

of the poet's life, offers incidentally to the student of Gaelic metre an interesting example of internal rhyme in the structure of verse.

"And long, for me, is each hour new-born,  
Lost and forlorn with grinding grief  
For the hunting lands, and the Fenian bands,  
And the long-haired, generous Fenian chief."

The home-ties find, naturally enough, representative expression in Gaelic proverbs: as, "The hob is a good anchor."—*Is maith an t-ancoire an t-adhart*. "A friend in court is better than a groat in purse."—*Is fear carad 'nu sguirt na bonn sa sparann*. "Drunk or sober, don't disown your friend"—*Ar a meisge no ar a ceill budh ceart go n-aitheacad duine a duine fein*.

Perhaps the wittiest efforts of Gaelic proverbial philosophy have to do with matrimony. New conditions are bound to evoke comment, and of those marriage and g'ving in marriage would seem to be unusually provocative of more or less humorous gossip. The Gaels are, if anything, remarkable for their fund of keen and facetious observation on the subject. It must, however, be added that the delicacy of the humor that sparkles through their sayings disarms resentment and saves them from the unpardonable fault of coarseness. At the same time, it must not be inferred that the sting of satire is wanting in them. On the contrary, the Gaelic proverbial philosopher mixes his wisdom with a certain amount of satirical humor, which gives to his *dicta* a peculiar piquancy without in any way detracting from their sententiousness. The compound, as a rule, is a rather bitter one, but let us hope not unwholesome, for the person for whom it is intended. But this is tarrying on the wayside: it is time to return to the proverbs themselves.

"When you marry a woman from the mountain you marry the whole mountain."—*Nuair a posa tu bean o'n slìbh posa tu an slìebh ar fad*. The point of the saying, of course, lies in the fact that in doing so a man marries himself into a clannish community, one of the consequences of which was that on any occasion afterwards which brought his new-found relatives by his door, such for example, as a fair, a market, or a wake in the neighborhood, they were sure to