

Watch Your Opportunity !

Swift assault will take a fortress
 Long besieged in vain ;
 Wit will win you in a moment
 More than years of pain.

Tell me not of faithful service,
 Of devotion's claim !
 One bold stroke well timed and steady,
 And you win the game.

—M. Falconer.

Boat Song of the Glengarry Highlanders.

Translation from the Gaelic by the Earl of Eglington, who, in his day, took a great interest in the Highland emigrants of Glengarry, Canada.

Listen to me as when ye heard our father
 Sing long ago of other distant shores ;
 Listen to me, and then in chorus gather
 All your deep voices, as ye dip your oars :—

Where Scuir-na-Gillean braves the wind and rain,
 And round Ben More the mad Atlantic raves ;
 Where grey Iona's immemorial fane
 Keeps solemn ward by unremembered graves—

No more our voices echo through the valley,
 The deer, unchallenged, roams across the glen ;
 No more around Clan Ranald's banner rally
 The fairest women and the bravest men.

No more the lovers on the leas are meeting,
 No more the children paddle in the stream,
 We hear no more the pibroch's kindly greeting,
 Nor see the moon on Royal tombstones gleam.

From the lone sheiling on the misty island
 Mountains divide us and a world of seas ;
 But still the heart is true, the heart is Highland,
 And we in dreams behold the Hebrides.

Green are the woods that gird the mighty river,
 And green the meadows sloping to the strand ;
 But we have left our native hills for ever—
 But we are exiles from our father's land.

Periods of Gaelic Literature.

At a recent meeting of the Gaelic Society of London, Eng., the Rev. Nigel MacNeill, author of "Literature of the Highlands," "Lux Christi," etc., read a paper entitled "Periods of Gaelic Literature." These periods Dr. MacNeill named "early," "middle," and "modern." The first, comprising 836 years, began with 450 A.D., the time of St. Patrick, and ended with the year 1286, the date of the death of the last of the Gaelic kings of Scotland. The middle period, from 1286 to 1746, contained 460 years, while the modern period meant no more than the

last 150 years. Dr. MacNeill suggested that early and modern Gaelic stands very much in the same relation to one another as Anglo-Saxon or early English to the English to-day. He mentioned that the paper recorded in a condensed form the results of careful study of many years, and possibly it would be published as a primer of Gaelic literature.

The child who came into the world on a Thames excursion launch the other day recalls the historic puzzle as to the nationality of the infant whose father was a Malay and mother an American, and who was born on a Dutch vessel, sailing under the British flag, in Spanish waters. What parish was it born in?

"This is indeed a golden opportunity," said the thief, when he met the inebriated individual with a gold watch dangling from his pocket.

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