

**TÉAXAÍ CAELGE AS LSS. I. IRISH
TEXTS FROM MSS. I. MEASGRA
DÁNTA: MISCELLANEOUS IRISH
POEMS, PART I**

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Téaxaí Caelge as Lss. I. Irish Texts from Mss. I. Measgra Dánta: Miscellaneous Irish Poems,
Part I by Thomas F. O'Rahilly

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THOMAS F. O'RAHILLY

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POEMS, PART I**

MEASGRA DANTA

TÉAXAÍ GAELGE AS LSS.—I

IRISH TEXTS FROM MSS.—I

MEASGRA DÁNTA

MISCELLANEOUS IRISH POEMS

EDITED BY

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PART I

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1937

AR

ROBIN FLOWER

FHORÁILIM AN DÍOLAIM SEO

MAR BHRAGCHÓRTHA MÓIMPREASA

PREFACE

It is now six or eight years since the eighty poems comprised in the present volume were first collected by me with a view to publication. Most of these poems have never before appeared in print. I have divided the book into two parts, each with its own notes and vocabulary, in the hope of making it the more accessible to students.

The poems range in date from about the twelfth century down to the early nineteenth. They deal with a variety of subjects—friendship, poverty, natural beauty, and so on,—but not with love, which has already a whole volume to itself in *Dánta Grádha*. They are often of unequal merit ; but of the best of them it can be said with confidence that they are poems of which any literature might well be proud.

In selecting the poems I have aimed at giving preference to those which are simple in style and which can be appreciated to-day by a reader who is unequipped with special knowledge of Irish history or genealogy. Accordingly I have in general avoided the official panegyrics and elegies composed by the poets of the schools, and also the more formal kind of devotional verse as practised by the same poets.

My thanks are due to Dr. Osborn Bergin for his kindness in giving me the benefit of his skilled advice whenever I consulted him regarding textual difficulties.

PREFACE

I have pleasure also in placing on record my indebtedness to the Board of Trinity College, Dublin, who have generously promised a grant to help me to defray the printing expenses. Without such aid this book would have had to remain unpublished, for experience has taught me, to my cost, that, in the Ireland of to-day, the demand for books of this kind is very small indeed.

T. F. O'R.

MEASGRA DANTA

CUID A HAON

v. *Doctagon No.*
98.

1

✓ Mo-chean do theacht, a sgadán!
druíd liom, a dhaltáin uasail;
do chéad beatha 's do shláinte!
do thuillis fáilte uamsa.

5 Dar anam h'athar, a sgadán,
gidh maith bradáin na Bóinne,
is duit labhras an duain-se,
ó's tú is uaisle 's is óige.

*Don hainch n'athar
d'icallhas
tair caspille uaisle na
fadhla*

10 A fhir is comhghlan colann,
ná ch déanann comann bréige,
cara mar thú ní bhfuaras;
ná bíom suarach fá chéile.

: cumann

(Past Subj) ✓ Dá bhféachdaois uaisle Banbha
cia is mó tarbha don triúr-sa,
15 iasg is uaisle ná an sgadán,
idir bradáin is liúsa.

*is ní an gach iasg
a luca, pike*