A SUMMER IN SKYE

Like Gormal is the sound,
Ere wakes the tempest in the high seas:
Hie thee to the heights, son of Arn,
Survey each copse and hill-side.
He went, and soon return'd in terror,
His eye fix'd and wild in his head;
His heart beat quick against his side,
His speech was feeble, slow, and broken.

"Arise! thou Lord of the waves, Mighty chief of the dark shields; I see the stream of the dark-wooded mountains, I see the seed of Erin and their lord. A chariot! the mighty chariot of battle Advances with death across the plain; The well-made swift chariot of Cuchullin, The great son of Sema, mighty in danger. Behind, it bends down like a wave, Or the mist on the copse of the sharp rocks; The light of stones of power [gems] is round, As the sea round a bark at night. Of polish'd yew is the beam, The seats within are of smoothest bone; The dwelling-place of spears it is, Of shields, of swords, and of mighty men. By the right side of the great chariot Is seen the snorting, high-mettled steed; The high-maned, broad, black-chested, High-leaping, strong son of the hills. Loud and resounding is his hoof: The spread of his frontlets above Is like mist on the haunts of the elk: Bright was his aspect, and swift his going. Sith-fadda [Long-stride] is his name.

By the other side of the chariot

Is the arch-neck'd, snorting,

Narrow-maned, high-mettled, strong-hoofed,

Swift-footed, wide-nostril'd steed of the mountains,

Du-sron-geal is the name of the horse.