

89. **between.** Perhaps, between himself and Brian: but more probably, between his prayers.

90. His fear made him show an appearance of devotion, i.e., in praying and making the sign of the cross.

97-8. The warrior uses every art to make himself a splendid soldier; but the ruin and desolation which was seen here, was a mockery of the soldier's strength.

99. **knot-grass.** A common weed.

102. **bucklered.** Protected, as a buckler or shield might protect. *That* is a conjunctive pronoun.

104. **fieldfare.** A small bird.

105. **blindworm.** A small snake-like lizard.

106. **that mocked at time.** So swift and strong that it seemed as if time could never have any effect on them.

108. **wreathed with chaplet.** Encircled with a crown of flowers.

114. **snood.** The ribbon with which a Scottish maiden braided her hair. After marriage a *curch* or *coif* was worn instead of a snood.

120. **travail.** Child-birth.

121. **comepeers.** Companions equal in age or in rank.

130-2. The crowd believed that Brian's father was no human being, but an evil spirit or phantom.

136. **sable-lettered.** Early books were printed in heavy black type.

140. **cabala.** Mysteries.

141-2. Knowledge of hidden evil things which inquisitive scholars, proud of their learning, were bold enough to seek.

144. **mystic.** Mysterious, baffling the understanding.

149. **with.** Against.

152. **the River Demon.** "The River Demon or River-horse, for it is that form which he commonly assumes, is the kelpy of the Lowlands, an evil and malicious spirit delighting to forebode and to witness calamity."—(*Scott*).

159-60. The lonely seer, or prophet, shut off from the rest of mankind, created for himself a world of supernatural ghostly beings, which did not exist in bodily form.

166. **Ben-Shie.** "The female fairy whose lamentations were often supposed to precede the death of a chieftain of particular families.