

O'Groat's," "from Sarnia to Gaspé." "Strathspey" is the valley of the Spey, now mostly applied to a dance taking its name thence.

+ **Clan-Alpine** included all descended from Kenneth McAlpine, an ancient king. These included the Macgregors, the Grants, Mackies, Mackinnons, MacNabs, etc. The pine tree was their emblem.

Roderick Dhu of the poem is an imaginary person. The incidents of his life are mostly gleaned from the legends of the Highlands irrespective of time or place. His character is meant to be typical of the fierce, proud old chiefs. He has, however, somewhat of Scott's own disposition unconsciously added.

Loch Lomond. A large lake separating Dunbarton and Stirling. Its southern end is studded with islands, one of which, Inch Cailliach (*island of women*, from a convent on it), is the sacred burial ground of Clan Alpine.

Maronnan's cell. This is a poetic privilege Scott has availed himself of. *Cell* means *chapel*, so also does the Celtic *kill*; hence the transposition from "Kilmarnock." Cf. "Colmkill" in Macbeth for Colomba's cell.

Brack-linn = "white foaming pool" on the Keltie.

Beltane = "Baal's fire." A remnant of the sun worship of the heathen Celts; it was a festival on the first of May, supposed to have been attended with human sacrifices, of which the fire was a typical remnant. After the conversion to Christianity the ceremony would be naturally kept up as a season of merry making. Cf.

"The shepherd lights his beltane fire."—*Lord of the Isles*.

Glengyle = "the western glen or valley," separated from Loch Lomond by a narrow ridge of rocks.

Breadalbane = perhaps the *broad white water*. (*Ane* = *avon* = *wan* or *anne*; alb = white.)

Glen Fruin = "the valley of the sheltered places." It runs into Loch Lomond.

GlenLuss = "the *high glen*," runs into Lomond.

Leven Glen. "The level valley," between Lomond and the Clyde.

Percy and the Douglas fought the battle of Otterburn in 1388. The pennon (having the crescent and three silver stars) was taken in a skirmish, but Hotspur attacked the Scots to recover it. He was, however, defeated and taken prisoner, and Douglas was slain. This is supposed to have given rise to the ballad of Chevy Chase, though most of the incidents are different. Chevy Chase comes from *chevauchi*, a horse raid, or more likely from *cheviot chase*, i. e., the "hunt on the Cheviot hills," which it really was.

Glenfinlas = "the grey-white valley." Scott states in the notes on his "Glenfinlas" that it was called the Valley of the Green Woman, from the incident he celebrates in that poem.

III.—**The River Demon**, or Kelpie, a malignant spirit of the Highland lakes and rivers. The "ncontide hag," in Gaelic, *Glas-lich*, is a gigantic female figure, haunting various districts.

Ben Shie (ben, a woman—sigh, a fairy) = the f-iry's wife. Supposed to foretell death by shrieks.