

**TRANSACTIONS OF THE OSSIANIC
SOCIETY, FOR THE YEAR, 1854, VOL. II. FEIS
TIGHE CHONAIN CHINN-SHLEIBHE; OR,
THE FESTIVITIES AT THE HOUSE OF CONAN
OF CEANN-SLEIBHE, IN THE COUNTRY OF
CLARETHE ANNALS OF THE FOUR MASTERS**

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NICHOLAS O'KEARNEY & JOHN O'DONOVAN

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CLARETHE ANNALS OF THE FOUR MASTERS**

W. W. Hennessy

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE OSSIANIC SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR

1854.



VOL. II.

—
FELT TISHÉ CHONAJN
—

DUBLIN:

PRINTED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COUNCIL,

FOR THE USE OF THE MEMBERS.

1855.

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Féis Tíshé Chonairn Chinn-Sleibhe ;

OR

THE FESTIVITIES

AT THE HOUSE OF

CONAN OF CEANN-SLEIBHE,

IN THE

COUNTY OF CLARE.

EDITED BY

NICHOLAS O'KEARNEY, ESQ.

DUBLIN :

PRINTED FOR THE ORSLANIC SOCIETY,
BY JOHN O'DALY, 9, ANGLESEY-STREET.

1855.

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LIMITED TO MEMBERS.

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The Ossianic Society,

FOUNDED on St. Patrick's Day, 1853, for the Preservation and Publication of MSS. in the Irish Language, illustrative of the Fenian period of Irish History, &c., with Literal Translations and Notes.

OFFICERS ELECTED ON THE 17TH MARCH, 1855.

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Honorary Secretary :

MR. JOHN O'DALY, 9, *Anglesey-street, Dublin.*

THE main object of the Society is to publish manuscripts, consisting of Poems, Tales, and Romances, illustrative of the Fenian period of Irish History; as well as other documents illustrative of the Ancient History of Ireland, in the Irish language and character, with literal translations, and notes explanatory of the text when practicable.

Subscriptions (5s per annum) are received by the Treasurer, 24, Trinity College, by any member of the Council, or by the Honorary Secretary, Mr. John O'Daly, 9, Anglesey-street, Dublin, with whom the publications of the Society lie for distribution among the members, and from whom prospectuses can be obtained.

GENERAL RULES.

1. That the Society shall be called the **OSSIANIC SOCIETY**, and that its object shall be the publication of Irish Manuscripts relating to the Fenian period of our history, and other historical documents, with literal translations and notes.

2. That the management of the Society shall be vested in a President, Vice-presidents, and Council, each of whom must necessarily be an Irish scholar. The President, Vice-presidents, and Council of the Society shall be elected annually by the members, at a General Meeting, to be held on the Seventeenth Day of March, the Anniversary of the Society, or on the following Monday, in case St. Patrick's Day shall fall on a Sunday. Notices of such meeting being given by public advertisement inviting all the members to attend.

3. That the President and Council shall have power to elect a Treasurer and Secretary from the Members of the Council.

4. The receipts and disbursements of the Society shall be audited annually by two Auditors, elected by the Council; and the Auditors' Report shall be published and distributed among the members.

5. In the absence of the President or Vice-President, the Members of Council present shall be at liberty to appoint a Chairman, who will not thereby lose his right to vote. Three members of the Council to form a quorum.

6. The funds of the Society shall be disbursed in payment of expenses incident to discharging the liabilities of the Society, especially in the publication department, and no avoidable expenses shall be incurred.

7. Every member shall be entitled to receive one copy of the Society's Publications; and twenty extra copies of each work shall be printed for contingencies.

8. The funds of the Society shall be lodged in Bank, in the name of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Society, or any three members the Council may deem proper to appoint.

9. The Council shall have power to elect additional members, and fill vacancies in its own body.

10. Members of Council residing at an inconvenient distance from Dublin shall be at liberty to vote by proxy at elections.

11. Membership shall be constituted by the annual payment of Five Shillings, which sum shall become due on the 1st of January in each year.

12. The **OSSIANIC SOCIETY** shall publish every year, one volume or more if their funds enable them.

13. No change shall be made in these Rules, except at a General Meeting; the proposer and seconder of any motion for such change, shall lodge a notice of their intention in writing, with the Secretary, twenty clear days before the day of General Meeting.

14. That all matters relating to the Religious and Political differences prevailing in this country, be strictly excluded from the meetings and publications of the Society.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT,

READ ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY, MARCH 17, 1855.

THE Council of the Ossianic Society beg to submit to their members and the public this their second annual report, and feel much pleasure in announcing that the Society has progressed most favourably during the past year.

The Council commenced operations with the names of but 50 members on their books; they have since, however, enrolled 116; and the Society now has the honor of numbering 166 members.

The Council have already published the first volume of their Transactions, and the value and interest of this work can best be ascertained by a reference to the flattering review it has received in the *Athenæum* and other leading journals of the day. The book was ready for delivery in October last, and the impression is now nearly exhausted.

The Council have much satisfaction in informing the Society that the second volume of their Transactions—a very curious tract—is nearly prepared for press and will be in the hands of members within a few months.

The Council beg to call attention to the fact, that there are at present, mouldering and neglected, a great number of valuable Irish manuscripts, as well in the hands of individuals as in public libraries. Of these they are resolved to print as many as possible, more especially those relating to that misty period of Irish history from which the Society has adopted its name; and thus they hope in time to furnish a satisfactory and practical answer to the often-repeated question—"Is there anything to read in Irish?"

It is also reasonable to suppose that the future historian and antiquarian of Ireland (and it is to be hoped that our country will yet find one worthy of the name), will recognise the utility of such books; for though they are not as strictly historical as the *Annals*, *Genealogical Poems*, &c., which are the labours of other Societies, there is much truth in their supposed fiction, and they afford a valuable picture of the state of thought and manners of a remote period.

It has been already stated with what a small number of members the Council began their work; but confident of support from a large number of their countrymen in an undertaking which might truly be termed national, they determined to make the attempt, and the result proves that their confidence has not been misplaced. For the support which they have received they desire to return their sincere thanks.