

**FOLK TALES AND FAIRY LORE IN
GAELIC AND ENGLISH:
COLLECTED FROM ORAL
TRADITION. EDITED WITH
INTRODUCTION AND NOTES**

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Introduction and Notes by James MacDougall & George Calder

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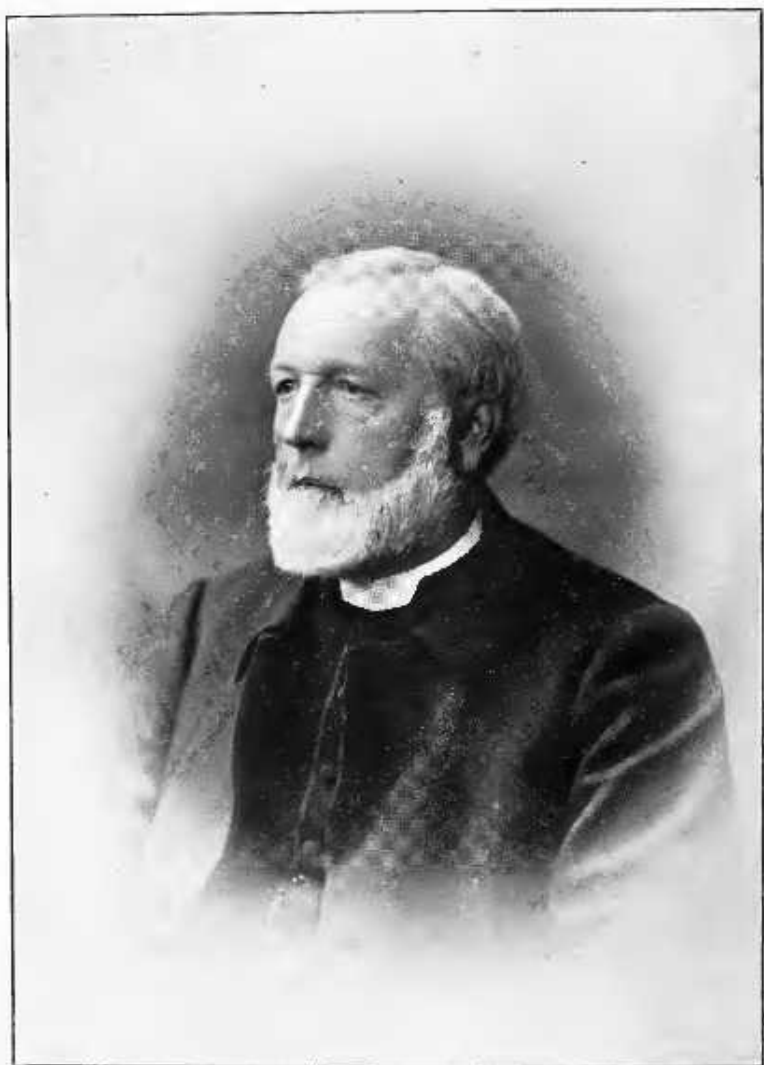
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JAMES MACDOUGALL & GEORGE CALDER

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FOLK TALES AND FAIRY LORE



REV. JAMES MACDOUGALL.

Folk Tales and Fairy Lore

IN GAELIC AND ENGLISH

COLLECTED FROM ORAL TRADITION

BY

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EDITED

WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

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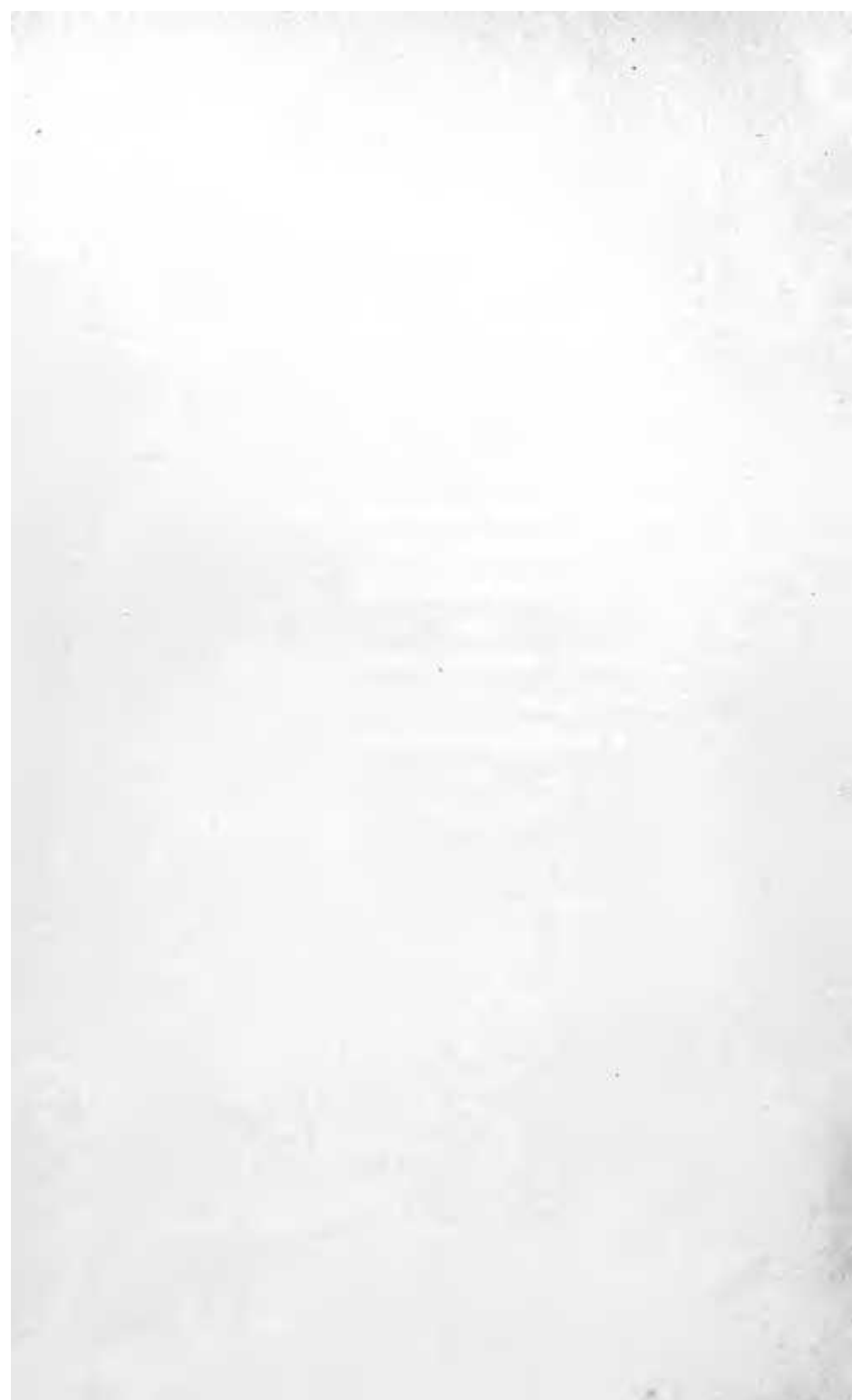
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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

I HAVE pleasure in acknowledging my indebtedness to Mrs. MacDougall for her whole-hearted interest in the progress of the work from first to last, for transcribing the English Text, and for approving numerous minor changes in expression, which I had suggested, and thus relieving me from the sole responsibility of making those changes. It is but right to say, however, that as the work advanced through the press, I felt impelled to make the alterations in the text, and especially in the translation, much more thorough-going than I had at first contemplated.

In the Gaelic text I have endeavoured to simplify the spelling, and therefore excluded such MS. forms as *daramh* (*dara*), *'san t-seallamh* (*'san t-sealladh*), *a' deanadh* (*deanamh*), *o'n taice so* (*tac*) p. 168, *romh* (*roimh*), *sid* (*sud*). *Fhalbh* (p. 32) remains as probably the correct form of *thallaibh*. The final vowel of fem. *a* stems has been printed in full, as also of the verbal perfects *cuala*, *faca*; and, latterly, whenever possible, the substitution of commas for letters, or words, has been avoided. Traces of the fem. *a* stem accusative sing. have been retained, *e.g.*, *cuir umad cirb de mo bhreacan*, p. 214; as also an old accusative pl. mas. *o* stem used as nom. *chuir na feara còlas*, p. 16; while other traces of the accusative mas. *o* stems are *gus an cuala e an aon ghuth*, p. 138; and *ach an aon*, p. 86.

Some combinations have been retained, which, though not strictly grammatical, are universally in use, such as—*a' trusadh a cuid*, p. 270; *ag cur bacadh*, p. 298; *le rùn tilleadh*, p. 302; *gun tuilleadh dàil*, p. 8; *bhàrr a' bhùird-obair*, p. 150; *do'n bhean bhoichd*, p. 100.

The common spelling has been adhered to in words like *àiridh*, *cha'n*, *sihe* in preference to the more correct *àirigh*, *cha n*, *sidhe*; and the accent has been retained on the two short unaccented words *á* out of, *à*m time, as in MS.

Tacain, for a while, is uniformly so written in MS., cf. Stokes' *Goid.*² 149 b.