

**ELEMENTS OF GAELIC
GRAMMAR: IN FOUR
PARTS ROYAL
CELTIC SOCIETY EDITION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649571536

Elements of Gaelic Grammar: In Four Parts Royal Celtic Society Edition by Alexander Stewart

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ALEXANDER STEWART

**ELEMENTS OF GAELIC
GRAMMAR: IN FOUR
PARTS ROYAL
CELTIC SOCIETY EDITION**

ELEMENTS
OF
GAELIC GRAMMAR

IN FOUR PARTS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| I. OF PRONUNCIATION AND
ORTHOGRAPHY | III. OF SYNTAX |
| II. OF THE PARTS OF SPEECH | IV. OF DERIVATION AND
COMPOSITION |

BY

ALEXANDER STEWART

MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL AT BINGWALL
HONORARY MEMBER OF THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

Royal Celtic Society Edition.

FIFTH EDITION REVISED.
WITH PREFACE BY THE REV. DR M'LAUGHLAN.

Edinburgh
JOHN GRANT
31 GEORGE IV. BRIDGE
1901

3275. 11. 3



PREFACE.

FOR several years the Grammar of the Gaelic language by the Rev. Dr Stewart of Moulin has been out of print. This has been a source of regret to scholars and students of that tongue. Not but that there are other Grammars of real value, which it would be unjust either to ignore or to depreciate, and which have served, and are serving, an excellent purpose in connection with Celtic Literature. But the Grammar of Dr Stewart has peculiar features of its own which give it a permanent value. It is distinguished by its simplicity, conciseness, and philosophical accuracy. No Grammar of any language bears on its pages the marks of real and profound scholarship, in so far as it goes, more than does the Grammar of Dr Stewart. One cannot read a sentence of it without seeing how carefully he had collected his materials, and with what judgment, caution, and sagacity he has compared them and drawn his conclusions. His discussions upon the Article, the Noun, the Verb, and the Preposition, are ample evidence of this. It is no doubt true that a much fuller discussion is, with the more abundant resources of modern scholarship, com-

petent and desirable, but, so far as he goes, Dr Stewart's treatment of the subject is of a masterly character.

That there are defects to be found in the work is very true. On the subject of Syntax his disquisitions are deficient in fulness, and there is a want of grammatical exercises throughout. It was at first thought desirable by the publishers and their advisers to remedy these defects by introducing fuller notices on the subject of Syntax, and a considerable number of grammatical exercises from other sources open to them. But it was finally deemed best in every view of it to give Stewart's work just as he had left it, and that is done here with the exception of a list of subscribers' names in the introduction. Messrs Maclachlan and Stewart are doing the literary community a service in republishing this volume, and thanks are specially due to the Royal Celtic Society of Edinburgh, a society which has done much to foster the interests of education in the Highlands, and which has given substantial aid towards the accomplishment of this undertaking.

THOS. M'LAUCHLAN.

EDINBURGH, 1st August 1876.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION,	I
PART I.	
Of Pronunciation and Orthography,	I
PART II.	
OF THE PARTS OF SPEECH	
CHAP. I.—Of the Article,	27
CHAP. II.—Of Nouns,	37
Of Gender,	38
Of Declension,	43
CHAP. III.—Of Adjectives,	55
Of Numeral Adjectives,	59
CHAP. IV.—Of Pronouns,	61
CHAP. V.—Of Verbs,	65
Formation of the Tenses,	76
Use and import of the Moods and Tenses,	85
Irregular Verbs,	95
Defective Verbs,	99
Reciprocating state of Verbs,	102
Impersonal use of Verbs,	105
Auxiliary Verbs,	107
CHAP. VI.—Of Adverbs,	109
CHAP. VII.—Of Prepositions,	116
Idiomatic phrases,	125
CHAP. VIII.—Of Conjunctions,	134
CHAP. IX.—Of Interjections,	136

PART III

OF SYNTAX.

	PAGE
CHAP. I.—Of Concord,	137
Sect. 1. Of the agreement of the Article with a Noun,	137
Sect. 2. Of the agreement of an Adjective with a Noun,	141
Sect. 3. Of the agreement of a Pronoun with its Antecedent,	146
Sect. 4. Of the agreement of a Verb with its Nominative,	149
Sect. 5. Of the agreement of one Noun with another,	152
CHAP. II.—Of Government,	154
Sect. 1. Of the Government of Nouns,	154
Sect. 2. Of the Government of Adjectives,	159
Sect. 3. Of the Government of Verbs,	159
Sect. 4. Of the Government of Adverbs,	160
Sect. 5. Of the Government of Prepositions,	160
Sect. 6. Of the Government of Conjunctions,	162

PART IV.

OF DERIVATION AND COMPOSITION.

CHAP. I.—Of Derivation,	164
CHAP. II.—Of Composition,	168
Exercises in Reading, &c.,	175

INTRODUCTION.

THE utility of a Grammar of the Scottish Gaelic will be variously appreciated. Some will be disposed to deride the vain endeavour to restore vigour to a decaying superannuated language. Those who reckon the extirpation of the Gaelic a necessary step toward that general extension of the English which they deem essential to the political interest of the Highlands, will condemn every project which seems likely to retard its extinction. Those who consider that there are many parts of the Highlands, where the inhabitants can, at present, receive no useful knowledge whatever except through the channel of their native tongue, will probably be of opinion that the Gaelic ought at least to be tolerated. Yet these too may condemn as useless, if not ultimately detrimental, any attempt to cultivate its powers, or to prolong its existence. Others will entertain a different opinion. They will judge from experience, as well as from the nature of the case, that no measure merely of a literary kind will prevail to hinder the progress of the English language over the Highlands; while general convenience and emolument, not to mention private emulation and vanity, conspire to facilitate its introduction, and prompt the natives to its acquisition. They