OUTLINES
OF
GAELIC ETYMOLOGY

BY THE LATE
ALEXANDER MACBAIN, M.A., LL.D.

ENEAS MACKAY, STIRLING
1909
ETYMOLOGY
OF THE
PRINCIPAL
GAELIC NATIONAL NAMES
PERSONAL NAMES
AND
SURNAMES

TO WHICH IS ADDED
A DISQUISITION ON PTOLEMY’S GEOGRAPHY OF SCOTLAND

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PREFACE

The following Etymology of the Principal Gaelic National Names, Personal Names, and Surnames was originally, and still is, part of the Gaelic Etymological Dictionary by the late Dr MacBain. The Disquisition on Ptolemy’s Geography of Scotland first appeared in the Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, and, later, as a pamphlet.

The Publisher feels sure that the issue of these Treatises in their present form will confer a boon on those who cannot have access to them as originally published. They contain a great deal of information on subjects which have for long years interested Gaelic students and the Gaelic public, although they have not always properly understood them. Indeed, heretofore they have been much obscured by fanciful fallacies, which Dr MacBain’s study and exposition will go a long way to dispel.
ETYMOLOGY

OF THE

PRINCIPAL

GAELIC NATIONAL NAMES

PERSONAL NAMES

AND

SURNAMES
NATIONAL NAMES

Albion, Great Britain in the Greek writers, Gr. "Αλβίων, Αλβίων, Ptolemy’s Αλουίων, Lat. Albion (Pliny), G. Alba, g. Albainn, Scotland, Ir., E. Ir. Alba, Alban, W. Alban: *Albion- (Stokes), “white-land”; Lat. albus, white; Gr. ἀλφός, white leprosy, white (Hes.); O. H. G. albiz, swan.

Armorius, belonging to Brittany, Lat. (Cæsar) Armoricus, Aremoricus (Orosius), *are-mori, “by the sea” (see air and muir in Dict.), M. Br. Armory, Brittany, armor, land by the sea, Br. arvor, maritime.

Brittain, G. Breatann, Ir. Breatain, E. Ir. Bretan, n. pl. Bretain, the Britons, W. Brython, Briton, Corn. Brethoun, Br. Breiz, Brittany, Lat. Britannia (Cæsar), Brittani, Britons, Βρεταννοὶ (Strabo). The best Gr. forms are Πρεττανοὶ, Πρεττανική, W. Prydain, Britain, E. Ir. Cruithne, a Pict, O. Ir. (Lat.) Cructhnii (Adamnan, Cruithini Populi): *Qrtaniād, root qrt, to which Stokes refers G. cruithneachd, wheat, though the usual reference is to G. cruth, picture, form, still retaining the notion of “pictured” men as in the old explanations of Pict. Stokes, Rhys, etc., regard the Lat. Britannia as a word of different origin from the Gr. Πρεττανία, and G. Cruithne; though, as a matter of fact, the Lat. seems to have been a bad rendering of the Greek. The Cruithne or Picts thus gave their name to Britain, as being, about 300 B.C., its then Celtic inhabitants.

Brittany; the Breton language; from Britain above. Britons poured into France in the fifth and sixth centuries.

Caledonia, northern Scotland (Tacitus), Gr. Καληδόνιοι (Ptol., etc.), Lat. Calédonii (Luean, Martial, etc.), O. G. Dun-Callden, Duni-Callen, Dun-Keld, fort of the Caledonians, G. Dùn-Chailleann; explained by Windisch as from *cald, the root of G. coille, the force being “wood-landers.” Stokes and others object because of the η (Lat. ñ) in Kalηδ-; but if the Eng. and Gaelic modern forms are the descendants of the word Caledonia as locally spoken, the objection cannot hold.

Celts, Lat. Celtæ (Cæsar), Gr. Κέλται, Κελταί, Κελτικός, appearing in the fifth and fourth cent. B.C. in Herodotus, Xenophon, etc.: *Kelto-s, “the lofty,” root qel, raise, go, Lat. celsius,
NATIONAL NAMES.

high, Eng *excel Lit. *kélta, raised. Rhys refers the name to the root *gel, slay, Ag. S. hild, war, Norse hildr, Lat. *percêllo, hit, Lit. *kalli, strike: the Celtæ being “smitters.”

Cornwall: Cornish, Ag. S. Cornwalas, the Walas or Welsh of the Corn or Horn, E. Ir. *i *thrib Bretann Corn (Corm.), in the lands of the Britons of the Corn. For Walas see Wales.

Cruithne, a Pict; see under Britain.

Cymry, the Welsh (pl.), Cymraeg, the Welsh name for the Welsh language; the singular of Cymry is Cymro, older Cymr-o: *Com- *mrox, pl. Com-mroges or Combroges (cf. Caesar’s Allobroges, “Other-landers,” country-men, “co-landers,” from *brog, *mrog of *brugh in Dict., q.v. The E. Ir. Gaelic for Wales is found in the phrase *isínchomreic = im Kymrischen (Zim. Zeit. 32 162).

Erin; see Ireland.

Gaelic, Gaél, the name of the language and people of the Scottish Highlands, G. Gaidhlig, Gaidheal, Ir. Gaidhilic, Gaedhilic, the Irish language, Gaoidheal, Irishman, E. Ir. Geidel (1100 a.d.), Gaideli (Giraldus), W. Gwyddel, Irishman: *Gaidelo-s (for Sc. Gaelic) or *Gaidelo-s (for Irish), root ghaidh, Eng. good, Ger. gut, etc.? The Scotch form seems the best, as its use has been continuous, the race being only a fourth item in Scotland. Stokes gives a proto-Gaelic *Geidelos or *Geidelos, which Bez. compares to the Gaul. Geidumi, and which Stokes compares with Lat. hoëdus, goat (“Goat-men,” cf. Oscar Hirpini) or Lit. gaidys, cock.

Gall, Gaul, now France, Lat. Gallus, Galli (fourth to first cent. B.C.), Gr. Γαλάτης, Γαλάται (third and second cent. B.C.) from the root *gal, bravery, which see in Dict., with discussion of Galli and G. Gall, Lowlander, stranger.


Man, Manx; Manx Manninagh, Manx (adj.), Gailck, Gaélk, the Manx Gaelic, E. Ir. *inis Manann, Isle of Man, a genitive from *Mana (=Lat. Mona), early W. Manau, Lat. Mona (Cesair),
NATIONAL NAMES.

Ptol. Movadoa, Monapia (or Mona?) The E. Ir. god-name Manannán Mac Lir (son of the Sea) is connected with the Island; Skr. Manu, the Law-giver; Teutonic Mannus (Tacitus), Eng. man.

Picts; G. Cruithnich, for which name see under Britain. The name Picti can scarcely be separated from the Gaul. Pictavi, now Poitiers; and, if this be the case, the usual derivation from Lat. pictus, painted, must be abandoned. Windisch adduces E. Ir. cicht, engraver, carver, for which a Brittonic piht, pict may be claimed as a parallel (*qict); this again leaves the idea of tattooing intact, and so agrees with the historical facts.

Scotland, Scots; E. Ir. Scott, pl. n. Scuit, d. Scottaíb, Irishmen; Adamnan—Scotia, Ireland, Scoti, the Irish, Scoti Britanniae, Scots of Dalriada, etc., Scoticus, Irish, Scotice, in the Gaelic language, Lat. (fourth cent.) Scotti, Scöti, *Skotto-s. Stokes translates the name as "masters, owners," allied to Got. skatts, money, Ger. schatz, treasure, stock, Ch. Sl. skotí, property, cattle. The root skat, hurt, scathe, cut, of Eng. scathe, has been suggested, either as "cutters" or "tattooed ones" (so Isidore of Saville). Rhys has suggested connection with W. ysgwthr, a cutting, carving—"tattooed or painted men."

Wales, Welsh; Ag. S. Wealas, Walas, the Welsh—the name of the people in pl. being used for the country, Wylisce, Welsh, Wylisce men, the Welsh; sing. of Wealas is Wealh, a foreigner, Welshman, O. H. G. walth, foreigner, Celt, Ger. walt- in wal-nuss, Eng. wal-nut: from the Gaul. nation of the Volcae, bordering on the Germans, *Volko-s, *Volka, "the bathers," from vole, bathe (see faile in Dict.). Stokes connects the name with Lit. volkėti, pull, referring to the restless wanderings of the Gauls.
PERSONAL NAMES AND SURNAMES

ADAM, G. Adhamh, Ahū (Fer. MS.), Awoze (D. of L.), E. Ir. Adam, O. Ir. Adim (g); from Hebrew Adam, red. Hence Macadam, M'Caw, and from Dial. G. 'Adaidh (a diminutive from Sc.) M'Cadie, M'Adaidh.

ADAMNAN, G. Adhmhn (pronounced Yownan or Yōnan), earlier Adhamhn (Oghamhn, M.V.), E. Ir. Adamnán, Lat. Adamnanus (seventh cent.), St Adamnan (died 704 A.D.), "little Adam," a Gaelic diminutive from Adam. Hence the personal name Gilleownan (1495), Giolla-Adhman, father of Somerled (twelfth cent.), Gilla-agamnan (1467 MS.), whence Skene deduces the Mac-lennans, q.v.

ALEXANDER, G. Alasdair, Allex (D. of L.), Alaxandair, (1467 MS.), M. Ir. Alaxandair; from Lat. Alexander, from Gr. Αλεξάντες, "defending men." Hence G. M'Alasdair, Macalister; further Mac-andie (from Sandy).

ALLAN, G. Ailean, E. Ir. Ailéne, Adamnan's Ailenus, from al, rock? The Norman Alan, whence Scotch Allan mostly, is O. Br. Alan, Alamnus, Nennius Alanus, from Alemannus, the German tribe name—"All Men." Cf. Norman, Frank, Dugall, Fingall. Hence Mac-allau.

ALPIN, G. Ailpein, E. Ir. Ailplein (Dalriadic king 693) ; from Pictish or Welsh sources—M. W. Elphín, Elfin, which Stokes suggests to be from Lat. Albínus, from albus, white (or allied rather?). Hence G. M'Ailpein, Mac-alpine.

ANDREW, G. Aindrea (Anndra, Dial.), Gilleandrais, Eng. Gillanders, St. Andrew's gille, M. G. Andro (D. of L.), Ainirias, Gille-ainirias (1467 MS.), E. Ir. Andrias; from Lat. Andreas, g. Andrea, from Gr. Ἀνδρέας, a reduced double-stemmed name now showing only ἄνδρ-, man (see neart). Hence Mac-andrew, Gillanders, Anderson.

ANGUS, G. Aonghas, Ir. Aonghus, g. Aonghusa, E. Ir. 'Oengus, O. Ir. 'Oingus, W., Cor. Ungust : Oino-gustu-s, "unique choice," from aon and gus, choice (Eng. choose, Lat. gustus, taste, as in G. tagh). Hence M'Aonghuis, Mac-innes; further M'Aimsb.

ARCHIBALD, G. Gillesbuig, Bishop's gille (see easbuig in Dict.), M. G. Gillespik (D. of L.), Gilla-espic (1467 MS.). Hence Gillespie. The name Archibald, Ag. S. Arcebal, Arcenbald.
PERSONAL NAMES AND SURNAMES.

or Ercenhald, which vaguely means “right-bold” (O. H. G. erchen, right, real), has no apparent connection with Gillespic in meaning or origin (cf. similarly Ludovic and Maol-domhnuich).

Arthur, G. Artair, M. G. Artuir, E. Ir. Artuir, Artur, Ir. Lat. Arturius, son of Edan (Adamnan), W. Arthur, to which the Lat. Artorius (Juvenal) has been compared and suggested as its source (it being maintained that the Gens Artoria of Yorkshire lasted from Roman to Domesday-Book times, where Artor appears in the days of Edward the Confessor). If native to Brittonic (which is probable), it is from *arto-s, a bear, W. arth, O. Ir. art, whence the names Art, Artgal, Artbran. Rhys prefers to render the *arto- as “oultor,” from ar, plough (Arth. Leg., 40-48), allying Arthur to the idea of a “Culture God.” Hence G. M’Artair, Mac-arthur.

Bain, from G. bain, white. The Bains of Tulloch appear in the sixteenth century variously as Bayne or Bane, with a contemporary near them called John Makferquhair M’Gillebane (1555). This last name is now M’Ile-bhain, “Fair-gille,” rendered into Eng. by Whyte; whence also M’Gilvane.

Bartholomew, G. Parlan, Ir. Parthalon, E. Ir. Partholón, Lat. Partholomaeus or Bartholomaeus (Nennius, ninth cent.), the name of a personage who is represented as the first invader of Ireland after the Flood (278 years after!). The p proves the name to be non-Gadelic; and as the historians take Partholon from Spain, the Spanish Bar Tolemon of legend has been suggested as the original. Prof. Rhys thought it came from the Ivernians or Pre-Celtic race in Ireland. Hence the Clan Mac-farlane, G. M’Pharlain.

Brown, G. M’A’-Brhiuthainn, M. G. M’abhruiun (1408 Gaelic Charter), from britheamhain, the former (Sc. Gaelic) genitive of britheamh, judge, q.v. Hence Mac-brayne.

Cameron, G. Camshron, Camaran, M. G. Cámsroin, g; (M’V.), Camronsach (D. of L.), Gillacamsroin (1467 MS.), Charter Eng. Camrun (1472); explained as from càm-sròn, “wry-nose,” which is the most probable explanation (cf. caimbeul, E. Ir. cerrbél, wry mouth). Connection with camerarius or chamberlain (of Scotland) unlikely, or with the fourteenth century De Cambruns or Cameron parish in Fife.

Campbell, G. Caimbeul, M. G. Cambel (1467 MS.), Cambell (1266, etc.), from cambel, wry-mouthed (càm and beul; see Cameron). There is no De Cambel in the numerous early references, but De Campo-bello appears in 1320 as a Latin
form and an etymology; this, however, should naturally be *De Bello-campo* as Norman-French idiom and Latin demand—a form we have in *Beau-champ* and *Beeham*. *De Campello* or *De Campellis* (little plain) has been suggested; but unfortunately for these derivations the earliest forms show no de: *Cambell* was an epithet, not a place-name.

Carmichael, G. M'Gillemhichteil, Son of the gille of St Michael, M. G. Gillamichol (1467 MS.), O.G. Gillemicel (B. of Deer). The name Carmichael is really Lowland—from the Parish name of Carmichael in Lanark (Michael’s caer or cathair, q.v.).

Cattanach, Chattan, G. Catnanach, M. G. plural Cattanich (D. of L.), “belonging to Clan Chattan,” Clan Gillacatan (1467), which claims descent from Gillacatain (1467 MS.), servant of St Catan, whose name denotes “little cat” (see cat).

Charles, G. Tearlach, M. Ir. Toirrdhealbhach (Maclean Genealogy), Englished as Tirilagh and Turlough, E. Ir. Toirdelbach, Latinised and explained as Turri-formis, “Tower-shaped,” but the toir in Gaelic took the phonetics of the prefix toir, super, and hence the modern G. form. Hence M’Kerlie.

Chisholm, G. Siosal, Siosalach, De Chesholme (thirteenth century documents), *De Chesholme* (1254), a Border name, the place-name Chisholm being in Roxburgh: *Ches-holm* (a holm, but Ches?).

Clark, G. Cléireach; see cléireach in Dict. Also M’A’-Chléirich, whence Galwegian M’Chlery.

Coll, G. Colla, M. G. Colla (M’V., 1467 MS.), E. Ir. Colla: *Col- navo-s*, from col, cel, high, as in Celtae (see above).

Colin, G. Cailean, M. G. Callane (D. of L.), Cailin (1467 MS.), Colinus (Lat. of 1292). This is a personal name, once more or less peculiar to the Campbells, the Chief being always in Gaelic M’Cailein. Its relation to Eng. and Continental Colin is doubtful. Cf. Coileán, “whelp,” and personal name; the G. is a dialectic form of old coileán (see Fol.), cuilean, whelp.

Crerar, G. Criathamh, the name of a Lochtay-side clan who regard themselves as Mackintoshes, explaining the name as “riddler,” from criathar (which see in Dict.): the derivation is right, but for the meaning compare the Eng. noun and name Sievel(right). See Celt. Mag. 6, 38.

Cumming, G. Cuimein, Cuimeanach, earliest Eng. form Comyn, a Norman family dating from the Conquest, belonging to the Norman house of De Comines, a territorial designation.
DAVID, G. Daibhidh (Classical), Dáidh (C.S.); hence Clann Dáidh or the Davidsons, a branch of the Clan Chattan. In C.S., Davidson appears as Déibhidhson.


DEWAR, G. Deóir, Deóireach, documents Doire (1487), Jore (1428); from deóradh, a pilgrim, q.v. Hence Macindeor.


DUFF, M. Ir. Dubh (Clann Dubh, Clan Duff, of which was Macbeth, etc.), earlier Dub, King Duff in tenth century; from Gadelic dub, now dubh, black, q.v. As a personal name, it is a curtailment of some longer or double-stemmed name (cf. Fionn, Flann, red). As a personal name, it is a curtailment of some longer or double-stemmed name (cf. Fionn, Flann, red). Hence Macduff (Glen m’ Duffe, 1384). The family name Duff is merely the adjective dubh used epithetically.

DUFFY, Ir. Dubhthaigh; see Mac-phee.

DUGALD, G. Dughall, M. G. Dowgall, g. Dowle (D. of L.), Dubgaill, gen. (1467 MS.), thirteenth century documents give Dugald (1289), Dufgal (1261), M. Ir. Dubgall (first recorded Dubgall is at 912 A.D.), from Early Ir. Dubgall, a Dane, “Black stranger,” as opposed to Finngall, a Norwegian, “Fair foreigner.” See, for derivation, fionn and gall. Hence M’Dhúghaill, Mac-dougall, Mac-dowel, etc.

DUNCAN, G. Donnchadh (Dial. Donnach), M. G. Duncha (D. of L.), Donnchaid, gen. (1467 MS.), O. G. Donchad (B. of Deer), E. Ir. Donnchadh: *Donno-catu-s, *Dunno-catu-s, “Brown warrior,” from donn and cath, q.v. The Gaulish Donno- of personal names has been referred by De Jubainville to the same meaning and origin as M. Ir. donn, king, judge, noble—a word occurring in O’Davoren’s glossary.

EDWARD, G. Eideard (‘Eudard, Dial.), Imheair, Iomhar; the first is the Eng. Edward borrowed, the second is the Norse Ivarr borrowed (see Mac-iver). Hence M’Eideard, M’Edward.

Farquhar, G. Fearchar, M. G. Fearchar, Fearchair, Ir. Fearchair (F. M., year 848 a.d.): *Ver-caro-s, “super-dear one”; for fear, see Fergus, and for car see Dict. above. Hence McF'hearchar, Mac-erchar, Farquharson, M'Farquhar.

Fergus, G. Fearghas, M. G. Fearghus, Fergus, E. Ir., O. Ir. Fergus, g. Fergusso, W. Gurgust, O. Br. Uurgost, Uurgost: *Ver-gust'u-s, “super-choice”; for ver- or fear-, see in Dict. far, air (allied to Lat. super), and for gustus, see under Aonghus above. Some regard Fer here as G. fear, man, *viro- or *vir.

Fingal, G. Fionn, Macpherson's Gaelic Fionnghal, which really should mean “Norseman,” or Fair-foreigner, M. G. Fionnghall, a Norseman (M.V.), ri Fionn-gal, king of Man and the Isles (M.V.), Fingal (Manx Chron.), king of Man and the Isles from 1070 to 1077: from fionn and Gall, q.v. Fingal as the name of the Gaelic mythic hero is an invention of Macpherson's, as likewise is his Gaelic Fionnghal. As a matter of fact the name is a Gaelic form of the female name Flora! See Fionnlagh in the addendum to this list.

Finlay, G. Fionnlia, Fionnlagh (misspelt Fionnladh), M. G. Finlay (D. of L.), Finlaic, gen. (1467 MS.), Fionnlaich, gen. (Duan Albanach), E. Ir. Findleach (Lib. Leinster), Finnloch and Finlaeg, gen. (Marianus Scotus). Those early forms and the Norse Finnelekr prove that the name means “Fair hero” (fionn and laoch). It is a popular (10th and 11th century) rendering of Finnlug, “Fair attractive one,” the older name. It has been explained as “Fair calf,” which would suit the phonetics also. Hence Finlayson, Mackinlay (M'C'fionnlaigh).

Forbes, G. Foirbeis, Foirbeiseach, early document form De Forbes (thirteenth cent.), so named from the place-name Forbes in Aberdeenshire.

Fraser, G. Friseal, Frisealach, circ. 1298 the patriot’s name is variously Simon Fraser, Frasel, Fresel, Frisel, in Domesday B. Fresle, Battle Abbey Rolls (!) Frisell or Fresell; usually
referred to O. Fr. freze, a strawberry, *frezele, from Lat. fragula, fragum, Fr. fraisier, strawberry plant. For sense, cf. the name Plantagenet (broom). Strawberry leaves form part of the Fraser armorial bearings. The word may also mean “curled” (Eng. frizzle, friese).

Galbraith, G. M'A'-Bhreatnaich, son of the Briton (of Strathclyde). The name appears in the thirteenth century in Lennox, etc., as Galbrait (from Gall and Breat- of Breatann above).

George, G. Seòras, Seòrsa, Deòrsa, ultimately from Gr. γεωργός, a farmer, “worker of the earth” (γῆ, earth, ὡργός, Eng. work). Hence the Border M'George.

Gilbert, G. Gilleabart, Gillebride. Gilbert is from Ag. S. Gislebert, “Bright hostage” (see gíall in Dict.); Gillebride is St Bridget's slave, an exceedingly common name once, but now little used.


Gillespie, G. Gilleasbuig; see Archibald.


Glass, G. Glas, an epithet, being glas, grey. See M'Glashan.

Godfrey, G. Goraidh, M. G. Gofraig (1467 MS.), Godfrey (do.), Ir. Gofraidh (F.M.), M. Ir. Gothfrith, Gofraig, also Gofraig (Tigernach, 989), E. Ir. Gothfraid (Lib. Lein.), E. W. Gothrit (Ann. Camb.). The Norse name, for it is Norse-men that are referred to, is Goðrōdr or Gudrod (also Górōdr), but the earlier Gaelic shows rather a name allied to the Ag. S. Godfrid, Ger. Gottfried, “God's peace.” Modern Gaelic is more like the Norse. The Dictionaries give G. Guaidhre as the equivalent of Godfrey; for which, however, see M'Quarrie.

Gordon, G. Gòrdan, Gordon, Gòrdonach; from the parish name of Gordon in Berwickshire. The De Gordons are well in evidence in the thirteenth century. Chalmers explains the place-name as Gor-dyn, “super-dúnnum” (see far and dún).

Gow, G. Gobha, a smith, now usually gobhainn, q.v. Hence Mac-cowan, Mac-gowan, Cowan.

Grant, G. Grannd, Grant (1258), an English family which settled about Inverness in the thirteenth century, Eng. Grant, Grannd, from Fr., Eng. grand.

Gregor, G. Griogair, Griogarach, M. G. M'Cregar (D. of L.), M. Ir. Grioir, E. Ir. (Lat.) Grigorius (Gregory the Great, died 604), from Lat. Gregorius, Gr. Γρηγόριος, a favourite
ecclesiastical name from the third century onward (cf. Gr. γγυγομένω, be watchful, Eng. care). Hence M'Griogair, Macgregor, Gregory.

Gunn, G. Guinne, Gunnach, early documents Gun (1601), Clan-gun (1525), in Kildonan of Sutherland, originally from Caithness; from the Norse Gunni (twelfth century), the name then of a son of Olaf, a Caithness chief (Ork. Saga). This Gunni is a short or “pet” form of some longer name of two stems, with gunn-r, war, as the first and chief one (cf. Gann-arr, which is an old Orkney name, Gunn-bjorn, Gunnlaugr, Gunn-ölf, war-wolf, Gunn-stein, Gunn-valdr).

Harold, G. Harailt, M. Ir. Aírlt, from Norse Haraldr (same in roots and origin as Eng. herald). Hence Macruld.


Hugh, G. 'Uisdean (Huísdean), in Argyle Eoghan, M. G. Huisduinn, which comes from Norse Æysteinn, “Esy(?)-stone.” The Dictionaries also give the G. Aodh (see Mackay) as equivalent to Hugh, which is itself from Germanic sources, Teutonic root hug, thought.

James, G. Seumas, M. G. Séms (M'V.); from the Eng. James, a modification of Hebrew Jacob.

John, G. Iain, older Eóin, in compounds Seathain, as Mac-Gille-seathainn, now M'Illeathaimn.

Kathel, G. Cathal, M. G. Cathal (M'V.), Ir. Cathal (common from seventh century onwards), O. W. Catgual: *Katu-valo-s; see cath, war, and val under Donald. Hence M'All, Macaulay.

Kennedy, G. Ceanaideach, Ceanaadadh, Kennedy (Kennedy, John M'Kennedy, fourteenth century) is the family name of the old Earls of Carrick, now represented by the Marquis of Ailsa; it is a famous Irish name borne by the father of Brian Boru in the tenth century—Ir. Ceinnideigh, E. Ir. Cennétich, gen.: from ceann, head, and éitich, ugly: “ugly head.” Called also M'Ualraig from Walrick Kennedy (sixteenth century), who first settled in Lochaber: Walrick may be G. Ualgharg confused with Teutonic Ulrick, older Udralrich, “rich patrimonially.”
PERSONAL NAMES AND SURNAMES.

KENNETH, G. COINNEACH, M. G. COINNUDECH, COINNIDH, G. COINNDIGH, g. (M'V.), O. G. CAINNECH, G. CAENNIG (B. of Deer), E. IR. CAENNIG, gen., IR. LAT. CAINNECHUS (ADAMANAN): *CAANNICO-S, "fair one," from the same stem as CAANNACH (ROOT QAS), q.v. The Eng. Kenneth is a different word: it is the old Scotch king name CINNEAD (E. IR. FORM), G. GAINNECH, gen., IR. LAT. GANNICO-S, "fair one," from the same stem as CANNACH (ROOT QAS), q.v.

LACHLAN, G. LACHLANN (DIAL. LACHLAINN), LACHUNN, M. G. LOCHLINN, g. (M'V.), LOCHLOINN, n. and g., LACHLAN, g. (1467 MS.), IR. LOCHLAINN MAC LOCHLAINN (F.M., YEAR 1060); probably from LOCHLAINN, Scandinavia, possibly commencing as Mac-LOCHLAINNE, a Scandinavian ("son of L."). LOCHLAN evidently means "Fjord-land."

LAMOND, G. M'LAOMUINN, LAMAÑ, M. G. LADAMANN, EARLY DOCUMENTS LAWEMUNDUS (LAT. OF 1292), LAUMUN (CIRCA. 1230), M. IR. LAGHAMAND, LAGMAND; FROM NORES LAGARMAÐR, LÖGMAÐR, LAWMAN, PL. LOGMANN, "law-men," BY MEANING AND DERIVATION. HENCE M'CLYMONT (D. OF L.), V'CLYMONT, CLYNE LYMN.

LAURENCE, G. LABHRUINN, M. G. LAHBRAN (1467), IR. LAURINT (SAINT), FROM LAT. LAURENTIUS, ST. LAURENCE, THE ULTIMATE STEM BEING THAT OF LAT. LAURUS, A LAUREL. HENCE M'CLABHRUINN, OR MAC-LAREN.


LIVINGSTONE, G. M'AN-LÉIGH; SEE MAC-LEY.

LUKE, G. LÚCAIS. HENCE MAC-LEYAS.

MAGNUS, G. MANUS, MANUS, M. G. MAGNUSS, MANUIS, G. (1467 MS.), IR. MAGHAUS, NORSE MAGNÍSS, FROM LAT. MAGNUS, IN THE NAME OF CHARLEMAGNE—CAROLUS MAGNUS.

MALCOLM, G. CALUM, EARLIER GILLECALUM, M. G. MILECOLUM (D. OF L.), MÁELCOILÁM, O. G. MALCOLOW, MALCOLM, GILLIECOLAM, IR. MÁELCOLWÍN: FROM MAOL, BALD, AND CALUM, A DOVE (LAT. COLUMBA), THE PARTICULAR CALUM MEANT HERE BEING ST. COLUMBA. HENCE MACCELLOM.

MALISE, G. MAOILÍOSA, E. IR. MAELISU, SERVANT OF JESUS. HENCE ALSO MELLIS.

MENZIES, G. Mèinnear, Mèinn and Mèinnearach locally, early documents de Mengues (1487), de Meyners (1249); De Meyneria would mean much the same as De Camera, that is, “of the household,” from mesn-, masn-, giving Fr. mén- (our ménage, menagerie, menial), from Lat. mans- (our mansion), from manœ, remain. The root anyway is man of mansion and manor, and the name is allied to Manners and Mainwaring.

MORAN, M. G. Clann Mhorguinn (M‘V.), O. G. Morgunn, g. Morcunt, W. Morgan, Cor. and O. Br. Morcant: Mori-canto-s, “sea-white,” from the stem of muir and root kyd, burn, as in connadh (Lat. candeo, shine, Eng. candle). See Mackay.

MORRISON, G. Moireasdan, earlier M‘Gille-mhóire, Mary’s servant, M. G. Gillamure, whence Gilmour. The name Morris is for Maurice, from the Latin saint’s name Mauricitus, “Moorish.”

Munro, G. Rothach, Mac-an-Rothach (Dial. Munro). In the fourteenth century the name is “of Monro,” which shows it is a territorial name, explained as Bun-roe, the mouth of the Roe, a river in County Derry, Ireland, whence the family are represented as having come in the eleventh century.

Murdoch, G. Muireach, Murchadh; the first is M. G. Muireadh-aigh, gen. (M‘V.), Murread (D. of L.), Muireadhail, g. (1467 MS.), Ir. Muireadhach, E. Ir. Muiredach, O. Ir. (Lat.) Muireadhachus, Adamnan’s Muireadhachus, “lord,” allied to muireann and muriucán; Ag. S. mastre, clarus; Br. conomorios (?) (Stokes R. C. 1876.) The form Murchadh is in Ir. the same, E. Ir. Murchad: *Mori-catu-s, sea warrior. Hence (from the first) M‘Mhuirich (in Arran, etc., becoming Currie), and from the second, Murchison, Murchie, and Ir. Murphy. See mureach above.

Murray, G. Moirreach; from the county name Moray or Murray, early Gadelic forms being Moreb, Muref, and Norse Morhœf (influenced by Norse haf, sea): *Mor-apia, from mor of muir, sea, and *apia, the termination of several Celtic place-names. Andrew Morrich, Kiltearn, 1672.

MYLES, G. Maolmoire, servant of Mary, an old and common name. Myles is from the Med. Lat. Milo, with a leaning on miles, soldier—a common name in the Middle Ages.

MAC-ALISTER; see Alexander.

MAC-ANDREW; see Andrew.

MAC-ARTHUR; see Arthur.

MAC-ASKILL, G. M‘Asgaill; from Norse Askell, for *As-ketill, the kettle (sacrificial vessel) of the Anses or gods: “a vessel of holiness.”
MAC-AULAY, G. M'Amlaidh, Ir. Mac Amhlaidd, M. Ir. Amlaidh, E. Ir. Amláidh, 'Alaidh; from Norse 'Oláfr, Anlaf (on coins), "the Anses' relic" (Eng. left).

MAC-BEAN, G. M'Bheathaín, from Beathan, Englished as Bean (1490, Beane, 1481) or Benjamin: *Bitdtagno-s, life's son, from beatha, life, with the termination -agno-s, meaning "descendant of," Eng. -ing, now used like the Eng. to form diminutives. Also Mac-bain, Mac-vean.


MAC-CALM, G. M'Calm; see under Malcolm.

MAC-CODRUM, G. M'Cormrum; from Norse Guttormr, Gøðormr, Ag. S. Guthrum: "good or god serpent" (orm).

MAC-COLL, G. M'Colla; see Coll.


MAC-COONACHIE, G. M'Dhonnchaíd, son of Duncan, which see. The Clan Don纳chie are the Robertsons of Athole, so-named from Duncan de Atholia in Bruce's time: the English form of the name is from Robert, Duncan's great-grandson, who helped in bringing the murderers of James I. to execution.

MAC-CORM, G. M'Cormaig, from Cormac (Cormage), E. Ir. Cormaan's Cormac: *Corb-mac, charioteer, from corb, chariot, Lat. corbis, basket. See carbad. From corb also comes Cairbre, O. Ir. Coibre.

MAC-CORQUODALE, M'Cordaidail, M. G. Corgitill, g. (D. of L.), early documents Makcorquyddill (1434); from Norse Thorkatill, Thor's kettle or holy vessel (see Mac-ashill).

MAC-CRIMMON, G. M'Cruimein; from Rumun (on a Manx Rune inscription), from Norse Hrömundr (for Hröð-mundr, famed protector)? Ceannfaelad Mac Rúmain, Bishop, d. 820; Rúman, the poet, d. 742; Rúman, the bishop, d. 919. Erig a n-agaid Rúmvind, MS. Bodl. Lib. Laud. 610, fol. 10, a, a (O. Don's Gram.).

MAC-CULLOCH, G. M'Cullach, early documents M'Culloch (1458), M'Cullo, M'Cullach (1431)—in Easter Ross: "son of the Boar" (cullach)? M'Lulach, son of Lulach (little calf?), has been suggested, and this appears as M'Lulich.
MAC-DERMID; see Dermid.
MAC-DONALD; see Donald.
MACDUFF; see Duff.
MAC-FADYEN, G. M’Phaidein, early documents M’Fadseane (1540); from Paidean, Pat, a pet form of Patrick.
MAC-FARLAN; see Bartholomew.
MAC-GILL; from a G. M’Gille, used as a curtailment, especially of Mac-millan or M’Gille-mhaoil.
MAC-GILLIVRAY, G. M’Gillebhrath, son of the Servant of Judgment, from brath, judgment, q.v.
MAC-GLASIAN, G. M’Glaisein, a side-form of M’Ghilleghlaist, the Grey lad, M. G. M’Illelass (D. of L.), documents M’Gilleglasch (1508). For the formation of this name, cf. Gille-naomh (Mac-niven), Gille-maol (Mac-millan), M’Gillebane (1555), M’Gille-uidhir (M’Clure, dun lad), Gilroy, red lad.
MAC-GOWAN; see under Gow.
MAC-GRGOR; see Gregor.
MAC-HARDY, G. M’Cardaidh:
MAC-INDEOR; see Dewar.
MAC-INTYRE, G. Mac-an-t-saor, son of the carpenter; see saor.
MAC-IVER, G. M’Iamhair, M. G. M’Imhair (1467 MS.), Ir. Imhar, E. Ir. Imair, g.; from Norse ’Ivarr.
MAC-KELLAR, G. M’Ealair, M’Eallair, old documents Makkellar (1518), Makalere (1476), M’Callar (1470), all “of Ardare” in Glassary, Argyle. Ellar M’Kellar (1595), proves the name to be Ealair. M. Ir. Elair, the Gaelic form of Lat. Hilarius borrowed.
MAC-KENZIE, G. M’Colnnich; from Coinneach, which see under Kenneth.
MAC-KERRCHAR, G. M’Thearchair; see Farquhar.
MACKESSACK, for G. M’Isaac, son of Isaac. Also Mackibinson, M’Kesek, 1475; Kessokissone, Kessoksone, 1488; Makesone, 1507; Makysonn, 1400 (mostly in Menteith and S. Perth), from Kessoc, Kessan, personal names circ. 1500, also St. Kessog or Kessock.
Mackillop, G. M'Philib, for Philip (=Philip), where f (=ph) is aspirated and disappears; from Lat. Phillipus, from Gr. Фιλίππος, lover of horses (see gaol and each).

Mackinlay, G. M'Fhionnla(idh); from Finlay.


Mackintosh, G. Mac-an-toisich, the Thane’s son (see tòiseach), M. G. Clanna-an-toisigh, Clan Mackintosh (M'V.), Toissich (D. of L.), Mackintoshes, Clann-an-toisigh (1467 MS.), early documents M'-Toschy (1382).

Mackirdy, G. M'Urardaigh, M'Urarthie, 1632; M'Quiritei, 1626; Maknurarty, 1547; Maknerarty, 1517; common in Bute and Arran of old, from Muircheartach, “sea-director” (muir and ceart); whence also M'Murtrie, M'Mutrie.

Mac-lachlan, G. M'Lachlainn; see Lachlan.

Maclagan, G. M'Lagain (Lathagain in its native district of Strathtay), documentary Makuagan (1525): *M'Gillaagan, sed quid?

Mac-laren, G. M'Labhruin; see Lawrence.

Mac-larty, G. M'Labhartail and Lathartaich, from Flaithbheartach, Eng. Flaherty: “dominion-bearing” or “princely-bearing” (see flatb and beartach).

Mac-lean, G. M'Ileathain, for Gill' Sheathain, John or Seathan’s servant, M. G. Giolla-eoin (M'V.), Gilkeoin (1467 MS.), documents Makgilleen (1390); from gille and Seathain (Iain) or Eoin, John, the latter being the classic G. for the name. John means in Hebrew “the Lord graciously gave.”

Mac-learnan, so G.; from Gill' Ernan, St Ernan’s gille. The Latin name of this saint is Ferreolus, “Iron-one”; from iarunn.

Mac-leay, G. M'An-leigh, or earlier M'An-laibh, documents M'Conleif (1498 in Easter Ross), Dunslephe, gen. (1306-9, Kintyre), Dunslaf Makcorry (1505), M. G. Duinsleibe, gen., Ir. Donnsléibe, E. Ir. Duindslebe, gen.: “Brown of the Hill,” from donn and sliabh (not “Lord of the Hill,” as other similar names exist in druh, e.g. Duthsléibhe; see Mac-phee). Capt. Thomas regarded the M'Leays of the north-west as descended from Ferchar Leche, F. the physician, who gets lands in Assynt in 1386, being thus M'An-leigh, physician’s son, Manx Cleig, Legge. The Appin M'Lea clan Englished their name as Livingstone, of whom was the celebrated traveller.
PERSONAL NAMES AND SURNAMES.


MAC-LENNAN, G. M'Illinnein, Servant of St Finnan, Ir. Mac-Gilla-finnen (common in fourteenth and fifteenth century), M. Ir. Finden, E. Ir. Finnian, Adamnan's Vinianus = Finnio, Finnionis = Findbarrus; from finn, fionn, white: the full name, of which Finnan is a pet form, was Findbarr or "Fairhead," Eng. Fairfax. Skene deduced Mac-lennan from M. G. M'Cilla-agamnan, Adamnan's gille, documents Gilleganan Macneill (1545), Gilleovanan (1427).

MAC-LEOD, G. M'Léoid, M. G. M'Cloyd (D. of L.), M'Leod (MS. 1540), documents Macloyde (fourteenth century), O. G. Léot (B. of Deer), Norse Sagas Ljótr, earl of Orkney in tenth century, and otherwise a common Norse name; the word is an adj. meaning "ugly" (!), Got. liuta, dissembler, Eng. little.

MAC-MAHON, G. M'Mhathain; see Matheson.

MAC-MARTIN, G. M'Mhairtinn, no doubt for earlier Gillamartain; gen. (1467 MS., an ancestor of the Cameron chiefs): Eng. Martin, from Lat. Martinus, the name of the famous fourth century Gaulish saint; it means "martial."

MAC-MASTER, G. M'Mhaighdistir, son of the Master.

MAC-MICHAEL, G. M'Mhicheil, doubtless for earlier Gillamichol; see Carmichael.

MAC-MILLAN, G. M'Mhaile, M'Ghille-mhaoil, son of the Bald gille (cf. M'Glashan). To Maolan must be compared the Ogmic Mailagni.

MAC-NAB, G. M'An-aba, M. G. m'y nnab (D. of L.), M' An ABA (1467 MS.): "son of the Abbot"; see aba.

MAC-NAIR, G. M'An-uidhir; for Mac Iain uidhir, son of dun (odhar) John (cf. Makaneroy, 1556, now Mac-inroy, and Makaneduy, 1526, now Mac-indoe). Such is the source of the Gairloch branch of the name. The Perthshire sept appears in documents as M'Innayr (1468), Macnayr (1390), which is explained as M' An-oighre, son of the heir. M'Nuir in Cowal (1685), John Maknevar (1546, in Dunoon); Tho. M'Nuyer (1881, Inverness). Prof. Mackinnon suggested M'An-fhuibhir, son of the smith or faber; nor should M'An-jhuidhir, the stranger's son, be overlooked as a possible etymology.

MAC-NAUGHTON, G. M'Neachdainn, M. G. M'Neachtain (1467), O. G. Nectan, Pictish Naiton (Bede), from necht, pure, root nig of nigh, wash.
Mac-nee, G. M‘Righ; D. of L. M‘onee, M‘Nie, 1613; M‘Knie, 1594; M‘Kne, 1480 (Menteith and Breadalbane). From mac-nia, champion?


Mac-nish, G. M‘Neis; from M‘Naois, the Naois being a dialectic form of Aonghus or Angus.


Mac-pherson, G. M‘Phearsain, son of the Parson, M. G. M‘a pharsone (D. of L.), documents M‘Inphersonis (1594 Acts of Parl.). Bean Makimperson (1490, Cawdor Papers), Makfarson (1481, Kilravock Papers), Archibald M‘Walter vic Doncho vic Persoun (who in 1589 has lands in Glassary of Argyle); Tormot M‘Farsane (vicar of Snizort, 1526). The Badenoch M‘Phersons are known as Clann Mhuirich; the Skye sept are called Canananach (from Lat. canonicus, canon).

Mac-quarrrie, G. M‘Guaire, M. G. Guaire, M‘Guaire (1467 MS.), Macquharry (1481), M‘Goire of Ulva (1463, Makryhory in 1473); from Gadelic Guaire, *Gauro-s, E. Ir. guaire, noble; Gr. γαυῆς, proud, exulting; further Lat. gaudeo, rejoice, Eng. joy.

Mac-Queen, G. M‘Cuinn, documents Sween M‘Queen (1609, Clan Chattan Bond), M‘Queyn (1543, Swayne then also as a personal name, in Huntly’s Bond), Makquean (1502, personal name Swayne also appears), M. G. Suibne, gen. (1467 MS., Mackintosh genealogy), M‘Soinith (D. of L.), documents Syffyn (1269, the Kintyre Sweens), Ir. Suibhne (Sweeney), E. Ir. Subne, Adamnan’s Suibheus: *Subnio-s, root ben, go: “Good going?” The opposite Duibne (O‘Duinn, etc.) appears in Ogam as Dovviniás (gen.). Cf. dubhach, subhach. Usually Mac-queen is referred to Norse Eng. Swayne, Norse Sveinn, which gives G. M‘Swain, now Mac-Swan, a Skye name. Pronounced in Arg. Mac Cu’ne or Cuibhne, for M‘Shuibhne, which is the best spelling for Argyle.

Mac-rae, G. M‘Rath, M. G. gen. Macraith, documents M‘Crath (1383 in Rothiemurchus), Ir. Macraith (years 448, onwards):
"Son of Grace or Luck," from rath, q.v. A personal name like Macbeth.

**Mac-Raill**; see under *Harold*.

**Mac-Raonnal**, G. *M'Reaunill*; see Raund.

**Mac-Rory**, Mac-Rury; see Rory. Documents give *Maureurray* in 1427.

**Mac-Taggart**, G. *M'An-t-Sagairt*, son of the priest.


**Mac-Vicar**, G. *M'Bhiocair*, documents *Makvicar* (1561, when lands are given near Inveraray to him): "Son of the Vicar."

**Mac-Vuirich**, G. *M'Mhuirich*, M. *G'Mhuireadhaigh* (M'V.) in the Bardic family of M'Vurich claimed descent from the poet Muireach Albanach (circ. 1200 A.D.). They now call themselves Macphersons by confusion with the Badenoch Clann Mhuirich.

**Neil**, G. *Niall*, so Ir., E. *Ir. Niall*, Adamman's *Nellis*, gen.: *N'eillo-s, *Neid-s-to-; see niata for root, the meaning being "champion." Hence *Mac-neill*. The word was borrowed into Norse as *Njáll*, *Njál*, and thence borrowed into Eng., where it appears in Domesday Bk. as *Nigel*, a learned spelling of *Neil*, whence *Nelson*, etc.

**Nicholson**, G. *M'Neacail*; see *Mac-nicol*.


**Philip**, so G.; see *Mackillop*.

**Ranald**, G. *Raonull*, M. G. *Ragnhall* (M'V.), *Ragnall*, Raghnall (1467 MS.), Ir. *Ragnall* (common); from Norse *Rögnvaldr*, ruler of (from) the gods, or ruler of counsel, from *rögn*, *regin*, the gods, Got. *ragin*, opinion, rule; whence *Reginald*, *Reynold*, etc. Hence M'B*aonuill*, Mac-ranald, Clanranald.

fame, praise, and berht, bright, now bright, "bright fame." Hence Robertsons (= Clann Donnchaidh), Mac-robbie.

Roderick, Rory, G. Ruairidh, M. G. Ruaidri (1467 MS.), O. G. Ruadri, Ir. Ruadhri, gen. Ruadrach (Annals at 779, 814), O. Ir. Ruadri, E. W. Rotri, Rodri; from ruadh, red, and the root of righ, king? The Teutonic Roderick means "Famed-ruler" (from hrōþ and rik, the same root as G. righ). The terminal -ri, -rech (old gen.) is a reduced form of righ, king (Zimmer, who, however, regards Ruadri as from N. Hrörehr, but this in Galloway actually gives Rerih, M'Rerik, M'Grerik, 1490, 1579, thus disproving Zimmer's view). M'Cririck still exists.

Ross, G. Rosach, Ros; from the County name Ross, so named from ros, promontory.


Samuel, G. Samuel, Somhairle. The latter really is Somerled, M. G. Somuirle (M'V.), Somairli (1467 MS.); from Norse Sumarliði, which means a mariner, viking, "summer sailor," from sumar and liði, a follower, sailor.

Shaw, G. Seaghadh, Englished as Seth; evidently formerly Si'ach or Se'ach, Schiach M'Keich, Weem in 1637 (= Shaw M'Shaw), Jo. Scheach, Inverness in 1451, Jo. and Tho. Scheoch, king's "cursors" 1455-1462, Sythach Macmallon in Badenoch in 1224-33, Ferchar filius Seth there in 1234, M'Sithig in B. of Deer: *Sithech, M. Ir. sidhach, wolf. The female name Sitheag was common in the Highlands in the 17th century (Shiak, Shihag). The Southern Shaws—of Ayrshire and Greenock—are from De Schw (1296), from Sc. and Eng. shaw, shaws; the southern name influenced the northern in spelling and pronunciation. In Argyle, the Shaws are called Clann Mhic-gille-Sheathanaich.

Simon, G. Sim. This is the Lovat personal name; hence M'Shimidh, Simmie's son, the name by which the Lovat family is patronymically known. Hence in Eng. Sime, Mackimmitie, M'Kim, Simpson, etc.

Somerled; see Samuel.

Sutherland, G. Suthurlanach; from the county name.

Taggart; see Mac-taggart.

Thomas, G. Tómas, Támhus (M'F.), M. G. Tamás (1467 MS.). Hence Mac-tanish, Mac-combie.

Torquil, G. Torcull (Torcall); from Norse Thorkell, a shorter form of Thorkestill, which see under Mac-corguodale.

Whyte, G. M'Ilebhain; son of the fair gille. See Bain above.
PERSONAL NAMES AND SURNAMES.

WILLIAM, G. Uilleam, M. G. William (1467 MS.); the G. is borrowed from the Eng., O. Eng. Willelm, Ger. Wilhelm, “helmet of resolution” (from will and helm). Hence Mac-william.

SOME NATIVE FEMALE NAMES.

Beathag, Sophia, M. G. Bethog (M'V.), Bethoc (Chronicles of Picts and Scots: name of King Duncan's mother), for *Bethoc, the fem. form of Beathan, discussed under Mac-bean.

Bride, Bridget, E. Ir., O. Ir. Brigit, g. Brigте or Brighte : *Brgnté (Stokes), an old Gaelic goddess of poetry, etc. (Corm.); usually referred to the root ãrg, high, Celtic Brigantes, high or noble people; Skr. brhati, high (fem.); further Ger. borg, hill, Eng. burgh. The Norse god of poetry was Bragi, whose name may be allied to that of Brigit. The name of the Gr. goddess Ἀφροδίτη (Brg-té) and the Teutonic name Berhta (from the same stem as Eng. bright), have been compared to that of Bridget (Hoffman, Æs. Beit. 18, 290); but this derivation of Aphrodite (“foam-sprung”?) is unusual.

Diorbháil, Diarbhorguil, Dorothy, M. G. Derbhfáil (M'V.), Ir. Dearbhail, Dearbhforghaill, respectively translated by O'Donovan “true request” (see àill) and “true oath” (E. Ir. forgall, O. Ir. forell, testimony, from geall). Hence the historic name Devorgilla.

Fionnghuala, Flora, M. G. Fionnghuail (1469 MS.), documents Finwola (1463), Fynvola (1409), Ir. Finnghuala: “Fair-shouldered”; from fionn and guala.

Mór, Mòrag, Sarah, M. G. Móir (M'V.), Ir. Mór (year 916); from mór, great, while Hebrew Sarah means “queen.”

Muireall, Marion, Muriel, Ir. Muirghéal (year 852): Mori-gél, “sea-white”; from muir and geal.

Oighrig, Eighrig, Euphemia, M. G. Effric (D. of L.), med. documents Africa, Ir. Aithbhric, older Afric (two abbesses of Kildare so called in 738 and 833); from Africa?

Raonaíld, Raonaid, Rachel; from Norse Ragnihildis, “God’s fight.” Cf. Ronald.

Sorcha, Clara, Ir. Sorcha; from the adj. sorcha, bright, the opposite of dorcha, q.v.

Una, Winifred, Winny, Ir. Una; usually explained as from úna (nina, M. Ir. = gorta), hunger, famine, whence the Ir. proverb: “Ní bhion an teach a mbión Una lá ná leath gan núna”—The house where Una is is never a day or half one without hunger.” W. newyn, Cor. naun, Br. naon, M. Br. nafin, *novengo-, Eng. need. Cf. E. Ir. unchi, scarcity, Eng. want, wane. Una, daughter of the King of Lochlan, is represented as Keating as Conn Cedcathach’s mother (second century).