

work, and can milk cows; in short she can do everything. She talks sensibly, and is the first person I have found that can translate Gaelic poetry literally."

Miss Maclean, Mari nigh'n an Dotair, was born and bred in Glasgow. She had not learnt Gaelic in her childhood; it was after she had come to Mull that she acquired it. With all her accomplishments her life was an unfortunate one. She fell in love with a man named Duncan Mackenzie, who was in every respect her inferior. Rather than displease her father she remained single a long time. But shortly after his death, June 6th, 1786, she became the wife of the man she loved. They lived in Tobermory, and were in poor circumstances. Mackenzie died in 1800. After his death Mary was supported by Alexander Maclean of Coll. She died in 1826. She was buried at Kilmore, about seven miles from Tobermory, but no stone marks her grave. She had no children.

Mary Maclean took good care of her father's collection of Gaelic poetry. It is evident that several poems at the end of it were written down by herself. She gave the collection to John Maclean, the poet, about the year 1818. She told him that she had been anxious to publish it, but had been too poor to pay the cost. She expressed a hope that it would be published some day. She must have been at that time over seventy years of age. John Maclean brought the collection with him to Nova Scotia in 1819.

The following are the contents, word for word and letter for letter of the first page of Dr. Maclean's MS.:-

*Orain le Iain Mc Iloin aun Muil, Mac Alain
Mc Iain Mc Ailen.*

ORAN DON SEAUNDUINE.

I.

Hoir leam fein gur truodh do dhaon
Bhi gearidh go aois anbharrich,
'S leubhad car agus caochladh
Thig re aois 's re anmhenn.
Neach a bheadh re neart a threin
Iomadh te ga lenamhainn
Seignach i bheir bhean phosd
Blas a poig don teaunduin.