

discussion of the question as to who the Picts and Scots were. In his dissertation on the poems of Ossian, MacPherson remarks that the Caledonians, who possessed the east coast of Scotland, applied themselves to the raising of corn or to agriculture. It was from that employment that the Gaelic name of Picts proceeded, for they are called *Cruithnich*, i.e., the wheat or corn-eaters. I may add that the etymology of *Cruithnich* is identical with that of *Cruithneachd*, the Gaelic word for wheat; *cruth*, form, and *snachd*, snow, the reference doubtless being to the white colour of the flour which is extracted from wheat.

With regard to the term *Caledonia*, it has to be observed that it was never applied by the Gaels of Scotland to their own country; and that it comprised that portion of country which lies to the north of the Forth. Dunkeld, in Perthshire, has been regarded as the capital of the Caledonian Gaels when the Romans first invaded that portion of Scotland. Dunkeld, or Duncalden, forms the substratum of Caledonia. Among the various explanations which have been given of Caledonia, the most plausible seems to be *Dun a' Chaluim*, the hillock of the hazel, and not *Dun Caeldhaoinc*, the stronghold of the Gaelic people. St. Columba is said to have resided at Dunkeld for some time about 570 A.D. There rose then at Dunkeld a royal monastery, which subsequently attained to great eminence.

Zeuss prefers to divide the Celtic tribes and languages of Great Britain and Ireland into the Irish and British branches—the former including the Celts of Ireland, and of the Highlands of Scotland and of the Isle of Man, the latter including the Welsh and the Armoricans in Brittany. It is abundantly evident that those in whose veins the blood of Galgacus and his heroes, of Taliessin and Ossian, of Fingal and Arthur is now flowing, are honouring themselves by taking a warm interest in the language which, venerable with years and use, continues to be still spoken, and to have in many cases the vigour and persuasiveness of olden times. Max Müller affirms "that the language of England may be said to have been in succession Celtic, Saxon, Norman and English. The history of the Celtic language runs to the present day. It matters not whether it be spoken by all the inhabitants of the British Isles or by only a small minority in Wales, Ireland and Scotland. A language, so long as it is spoken by anybody, lives and has its substantive existence. The last old woman, Dorothy Pentreath, that spoke Cornish, and to whose memory it is now intended to raise a monument, represented by herself alone the ancient language of Cornwall."