

1. *Is acher in gaíth in-nocht,*

fu-fúasna fairggæ findfolt:

ní ágor réimm mora minn

dond láechraid lainn úa Lothlind.

Thesaurus Palaeohibernicus 2, 290 (St. Gall Priscian)

Bitter and wild is the wind to-night
tossing the tresses of the sea to white.
On such a night as this I feel at ease:
fierce Northmen only course the quiet seas.

2. Gerard Murphy, *Early Irish Lyrics. Eighth to Twelfth Century* (Oxford 1956) reprinted Dublin, 1998, with a new foreword by Tomás Ó Cathasaigh.

J. Carney, *Medieval Irish Lyrics* (1967); reprinted with *The Irish Bardic Poet* (Dolmen Press 1985).

D. Greene and F. O'Connor, *A Golden Treasury of Irish Poetry, A.D. 600 to 1200* (London 1967).

Rudolf Thurneysen, *Old Irish Reader* (Dublin 1949).

Tomás Ó Cathasaigh, 'The Making of a Prince: *Áed oll fri andud n-áne*', in Georgia Henley, Paul Russell and Joseph Eska (eds), *Rhetoric and Reality in Medieval Celtic Literature: Studies in Honor of Daniel F. Melia* (Hamilton, NY 2014) 137–154.

Elizabeth Boyle, 'The Forms and Functions of Medieval Irish Poetry and the Limitations of Modern Aesthetics', in Tom Birkett and Kirsty March-Lyons (eds) *Translating Early Medieval Poetry: Transformation, Reception, Interpretation* (Woodbridge 2017) 92–108.

3. A. Beatrice Culverwell, 'Quatrains from H. 2. 12', *Hermathena* 17 (1913) 133–6.

E.J. Gwynn and W.J. Purton (eds), *The Monastery of Tallaght, PRIA 29 C* (1911) 115–79: 118–20 [3 B 23].

Dillon, Myles (1963): 'Laud Misc. 610 (cont.)', *Celtica* 6, 135–55.

Brian Ó Cuív, 'The Irish Marginalia in Codex Palatino-Vaticanus No. 830', *Éigse* 24 (1990) 45–67.

Best, R.I. and Bergin, O. (1929): *Lebor na hUidre. Book of the Dun Cow* (Dublin).

R.I. Best, et al. (eds), *The Book of Leinster. I-VI* (Dublin 1954–83).

Kuno Meyer, *Gaelic Journal* 4 (1889–94); 'Irish Quatrains', *ZCP* 2 (1899) 225.

Robin Flower, *The Irish Tradition* (Oxford 1947) Chapter 2.

4. *Is mebul*

ēlūd rīg na fūrinne

7 chairte fri demun.

Thes 2, 7; see Carney, *The Poems of Blathmac* (1964) xv

n21, *Lyrics* (1967) 10; *Éigse* 13 (1970) 99.

It's evil
to shun the King of righteousness
and make compact with demon.

Codex Bernensis, f. 117a, marg. sup. (*Thes* 2, 235); Ó Cuív, (1986, 111–12).

St Gall Priscian, Codex Boernerianus: *Thesaurus Palaeohibernicus* 2, 290, 296.

5. Whitley Stokes, 'The Irish verses, notes and glosses in Harl. 1802', *RC* 8 (1887) 346–69. [cf. R. Sharpe, *Celtica* 29 (2017) 251–92]

H.P.A. Oskamp, 'The Irish quatrains and salutation in the Drummond Missal', *Ériu* 28 (1977) 82–91.

6. *Inba matan, inba fuin,*

inba for tír nó for muir,

acht ro-fetar ragat d'éc

mór in bét ní fetar cuin.

Yellow Book of Lecan, cols. 293–4 inf.

Laud 610 115R marg. inf. (Dillon, 1963, 150–1)

Book of Uí Maine 77 (136) R marg. inf.

H. 2. 12[9], 1R inf.

Harley 5280, 46V inf.

NL Ireland G1, 73V7

An Leabhar Breac 172 marg. inf. ('non-scribal')

Whether morning or evening, on land or at sea, though I know I
shall die, alas, I know not when.

Maing cuinges ní ara charait:

23 P 26 (Book of Fenagh) 4R inf.

LBreac 90 inf.

Laud 610, 3V inf.

D iv 2, 87Va inf.

Is maing breithem berus goī:

Additional 30512, 19R inf.

3 B 23, 16 inf.

7. Verse in Codex Boernerianus, 145b (*Thes* 2, 296), = E6 and F8 below.

Verse in Codex Bernensis, f. 117a sup. (*Thes* 2, 235), also in compilation B; Ó Cuív (1986, 111–12).

8. *LU* 116a sup: also in AU s.a. 649.

X. mbliadna ro boi Eua.

d'eis Adaim fri himneda.

hic cui der f[ri] rig nime.

corus marb serc sirlige,

Leabhar Breac 90 inf.; Codex Palatino-Vaticanus no. 830 39V marg. sin., trs. Ó Cuív (1990, 57).

For ten years after Adam [died] Eve was in tribulations, lamenting tearfully to the king of heaven until a wasting of long illness killed her.

¶ *Ro bith oss la Tadc mac Céin.*

Tadc mac Céin la oss ro bith.,

la oss ro bith Tadc mac Céin.

Tadc mac Céin i rRoss na Ríg.

LL p. 31 marg. inf.; NL Ireland G3 22V marg. sup.,

ed. Ní Shéaghdha, Catalogue 1, 25.

A deer was slain by Tadc son of Cían, Tadc son of Cían was slain by a deer; by a deer was slain Tadc son of Cían, Tadc son of Cían at Ros na Ríg (Rosnaree).

9. *Nī bīa a chland la nech i nñirt*

cipē bas gand breth ar bocht.

na ndēnat na haithre d'ulc

don lucht assa n-aithle is olc.

Anyone who treats a poor person meanly will not have children that prosper; the evil that the fathers do is evil for those after them.

LL 122 marg. sup., ed. and trs. Meyer, *Gaelic Journal* 4 (1889–94) 134.

Laud 610, 43R (Dillon, 1963, 142–3).

Cited in Keating, *Tri Biorghaoithe an Bháis*, 5352 as:

Ní bhí a chlann ó neach i neart

'gon tí bhus gann breath ar bhocht;

a ndéinid na haithre d'ulc,

don lucht as a haithle is olc.

and ed. O'Rahilly (1921, No. 110).

10. Marginal verses excerpted from longer poems:

OIr.

H 3. 17 cols. 70–1 sup:

< > *ro genuir a mBethel*

do-rad bethaid do marbaib

nicon relge gle no gó

Ued no No gein samhlaid

A variant of:

Gein ro-génair re mbethaib

do-rat bethaid do marbaib;

nicon réil, ced glé nád gó,

hi Fet ná Nó gein samlaid.

v. 4 of *Maire máthair in maic bic*, Carney, *Blathm.* 108–9.

A being who has been born before worlds, who has given life to the dead; there is not apparent — though it is clear that it is not falsehood — in the *Vetus* or the *Nouum* a being like him.

MidIr.

V. 25 of Smith (1994) in the Yellow Book of Lecan cols. 341–2 marg. inf.

V. 8 of Breatnach (2008) in H 3. 17 (1336) cols. 150–1 marg. sup.

v. 5 of Meyer (1908) in H 3. 17 cols. 148–9 marg. sup.

v. 14 of Meyer (1908) in Harley 5280 22R marg. sup.

A variant of verse 13 of the poem ed. in Breatnach (forthcoming), on the *círmair* ‘combmaker’, in NL Ireland MS G3, 44V inf., in a copy of *Uraicecht Becc*, under the part of the text which mentions the *círmair* (= CIH 2281.8–9).

EModIr.

LBreac 196 sup = v. 28 of *Mairg mheallas muirn an tsaoghail*, by Gofraidh Fionn Ó Dálaigh, *Dioghluim Dána* p. 37.

v. 1 of *Cionnas atá m’ēngrādh-sa* in *Eachtra Uilliam* (ed. O’Rahilly, p. 46) Laud 615 140 sup.; Ó Cuív (1990, 92).

11. From grammatical and metrical texts:

23 Q 10, 37R inf: *Alla alla criaa criaa ...*

= first verse of the example in *Cis lir fodlai aire*, §12 (ed. McLaughlin, 2008, 56–7).

23 Q 10, 37V inf: *Sæglond breithemh buan a bladhd ...*

Also in O’Mulc. §857, Met.Gl. and O’Cl. (*DIL* s.v. *saeglonn*).

H 3. 17, 116–17 inf: *Mós gach sobés sidamhuil ...*

Also in commentary on ACC §36 (*RC* 20, 174).

H 3. 17, 551 sup. = IGT II, ex. 1867.

12. *In colt cruind*

tucad dond filid adluinn.

nī fáicfed brīath¹ dē ag dul

cid bec lampur² lenn odur.³

¹ .i. fuigel; ² .i. ēn ³ .i. drēolān, 23 Q

10, 40V inf; also BL Additional 30512, 9V inf.

The miserly food which was given to the ravenous poet – although Dun Cloak [i.e. a wren] is a small avian [i.e. bird], it would not leave behind any residue [i.e. leftovers] when departing.

13. *Áirde na háirci fil tra.*

trícha cubhat cutrama.

trí cēt cubhat ina fat.

ina lethet cóica cubhat, H 3. 17, cols. 531–2 inf.

There is then the height of the Ark, 30 cubits throughout; 300 cubits in its length, 50 cubits in its width.

Triocha is náoi cet mbliadhna bán.

sáogal Adhaimh re imrad.

is deich mbliadhna iar sin uile.

sáogal a mhná mongbhuidhe, H 3. 17, cols. 537–8 sup.

930 fair years is the life-span of Adam to be told, and 10 years on top of all that is the life-span of his yellow-haired wife.

14. *Dichennad Eoin inmain ain.*

i nAicherundai i nAraip.

Sebasten is scribtha sel.

ainm in fhícha ar hadnaiced.

Leabhar Breac 188b inf. The prose

has: *Acherunda didiu .i. isin Araip ainm in luicc inro dichenta Eoin *7 Sebasten ainm in fhícha inro adnacit a chorp*, 188b53 (= PH 926–8).

The beheading of splendid dear John was in Acherunda in Arabia; Sebasten, it is written for some time, is the name of the village where he was buried.

Mártain mílid mod nāch dis.

do Gallia Lúgdanesis.

gormac grādshūaire de claind rīg.

mac Mānūaílt is Abrasín, Leabhar Breac 60 inf.,

under a copy of the Life of Martin of Tours. Also in 99 marg. sin., in notes on *Féilire*, November 11.

Martin, a soldier, a function which is not paltry, from Gallia Lugdunensis, a noble pleasant dutiful son from a family of kings, son of Manualt and of Abrasin.

Cf. Ford (1999)

15. The 6 verses in Harley 5280, 46V inf, 'are written in and out of one another in a curious intricate pattern', Flower (1926, 322).

Verses in Book of Fenagh, 7V inf and 8R inf. Also in preface to Hymnus S. Cuchuimnei *Liber Hymnorum* 1, 32, and Annals of Ulster s.a. 747:

Cū Cuimni.
ro lēg suīthe co druimne.
a leth aill hí ara-thā
ro lēga for caillecha

An do Coin Cuimni ro mbuí.
im-rūalaid dé conad sui.
ro lēig a caillecha i fail.
ro lēgh araill arat-mbui.

Kelleher (1979, 12) .

Cú Chuimne in youth
Read his way through half the Truth.
He let the other half lie
Whiel he gave women a try.

Well for him in old age.
He became a holy sage.
He gave women the laugh.
He read the other half.

16. *Rainn marbhain an chédbrolaigh don fheilire* 'The marginal verses of the prologue to the *Féilire*'.
na roinn marbhain 7 chnis sin 'those marginal and contiguous (?) verses'; see Breatnach (2007, 34).

Áit mo roinn gan rann oile
nī frīth feadh do dhuanairé—
a dhreach bhúidh fān barrlān coill—
dūinn, acht marbhān an mheamruim.
Carney (1945, 19 No. V).
Cf. Ó Macháin (2010, 83–6).

There is no place in thy *duanaire* for my quatrain without other quatrains there – O thou of the loving countenance about whom is a wood rich in produce (*lit.* about whom a wood is heavy-topped) – there is but the margin of the parchment .

17. *Giolla na Naomh Mac Aodhagáin* (d. 1309);
Kelly (2001).

Meabhraigh gach rann marbhdhán mín,
giodh camdhán é nó giodh cóir,
do-bheirim fan dTréidhe thuas
nach budh séimhe an buas ón Bhóinn.

Memorise all stanzas of the well-wrought poems of the dead, whether it be a flawed poem or a faultless one; I swear by the Trinity on high that the knowledge from the Boyne would be no more benign.

Verse 14 in Ní Dhonnchadha (1989).

Cited in 23 Q 10, 45R marg. inf. (*Mebraig cach rand marban min*) and G1, 72v7 (*Meabhraig gac rann marbhain mín*).

Mepruicich gach rand marbhain mhín.
madh quamdan hé mad dhán coir.
gach ní nach tuicfir tuic fen.

& *bud ler duit fa dheioicich*, Laud 615, p. 138 marg. inf. Also C ii 3 (a) p. 13 marg. sup. Second couplet from verse 3 in Ní Dhonnchadha (1989): 'pay attention to everything that you will not understand and it will be clear to you eventually'.

'Study every polished marginal verse'.

NL Ireland G1, 71V–74R:
a compilation of marginal verses

6.8 × 5.4 cms

II

A. Compilation in TCD MS **H 3. 17** (1336) coll. 675.15–676. Cf. Kuno Meyer, ‘Mitteilungen aus irischen Handschriften. Reimsprüche’, *ZCP* 7 (1910) 297. Féil = main text of *Féilire Óengusso*; FéilN = notes on Féil; LB = Leabhar Breac.

1. ¶ Mael Gemrid cecinit *Bendchor idan...*, 1v (= FéilN 10 May).
2. ¶ *O gabais mac uElta...*, 1v (= FéilN(LB) 16 May).
3. Braen find mac Findloga mac uAlta do Chiarraige Luachra (cf. FéilN(LB) 16 May).
4. *Teora saeba sanasa...*, 1v (= **LB 87 inf.**).
5. Comgall dixit *Ainmne aine figell airc...*, 1v (= **LB 88 sup.**).
6. *Lasar grene ane...*, 1v (= Féil 17 March).
7. Nesan Corcaige cum Patricio in *haec die* (= FéilN 17 March).
8. Patraic Mac Calpuirn Meic Fotaidhe Meic Odisi Meic Lebuirn Meic Mercuid Meic Ota Meic Murich Meic Oric Meic Maxim Meic Encreti Meic Fresa Meic Fereni Meic Brita Meic Hisicon Meic Eloí Meic Doi Meic Baath Meic Ibath Meic Gomer Meic Iafeth Meic Nae.
9. ¶ Finan Cam tuc cruithnecht ^[.i. lan a asai] les i nErind ar dus ₇ Declan tuc secal ^[.i. lan a cluic] ₇ Mo Domnoc ^[.i. lan a cluic] tuc beochu ₇ i n-aenluing tucad iat (= FéilN 7 April).
10. *Dligid Finan fircuarta...*, 1v (= FéilN 7 April).
11. *IS bes do mac De tacu...*, 1v (= FéilN March in Brussels 5100–4).
12. *IMad fesa finnad nech.*
mor a maith don aes craidbech
tuilled digla is ed ros ta
don lucht nachat comailfea
13. ¶ *Cach naem ro buí fuil bias...*, 2vv (= Féil Epil. 289–96)
A Isucan inmain ro comailter amlaid.
14. Angelus dx ₇ gibe gabus in rand-sa i n-uair a bais niba ifernach *Berach is Mo Chaem...*, 1v (= FéilN 15 Feb.).
15. [Caemgen dixit] *IS maith main mesrugud...*, 1v (= **LB 90 inf.**).
16. *Petar Andrias is Matha...*, 1v [+ Da apstal dec tire Herend] *Da Findean da Colum caid...*, 1v (= FéilN 15 July).
17. ¶ *Osraige o Gabran go Gren*
tuctha i n-eric Etirsceil ^[.i. athair Conair Moir]
ra Mumain togaide tair
is Conairi ros cengail (= FéilN Oct. in Brussels 5100–4).
18. ¶ *IS fo lim-sa mu laiget*
do talmain tairnes cach cland
ce no beith nech ni bud isliu
do thoillfed serc Isa ann (also in *Liber Hymnorum* I, 166, and first couplet in *CIH* 1096.20).
19. ¶ *Collud 7 sadaili...*, 1v (= **LB 102 sup.**).
20. ¶ Findcua adubairt *IS í itge guidim-sea...*, 1v (= FéilN 25 Nov.).
21. ¶ *Crabud cen uaill cen secda...*, 1v (= **LB 100 inf.**).
22. ¶ *Feil Coluim feil Giric gil...*, 1v (= FéilN 30 Sept.).
23. ¶ *Lupaid 7 Tigris tend...*, 1v (= FéilN 6 Feb.).
24. Secht n-espoic dec im Espoc Mac Cairtind ro genair o Dar Erca ₇ da naeboig .i. Aice ₇ Lalloch (= FéilN 6 Feb.).
25. ¶ *Lepaid uar*
7 clerchin tana truag
smacht ar colainn snige der
ac rig nell bid mor a luag (also in Additional 30512, 45R inf.).

B. Compilation in **B IV 2** (1080), 130R-V (Míchél Ó Cléirigh). Meyer (1910b): ‘Die folgenden fast alle noch der altirischen Periode entstammenden Reimereien. ‘*In rannán do gniath samh.* 17 + 3 qq.’, RIA Catalogue, p. 3027.

1. *In rannán dogniat-som...*, 1v (trs. Carney, *Blathmac* p. 155; also in King’s Inns 13, 3V inf.).
2. *Íssiol fri hard, ní bec búaidh...*, 1v (also in Codex Bernensis (*Thes* 2, 235). See Ó Cuív (1986).
3. *Ciall do duine ocus cruth...*, 2vv.
4. *Diamad mé douéradh fuirioc...*, 1v.
5. *A duine trúaigh, dirsan duit...*, 1v.
6. *Is gnáth do neoch iar tóchall...*, 1v.
7. *Ni coir...*, 2vv.
8. *Co ndig ind anim for coí...*, 1v.

9. *Is mo rí...*, 1v.
10. *Bidh Buccaiti ainm do mheic...*, 1v.
11. *Ní dot choiriucchadh, a Dé...*, 1v (also in Brussels MS 5100–04, 88R23).
12. *Téid mo menma don mír...*, 1v.
13. *Dia mo ruire, Dia mo rí...*, 1v.
14. *Domuin gach sétach is rí...*, 1v.
15. *Eser ní re ndol ar fecht...*, 1v.
16. *Treabar doberar do grés...*, 1v.
17. *A Chathail mic Finngoine...*, 1v (also in an anecdote in H 3. 17, col. 678, ed. and trs. Charles Plummer, *Ériu* 4 (1910) 40 n3).

C. Compilation in Book of Uí Maine, 10 (46) Vb13.

1. ISaeth lim an aes leigind
do dol a n-ifern pianuch.
is an ti n<>d leig eagnaíd
do dul a parthas ngrianuch (= G1 + Book of Fenagh 4R inf)

2. ISed as deac do senoir.
eirgi romoc on degoil.
cetal na salm dia irail
egnaircc na marb do gabail. (= G2)

3. Cu cuiri romut anund.
faicfi indmas cu hobund.
ni ticfa anall gidh ail duíd
for do cula cod caruid. Finden c–c

4. Ainmni aine fighill aircc
nirbo saithic nirbo goirt.
fos is fethamla cen bais.
measrugud craais coimed cuirp Comgall .c–c (= FéIN(LB) 10 May)

5. Maire nac te<> guth cluic
mairc nac codail <>caelcn<>
maircc iadas laim um c<> d faínd.
mairc dober <> ar saercloind. .C.C. c–c (= D1)

6. Na tarda tarcaisin trein.
ar doinib do comceinel.
bes as se bias a nirt sluaig.
saifid an bith re ænuair. Comgall .c–c

7. An ti renas altoir nde
7 eclus forin aine.
dobeir <> caidh <> ngr <> Finden .c–c

8. Eclus fuar
7 cleir <>
for colaind teistiu der
de <> na nel rodbo a luag Senan d–x (= D4)

9. Salcuid aencaeb anart lin
taithairid aenrand airdri.
tic milliud riagla do rup.
dofaeth <> aencluc. (= marginal verse in the Drummond Missal (Oskamp, 1977, 88): *Salcaid aenchaep anart lin / thathaeir aenrand ardrig / tic millud riagla do rut / dothoet escone don cluc*)

D. Compilation in Edinburgh Adv. 72. 1. 40, p. 28b. See Grosjean (1927, 169–71).

1. Mairg nach teid fo g<>
mairg nach coduil <>
mairg iadus lam im crod<>
mairg dobeir sar ar saer<> (= C5)

2. Gebe techtus i n-egluis <>
techt o cill do chill
<>niba crin.
bid he a dil <> rind.

3. Biaidh a corp ser <>uasach si<>
iard– i<>asach uar.
biadh a <> dubach dian.
ag fulang p<> tre bi<>

4. Eglus fuar.
7 cleirech tana truagh
smacht for coluinn snighi der.
ag righ nel mor a luagh (= C8)

5. Fuil treighi.
diana buighech Ri greine
ængha braitrech fodhail cert.
altoir De do timthrecht.

6. Fuil treighi.
danach buighech Ri greine
crabadh uallach coised serb.
eg<> duine madh inderb. [Sim. E5 (below)]

7. Mirin arain eorna ain
fa he mo cuitigh ar <>
gas biruir is <>
fa h<> mo cuit<> noid<> (= FéIN 4 April).

E. Compilation in Additional 30512, 32Vb–33R. Uilliam Mac An Leagha.

1. Fil déde
arna caraimsi déde.
ni geibh edrum 7 écc.
hi flaith *nimi* nim leige (= F4)

2. Ni teidi
imcradi (?) indi co leicci.
arofedar for dedí.
cengain legu rom leige (= F5)

3. In *talam* nod melum-ne
ba romór noc charum-ne.
dotiaghum-ne tairisium.
doraga-sum tarainde (= F7)

4. ¶Maith ar maith.
nod *beir* do-*berid* flaith
co frith holec níd ebela.
gein mair cech aen do-déna (= F6)

5. ¶Fil tri ní
donach buidech mac dé bí. [32V inf.]
cradbad maídhmech coicsiud serb.
éccnach duine madh indearb (= F9) [Sim. D.6 (above), Brussels 5100–5104, fol. 86, Leabhar Breac, p. 225 inf.]

6. ¶Mor ndruiss mór mbaoes mbaile.
mór coll celle mór mire.
uair is arcenn dul d'eccaibh.
beth a n-etoil maic Muire (= F8; see section 4 above)

7. ¶IS eol dam
in ní is dech dom anmain.
inomain fada mo thaebh seng.
bec reng do breith fo thalmain (= F11)

[33R sup.]
8. ¶An ti csacus tri feirg
ed at-beredh in cresin.
les a cheile ni deine.
adbhail a less fadeissin (= F10)

[33R inf.]
9. Na treide.
etera mesa a nÉire.
ap₇ tanaise
lesclann oga mbeth gere;

is dobran re miniascach
seobacc re henaibh sleibhe.
catt re lochaid cú re muic.
ben mic is mathair chéile.

The three between whom things are worst in Ireland: an abbot and his deputy, stepchildren where there is acrimony; like an otter with small fish, a hawk with mountain birds, a cat with a mouse, a hound with a pig, are the wife of a son and the mother of a husband.
2nd v. in ZCP 6, 268.

F. Marginal Verses in H. 2. 12[9] (1309). Tadhg Úa Rígbardáin in 1474. Ed. trs. Culverwell (above 3).

1. 1R inf: An ba maidén, an ba fuin,
an ba for tír nó for muir;
acht ro-fetar rachat d'éc
– mór an bét – ní fetar cuin.

2. 1V: Cairdes fría Caitir Fína –
airdles don tí do-géna
in nem ocus an talam,
is é taradh fo-gēba.

Friendship with Catherine, a great advantage for the one who enters into it; heaven and earth is the result they will have.

3. 2R: Is éol damh
ní do ícfad an slúag-sa:
serc meic Dé, ocus a omhan,
miscais don doman trūdadh-sa.

I know a thing that would save this host: love of God's Son, and fear of him, hatred of this pitiful world.

4. 2V: Fil dēde
arná caraim-si tēti;
nī tic etram ocus éc,
do flaith neime ním lēici. (= E1)

There are two things on account of which I do not love comfort: it does not come between me and death, it does not allow me into the kingdom of Heaven.

5. 3R: Nī tēti
ime-rāider colēici;
ar ro-fetar for tēiti,
cinco lēici, rom lēici. (= E2)

It is not comfort which is meditated upon meanwhile; for I know your comfort, though it leaves not off, it has left me. (?)

6. 3V: Maith ar maith –
nī hed not beir de bithflaith;
fō fri olc – nīt ebēla –
cēn mair cach aen dod-gēna. (= E4)

Good in return for good is not what shall bring you to the eternal kingdom, [but] good in return for evil – it will not be a loss to you – well for him who shall do it.

7. 4R: In talam do-melam-ne
ba romór no caram-ne
do-tāegam-ne tairisim,
do-ragha-sam taruindi. (= E3)

The earth which we wear away, too much it will be that we love it; now we go over it, it shall go over us.

8. 4V:
Mór drus, mór mbaes, mór mire,
mór coll cēilli, mór mbaile:
ūair is aircenn dol d'ēcaib,
beth a n-ētoil meic Muire (= E6)

Great folly, great nonsense, great madness, great lack of reason [it is] – since going to death is certain – to be in the displeasure of Mary's Son.

9. 5R: Fil trī ní,
donāch buidech mac Dé bī:
crābud ūallach, coisced serb (= E5)

There are three things with which the Son of the Living God is not pleased; vainglorious piety, bitter rebuking

10. 5V: An tī cūsachas tri feirg
edh as-berat in cresin:–
les a cēile nī dēni
at-baill a les fodesin. (= E8)

He who rebukes in wrath – it is this the pious say: his fellow's profit he works not, his own profit perishes.

11. 6R: Is éol dam
a nn-í is dech dom anmain:
mo nōin fota, mo taīb seng,
bec, reng, do beith a talmain. (= E7)

I know the thing that is best for my soul: [throughout] my long evening, my slender side, small and thin to be in earth [i.e. in the grave]. (?)

G. British Library Additional 30512, 34Vb1; Meyer, 'Ein Gedicht aus Additional 30,512', ZCP 9 (1913) 470. Flower (1926, 486): 'they are really separate'. See Breatnach (2007).

1. ISaoth lem int aos leighind
do dul i nd-ifern phianach
is ind ti nat leg ecna.
do dhul hi parrthus ngrianach (= C1) [+ Book of Fenagh 4R inf.]

I find it distressing that learned people should go to torment-filled Hell, and that the person who never studied learned works should go into sunny Paradise.

2. IS *ed* is dech do senoir.
erge romoch on degdoil.
cetul na salm dia erail.
ecc na marbh do gabail. (= C2)

What is best for an elder is to rise very early at daybreak, to chant the psalms to commend him, and to recite the intercessory prayer for the dead.

3. Erlam grind manach min.
eccluiss dalta co nglanbrigh.
combrugaid is deorad De.
uadhaib dleghar apdaine.

Patron saint, land, gentle church vassal, church, pupil with pure force, ... and the exile of God, from amongst them the abbacy is taken.

4. Fogluim feallsamnacht is fas.
leighind Gaidhelg 7 gluas.
litirrdacht leir 7 rimh.
is becc a mbrigh is tigh thuas. as (= *Auraicept na nÉces*, comm. p. 6)

Learning, philosophy, are vain; Latin learning, vernacular literature, and commentary, diligent booklearning, and arithmetic, they are of little import in the house above.

Riagail na Manach Liath: RIA MS 23 P. 3 (1242, section A), f. 13d. Ed. Strachan (1905).

Scribe: Uilliam Mac An Leagha, in 1467.

He was 'one of the most prolific scribes of the second half of the 15th cent.', Flower (1926, 470). See also Ní Shéaghdha (1967, 57–9).

Scribe of part of TCD MS H 2. 7 which contains *Stair Ercuil ocus a Bás*; based on Caxton's *The Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye*, printed at Bruges probably in 1474. Quin (1939) xiv, xxiv, suggests Mac an Leagha was the translator of *Stair Ercuil*. For other instances of translations of Middle English texts by him, see Breeze, *Celtica* 19 (1987) 117–18.

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