

GAELIC FOLK TALES

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Gaelic folk tales by Mary Grant O'Sheridan

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MARY GRANT O'SHERIDAN

**GAELIC
FOLK TALES**



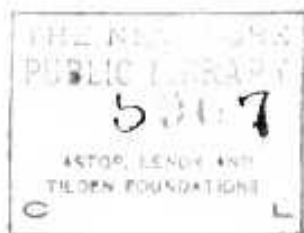
GAELIC FOLK TALES

ADAPTED FROM THE THREE SAGA CYCLES OF
GAELIC MYTHOLOGY, AND DESIGNED
AS SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOOL
READING

REVISED EDITION
With Foot Notes

BY
MARY GRANT O'SHERIDAN

CHICAGO, U.S.A.
THE HENNEBERRY COMPANY
1910



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THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED
TO THE MEMORY OF MY
PATERNAL GRANDFATHER

John Raymond O'Sheridan

whose beautiful Gaelic hand-
writing inspired me even
when a little child with a
longing and love for the liter-
ature of my Gaelic ancestors.

MARY GRANT O'SHERIDAN

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Foreword

This little book is but a glimpse of a fairy structure whose beauty has no peer, and whose antiquity antedates all others of its kind, except the Hellenic. I have chosen it out of that which Julius Pokarney calls "a fresh fountain of lore and legend, almost inexhaustible, belonging to the Gaels, to the Irish Gaels." To Mr. Michael O'Gallagher and Mr. David Ryan Twomey of the Gaelic Society of Chicago, I am indebted for kindest assistance in writing the notes. My book is but a wee "chraoibhin," yet I hope to see the time of its blossom and fruitage. How can I better express myself than in the beautiful lines of Ethna Carbery:

"O little green bud, break and blow into flower,
Break and blow through the welcome of sunshine and shower;
'Twas a long night and dreary you hid there forlorn,
But now the cold hills wear the radiance of morn!

O wind-drifted branch, lift your head to the sun,
For the sap of new life in your veins hath begun!"

—MARY GRANT O'SHERIDAN.

Chraoibhin [Crēē vēen]: A branch.

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