

bearing arms, was obliged instantly to repair, in his best arms and accoutrements, to the place of rendezvous. He who failed to appear suffered the extremities of fire and sword, which were emblematically denounced to the disobedient by the bloody and burnt marks upon this warlike signal. During the civil war of 1745-6, the Fiery Cross often made its circuit; and upon one occasion it passed through the whole district of Breadalbane, a tract of thirty-two miles, in three hours."—(Scott).

18. **glanced.** Darted, flashed.

23. **coy.** Bashful.

25. **shadows.** Reflections.

27-8. Future joys look bright, but they are uncertain; so the reflections on the water looked bright, but at any moment they might vanish if the surface of the water was broken.

30. **chalice.** The cup of the flower.

31. **lawn.** An open space in the woods.

35. **invisible.** The lark flies high in the air to sing.

flecked. Dappled, spotted with clouds.

39. **the cushat dove.** The wood pigeon.

46. **impatient blade.** Transferred epithet.

47-52. The vassals were prompt in preparing for the ceremony, which was filled with deep and deadly meaning; for the clansmen of old had thought that such a ceremony was a fitting preparation for sending out the Fiery Cross.

58. **reclined.** Resting; a perfect participle.

62. **juniper.** An evergreen shrub.

rowan. The mountain-ash.

66. **frock.** The coarse gown worn by monks or friars.

69. **seamed o'er.** Covered with lines left by former wounds.

70. **frantic penance.** The punishment inflicted on himself in frenzy.

74. **Benharrow.** A mountain at the head of Loch Lomond.

75-6. He did not look like a Christian priest, but like a Druid who had come back from the grave. The Druids were priests of the Celtic tribes.

81. **The hallowed creed.** The Christian creed.

87. **strath.** A broad valley.