh.

Batar immorro co hanmunn ar tus amar cuileana.

Ocus gac ficsi [leg. foicsi] thicdis na cairigh doib

no fhoirbreadh nert na gcon ocus meidigeacht ocus sainnt gnima.

Ansin, dúirt Mogh Roith le Ceann Mór:

“Féach ar an rudaí seo, an bhfuil siad ullamh fós?”

D’fhéach Ceann Mór orthu agus dúirt:

“Tá dhá choileán baineanna déanta agat agus aon choileán fireann amháin.”

Thóg sé ina lámh iad *chun bheith deimhnithe díobh*

agus chuir ar an talamh arís iad

agus d’iompaigh sé a gcinn i dtreo an tuaiscirt san áit ina raibh na caoirigh.

Ar dtús áfach, bhí siad chomh lag le haon choileán eile

ach faoi mar a bhí na caoirigh ag druidim i ngiorracht dóibh

bhí na madraí ag dul i méid agus i bhfiochmaire agus fonn catha ag teacht orthu.

Then Mogh Roith said to Ceann Mór:

“Take a look at these materials. Are they fully ready yet?”

Ceann Mór looked at them and said:

“You have manufactured two bitches and a male pup.”

He took them in his hands to make sure *of them*

and set them down on the ground again,

turning their heads towards the north in the direction of the sheep.

At first, however, they were as weak as any ordinary pups,

but as the sheep approached steadily nearer,

the dogs began to grow in strength and size, becoming ravenous for action.

Section 99

Ocus ro fiafraigh Mogh Ruith do Cennmar:

“Na caerigh cinnus docengadar?”.

“As cugainn-ne thiaguit [leg. tecuit]” ar Ceannmhar

“ocus in cura as sine dhibh i remthus ocus in as so fa deredh”.

“Ocus na coin fa dechta cinnus do fhegadar?”.

“Itat”, ar se < ar se >, “mar bít cuilena, ic osculud a sul ocus as iat na cairigh fhegad”.

“Ocus na cairigh, cinnus docengait?”

“Dá chairigh dibh taebh ra taebh ocus cura fa deoig,

ocus is luath thiaguit”.

D’fiafraigh Mogh Roith de Cheann Mór ansin:

“Conas tá na caoirigh ag máiirseáil?”

“Is inár dtreo-na atá siad ag teacht,” arsa Ceann Mór,

“agus tá an laoch is sine i dtosach agus na daoine óga ar gcúl.”

“Cad mar gheall ar na madraí — conas atá siadanois?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Tá cuma na gcoileán orthu,” arsa Ceann Mór,

“tá siad ag oscailt a súl ach is ar na caoirigh atá siad ag amharc.”

“Cad mar gheall ar na caoirigh anois — conas atá siad ag máiirseáil?”

“Tá dhá chaora le chéile agus ceann amháin ar gcúl

agus iad ag dul ar aghaidh go mear,”.

Mogh Roith said to Ceann Mór:

“How are the sheep marching?”

“It is towards us they are marching,” said Ceann Mór,

“and the oldest warrior among them is leading the way and the younger ones at the rear.”

“What about the dogs — what do they look like *now*?”

“They look like all pups,” said Ceann Mór,

“they are opening their eyes but it is the sheep they are looking at.”

“The sheep — how are they marching now? ”

“Two sheep are side by side and one following and they are advancing rapidly.”

“Ocus na coin cinnus dofhegar?”

“Itat ic bertnugad a sul ocus a cluas ocus as iat na cairigh fhegat bheos”.

“Ocus na cairigh, cinnus focengat?”

“Itat mar bit tri rodhaim riadhta fo aen chuing cruaidh cudrama

ocus ni theit aen dib sach [*leg. s[e]ach*] araili

ocus as dian ocus as dreamun

ocus as dasachtach ocus as comluath ocus as comurlamh thiaguit ind-airius in comluinn”.

“Ocus na coin cinnus do fhegatar?”

“Ro bertnaighistar a cluasa

ocus ro thocuibset a seirthi

ocus gabsat oc imlighi a mbel

ocus a cindu for a righthibh ocus a mbeoil duinti”.

*“Cad mar gheall ar na madraí — conas atá siad?”

“Tá siad ag noctadh a súl agus a gcluas agus is ar na caoirigh atá siad ag amharc fós.”

“Conas tá na caoirigh ag dul ar aghaidh?”

“Tá siad cosúil le trí daimh riata faoin gcuing chrua chothrom chéanna;

agus ní bhíonn aon cheann acu ag gobadh amach thar a chéile,

agus is go dian agus go diócasach

agus go dásachtach a théann siad sa chomhlann ag an luas céanna agus leis an rúndaingne chéanna.”*

“Na madraí — conas atá siad anois?”

“Tá siad tar éis a gcluasa a chroitheadh

agus tá a n-eireabaill in airde acu.

Tá siad ag lí a mbéal

agus tá a gcinn ina lapaí acu agus a mbéil dúnta.”

*“And the dogs, what do they look like?”

“They roll their eyes and shake their ears, and it is still the sheep they watch.”

“And the sheep, how do they walk?”

“They are like three oxen yoked to the same yoke, hard and well-proportioned;

no one of them juts out in front of another,

and it’s with vehemence, passion

and violence that they advance to battle at the same pace, and with the same resolution.”*

“The dogs — what do they look like now?”

“They have shaken their ears

and put up their tails

and have begun to lick their mouths,

and their heads are on their paws and they have their mouths shut.”

“As iat sein uili na buagha”, ar Mogh Ruith,

“ar dia mbeitis a mbeoil osluighthi ic dul isin comhlunn

no biath demuin merclig oc gait a n-aithesa forru;

uair isat duinti immorro

doghenat áithius,

as fon innus-sin doghena a sil ocus a semad [leg. semed] aithus do gres”.

“Sin barr a mbua,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“mar dá mbeadh a mbéil oscailte acu agus iad ag dul sa chomhlann

thiocfadh deamhan fánach chun a ngéire a ghoid uathu,

ach má choimeádann siad a mbéil dúnta *, afach,*

béarfaidh siad bua anois i láthair na huaire

agus *sa tslí chéanna* béarfaidh a síol bua ar a naimhde ina ndiaidh go deo na ndeor.”

“That is the completion of their victorious qualities,” said Mogh Roith,

“for if their mouths were open as they advanced to the fray,

there would come a wandering demon to steal away their sharpness,

and it is by keeping their mouths shut *, however,*

that they will be victorious

and it is by this same means that their seed and their descendants after them will at all times be triumphant.”

Section 100

As ann adubairt Mogh Ruith ra Cennmhar na coin d’idhnacal co Ráitin ind Imairic.

Ocus ro boi Mogh Ruith ga aithne do na conuib

cu mad túscá bas ocus aidheadh dhoibh inat na cairigh do dul uathaibh.

Dúirt Mogh Roith le Ceann Mór ansin na cúnna a threorú go Ráithín an Iomardaigh.

Bhí Mogh Roith féin ag gríosú na gcon

á rá leo go mbeadh sé níos fearr dóibh bás a fháil ná na caoirigh a ligean éalú uathu.

It was then that Mogh Roith told Ceann Mór to direct the hounds to Ráithín an Iomardaigh.

And Mogh Roith himself continued to exhort the hounds,

telling them that it were better to suffer death than to let the sheep get away from them.

As ann-sin ro siachtadar na coin co Raithin ind
Imairicc;

ocus do roachtadar na cairigh cus-an raith ba
coimrearthach dhi

ocus gabhus cach dib oc fegad a cheli.

As amlaidh badar na cairigh ocus tri corraire
teined ar derglasad am braigdibh dhoibh,

co nar farcsat sop na dlaieachda gan lóscad a
n-uphortaibh in atha idiu ocus anall,

ocus gabus cach dib oc imesarcain a cele ann-
sin

do clochaibh ocus do shithfoitib in talman a
cosaib ocus hingnib doib

tar ath, fo thuaidh ocus fo deas.

Tháinig na cúnna ansin go Ráithín an
Iomardaigh

agus bhí na caoirigh os a gcomhair amach.

Thosaigh an dá dhream ag iniúchadh a chéile
go grinn.

Bhí trí chrios tine timpeall mhuiníl na
gcaorach

i dtreo go raibh an féar agus an fásra timpeall
an átha dóite acu.

Thosaigh siad ag ionsaí a chéile ansin,

ag tochait *cloch agus* fód ón talamh lena
gcrúba agus lena n-ingne

agus ag crústach a chéile trasna an átha ó
thuaidh agus ó dheas.

The hounds now reached Ráithín an
Iomardaigh

and the sheep came to the corresponding area
on their side.

They both began to take stock of each other.

The sheep had three fringes of blazing fire
around their necks

so that not a blade of grass nor a bush was left
unburnt.

Both sides then began to attack each other,

digging up stones and sods from the ground
with their hooves and nails

and flinging them at each other across the
ford, north and south.

Section 101

Scibhid na coin ceim n-imarran cuca-san,

ocus in ferchu i remthus rompa, ar as cian o ta
in sen-fhocal:

‘con dulá [leg. condála] gac fer dhul [leg. fer-dhul] fortamlus’,

ocus insceinn side cusan cairigh fa mo ocus fa
hairegda atconnuic do na cairibh,

ocus ro ghabh cach dib fon tuaruim-sin da
cheili

ocus ba mor ocus ba cruaidh ind imesarcain

ocus ba fada ro bas oca denum

ocus as eimilt a indisi feibh doronsat a
comlunn.

Araidhe, as amlaidh ro batar na coin, ocus tri
corrhaire theined ar derglasad a craesaib doib.

Ocus mar rancatar ocus na cairigh a ceili
imscibhesdar in lasair fo na cairibh cu na
fharcoib loe na finna forru gan loscad.

Scinn na cúnna ar aghaidh ansin chun an
chatha

agus an cú fireann i dtosach de réir an
tseanfhocail:

‘Is ceart do gach fear dul ar thosach na buíne’.

Léim sé ar an gcaora ba mhó *agus ba
iomráití* a bhí ann

agus d’ionsaigh siad a chéile sa tslí sin

agus ba mhór agus b’uafásach an treascairt sin

agus lean sé ar aghaidh ar feadh i bhfad.

Ní gá áfach a thuilleadh a rá fúithi.

Maidir leis na cúnna — bhrúcht sruthanna tine
as a mbéil

a loisc gach ribe de lomraí na gcaorach *nuair
a tháinig siadsan agus na caoirigh le chéile*.

The hounds leaped to the attack

with the male hound at the head — as the old
saying puts it:

‘It is fitting for each man to led the way’.

He sprang at the largest *and most notable*
sheep

and they attacked each other in this manner.

Great and hard was the carnage

and it continued for a long time

but it is unneccessary to describe it further.

As for the hounds — spouts of fire came from
their gullets,

which burned every rib of the sheeps’ fleeces
*when they and the sheep encountered each
other*.

Ní raibh immorro loisctighi na neime draidechta forsan teinid ro bhoi i mbraigdib na caerach, gia no comhraiedis ra nech.

Ocus iss eadh fodera shon .i. intan ro sudheasdar Mogh Ruith i Cinn Claire iar torachtuin co feruibh Muman, anal druadh do chur a firmimint

cor thuit ar longport na ndruadh i n-a neul ciach cu nad eadh-sin ruc a neim draidechta da gac draidh ro bhui i farrad Cormaic,

ut dixit Daniel fili

“Condailset draithi dhail Cuind os urd comar min Soidhis Mogh Ruith da anail ain an draidhechta dhib”.

Ní raibh an tine ó mhuiníl na gcaorach in ann mórán díobháil a dhéanamh *lena nimh dhraíochta* áfach

mar bhí Mogh Roith tar éis anáil lán de dhraíocht a shéideadh suas san fhirmimint nuair a bhual sé le Fir Mhumhan ag Ceann Chláire.

Thit an anáil sin mar cheo draíochta ar *longfort* dhraoithe Chormaic agus bhain sé an nimh *dhraíochta* díobh

— faoi mar a dúirt Daineoil file:

“Chas Mogh Roith a ndraíocht i leataobh lena anáil”.

The fire which surrounded the necks of the sheep, however, lacked the scorching power of its magic poison.

When Mogh Roith joined the Men of Munster *at Ceann Chláire*, he exhaled a magic breath into the firmament.

This fell, in the form of a black cloud, on Cormac's druids' camp, *and it took the magic poison from them,*

as Daniel, the *File*, expressed it:

“.... Mogh Roith with his breath turned aside their magic”.

Section 102

O ro rathaigh sat [leg. rathaigset] tra na cairigh gur fortamhla do na conuib a nert ocus a ndraidhecht inas doib fein, gabsat a cosa don talmain oc aslach theithid for na conaibh

Nuair a bhraith na caoirigh *ansin* go raibh a gcuid draíochta féin ag géilleadh do dhraíocht na gcon bhí siad ag iarraidh rith as an áit *roimh na cúnna,

When the sheep felt *then* that their strength and their magic was surpassed by that of the hounds they took to their heels, attempting to flee *from the hounds,

amail as bes do cairibh

ocus nir foemudh uathaib-sium ón.

Conud ann-sin doratsat na cairigh a ndruim forra ocus dorala i rrot madma ocus teithid

ocus ni ro irisetar don rith-sin cu rancatar co Dubhcaire,

conad ann-sin do chuadar i fudhomain ocus i fonngrian in talman ar teithed na gcon,

ocus dosrala na coin n-a ndiaigh conus ro ghaibh dhoibh tis

ocus ro fortamlaigset na coin for na cairibh, conus duadar do cnamhaibh.

Ocus dodeacadar imach iarsin ocus dusrala siar i Mumain

ocus tarbhchoin turusa ocus graigbertuigh ocus gille echraidi ocus formna aesa ocbadh Lethi Chuinn n-a ndiaig,

con dechadar dib ar eicin

amhail ba bhéas do chaoirigh,*

ach ní ligfeadh na cúnna dóibh imeacht.

Faoi dheireadh agus faoi dheoidh áfach, *chas na caoirigh a ndromanna leo agus* d'éirigh leo sciorradh amach ón áth de ruathar

agus níor stad siad den rith nó go dtáinig siad go Dubhchaire.

Ba ansiúd a d'imigh siad as radharc isteach i bpluais na talún *chun éalú ó na cúnna*.

Fuair na cúnna greim orthu faoin talamh ámh,

agus shrac siad as a chéile iad, d'alp síos iad agus níor fhág ach na cnámha.

D'imigh na cúnna siar trí Chúige Mumhan ansin

agus tarbhchúnna, giollaí eich agus mórán d'óige Leath Choinn ina ndiaidh.

Is ar éigean a bhí siad in ann éalú uathu

as is the habit with sheep*,

but the hounds would not allow this.

Eventually, however, the sheep *turned their backs on them and* set off in a wild dash.

They never stopped running until they reached Dubhchaire

and there they disappeared into the underground recesses of the earth *to escape the hounds*.

The hounds seized them down below

and devoured them, leaving only the bones.

The dogs then emerged and made off towards west Munster,

pursued by bulldogs, grooms and horse-boys and a large number of young men from Leath Choinn.

It was with difficulty that they escaped from their pursuers

idir da sheiscenn.

Or is amhlaidh do batar ocus formna in da shluag ider atuaidh ocus anes
ar cnocaib ocus ar tulcuibh
oc fairesi in comluinn ocus retha na caerach.

Ni faca immorro Cormac na Fiacha

or as amlaidh ro bhatar ocus uathad bec
impaibh n-a longportaib,
gan toidhecht amach.

trí dhá phortach.

Bhí cuid mhaith den dá shlua *, idir aduaidh agus aneas,*
thusas ar chnoic agus ar thulacha
ag féachaint anuas ar an troid agus ar ruathar na gcaorach.

Ní fhaca Cormac ná Fiacha an comhlann áfach

— d'fhan an bheirt sin ina longfoirt le buíonta beaga in éineacht leo
agus níor tháinig siad amach in aon chor.

by tracing a path between two bogs.

A large part of both armies *, both from the north and from the south,* was up in the hills and mounds watching the fight and the sheep's race.

Neither Cormac nor Fiacha witnessed the scene *, however,*
as they remained in their camps surrounded by a small group of retainers
and did not come out.

Section 103

As amlaidh-sin ro forbadh an ‘comhlunn-sin na gcon ocus caerach’.

Ocus is ó na cairib-sin atat ‘Cluithre Caerach’ inniu

i crich Mairtine Mumhan o Druim Damhghaire fo thuaidh,

Seo mar a tháinig ‘comhlann na gcon agus na gcaorach’ chun críche.

Is ó na caoirigh sin a thagann an logainm ‘Cluthair Chaorach’

i gCríoch Mhairtine Mumhan ar an taobh thuaidh de Dhroim Dámhgháire.

That is how the ‘Battle of the Hounds and Sheep’ ended.

It is from these sheep that ‘Cluthair Chaorach’ (the sheep-covert) gets its name.

The place is in the territory of Mairtine Mumhan, north of Droim Dámhgháire.

re n-abar Long Cliach inniu.

Ocus dono is do shil na gcon soin na coin confaidh fo Eirinn inniu

ucus a ra mbiat co mbrach.

Ro chuirset fir Muman ann-sin uluich comaidme in choscair-sin

gu closs fon cuiced uili.

Tugtar Long Chliach (Cnoc Loinge) ar Dhroim Dámhgháire sa lá atá inniu ann.

Is ó na cúnna sin a shíolraigh na madraí allta atá againn in Éirinn inniu *áfach*

agus is mar sin a bheidh go brách.

Thóg Fir Mhumhan gáir bhua ansin

agus chualathas í ar fud an chúige uile.

Droim Dámhgháire is known today as Long Chliach (the ship of Clíu).

Moreover, the mad dogs throughout Ireland at present are descended from these

and this will be the case for ever.

The Men of Munster then raised a mighty shout of victory

and this was heard throughout the entire province.

Section 104

Atconnaic dono Cithruadh aidhead na caerach;

tainic i remthus in tsloigh anonn co hait a mbai Cormac.

Do fiafruigh Cormac do Chithruadh:

“Cidh uma tat na gairthe-sea, ocus cia doni?”

Chonaic Cith Rua oidhe na gcaorach *, más ea*.

Tháinig sé i láthair Chormaic roimh na daoine eile

agus chuir Cormac ceist air:

“Cé thóg na gártha sin agus cén fáth?”

Now Cith Rua was a witness to the tragic death of the sheep.

He came to the place where Cormac was *before the others got there*.

Cormac asked him:

“What is the purpose of these shouts, and who is making them?”

— “Fir Muman,” ar Cithruadh, “ac comaidhium in lochta as ro muinighis-si ocus frisi tartais taebh,

ar na marbadh do conuibh draidhechta doroine Mogh Ruith”.

Cidh tra ba dubac drochmenmac ro bui sluagh Cormaic de-sin

ocus ba subac ro badar fir Muman

ocus ro chan Cithruadh in laid:

“It subhug na sluaigh-si thes, *et rel*”.

“Ma as fir a n-abrai-si”, ar Cormac, “as deithbir doib subhachas do dheanamh”.

“As fir”, ar Cithruadh,

“ocus moghenar is do Leth Moga anocht ocus maирg as do Leth Cuind

ocus ro budh ferr leam-sa mu tech do beith ic Seich na Sogh inocht,

gid fasach,

“Tá Fir Mhumhan ag ceiliúradh a mbua ar do ghrúpa féin,” arsa Cith Rue,

“chuir cúnna draíochta Mhogh Roith chun báis iad.”

Bhí slua Chormaic go drochmheanmnach dubhach de bharr chasadha na cinniúna

agus ar an taobh eile den scéal bhí meidhir agus gliondar croí ar mhuintir na Mumhan.

Thosaigh Cith Rue ar dhán a chanadh:

“Is sona an slua seo theas”

“Más fíor an rud atá á rá agat,” arsa Cormac, “tá fleá ar siúl acu.”

“Is fíor go dearfa go bhfuil,” arsa Cith Rue,

“is subhach Leath Mhogha anocht agus is dubhach Leath Choinn

agus b’fhearr liomsa a bheith i mo theach féin i Seich na Só anocht

cé go bhfuil an áit sin cúnanta go leor

“The Men of Munster,” said Cith Rue, “are celebrating their victory over your group.

Mogh Roith’s *magic* hounds killed them.”

Cormac’s followers were sad and dispirited at the turn of events

while the Men of Munster were in a state of exultation

and then Cith Rue sang:

“Happy is this crowd in the south ...”

“If that is true,” said Cormac, “they are celebrating.”

“It is true,” said Cith Rue,

“Leath Mogha is happy tonight and Leath Choinn is sad,

and I would prefer to be in my own house at Seich na Só tonight,

isolated as the place is,

inas a beith ic Rubaib Ratha Ronan,
ge at imdha treabhu uimpi.

Ocus as oraibh-si raeinfes an cath don cur-sa

ocus muirbfider sloigh ocus sochaide ann,

ocus ni ba ferr duin-ne ar triar brathar,

or doghena Mogh Ruith tri clocha dhin, re
tiachtain don turus-so”;

ocus atbert:

“Mairg innocht is do Leith Cuinn, *et rel.*”

ná a bheith i Rubha Rátha Rónáin
agus na sluaite ann.

Is sibhse a chloífear sa chath seo
agus marófar buíonta *ann*.

Maidir linne fén — triúr bráthar — ní bheidh
ár gcás-na níos fearr ná cás aon duine eile,
mar, nuair a thiocfaidh Mogh Roith an tslí seo,
déanfaidh sé trí clocha dínn.

Mairg anocht do Leath Choinn”

than to be at Rubha Rátha Rónáin
even though it is surrounded by many
inhabitants.

You will be the ones to suffer defeat in this
battle,
and battalions and companies will be killed in
it.

Nor will we three brothers fare any better than
anyone else,
for Mogh Roith will turn us into three stones
when he comes this way.”

And then Cith Rua recited the lay:

“Sad it is for Leath Choinn tonight”

Section 105

Iarsin tra atbert Cormac ra Cithruadh:

“Dena”, ar se, “ni d’faitsine dhun bheos,
or as amhlaidh itai gu rub tu primh-drai agum
athair

Dúirt Cormac le Cith Rua ansin:

“Déan fáistine de shaghas éigin dúinn *fós*,
mar, ba phríomhdhraoi do m’athair tusa

After this, Cormac said to Cith Rua:

“Make some kind of prediction for us *again*,
for you have been chief druid to my father,

ocus agum shen-athair ocus agum fein,

agus do mo sheanathair agus dom féin mar an
gcéanna

to my grandfather and to myself

ocus ni aburta breic,

agus níor inis tú bréag riamh

and you have never told a lie

ocus ni mo ro raidhis don cur-sa,

agus ní chanfaidh tú bréag anois.

and neither will you now

acht nach did ro adhramis-ne

ocus ní fuil againn budhecht acht impod friut

Níl a mhalairt le déanamh againn anois ach
teacht chugat

and now we can only turn to you

ocus is aithrec linn a tartsam do tarcasal fort”.

agus is méala linn an masla a tugadh duit.”

and we regret the insult offered you.”

“Ni fhuil acum-sa”, ar Cithruadh, “faitsine
geallus maith duit,

“Níl aon dea-fháistine agamsa duit,” arsa Cith
Rua,

“I have no favourable prediction for you,” said
Cith Rua,

acht as fort meabhus don cur-sa

“mar, cloífear tusa *anois*

“for *you will be defeated now

ocus gac ni ima tat fir Muman bud leo a
bhuaid”.

agus beidh an lá le Fir Mhumhan.”

and* the Men of Munster will be victorious.”

Ro ghabustar Cormac beos ic acallaimh Cith
Ruaidh, ocus ica radh ris

Lean Cormac ar aghaidh áfach ag áitiú ar
Chith Rua *agus á rá leis*

Cormac *however* continued to confer with
Cith Rua, telling him

dul d'acaldum Mogha Ruith,

dul chuig Mogh Roith

to go and talk to Mogh Roith

ocus a mbrathairsi bhunaidh do tabairt ar aird
do

agus a chur in iúl dó go raibh bráithreachas
eatarthu dáiríre fire

and to bring to his attention the fact of their
fundamental brotherhood

ocus a radh ris gan tortromad ar Leith Cuind

ocus gur bho do mhaithib Leithi Cuind athair
ocus sen-athair dho;

“ocus tairg na comhtha-sa dho re thaeibh-sin”,
ar Cormac

“ .i. flaithius Ulad ocus cumhul mac nUislen

ocus bo gac lis o Themhraidh co Carraic
mBracuidi

ocus tri cet each ocus tri cet corn,

ocus tri ced faluch ocus mu lamh dheas oc ol”.

— gur shíolraigh a athair agus a sheanathair ó
uaisle Leath Choinn

agus dá bhrí sin nár cheart dó an tuaisceart a
mhilleadh.

“Agus chomh maith leis sin,” arsa Cormac,
“tairg rud éigin dó

— Flaitheas Uladh, cúiteamh ar mhic
Uisleann,

bó ó gach lios idir Teamhair agus Carraig
mBrachaí,

trí chéad each, trí chéad adharc,

trí chéad brat agus suí ar mo láimh dheas ag
fleá óil.”

— reminding him that his father and
grandfather were descended from the nobility
of Leath Choinn

and on that account to refrain from crushing
the north;

“and, as well as this,” said Cormac, “make
him an offer:

the kingdom of Uladh; the compensation due
to the Sons of Uisliu;

a cow from every *lios* between Tara and
Carraig mBrachaí;

three hundred horses; three hundred horns;

three hundred cloaks and a place at my right
hand at a drinking session.”

Section 106

Gluaisius Cith Ruadh frisin techtairacht-sin co Mogh Ruith,

ait i raibhi ar lai imthechta co Sith Cairn Breacnatan bu dhes.

Ro siacht Cith Ruath chuigi ann-sin

ocus atbert ris aimmne do dhenum

co tagradh fris an techtaireacht frisa tainic o Chormac,

ocus a mbrathairsi bunaidh do chuimhniugad

ocus gan Leith Cuind do cur fa dhochar ocus fa dhaeire.

“Ro ba commain dam-sa tortromadh forro”, ar Mogh Ruith,

“or tucsat Ferghas ar loingius

ocus ro bensat righi nUlad de

ocus tucsat gan fherunn gan aenech he

Ghluais CithRua ar aghaidh leis an teachtaireacht seo chuig Mogh Roith.

Bhí Mogh Roith ag dul ó dheas an lá sin go dtí Sí Charn Breachnatan

agus bhual CithRua leis ansiúd.

D’iarr CithRua air *foighne a dhéanamh

chun go dtabharfad sé an teachaireacht dó ó Chormac

agus* smaoineamh ar a mbunbhráithreachas

agus gan díobháil ná dochar a dhéanamh do Leath Choinn.

“Is dual dom iad a chur faoi chois,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“mar, chuir siad iallach ar Fheargus (mac Róich) imirce a dhéanamh

agus bhain siad ríocht Uladh de

agus d’fhág siad é gan talamh gan einceach.

CithRua set off with this message to Mogh Roith

who was going southwards *on that day* to Sí Charn Breachnatan.

CithRua met him there

and asked him *to have patience

so that he could tell him the message with which he had come from Cormac

and* to remember their basic brotherhood

and not to bring evil on Leath Choinn.

“It is my duty to oppress them,” said Mogh Roith,

“for they sent Fearghus into exile

and deprived him of the kingdom of Uladh

and left him without land or honour

ocus as briathar dam-sa co scer iat-som fria
hard-flaithius

ocus co mbiat a saerclanna ambroid [leg. a
mbroid] i tighibh echtran n-a eraicc”.

“As uathad do Leth Cuind”, ar Cith Ruadh,
“do chogar in sarughudh-sin

ocus in ngebhe na comhadha-sa o Cormac?”

ocus ro shlonn do uili na comtha.

“Na habair”, ar Mogh Ruith,

“doigh ni treicfinn-si mu dhalta ar a fil d’or ar
an talmain.

Ocus innis-si do Cormac,

gen gu beth neach aili isin Mumain acht Mogh
Corb, nac treicfinn-si mo tiughbhaidh”

Bainfidh mise an ardriogacht diobh *, dar mo
bhriathar,*

i dtreo go mbeidh a saorchlanna i mbroid i
dtithe eachtrannacha mar éiric.”

“Ba mhionlach i Leath Choinn a d’imir an
éagóir sin air,” arsa Cith Rua,

“mar sin, an nglacfaidh tú le tairiscint
Chormaic?”

Agus léirigh sé na tairiscintí uile dó.

“Ná habair faic eile,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“mar ní thréigfinn mo dhalta ar ór na cruinne

agus inis do Chormac

nach stadfainn ón treascairt (?) dá mba rud é
nach mbeadh fágtha sa Mhumhain ach Mogh
Corb amháin.”

and I have sworn that I will deprive them of
the high-kingship

so that their freemen will be slaves in the
houses of foreigners as a reprisal.”

“It was only a minority of Leath Choinn that
conspired to bring about that injustice;

So will you accept these offers from
Cormac?” asked Cith Rua.

And he explained all the offers to him.

“Don’t say any more,” said Mogh Roith,

“for I would not abandon my pupil for all the
gold on earth.

Tell Cormac

that even if nobody else in Munster survived
except Mogh Corb alone, I would not set aside
my concentrated warfare.”

Section 107

Ro dhealuigset na draithe ann-sin

ocus nir aem Mogh Ruith o Chith Ruadh inni
im a toracht.

Ocus ro siacht Cith Ruadh gu Cormac

ocus ro innis nar aemh Mogh Ruith fortacht na
foiridin forro.

Ocus do batar clann Cuind ann-sin co dubac
dobronac a n-a longport.

D'imigh na draiothe iarsin

agus níor ghlac Mogh Roith le tairiscintí
Chormaic *a thug Cith Rua leis*.

Ghluais Cith Rua ar ais chuig Cormac ansin

agus d'inis sé an scéal dó.

Nuair a chuala siad an méid sin d'fhan Clann
Choinn ina longfort agus iad faoi bhrón agus
faoi mhairg.

The druids parted then,

and Mogh Roith did not accept the proposals
brought by Cith Rua.

Cith Rua went back to Cormac

and told him that Mogh Roith would not
agree.

Then Clann Choinn continued to remain in
camp sad and depressed.

Section 108

Ord Mogha Ruith immorro, teit side co teach
Banbuaininne bandrai

co Sidh Cairn Breachnatan,

do chuingid foirthne forre, da fhiabraigid
cinnus tiefidis fir Muman isin cath.

D'imigh Mogh Roith áfach go teach
Bhanbhuaininne bandraoi,

'sé sin le rá go dtí Sí Charn Breachnatan

chun cabhair agus comhairle a fháil uaithi i
dtaobh an chatha.

As for Mogh Roith, *however,* he went off
on a visit to the house of the druidess
Banbhua

at Sí Charn Breachnatan

to seek her help and to enquire of her as to
how the Men of Munster would fare in the
battle.

Ocus o ro siacht ro ferud caein-fhailte fris
ocus ro boi aghaidh ann,

ocus ro fiafraigh ord o thus co deredh um
dhala in catha.

Ocus asbert Bannbuana fris-sium. “Eirg-si
mochtrath amarach,” ar si

“ocus budh lat buaid in catha, ocus la firu
Muman”

Ocus atbert in rethoirecc-sa.

“Saigh-siu immach moch-eirghi, *et rel.*”

Eirgeas Mogh Ruith maiten mhoch

ocus doni timna celeaburta ocus gabuidh
lamha ar imthecht.

Conad ann asbert Buan, .i. mac Mogha Ruith.

“Atconnac fis”, ar se, “ocus ber-si breith forre,
a Mhogh Ruith”.

“Abair,” ar Mogh Ruith.

Fearadh fiorchaoin fáilte roimhe agus d’fhan
sé ann thar oíche

agus rinne siad an cheist a phlé ó thús go
deireadh.

“Éirigh go moch ar maidin amárach,” a dúirt
Banbhuan leis,

“agus is leatsa agus le Fir Mhumhan a bheidh
an bua,”

agus rinne sí reitric a aithris:

“Éirigh go moch agus gluais amach”

Dá bhrí sin, d’éirigh Mogh Roith le
mochthráth na maidine,

d’fhág slán aici agus d’imigh leis.

Labhair Buan, a mhac, ansin:

“Chonaic mé fíis,” ar seisean, “agus tabhairse
breith uirthi, a Mhogh Roith.”

“Abair,” arsa Mogh Roith.

When he arrived he was given a warm
welcome and he stayed there overnight

inquiring about all the details of the encounter
from beginning to end.

“Get up early tomorrow morning,” Banbhuan
told him,

“and it is you and the Men of Munster who
will be victors,”

and she recited a rhetoric:

“Set out early”

Mogh Roith rose early next morning,

said goodbye and took his leave.

Then Buan, his son, spoke:

“I had a vision,” said he, “and I want you
Mogh Roith to make a judgment on it.”

“Speak,” said Mogh Roith.

Is ann tuc Buan in segdai sen-fhocail for ard oca hindisi ocus atbert:

“Tadhbas dom adbassa.

fir annfeach aislingi. Eirn hi ocus indisfet. dia n-eisdi frim. Damh cuana coilgdirech. gu mbeannuibh banarcait. muc allaid uruathmur bo oderc fhind. an triar, no thuirin-ssa. bo ocus muc moir fhegha. damh dreaman dassachtach ra delmad drong. Cucaind ro comluidset. co ar leabaidh lanaidhi. adar lium rolighesdar ado inn co bonn. Berat breit mbunatai forfis feigh forchanai. asna fethuib faitsine forbrit gail gluind. Ase an torc trebliadhnach. traethar feirg fortamlais. flaith cathach congalach. Cormac hui Chuind. croda in damh drechleathan. dagh-mac fial finn-Eogain Fiachu Mor Muillethan. muires cat cro. Eimhne fhial ilcrothac ingen mhaith Mhor-Mhogha mhin buile blaithetrocht mu bhean-sa an bho. bid fuinne faeifider. Cath Claire claeidfider. Bid romuind raeinfider. ricfit meic mna. Bid curda in comaigtes Cormac Cuilt conaigfes. Bid dinn a domainches ir im a toctad”

Bhain Buan úsáid as seanfhocail shéaghainn ansin, agus dúirt os ard:

“Taibhsíodh domsa”

It was then that Buan had recourse to the venerable ancient speech as he described his vision aloud.

Section 109

As a haithle-sin, dodechaid Mogh Ruith

airm i ra butar fir Muman um Fiachaig co Cenn Claire.

Ocus gabhustar Fiacha ac fiafraigid scel de.

Ocus atbert Mogh Ruith: “Gebut-sa tra umad chis, ocus toibgighfet neithi eli duit”,

ocus tuc in retoiric ar aird, .i.

“Cis coduil cothaighfet, *et rel*”

Ghluais Mogh Roith ar aghaidh iarsin

agus bhual sé le Fiacha agus Fir Mhumhan ag Ceann Chláire

agus ghabh Fiacha ag fiafraí scéala de.

“Gheobhaidh mise iomad cíosa duit agus tabharfaidh mé rudaí eile ar ais duit,” arsa Mogh Roith

agus rinne sé reitric a aithris *os ard*.

After that, Mogh Roith set out

for Ceann Chláire where the Men of Munster were assembled around Fiacha.

And Fiacha began to question him.

“I will make good your taxes and recover other things for you,” said he

and he proceeded to recite a rhetoric *aloud*.

Section 110

Ord Cormaic immorro gabhustar for agallaimh
Cith Ruaídh,

ocus ga fhiafraighidh dhe in rai bhi aigi
fortacht ar na sloganibh.

“Ni fhil”, ar Cith Ruadh, “ni not cobra, acht
tene druadh do dhenamh”.

“Cinnus dogniter saidhe?”, ar Cormac, “ocus
ga tarbha a dhenamh?”.

“Mar so,” ar Cith Ruadh:

“Eirgit na sloigh fon caill

ocus tabhrat cairthenn leo

ár is ann saidhe ata formna ar ndala-ne.

Ocus as doigh freicerthar anes sin

ocus o thairset na teindti d’fatud

Maidir le Cormac, áfach, thosaigh sé ar
agallamh Cith Rua

agus ag fiafraí de cén chaoi a gcabhródh sé
leis na sluaite.

“Níl dada le déanamh,” arsa Cith Rua, “ach
amháin tine dhruadh a dhéanamh.”

“Conas a dhéantar í sin?” arsa Cormac, “agus
cén mhaitheas a dhéanfaidh sí?”

“Seo mar a dhéantar í,” arsa Cith Rua,

“lig do na buíonta dul amach go dtí an choill

agus caorthann a bhailiú agus é a thabhairt ar
ais anseo

mar is é seo an saghas adhmaid is fearr inár
ndála-na.

Is dócha go mbeidh tine den saghas céanna
acu theas ag freagairt dár dtine

agus *nuair a lastar na tinte,*

As regards Cormac, however, he began to
consult Cith Rua

and to enquire of him if anything could be
done to help the troops.

“There is not,” said Cith Rua, “except to make
a druidic fire.”

“How is that done?” asked Cormac, “and what
purpose will it serve?”

“This is how is made,” said Cith Rua,

“let the troops go out to the forest

and collect rowan wood

for that is best in our circumstances,

and presumably, this fire will be responded to
by one in the south

and when the fires are lighted

bidh cach oc forchoimet a theined.

beidh gach dream ag tabhairt aire
dá thine féin.

each party will attend to his own.

Ocus, da mad edh no bhiath ann cu mad fo
dhes no impuigdis na teinnti

Má iompaíonn na tinte ó dheas
(agus ní dóigh liomsa go dtarlóidh a leithéid),
is ceart daoibhse dul ar thíor Fhir Mhumhan.

Now, if it should occur that the fires turn
southwards

(ocus ni saeilim)," ar Cith Ruadh,
“rob maith in leanmain for firu Muman uaib-
si.

Ach má thagann a dtinte siúd aneas imígí libh
as an áit
mar cloífear sibh má fhanann sibh anseo.”

(and I don’t think this is going to happen),
then it would be well for you to go in pursuit
of the Men of Munster.

Ocus mad anes impuit, beridh-si sibh fein as,
ar bid oruib meabhus gid airi-sium
doghnithe”.

Seachas Cormac agus dream beag timpeall air
d’imigh gach duine go dtí an choill
agus tháinig siúd ar ais níos déanaí agus na
crainn chaorthainn á n-iompar acu.

But if it is to the north that the fires turn, take
yourselves off,
for you will be defeated even if you persist in
staying.”

Tiagat iarum na sloigh fon caill acht mad suail
bec im Cormac,
ocus tucsat connadh caerthainn leo.

Except for Cormac and a small group who
surrounded him all went out to the forest
to secure the rowan wood and they returned
later carrying the trees.

Section 111

Ro rathaighsit fir Muman sin ocus ro raidhset
ra Mogh Ruith.

“A fir shochuir”, ar siat, “ga ret sut doni Leth
Cuind?”

“Ga ret doghniat?” ar Mogh Ruith.

“Fedmunna ramhora do thinol i n-ait n-aenbhaili

cu nach lugha inas in cnoc ro thurnais-si in
dumha chonnaid fil aca”.

“Is fir”, ar Mogh Ruith ra fira Muman,

“a fhreacra-sin as coir;

ra a dhruidhibh-fein ro impa Cormac

ocus tene draidhichta ro gnithir acu-sin”.

Ocus ro raidh Mogh Ruith ra feruibh
Mumhan:

“Imtigidh”, ar se, “fo chaill Lethaird fo dhes

Thug Fir Mhumha faoi deara an rud a bhí ar
siúl agus labhair siad le Mogh Roith:

“A Fhir Shochair,” ar siad, “cad tá á
dhéanamh ag Leath Choinn?”

“Cad tá ar siúl acu?” arsa Mogh Roith.

“Tá siad ag bailiú carn brosna *le chéile in
aon áit amháin*,” ar siad,

“agus ní bheidh sé níos lú ná an tulach a
d’ísligh tú féin.”

“Is fior é sin,” arsa Mogh Roith le Fir
Mhumhan,

“agus caithfimidne an dúshlán a fhreagairt.

Bhí ar Chormac dul i muinín a dhraoithe

agus tá tine dhraíochta á hullmhú acu.”

Dúirt Mogh Roith arís le Fir Mhumhan:

“Imígí ó dheas,” ar seisean, “go dtí Coill
Leathaird

The Men of Munster took note of what was
going on and they said to Mogh Roith:

“O Man, our Protector,” said they, “what are
Leath Choinn doing?”

“What are they doing?” said Mogh Roith.

“They are gathering large bundles of firewood
together in one place,” said they,

“so that the stack of firewood will not be less
high than the hill you lowered.”

“That is true,” said Mogh Roith to the Men of
Munster,

“*we must respond to the challenge.*

Cormac had recourse to his own druids

and they are making a magic fire.”

Mogh Roith then said to the Men of Munster:

“Go south,” said he, “to the wood of
Leathaird

ocus na rub luga bhar lamhac eisdi

agus ná ligigí do bhur lámha a bheith ag
sileadh leo.

and don't let your hands be idle;

ocus tabhraid brosna braei laime gac ein fir
libh, acht mad Fiacha a oenar

Lig do gach fear, seachas Fiacha amháin,
gabháil adhmaid a iompar ar ais.

let every man of you bring an armful of
firewood except for Fiacha alone.

ocus tabhradh-sein asglann gualunn leis
do chrunn cruaidh dagcacait eoín earraig

Lig dósan iompar ar a ghuallí ualach

Let him bring a load on his shoulders

a taeibh uir-shleibhi frisi mbenait na tri
foscaidh

de chrann crua ar a mbíonn éin an earraigh ina
seasamh (?)

of a hard tree where the birds of spring rest (?)

.i. foscadh gaeithi marta,

Tóghadh sé an crann ó thaobh an tsléibhe ina
mbíonn trí fhoscadh ag teacht le chéile

from a mountainside where the three shelters
meet

ocus foscadh gaeithe mara

— foscadh ó ghaoithe Márta,

— shelter from the March wind,

ocus foscadh gaeithi luisin,

ó ghaoithe mara

from the wind from the sea,

ar daig gu rub lasomain ra cetatudh fon teined.

agus ó ghaoithe luisin (?)

from the wind of flame (?)

Ocus ni benfaider ar nech daar bhur n-eis an
deda sin do thabairt libh

i dtreo gur lasair lonn a bheidh ann *nuair a
lastar an tine*.

so that once it is kindled it will be an inferno.

.i. braei laime ocus asclann ghualann.

Ní bheidh an dá rud sin in easnamh ar bhur
síol go deo

And none of your descendants will be
deprived of these two things

— gabháil adhmaid ina lámha acu ná ualach
de ar a nguallí.

— an armful or a shoulder-load

Ocus na tabhraid cuala ider na rub fotha
aiscthi duibh da bar n-eisi,
ocus nach abartar ‘cualuighi’ ribh”

Agus ná tugaigí cuail ar ais ar eagla go
náireodh sé bhur síol
agus go dtabharfaí ‘cualaithe’ orthu.”

and do not carry faggots lest it be a reproach
to your descendants
and lest you be called ‘fuel-gatherers’.”

Section 112

Tiagat iarsin fo chaill Lethaird
frisin abar Caill Fhian aniu.

Ocus is o na fiannuibh-sin Fiachach
Muilteathain meic Eogain ainmnighther in caill
o sin ile.

Doroacht leo iarum in forgnamh ocus in tinol
ro haithnid dibh
cu fosadlar in longphuirt.

Ocus do raidh Mogh Ruith ra Cennmhar:
“Atto ocus innil ramhthus na teined”.

Ro eirigh Cennmhar ocus as e suidiugud tuc
furre amal bis coichin
tre-echoir ocus tri huilli fair acht batar seacht
ndorais forri

D’imigh siad leo ansin go Coill Leathaird
— Coill Fhiann is ainm don áit sin inniu
agus is ó fhianna Fhiacha Mhoilleathain mhic
Eoghain an t-ainm sin ó shin i leith.

Bhailigh siad le chéile *ansin* an méid a
d’ullmhaigh
agus d’fhág i lár an longfoirt é.

Dúirt Mogh Roith le Ceann Mór ansin:
“Ullmhaigh an brosna agus las an tine”.

D’éirigh Ceann Mór ansin agus thóg sé an t-
ábhar i riocht cuiginne
le trí thaobh agus trí chúinne agus seacht
ndoras.

They then went to the wood of Leathaird.
This is called Coill Fhiann today,
for it is from the warriors (*Fianna*) of Fiacha
Muilleathain, son of Eoghan, that the wood is
named ever since.

They brought together *then* what they had
been ordered to prepare and collect
and deposited it at the centre of the camp.

Then Mogh Roith said to Ceann Mór:

“Light and prepare the kindling for the fire.”
Ceann Mór arose and built up the firewood
like a churn
but having three sides and three corners and
seven doors,

ocus ni ra butar acht tri doirssi ar in teinid
thuaidh.

Ocus dano ni raibi suidiugud na corugud forre,
acht a chur n-a cheann cheana in connid.

Ní raibh ach trí dhoras ag an tine thuaidh

agus ní raibh sí suite ná cóirithe i gceart

while the northern fire had only three doors.

Moreover, it was not properly sited or
arranged

Section 113

Ocus ro raidh Cennmar: “As urlumh so, acht
gan tene ann”.

Benaidh Mogh Ruith ann sin a thallann teined;
ocus rob urlamh an tene thuaidh annsin.

Ro ghabhadar som uili grasacht ocus omun
ocus tinnius annsin.

Ocus ro raidh Mogh Ruith ra feruibh Muman:
“Beanaid uili co tannisneach taebh-snas do
crannuibh bur sleagh”.

Ocus ro bensat ocus tucsat do.

“Tá sé ullamh,” arsa Ceann Mór, “ach é a
adhaint.”

Bhuail Mogh Roith a thallann tine ansin
agus um an dtaca seo bhí an tine thuaidh
ullamh mar an gcéanna.

Bhí imní agus dithneas ar gach duine ansin.

“Brostaigh oraibh,” arsa Mogh Roith *le Fir
Mhumhan*, “agus gearraigí *uile* slisíni as
crainn bhur sleánnna.”

Rinne siad amhlaidh agus thug dó iad.

Ceann Mór said: “this is ready except to set it
alight.”

Mogh Roith struck his fire-flint then.

At this stage the northern fire was ready.

All were seized with fear and haste then,

and Mogh Roith said to the Men of Munster:
“Be quick, all of you cut off the shavings from
the shafts of your spears.”

They cut off the shavings and gave them to
him.

Doroine-sium cuimmscin mor de-sin

ocus do cuir in tene inn ocus ro shuaitheasdar iarsin ocus ro raidh.

“Suathuim tene trethnach tren.
reidhfidh figh, feoighfidh fer.
lasair lonn, lor a luas.
ro sia snas sruith neamh suas.
cnaifid fech fegha fuinn.
claifid cath ar Clann Cuinn” *et cetera*.

Do chuir-sium in tene fon so-dheithbir-sin

ocus ro ba lan lasomain ro las ocus ro bo lanmhor a fuaim.

Ocus do raidh an rethoric .i.

“De druadh,
mu dhe tar gac nde.
de sendruadh so.
Seitfair. seitfai.
foluib luis la hurach.
fiadluib luis la crinach.
luath crithrach crine
fasda critre ure.
cirb ceo caerthainn.

Mheasc sé le chéile iad in aon bheart mór amháin

agus las sé suas le splanc *ansin* fad a bhí Mogh Roith á rá:

“Suaithim tine threathnach thréan,
réiteoidh fiadh, feofaidh féar,
lasair lonn, leor a luas,
sroichfidh snas sruith neamh suas,
cnaífidh fioch, fiocha foinn,
cloídifh cath ar chlann Choinn.”

Chuir sé an tine mhór ar lasadh ansin faoi dheifir

agus bhrúcht an lasair suas le fuaim lánmhór.

Leis sin, rinne Mogh Roith reitric:

“Dia na ndraoithe,
mo dhia thar gach dia,
dia an tseandruadh seo.
séidfear, séidtear,
luisne íseal don úrach,
luisne ard don chrónach,
luathloscadh críonaigh,
mearloscadh úraigh
géarcheo caorthainn,

He mixed them together in a large bundle

and set fire to it. It burst into flames *then* as he chanted a spell:

“I knead a fire, powerful, strong;
it will level the wood, it will dry up grass;
an angry flame, great its speed
it will rush up, to the heavens above;
it will destroy forests, the forests of the earth,
it will subdue in battle the people of Conn.”

Hastily, then, he set the firewood alight

and it burst into flames with a mighty roar,

as he chanted a rhetoric:

“God of druids,
my god above every god,
he is god of the ancient druids.
it will blow (the wind), may it blow
a low flame (to burn) the young vegetation,
a high flame for the old (vegetation),
a quick burning of the old,
a quick burning of the new,
sharp smoke of the rowan-tree,

cain ceo caerthainn.
Cerda druadh dolbaim.
nert Cormaic. clofim.
Cect. Crota Cithruadh.
Clocha dhibh dolbaim.

diuc gaeth do beind cathrach clichre. coir gaeth aness tren gaeth anes. Ocht foghaetha, ceathra primhgaetha. Condich gaeth os gaethaibh do muinter Dainel. accallaim Etheor. dogairiur Simon. Sruthmor mac Guill. cainfider faidh fis. forcha cath cath Fiachach. for faen cath cath Cormaic. cain bebais bliathain maidin. be teine treathnuighfes. circale catha Cormaic. o nómайдim claechmabaidh gne. ni ba ruirech righport. rerais cloich cain a cathraigh. Patricio dofhuil. Patricio do icfa. Patricio deodha berit (?) buaidh n-apstal. aincidh bracha. breitem n-Eorpa. enradh acu. uili uili. amen amen. Signum Signum crucis crucis. crumthir. crumthir Crisd Crisd De do ful Crisd De". De druadh.

caoincheo caorthainn,
cleachtaim ceirdne draoi,
cloím neart Chormaic,
déanaim clocha
de Chéacht, Chrotha, Chithrua."

gentle smoke of the rowan-tree,
I practise druidic arts,
I subdue Cormac's power,
Céacht, Crotha, Cith Rue —
I turn them into stones."

Section 114

"Gabtar mo dhaimh dam-sa i bhfhecht sa", ar
Mogh Ruith,

"ocus coraighther mo carpat forro

ocus dano geibid-si baa [leg. bar] n-eocha bid
i lamhaib libh,

ocus mad budh thuaidh soidhit nr [leg. na]
teindti

rob maith in leanmain uaib-si forro-sum

ocus mad amlaidh-sin bhias,

"Anois" arsa Mogh Roith, "tugtar mo dhaimh
chugam

agus cuirtear faoi mo charbad iad

agus bíodh bhur n-eacha féin ullamh agaibh
chomh maith.

Má chasann an tine ó thuaidh,

caithfidh sibh dul sa tóir ar shlua Chormaic

agus má tharlaíonn a leithéid

"Now," said Mogh Roith, "let my oxen be
brought

and tackled to my chariot

and have your own horses ready at hand *as
well*.

If the fires turn northwards

you must set off northwards in pursuit of
Cormac's men

and if this proves to be the case

na hanaidh-si dib	ná cuirigí srian oraibh féin	don't hold back
cu ro anar-sa.	agus ní chuirfidh mise srian orm féin <u>ach</u> <u>oiread.</u>	and neither will I.
Ocus mad a tuaidh thisat	<u>Ar an taobh eile den scéal</u> , má tharlaíonn go dtagann an tine aduaidh,	If, <u>however</u> , the fires move southwards,
denaid-si bar n-imdhitean forro	cosnaígí sibh féin uaithi	defend yourselves against them
ocus tabhraid deabhtha doib	agus troidigí <u>Leath Choinn</u>	and engage them in battle
i mbeilghibh ocus a n-imcuimgibh ocus a n-eicindinaibh in cuicid.	i mbearnaí caola agus in áiteanna contúirteacha ar fud an chíuge.	in defiles and narrow passes and in dangerous parts of the province.
Ocus as doigh nach bha heicen duibh	Ní dóigh liom go dtarlóidh a leithéid	It is unlikely that you will have to do this,
ocus mar budh eicen rob amlaidd foichillti-si”.	ach bígí ullamh.”	but nevertheless, be prepared, in case it should happen.”
Ocus (is amlaidd ro can-sam sin) ro chuir anal druadh ind aieor ocus i firmimint	Leis sin, theilg <u>Mogh Roith</u> anáil dhraíochta suas san aer agus san fhirmimint	<u>Mogh Roith</u> then shot a druidic breath into the air and the firmament
co nderna mothar ocus duibh-nel os Cinn Claire,	go ndearna mothar dlúth ceo agus dubhnéal os Ceann Chláire	so that an obscuring thicket and a dark cloud arose over Ceann Cláire
ocus braen fola as-side.	agus <u>ón néal sin</u> , thuirling braonta fola anuas	and from it descended a shower of blood,
Ocus do raidh Mogh Ruith in rethoiric.	agus rinne Mogh Roith reitric:	and Mogh Roith chanted the rhetoric:

“Ferim brict
a nirt nel,
cu ma braen
fola ar fer.
bid fo an bith.
bruittir druing.
cu mba crith,
ar cuain Cuind.
cu mba anes. gac nert niath. bidh flaith fuach. Fer da liach. co luidh brach. buaidhnibh slogh. biайдh os cach. Eogan mor. Mogh Corb cas. claitte selgh bidh rait rod. flaith na fer”. Ferim brict.

“I cast a spell,
on the power of cloud,
may there be a rain
of blood on grass,
let it be throughout the land,
a burning of the crowd,
may there be a trembling
on the warriors of Conn.”

Section 115

O thairnic in rethoirc-sin

Agus an reitric seo críochnaithe ag Mogh Roith,

On the completion of this rhetoric

ros geibh an cith co raibh os Cinn Claire,

ghabh an néal ar aghaidh go dtí go raibh sé os cionn Ceann Chláire

the cloud moved on until it was above Ceann Chláire;

ros geibh as-sidhe co mbai os cind longphuirt Chormaic

agus ar aghaidh leis arís os longfort Chormaic

from there it moved on again until it was above Cormac’s camp

ocus ros geibh as-side co Temraigh.

agus as sin go Teamhair na Rí

and then proceeded to Tara.

Do raidh Cormac ra Cith Ruadh: “Ga fuaim-so rocluineam?”

Dúirt Cormac le Cith Rua: “Cad í an fhuaim sin a chloisim?”

Cormac said to Cith Rua: “What sound is that I hear?”

“Braen fola”, ar Cith Ruadh, “doronad tre dian draidechta,

“Cith fola,” arsa Cith Rua, “draíocht láidir is cúis leis

“A shower of blood,” said Cith Rua, “brought on by powerful magic

ocus as rinne ticfa a uillida”.

Ba holc la Leth Cuind sin

ocus doronsat glor ocus seisilb moir uime.

Ocus atbert Cith Ruadh in laid. “Atciu-sa cith do Claire *et rel.*”.

Do batar tra coillte ocus fegha mora ar clarmhedhon Muman intan-sin,

.i. an Ghiúsach o tha Druim nEogubuil sair co bealuch Chaille Tochail,

ocus Colltanán o Druim Eoghabhail suas co Claire

ocus Ros Cno o Druim Eogobail siar co hEsmaige,

ocus Glenn mBebhthach ider dha rot

o Druim Eogobail sis gu hAine,

ocus gu carn Feradhaigh.

agus is orainne a thitfidh a dhroch-thortháí.”

Ba holc le Leath Choinn an méid sin

agus ba mhór an gleo a bhí ar siúl acu.

Ansin dúirt Cith Rua an laoi: “Feicim cith os Cláire”

Bhí coillte móra agus foraoisí ar chlármheán na Mumhan an tráth sin:

an Ghiúsach ó Dhroim Eoghabhail soir go Bealach Chaille Tochaill;

Colltanán ó Dhroim Eoghabhail suas go Cláire;

Ros Cno ó Dhroim Eoghabhail siar go hEas Má;

agus *Gleann Beabhthach* idir dhá ród

ó Dhroim Eoghabhail síos go (*Cnoc*) hÁine

agus go Carn Fheardhaigh.

and it is we who will feel its ill effects.”

Leath Choinn were distressed at hearing this

and it was the cause of much noise and commotion among them.

Cith Rua then uttered the lay: “I see a cloud above Ceann Chláire

At that period, there were great woods and forests covering the central plain of Munster:

An Ghiúsach — extending from Droim Eoghabhail eastwards to Bealach Chaille Tochail;

Colltanán — extending southwards from Droim Eoghabhail to Cláire;

Ros Cno — extending westwards from Droim Eoghabhail to Eas Má;

and *Gleann Beabhthach* — extending northwards between two great roads

from Droim Eoghabhail to (*Cnoc*) Áine

and to Carn Fheardhaigh.

Section 116

Ro fiafraig Mogh Ruith: "Cinnus atait na teinnti?"

"Atat", ar siat, "cach dibh ag falmaisiu a cheili re hor sleibhi siar
ocus sis iarsin co Druim nAsail ocus co Sinainn,
ocus iarsin cusinn ait chetna".

Ro fiafraigh Mogh Ruith: "Cinnus atat na teinnti?"

"Atat fon tuaruim cetna", ar iat,

"ocus ni fharcaibset figh na fer

ar clarmhedhon Muman gan loscad".

Ocus as machaire o sin ille.

Ro fhiarfaigh Mogh Ruith: "Cinnus atat na teinnti?"

D'fiafraigh Mogh Roith: "Conas atá na tinte?"

"Tá siad ag bagairt ar ionsáí a chéile ag imeall an tsléibhe, ag dul siar
agus ansin ag iompú ó thuaidh go Droim nAsail agus go Sionainn
agus ag casadh ar ais go dtí an áit chéanna arís."

D'fiafraigh Mogh Roith: "Conas atá na tinte?"

"Tá siad sa riocht céanna fós," ar siad,

"ach níl ribe féir ná crann

i má lárnach na Mumhan nach bhfuil loiscthe acu."

Is machaire an áit sin ó shin i leith.

D'fiafraigh Mogh Roith: "Conas atá na tinte?"

Mogh Roith asked: "How are the fires behaving?"

"Each one of them is threatening to attack the other at the border of the mountain to the west
and then turning northwards to Tory Hill and the Shannon
and then returning *to the same place*."

Mogh Roith asked: "How are the fires behaving?"

"They are still in the same condition," said they,

"and they have not left a tree nor a blade of grass

on the central plain of Munster that they haven't burnt up."

This area is cleared land ever since.

Mogh Roith asked: "How are the fires behaving?"

“Adhrachtadur,” ar siat “co firmimint ocus co neolu nime,

ocus atat mar bít da laech lonna luthmura

no da leoinn letarthaca, cach dhibh oc folmaisi a cheili”.

“Tá siad imithe suas go dtí an ffirmimint agus go dtí néalta neimhe,” a dúirt siad,

“agus tá siad cosúil le laochra lonna lúfara

nó le dhá leon alpacha ag leanúint a chéile.”

“They have flown up to the firmament and to the clouds of heaven,” said they,

“and they are like two ferociously agile warriors,

or like two devouring lions attacking each other.”

Section 117

Tucad tra a sheche thairb maeil uidhir co Mogh Ruith,

ocus a encennach alath brec con-a foluamain ethaidi,

ocus a aidme draidhechta ar cena.

Ocus dosrala suas a comuidecht na teined ind aeor ocus i firmimint

ocus gabustar ac sodh ocus ag bualadh na teined budh thuaidh,

ocus ro chan in rhetoric-so:

“Saigti druadh dolbaim-si, *et rel.*”.

Tugadh ansin a sheithe thairbh mhaoil odhair go Mogh Roith

chomh maith lena éanchealtair alabhareac lena heití foluaineacha

agus an chuid eile dá threalamh draíochta.

D’imigh sé leis suas san aer agus san ffirmimint ansin in éineacht leis an tine

agus bhí sé ag casadh agus ag bualadh na tine
ó thuaidh ar a dhícheall

agus reitric á reacaireacht aige:

“Deilbhím saigheada druadh”

The bull-hide from a horn-less brown bull belonging to Mogh Roith was now brought to him

along with his speckled bird-mask with its billowing wings

and the rest of his druidic gear.

He proceeded to fly up into the sky and the firmament along with the fire,

and he continued to turn and beat the fire towards the north

as he chanted the rhetoric:

“I fashion druids’s arrows”

Gabus Mogh Ruith ag bualadh na teined budh tuaidh iarum.

Ocus gabhus Cith Ruadh fon cuma cedna atuaidh.

Arai-sin, ro impo Mogh Ruith na teinnti

fo túaidh, ocus dousrala i ceann longphuirt Cormaic

ocus nir leic Mogh Ruith cenn do thocbhail doibh o rous turn einfhecht.

Dorochair Cith Ruadh ann sidhe co n-a shlogh druadh in alla this [leg. malle ris] ocus co n-a shlógh sidhe.

Ocus ro coirghit acu-san na catha crodha commora conacailti,

ocus ro coirged lorg ocus tosach forro,

ocus tugad leibinn sciath impa da gac leth

Lean Mogh Roith ar aghaidh mar sin ag iarraidh an tine a thiomáint ó thuaidh

agus mar an gcéanna bhí Cith Rua ag iarraidh í a thiomáint ó dheas.

Dá ainneoin sin, áfach, d'éirigh le Mogh Roith an tine a chasadadh

ó thuaidh i dtreo longfort Chormaic.

As sin amach níor lig sé don tine bogadh ón mball sin.

Ba anseo a cloíodh Cith Rua maille lena shlua draoithe agus lena shlua sí.

Chuir lucht leanúna Chormaic ord agus eagarr orthu féin ansin ina mbuíonta catha *móra* cróga

agus lorg agus tosach orthu

agus sciatha timpeall orthu ar gach taobh.

Mogh Roith thus continued to beat the fire northwards

while Cith Rua in the same way tried to turn it southwards.

In spite of this, however, Mogh Roith succeeded in turning the fires

in the direction of the north to Cormac's camp.

Once he had succeeded in doing this Mogh Roith did not permit the fires to move away from there.

It was here that Cith Rua suffered defeat along with the company of druids and his *slua sí*.

Cormac's followers then arranged themselves in large stalwart battalions,

with an advance guard and a rear guard

and a wall of shields surrounding them on every side.

ocus gabsat rompa i remthus tseda
ocus imdheachta,

or nír leicset a ndraithi doibh fosugud ra
tabairt catha na comhlainn

ocus do aithnedar dhibh maith do dhenamh
intan bud eicen.

Thosaigh siad ar an máirseáil imeachta lom
láithreach

agus níor thug na draoithe cead dóibh stad
chun cath ná comhlann a throid,

ach thug siad ordú dóibh a ndualgas a
chomhlíonadh aon uair a bheadh gá leis.

They began the march of evacuation at once,

for the druids would not allow them to stop for
fight or pitch-battle

but they ordered them to do their duty
whenever it proved to be necessary.

Section 118

Tainic dono Mogh Ruith anuas iarsin,

ocus dodechaid a n-a charpat caemh
cumdachta for damaibh dreamhna dasachtaca

cu luas gaeithi Marta, con athlaime ethaiti

ocus seche thairbh mael uidhir lais ocus tainic
i remthus rompa,

ocus do chuir Cennmhar uatha do gresacht fer
Muman

ocus tancatar co hescad i lenmain in druadh.

Tháinig Mogh Roith anuas ón spéir ansin *,
más ea,*

agus chuaigh isteach ina charbad caomh
cumtha lena dhaimh dhreimhneacha
dhásachtacha

a raibh luas ghaoth Mhárta acu agus
lúfaireacht éan.

Bhí a sheithe thairbh mhaoil odhair aige agus
é ag gabháil ar thosach an tslua.

Chuir sé Ceann Mór ar aghaidh chun Fir
Mhumhan a ghríosú

agus lean siad an draoi le diágrais.

So Mogh Roith then descended from the
sky

and got into his beautifully ornamented chariot
drawn by fast and furious oxen

having the speed of the wind of March and the
agility of birds.

He had with him his bull-hide from a horn-less
bull and he advanced to the head of the troops.

He sent Ceann Mór to incite the Men of
Munster to action

and they followed the druid enthusiastically.

O ro siachtadar co hArd Cluain na Feinne,
is ann-sin rugad ar deiredh in tsloigh,
ocus nir imposit friu in lucht aile.

Gabsat fir Muman annside anoir ocus aniar
futhaibh
amar tiagait coin fa min-chetraib,
.i. treotha ocus tarrsa ic a ndicennad ocus ica
n-airsecar ider anes ocus a tuaidh, ag cur na n-
ar forro
cu rancatar co Magh nUachtar i crich Ur-
Muman,
frisin abar Magh Raidne aniu.

Ocht cet immorro, ba he esbaith in tsloigh
conice sin.

Nuair a shroich siad Ard Chluain na Féinne
bhual siad le cún mhuintir Chormaic *ansin*
agus níor thiontaigh an chuid eile d'arm
Chormaic thart chun cabhrú leo.

D'ionsaigh Fir Mhumhan *ansin* iad anoir is
aniar
mar chúnna ag tabhairt ruathair ar ainmhithe
beaga.

Chuaigh siad tríothu agus tharstu á
ndícheannadh agus á dtreascairt aduaidh agus
aneas

go dtí gur shroich siad Má Uachtar i gcríoch
Urmhumhan

— Má Roighne a ghlaotar ar an áit sin sa lá
atá inniu ann.

Chaill Cormac ocht gcéad fear an babhta seo
, áfach.

When they reached Ard Chluain na Féinne
they caught up with the rear portion of
Cormac's army *there*
and the rest did not turn back to aid them
as the Men of Munster attacked them *there*
from the east and from the west,
coming at them like hounds attacking small
animals.
Through them and around them they advanced
decapitating and massacring them from north
and south
until they reached Má Uachtar in Ormond.
This area is known as Má Roighne today.
On this occasion Cormac's army lost eight
hundred men *, however*.

Section 119

Cunad annsin ro fhiarfaigh Mogh Ruith is se i ramtus rompa:

“Cia is nesa dun anno?”

ocus forfidir gia ro fiarfaigh.

“Ata triar forusta finnliath ann”, ar siat,

“Cecht, Crota, Cith Ruadh sín”.

“Ro geallustar mu dee dam-sa

co ndingnitis clocha dhib intan no bherainn-si
forro,

acht cu tarduinn-si mo anal futhaib.”

Ocus tuc som anal druagh futhaibh co nderna
clocha dibh,

ocus is do na clochaibh-sin gairther ‘Leaca
Raighne’ aniu.

Antan tra no trialldais fir Muman airisium,

Óna áit féin ar thosach an tslua, d’fhiarfraigh
Mogh Roith diobh *ansin*:

“Cé is cóngaraí dúinn anseo?”

ach bhí a fhios aige féin cheana agus an cheist
á cur aige.

“Tá trí laochra forasta liatha anseo,” ar siad,

“Céacht, Crotha agus Cith Rua.”

“Geall mo dhéithe domsa,” arsa Mogh Roith,

“go ndéanfaidís clocha den triúr sin nuair a
bhuailfinn leo

ach m’anáil a theilgean orthu.”

Leis sin, theilg sé anáil dhraíochta orthu agus
deineadh trí clocha diobh lom láithreach.

Is iadsan ‘Leaca Roighne’ an lae inniu.

Gach tráth a rinne Fir Mhumhan iarracht sos a
thógáil

It was then that Mogh Roith enquired from his place out in front:

“Who is nearest to us here?”

and he knew even though he put the question.

“There are three grey-headed stalwarts here,” said they,

“Céacht, Crotha and Cith Rua.”

“My gods promised me

that they would make stones of these three as soon as I caught them,” said Mogh Roith,

“provided that I cast my breath at them.”

With that, he cast a druidic breath and they were turned into stones

and these stones are known as ‘Leaca Roighne’ today.

Whenever the Men of Munster tried to stop,

is ann-sin ba daithe ocus ba treisi no bidh
Mogh Ruith ic maidim cucca,

ocus nir leic dhoibh anad co rancatar co Sliabh
Fuait in la-sin.

Ro saidhed pupall Fiachach annsin

ocus as e ainm an inaidh sin, ‘Inad pupla
Fiachach’ o sin ille.

is ansin a ghríosaigh Mogh Roith iad brú ar
aghaidh gan stad gan staonadh

agus dá bhrí sin níor dhein siad aon mhoill go
dtí gur shroich siad Sliabh Fuait an lá sin.

Sháigh Fiacha a phuball sa talamh ansiúd

agus tá an t-ainm ‘Ionad Phuball Fhiacha’ ar
an áit ó shin i leith.

it was then that Mogh Roith became most
insistent that they carry on

and he did not allow them to delay until they
reached Sliabh Fuait that day.

It was there that Fiacha set up his tent

and ever since the place is known as — ‘the
place of Fiacha’s tent’.

Section 120

Taircit Leth Chuinn iarum gac giall, ocus gac
cain ocus gac cis bud ail d’feraibh Muman do
tabairt daib forro.

O ro feidhligheastar ann

nir gabh Mogh Ruith ocus Mogh Corb ocus
Fiacha ocus Fir Muman ar cena

no gu mbeidis da mi ocus da raithi ocus da
bliagain tuaidh.

Ocus adubhradar gidh annsin,

Thairg Leath Choinn gach giall, gach
bóramha, gach cíos a bheadh ag teastáil uathu
a thabhairt d’fhir Mhumhan ansin.

Ní ghacfaidh Mogh Roith ná Mogh Corb ná
Fiacha ná Fir Mhumhan leis an tairiscint

go dtí go raibh siad dhá mhí agus dhá ráithe
agus dhá bhliain thuaidh

ón lá a shroicheadar an áit sin.

Dúirt siad, fiú amháin,

Leath Choinn then offered to give every
hostage, every tribute, every tax which the
Men of Munster wanted from them.

Mogh Roith, Mogh Corb, Fiacha and the
Munstermen would not accept the offer

until they were in the north for two months
and two quarters and two years

from the day they arrived there.

They said even then

nach gebhduis coma aili

nach nglacfaidís leis an tairiscint aon tslí eile

that they would not accept the offer any other way but

no gu tised Cormac fein leo co tech Fiachach,

ach Cormac féin a theacht go teach Fhiacha.

that Cormac himself should come to Fiacha's house.

o na fetastar tra Cormac a imdhiten forra

Toisc nach raibh Cormac in ann é féin a chosaint uathu *ansin*

Since Cormac could not defend himself *then*,

ocus na rabha aca cumhang gabhala dhibh a chriche d'innrudh ocus d'argain.

ná cosc a chur orthu a chríocha a scriosadh

nor had he the power to prevent them devastating his territory,

Táinic fein ocus tuc a chain ocus a chis doibh.

tháinig sé féin go pearsanta leis an gcíos agus leis an mbóramha.

he came in person and gave them the tax and the tribute.

Ro choimeirigh Fiacha co bhferuib Muman

D'éirigh Fiacha agus Fir Mhumhan

Fiacha and the Men of Munster *arose and*

ocus tancatar rompa i ramthus tseta

agus chuir chun siúil

set out then

ocus ni hindistar a n-imthusa cu rancatar cnoc Raphund.

agus ní haithristear a n-imeachta gur shroich siad Cnoc Rafann.

and their adventures are not related until they reached Cnoc Rafann.

Tucad íarum

Tugadh *ansin*

Connla mac Taidg meic Cein,

Connla mac Thaidhg mhic Céin

Connla son of Tadhg, son of Cian

mac bratar athar d'Fiachaigh eisein

— ba mhac le deartháir athar Fhiacha eisean

— the son of Fiacha's father's brother

— was *then* given

for altram do Cormac;

ocus ro leasaiged ag Cormac in mac-sin fo
chain lesaighthi.

Ocus batar amlaidh-sin re cian ocus treimhsí
fa sidh-corus etarra.

— ar altram go Cormac

agus ghlac Cormac lena oiliúint mar chuid dá
dhualgas.

D'fhan siad mar sin ar feadh i bhfad agus
conradh síochána á chothú acu.

to Cormac to be fostered by him

and Cormac undertook the boy's upbringing
as part of his obligations.

They remained thus for a long time observing
the peace treaty between them.

Section 121

Gabhsat fir Muman ga fiarfaighidh do Mogh
Ruith

ga lin idir abhus ocus tuaidh

ocus cia dhe as mo ro dithiged ann.

As leir tra ro eirnestar dhoibh ocus tuc in laid ar
aird:

“Ceathra cet laemh laechda a lín·
da cethrachait ra a coimrim.
D'fheruibh Muman co mbechta·
ro marbsat na haindrechta.

Thosaigh Fir Mhumhan ar cheist a chur ar
Mhogh Roith

faoi uimhir na ndaoine a maraíodh ar gach
taobh, ón Tuaisceart agus ón Deisceart

agus cén dream díobh ba mheasa a tháinig as
an ár.

Rinne Mogh Roith laoi a aithris os ard
ansin a phléigh an cheist go cruinn:

“480 laoch cróga d’fhir Mhumhan
a mharaigh na hainriochtáin,
de réir mar a shuimím,”
arsa Mogh Roith.

The men of Munster began to question Mogh
Roith

about the number of casualties on both sides
— north and south

— and which side had suffered the most.

Mogh Roith *then* gave a clear description of
the situation in the following lay which he
recited aloud:

“The lawless ones
killed 480 brave warriors
of the Men of Munster,
according to my calculations.

Cúic druidh Chormaic dolbsat dan-
ar Leith Mogha na mor dhal.
Lin ro marbta fa gnim ghle-
tre doilbhtib dealbtha draidhe.

Dolbsat tri cona cora:
do dhith na caerec crodha.
Dolbsat murescong fo muir-
ra dith Colptha oucus Lurguin.

Ro sos na teindti bhu tuaidh-
ar Leth Chuinn na claidem cruaidh
Tucus nert mna siulta sair-
a clannuib Chuinn Cetcathaigh

Ro claeinad in cath ar Conn-
la Mumain miadaigh, met nglonn
Ar ndith a n-aesa dana-
ra dirgit ra dighbala.

Cearra cet ruirech is righ-
do slógh Cormaic ra a coimhrimh
Co Formael ba gres os graigh-
do clannaib Cuind Cetcathaig

Cearra cet gilla nglomhair-
do slogh Cormaic ar conuir
Ro marbtha fa coimlin gle-
ider Formael is Raidne.

Chleacht cúigear draoi draíocht
i gcoinne Leath Mhogha na mórdhál.
Is é sin líon na ndaoine a mhabháidh siad.
Ba mhór an gaisce é.

Fuair mé féin trí chú
chun na caoirigh chróga a threascairt
agus dheilbhígh mé eascann
chun Colpa agus Lorga a chur faoi chois.

D'iompaigh mé na tinte ó thuaidh
go dtí Leath Choinn na gclaimhte crua.
Níor fhág mé ach neart mná seoil
i síol Chonn Chéadchathaigh thoir.

Briseadh an cath ar Chonn
le Fir Mhumhan na loinne.
Nuair a theip ar a nAos Dána
thit an lug ar an lag ag muintir Chormaic.

Maraíodh ceithre chéad tiarna agus rí de
bhuíon Chormaic ar an tstí go Formhaol
de réir mar a shuimím. Ba thubaiste í sin
do shíol Chonn Chéadchathaigh.

Maraíodh 400 giolla eich
ar an ród
idir Formhaol agus Roighne.

Five druids practised sorcery against
Leath Mhogha of the large assemblies;
this was the number killed,
an impressive deed.

I formed three hounds
to destroy the brave sheep.
I formed an underwater sea-eel
to destroy Colpa and Lorga.

I turned the fires northwards to Leath Choinn
of the hard swords. I left only the strength
of a woman in labour to the descendants
of Conn Céadchathaigh in the east.

Warlike Munster defeated Conn.
Once their *Aos Dána*
(Men of Art) had failed,
Cormac's army fell into distress.

Four hundred lords and kings of Cormac's
band are calculated to have been killed on the
way to Formhaol. It was an injury beyond
repair for the descendants of Conn
Céadchathaigh.

Exactly 400 horse-boys
belonging to Cormac's army
were killed on the road
between Formhaol and Roighne.

Crota, Cect, Cithruadh don muigh:
draithi sil Cuinn Cetcathaig
I Maigh Raidne do ruadh graigh:
ro sodhus i cruadhclochaibh.

Clocha coimhetuit ferta:
beit an co brachuib bechta
Bidh ail do Leth Cuinn a n-ainm.
'Leaca Raidhne' re roghairm.

Cúic morseisir batar ann:
gan ainm orro acht cuic anmann
Tucsat ceim cuire for cul:
ga neoch uili acht mad eintriur.

Seacht Cecht, secht Crota gu coir:
seacht Cithaigh is seacht Cithmoir
Seacht Cithruaidh co ngnim ngarbh ngle:
gu ndanuibh doilbthe draithe.

.... Ath an tsluaigh:
sist o Maigh Raidne budh thuaid
Sluagh seacht fichtit ro gaet ann:
do sluagh Cormaic ni chelam

Da fichtit ocus dá cet:
on ath-sin sair no chu brec
Os gach conuir do Leth Cuind:
doibh nír comuidh a liattruin [leg. Liatruim]

Maidir le Crotha, Céacht agus CithRua
ón má — draoithe de shíol Chonn
Chéadchathaigh — rinne mé
cruachlocha díobh i Má Roighne rua.

Beidh na leaca sin ann go brách
mar chuimhne ar an eachtra — cúis náire
do Leath Choinn. Beidh an t-ainm
'Leaca Roighne' orthu go deo na ndeoir.

Bhí cúig bhuión ann
agus seacht bhfear i ngach buíón díobh
ach gan ach cúig ainm orthu.
Seachas triúr bhí orthu teitheadh.

Bhí seachtar i ngach buíón
le Céacht, Crotha, Ceathach,
Cith Mór agus CithRua.
Ba ghléigeal a n-eachtraí agus a n-upaí.

Ag Áth an tSlua
ar an taobh thuaidh de Mhá Roighne
maraíodh seacht bhfichead
— sin rud nach gceilim.

Thit dhá chéad agus dhá fhichead ag dul
siar ón áth sin ar gach conair a ghabh Leath
Choinn — ní bréag í sin. Ní raibh aon
dídean le fáil acu i Liathroim (Teamhair).

Crotha, Céacht and CithRua from the plain
— druids of the race of Conn
Céadchathaigh — at Má Roighne of
the red rocks I turned them into solid stones.

These stones will commemorate the deed,
they will remain there for ever,
a cause of shame for Leath Choinn;
they will be known as 'Leaca Roighne'.

There were five groups of seven men each
there, having only five names.
Everyone was forced to a retreat
except for three.

There were seven men in each of the groups
belonging to Céacht, Crotha, Ceathach, Cith
Mór and CithRua. Their feats were brilliant
as was their composition of druidic spells.

At Áth an tSlua,
north of Má Roighne,
a group of seven twenties was killed
— that I do not conceal.

Two twenties and two hundred fell from that
ford eastwards — that is no lie, on every
path that Leath Choinn took. They were
not given protection in Liathruim (Tara).

Deic cét ocus da fichit·
dias ar seiser ro saighet
Ba si esbaidh Leithi Cuinn·
ra ua nAililla oluim.

O Druim Damhghaire duanaigh·
co sligid moir Midhuallaigh [= Mid[l]ua[ch]air?]
Mor in gnimh, ro cloenad cro·
is a dhenamh a n-aenlo

As e uidhi is mo ruc fian·
ar gnimuib glé [leg. gaile] ocus gliagh
O Chinn Clairi ba cuairt gle·
bud thuaidh gu Glenn Rígh Ríge.

Ro cind Fiacha ficitib sluagh·
ro cind Mogh Corb Claudeb ruadh
Nac biad a riar da gac alt·
no go mad e a ngiall Cormac.

O ro eimdhígh Cormac cain·
imgabad Fiacha fum[].
Nir gabhudh uadh acht a dhail·
ge thairgid mor focetair”.

Ro scailseat fir Mhúman iarsin o chnucc
Raphann,

ocus docoidh cach dib da thigh ocus da dhún·
aras fadhesin.

Maraíodh 1048 bhfear
— b'shin é an t-ár
a rinneadh ar Leath Choinn
le hó Oilealla Óloom.

Ó Dhroim Dámhgháire aoibhinn
go Slí Mhór Mhíluachra
mór agus fulteach an gníomh
a rinneadh in aon lá.

Ba í sin an eachtra ba mhó a rinne laochra
riamh agus í lán de ghníomhartha glé agus
gleo. Ó Cheann Chláire ba chuairt ghlé í
ó thuaidh go Gleann Rí Ríge.

Chinn Fiacha na Slua
agus Mogh Corb an Chláimh Rua
nach mbeidís lánsásta go dtí go mbeadh
Cormac féin ina ghiall acu.”

D'fhág Fir Mhumhan Cnoc Rafann ansin

agus chuir gach duine chun siúil go dtí a
theach agus a dhún fein.

There were 1048 men killed
— this was the destruction
wrought on Leath Choinn
by the grandson of Oileall Ólom.

From pleasant Druim Dámhgháire
to the great highway of Slí Mhíluachra
a great and bloody deed
took place in one day.

It is the greatest march that a warrior ever
undertook among brilliant feats of valour.
From Ceann Chláire it was a splendid
journey northwards to Gleann Rí Ríge.

Fiacha of the numerous companies
and Mogh Corb of the red sword decided
that they would not be fully satisfied
until Cormac became their hostage”

The Men of Munster left Cnoc Rafann then,

and each one set out for his own house and
fort

Ocus dochoidh Cormac co Temraigh.

D'imir Cormac ar ais go Teamhair.

while Cormac returned to Tara.

Section 122

Ro leasaiged tra Connla ag Cormac, amal adubhrumur,

cur bo inghnima ocus cur bo urramad [*leg.* urramach]

ocus gur samluigh Ere fris ar a mhaitius.

Cur ghabh leannanacht re araili mnai a Sidh Locha Gabar

ocus gur saruigh hi gan deoin di.

Ocus ro chuinnigh si ascaid fair, .i. dul le isin sith,

ocus ní dhechaid.

“Tar”, ar si, “co tuca h’adhaidh ar an ndun anunn

co n-aicet in tsluaigh, o nach teighi fein inn”.

Bhí Connla mar dhalta ag Cormac *ansin*, mar a dúramar cheana féin,

agus ba oilte agus ba urramach an duine é

agus ní raibh fear a dhionghála ar fud Éireann.

Thit sé i ngrá áfach le bean áirithe ó Shí Locha Gabhar

agus sháraigh sé í i gcoinne a tola.

D'iarr sí air dul léi isteach sa sí

ach dhiúltaigh sé é sin a dhéanamh.

“Tar,” ar sise leis, “agus ar a laghad, tabhair aghaidh ar an dún anonn,

i dtreo go bhfeicfidh an Slua Sí thí ós rud é nach rachaidh tú isteach.”

Then Connla was brought up by Cormac, as we have said,

so that he became accomplished and noble-minded

and his excellence was without compare in Ireland.

He fell in love with a certain woman of the *sí* of Loch Gabhar

and forced her to have sex with him.

She made a request to him — that he should go with her into the *sí* (fairy palace),

but he refused to go.

“Come,” said she, “and at least turn your face in the direction of the fort here,

so that the residents of the *sí* may see you *since you will not go in*.”

Teit-sium co tard a adhadh ar an sidh.	Rinne sé amhlaidh *agus chas sé a aghaidh i dtreo an tsí*	He came <u>then</u> , and turned his face toward the <i>sí</i> .
Ro indis in ben focetoir thall in gnimh doronad fria.	agus d'inis an bhean <u>sí dá muintir</u> *fá chéadóir* an éagóir a deineadh uirthi.	The woman *at once* informed <u>the sí-people</u> of the injustice done to her.
Batar-som oc iaruidh chora fair. Ocus ni thuc.	Bhí siadsan ag iarraidh éiric a bhaint as ach ní thabharfadhbh sé aon éiric dóibh.	They were seeking reparation from him but he would not make any.
"Ro mhillis ar n-einech", ar siat.	"Mhill tusa ár n-eineach," arsan <u>slua sí</u> .	"You have violated our honour," said they.
"Adeirthi-sí", ar se, "do mhillius".	"Is féidir a rá gur mhill," ar sé.	"You could say that I have," said he.
"Millfimit-ne h'einech-sa inn", ar iat-som.	"Millfimidne d'eineachsa, mar sin," a dúirt siad.	"Then we will violate your honour," said they.
Ocus tucusat a n-anala uili fai cu ro fhas bruth maeili claime o mhulluch cu bonn trid ocus ba himurcach dano an bruth-sin for a chinn ocus for a aidhidh ocus rob aithreac in turus-sin.	Leis sin, <u>bhailigh siad le chéile</u> agus theilg siad a n-anáil air in éineacht agus dá bharr sin d'fhás bruth maol *claimh* <u>ar a chorp</u> ó mhullach go bonn agus ar a cheann agus ar a ghnúis ach go háirithe. Ba aithríoch é ansin.	With that, they all together cast their breath at him and, as a result, a bare scabby eruption covered him from head to foot, especially the head and face. After that, he had a change of heart.

Section 123

Ocus ro impo ar cula gu brocach brocumac co
hairm i mbai Cormac.

Sillis Cormac ar Connla ocus mebhais a chai
fair.

“Cidh ima tai, a mu poba, a Cormaic?”

“A truma leam”, ar Cormac, “do beith-si
amlaidh-sin ocus met do gradha leam.

Ocus fos, as tu ro saeileas

do dhidhul mu chnedh ar Fhiachaigh
ic cosnum righi Muman dhuid”.

“Ni ro cualai”, ar Connla, “ocus ní ro
fhoirfedh nech ar an ngalar-sa”.

“Gia ro chuala”, ar Cormac,
“ni fhuigbea-sa idir he”.

D’fhill Connla ar an áit ina raibh Cormac agus
é brocach máchaileach.

D’fhéach Cormac air agus thosaigh sé ag caí
mar gheall ar an rud.

“Cad é seo, a Phopa, a Chormaic?” ar sé.

“Is trua liom tú a fheiceáil mar seo agus an
méid sin grá agam duit,” arsa Cormac,

“agus chomh maith leis sin ba é tusa a bhí ar
aigne agam nuair a smaoinigh mé

ar dhíoltas a bhaint amach ó Fhiacha de bharr
na drochídé a thug sé dom.

Bhí sé ar aigne agam ríocht na Mumhan a
fháil duitse.”

“Ar chuala tú trúcht ar aon leigheas nó aon
duine a d’fhóirfeadh orm?” arsa Connla.

“An rud a chuala mé,” arsa Cormac, “ní
dhéanfadh sé aon mhaitheas duit
mar ní bhfaighidh tú é.”

Thus disfigured, Connla returned to the place
where Cormac was.

Cormac looked at him and began to lament
over what had befallen him.

“What is this, O my Master, Cormac?” said
he.

“I am sorry to see you like this, I have such
affection for you,” said Cormac,

“and as well as that, it was you I had in mind

when it came to avenging myself against
Fiacha for his treatment of me

by gaining the kingship of Munster for you.

“You have not heard (of any cure [?]) and
nobody will relieve this disease,” said Connla.

“What I have heard is of no consequence,”
said Cormac,

“as you will not get it by any means.”

“Cidh eisde?” ar Connla.

“Fuil righ fhlatha”, ar Cormac, “ocus t’fothragad eisde”.

“Cia eside?” ar Connla.

“Fiacha Muillethan”, ar Cormac, “as e in flaith

ocus ro bad fingal duit-si a marbad,

ocus as doig dia ruca fort, co ticfa th’fhoiridin de”.

“As ferr leamsa”, ar Connla, “bas carat damh inas mo beith fein amlaidh-so,

da mad derbh leam cena sin”.

“Toingim na toing mo thuath”, ar Cormac, “cu nad fior”.

“Ragat-sa fris dano”, ar Connla.

“Cad é siúd, ar aon chuma?” arsa Connla.

“Fuil Rí *fhhlatha*,” arsa Cormac, “agus tú féin a fhocladh inti.”

“Cé hé an rí?” arsa Connla.

“Fiacha Moilleathan,” arsa Cormac, “is eisean an rífhlaith átá i gceist,

agus ba fhionáil duitse é a mharú

ach is dócha go leigheasfad a chuid fola thíu.”

“B’fhearr liomsa bás carad ná fanacht sa riocht ina bhfuilim,” arsa Connla,

“ach caithfidh mé a bheith dearfa go bhfuil sé seo fíor.”

“Mionnaím mar a mhionnaíonn mo thuath,” arsa Cormac, “go bhfuil sé fíor.”

“Rachaidh mé chuige, mar sin,” arsa Connla.

“What is this?” asked Connla.

“It is the blood of a royal king,” said Cormac, “to bathe themselves in it.”

“Who is this king?” asked Connla.

“Fiacha Moilleathan — that is the king,” said Cormac,

“but for you to kill him would be the murder of a kinsman.

It is likely, however, that if you applied his blood to your skin you would be cured.”

“I would prefer a friend of mine to die,” said Connla, “than for myself to remain in this condition

if I could be sure of the result.”

“I swear by (the gods) my tribe swears by,” said Cormac, “that it is true.”

“I will go to meet him, then,” said Connla.

Section 124

Teit iarum cu Cnoc Raphunn co tech Fiachach.

Ba bron mor la Fiacha a beith-sium amhlaidh-sud,

ocus ro Choi uime ocus ro fer failte fris.

Ocus ro trialladh a leighes aigi iardain

ocus tuc trian a chogair do

ocus a leabaidh a comhairdi fria leabaidh

ocus as e no shlonnadh aitheasc uaidh ocus cuigi

ocus doberthea logh impidi dho.

Ocus batar co cian fon innus-sin.

Ocus teighed amach ocus amuigh immalle ocus Fiacha co minic.

D'imigh sé ansin go Cnoc Rafann, go teach Fhiacha.

Bhí brón mór ar Fhiacha nuair a chonaic sé Connla sa chruth sin.

Rinne sé comhbhrón leis faoin scéal agus chuir fálte roimhe.

Iarsin, rinne Fiacha iarracht leigheas a fháil dó

agus chuir sé Connla i gceannas ar thrian dá chúrsaí dlí.

Bhí a leaba ar aon airde le leaba an rí féin

agus ba eisean a chuir impíocha chuig Fiacha agus uaidh

agus fuair sé tuarastal de réir a ghradaim.

Lean cúrsaí ar aghaidh mar sin ar feadh i bhfad

agus ba mhinic a bhídís ag dul amach agus ag filleadh i dteannta a chéile.

He went then to Cnoc Rafann, to Fiacha's house.

Fiacha was very distressed at seeing him in this condition

and he sympathised with him and made him welcome.

Afterwards, he made efforts to cure him

and gave him control over a third of his judicial affairs.

His bed was of the same height as the king's own bed

and it was he who delivered announcements from and to the king

and he was given the fees due to a legal intercessor.

They continued in this way for a long time

and often he and Fiacha went out and returned together.

Co tancatar la n-aen ra taeb na Suire

ocus ro thimghair Fiacha a fhothagad,

ocus benus a edach dhe

ocus facbhais a laighin leathanglais tuas ag Connla.

Ro gab Connla in laighin

ocus dorat a bFiacha co ruc urrind trit.

“Truagh sin”, ar Fiacha “as bron ar braithre sin

ocus as breis nn [leg. [i]nn] echta

ocus as tre moirindlach mbidhbad doronad”.

Ocus atbeart:

“Indlach bidbad. bron ar braithre . . .” .

Lá amháin, áfach, tharla go raibh siad ar bhruach na Siúir

agus ba mhaith le Fiacha dul isteach san abhainn ar snámh.

Bhain sé a chuid éadaigh de

agus d’fág sé a shleá leathanghlás i láimha Chonnlá.

Ghabh Connla an tsleá

agus rinne í a radadh trí chorpa an rí.

“Is trua sin,” arsa Fiacha, “is fionaíl í;

is slad thar barr é seo

agus is ar chomhairle namhad *a rinneadh* é”.

Ansan dúirt sé:

“Beartaíocht namhad, brón ar bhráithre”

The day came, however, when they were beside the river Siúir

and Fiacha wanted to go for a swim.

He took off his clothes

and left his grey broadsided spear with Connla.

Connla grasped the spear

and struck Fiacha so that the spear penetrated through his body.

“This is a pity,” said Fiacha, “it is a crime against brotherhood,

it is an excessive slaying,

and it is done at the instigation of an enemy.”

And he recited the verse:

“machinations of an enemy; sorrow on brotherhood ...”

Section 125

Atbert Fiacha: "Dena th'fothragad amail adubrad friut.

Acht cena, gidh done, ni targha do chabair de,

ocus bidh failid rat naimdib sin".

Conad he sin fata bais ocus aidedha Fiachach.

Ass ann doronad sin ag Ath Leathan,
re n-abar 'Ath Isiul' aniu .i. 'tuisiul'.

As de ata int ainm forsan ath o sin ille
amal ader in rann:

'Ath Tuisil' ainm in atha-
do cach as fis firfhatha
Tusil tuc Connla a Cnoc Den-
for Fiachaigh maith Mhuillethan.

Dúirt Fiacha: "Déan d'fholcadh i mo chuid fola
anois, *mar a dúradh leat,*

ach *mar sin féin,* ní dhéanfaidh sé aon
mhaiteas duit *má dhéanann tú é*

agus bainfidh do naimhde sult as sin."

B'shin mar a tharla bás agus oidhe Fhiacha.

Tharla an eachtra seo ag Áth Leathan.

Tugtar 'Áth Isiul' ar an áit inniu — 'sé sin le rá
— 'tuisiul' (titim).

Mar sin, 'Ath Tuisil' is ainm don áit sa lá atá
inniu ann,

mar a deir an rann.

'Áth Tuisil' is ainm don áth;
tá fios fiorfhátha an scéil ag gach duine
— titim Fhiacha mhaith Mhoilleathain
le Connla ó Chnoc Dean.

Fiacha continued: "Do your bathing in my
blood, *as you were advised,*

but even so, it will do you no good *if you do
it*

and your enemies will enjoy that."

It was thus it happened — the tragic death of
Fiacha.

All this occurred at Áth Leathan.

The place is known today as 'Áth Iseal', that
is: 'Áth Tuisil' (the Ford of the Fall).

It is from what happened here that the ford is
so called ever since,

as the ancient verse says:

'Áth Tuisil' is the name of the ford;
everybody knows the true reason for this
— the fall which Connla from Cnoc Dean
inflicted on good Fiacha Moilleathan.

Ni fhuair tra Connla a chabair de-sin ocus as gorta ocus claimhe ros marbh, ar nir leic nech do clainn Eoguin n-a thech o nar fhiu leo digail aili fair.	Níor dhein an gníomh aon mhaitheas do Chonnla *áfach* agus <u>faoi dheireadh</u> fuair sé bás den ghorta agus den bhruth cnis. Ní lamhálfadh aon neach de Chlann Eoghain dó teacht isteach ina theach, <u>ach taobh amuigh de sin</u> , níor dhein siad aon rud eile chun dioltas a bhaint amach.	Connla received no benefit from the deed *, however,* and he died <u>eventually</u> from starvation and from the skin eruption. No member of Eoghain's family would allow him to enter his house and they did not consider it worthwhile inflicting any other form of vengeance on him.
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