# THE CELTIC MONTHLY: A MAGAZINE FOR HIGHLANDERS. VOL. XV

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649415083

The Celtic Monthly: A Magazine for Highlanders. Vol. XV by Johan Mackay

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### JOHAN MACKAY

# THE CELTIC MONTHLY: A MAGAZINE FOR HIGHLANDERS. VOL. XV



#### THE

## Celtie Monthly:

A Magazine for Highlanders.

EDITED BY

JOHN MACKAY, GLASGOW.

YOL. XY.

UNIV OF California

JOHN MACKAY,

10 Bute Mansions, Hillhead, Glasgow.

1907.

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#### DEDICATED

TO

MACLEOD OF TALISKER, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA,

THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ANCIENT SKYE FAMILY,
whose love for the Highlands, and particularly "Eilean a' Cheò," the
historic home of his race, has been manifested in many useful ways.

JOHN MACKAY,

## UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA

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HENRY WHYTE ("FIONN").

## The Celtic Monthly:

#### A MAGAZINE FOR HIGHLANDERS.

Edited by JOHN MACKAY, Glasgow.

No. 1. Vol. XV.]

OCTOBER, 1906.

Price Threepence.



#### HENRY WHYTE ("FIONN").

THE readers of the Celtic need no introduction to "Fionn," for he has contributed to its pages since its inception, but while they know him as a writer on various Celtic subjects, there are many who would like to know "what manner of man he is." The King having been pleased to confer on "Fionn" a Civil List Pension of £50 a year for his contributions to Gaelic Literature, we deem the occasion a fitting one to present our readers with a portrait of this well-known Gael. Mr. Whyte was born in Easdale, Argyllshire, and came to Glasgow when a youth, where he has been ever since in close fellowship with his countrymen in every movement having for its object the advancement of the interests of Highlanders. In the early "seventics" he contributed to the Gael, and since then he has done more than any of his contemporaries to maintain the interest of Highlanders in all that relates to their history, literature and music. The popularity which his various publications have enjoyed is beat evidenced by the fact that they have either passed through more than one edition, or are entirely out of print. His "Celtic Lyre" is without doubt the most popular collection of Gaelic song and music ever published, and his "Martial Music of the Clana" deals exhaustively with a subject which has not hitherto been adequately treated by any previous writer. As a translator of Gaelic poetry he has few equals, and in his "Celtic Lyre" and "Celtic Garland" he has given to English literature translations from the Gaelic, not only beautiful and faithful

to the original, but with the additional merit of being singable to their native Gaelic airs.

In the field of Highland music and song no present-day writer has contributed so extensively to the literature on the subject, or has done more to create the present-day popularity of Highland music, than "Fionn." Not only has he written many original and popular songs in the vernacular tongue, but he has also composed the music of one of the most popular Gaelic songs at present sung at Highland gatherings, "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig"..."Up with the Gaelic." Last year he produced a volume of "True Tales" in Gaelic, which has found its way to every hamlet in the Highlands, and which is shortly to be followed by a second series.

At the Mod of An Comunn Gaidhealach, held at Oban last month, he carried off the prize for the best melody to Neil M.leod, the Skye bard's, song "Failte do 'n Eilean Sgitheanach"—A Salute to the Isle of Skye. He also secured the prize for the best essay on the "Placenames of a Highland Parish, with Traditions, Legends, &c." "Fionn" selected his native parish, Kilbrandon and Kilchattan, Lorn.
Mr. Whyte has also done solid work in

Mr. Whyte has also done solid work in Highland history, many of the sketches of the clans which have appeared in Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston's work, "The Tartans of the Clans and Septs of Scotland," being from his pen. This publication, in two volumes, is admittedly the most exhaustive and sumptuous ever published on the subject.

lished on the subject.

"Fionn's" many articles on the history, social condition, and folk-lore of the Highlands, which have appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers, would, if collected, form material for many interesting volumes.

We are sure Highlanders at home and abroad

We are sure Highlanders at home and abroad will join with us in wishing "Fionn" long life to enjoy his well-deserved honour. A h-uile latha dha!

EDITOR.