

GLOSSARY

This glossary is not taken from any existing one, but has been made expressly for this volume. It professes to include such words only as were thought likely to cause difficulty to the reader unfamiliar with broad Scots.

McLachlan's dialect does not differ essentially from that of literary Scotland (Burns's Ayrshire). That differs from standard English (of which it is the northern variety) somewhat in *vocabulary* (as *lug* for *ear*, *gar* for *compel*), but chiefly in *orthoepey*. The reader will readily get "the run of it" by bearing in mind these general statements: (1) Verbs make their past in "it," as *descendit* for *descended*; the *i* of "it" is elided if practicable, as *ordaint* for *ordained*; which happens even with the word *it*, as "*A'll* no dae't" for "I will not do it." (2) *D* is elided after *n*: *en'* is *end*, *han'* or *haun'* is *hand*, *an'* is *and*. (3) *Ow* is *oo* generally: *noo* is *now*, *roun'* is *round*, *moo* is *mouth*. (4) Final *l* is dropped: *fa'* is *fall*, *ca'* is *call*, *won'erfu'* is *wonderful*. (5) It has a mixed vowel like French *u*, German *ü*: *guid* is *good*, *bluid* is *blood*, *schule* is *school*, *fule* is *fool*. (See note on McLachlan's Rimes, p. 406.) (6) The guttural, so common in our language in the Tudor period, still holds sway. However, it is the voiceless guttural (usually spelt *ch*), as *wecht* for *weight*, not the voiced one which *gh* in current spelling appears to indicate. (7) Open *i* (as in *ill*) shifts to tense *e* (*é*): *clénch* is *clinch*, or else open *i* shifts to *u* in but: *wull* is *will*, *runklt* is *wrinkled*. (8) Short *o* becomes short *a*: *lang* is *long*, *sang* is *song*, *thrang* is *throng*, *amang* is *among*. (9) Final long *u* (as in *Hindu*) is apt to shift to *ae* (like *ey* in *they*): *shae* is *shoe*, *dae* is *do*, *tae* is *too*, *blae* is *blue*. (10) *Ei* or *ey* has the force of Latin *ei*: *gey* is *gei*. (11) The present participle ends in "in": *roarin* is *roaring*. (12) After *c*, *t* is commonly dropped: *exac'ly* is *exactly*. (13) After *m*, *b* is commonly dropped: *trummelt* is *trembled*, *thummle* is *thimble*. (14) Most speakers speak with increased tension of voice, the syllables are uttered with "snap," the opposite of drawling speech. In this respect it resembles French.

The reader should understand that all the above differences have not been fully carried out, because to do so would spoil the