



First Number of the

CELTIC
MELODIES,

Being a Collection of
ORIGINAL
SLOW Highland AIRS,
PIPE-REELS,
AND
Cannntearachd.

NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED

— Selected and Arranged by a —

HIGHLANDER.

Ent. at Stat. Hall.

Price 9/6

EDINBURGH

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Walker & Anderson, Edin.

PREFACE.

May I venture to recommend to a discriminating Public my Collection of Celtic Melodies. They are now for the first time published with the exception of Nos 1, 50, & 66 which have appeared before, but of which the true Highland sets are now given. I offer to the world the first number of a work which, if well received will be followed by a second.

I earnestly recommend a patient trial of all the slow airs. I think they require to be heard several times before one becomes accustomed to the short particular measure which some of them have, and wherein consists their greatest beauty. Highland Music in general has a rustic elegance, a *naïveté* throughout that is quite beautiful. The present Tunes are attired in their own native simplicity, and not a point adopted that is not in the original.

I am a great admirer of foreign Music, and all its accompaniments; but sure am I a Highland or any slow plaintive air, ought not to be loaded with trills and shakes. The whole beauty of the few notes of which the airs consist, is in playing them distinctly, and with a full tone. A few shakes are pretty, but a very scanty number suffices; and I am firmly of opinion, that if our Highland airs were played in the style the natives sing them, with pathos and expression, at the same time simply, they would be much more thought of.

The Celtic Melodies must speak for themselves; and should the Public take notice of them, it is for their ancient merits alone. The only share of favour I can claim, is in presenting genuine sets, and preserving their simplicity entire.

69 Airs

1

THE CELTIC MELODIES.

Nº I.

"Biodh mid subhach?"

"Let us be merry?"

Handwritten note:
H. J. W. 11. 17

Pipe Set.

REEL

The musical score is written for a piano and consists of four systems. Each system has a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The first system begins with a piano (p) dynamic. The second system features alternating forte (f) and piano (p) dynamics. The third system starts with a forte (f) dynamic. The fourth system also begins with a forte (f) dynamic. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Nº II,

"Falbh orra, Ho!"

"Ho away she goes!"

Boat Song.

SLOW AND
DISTINCTLY.

Handwritten musical score for "Falbh orra, Ho!" (Boat Song). The score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. The first system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo and performance instruction "SLOW AND DISTINCTLY." is written to the left of the first system. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Nº III.

Pipe Reel. $\frac{4}{4}$ 11, 27

Handwritten musical score for "Pipe Reel". The score is written for piano. It consists of three systems of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Nº IV.

4

3

"Gur trom, trom a tha mi".

"Sad, sad am i".

Chorus.

SLOW.

Nº V. 5

"Domhnall Ban".

"Fair Donald".

Air.

WITH GAIETY.

NO. VI. 6

The Tinkler's Lass

"Ge d' tha mi gun Chrodh gun aighean?"

Chorus. "Though I am without Cows or Queys?"

SLOW WITH
FEELING
AND EXPRESSION

NO. VII. 7

"Gur mise tha sunndach"

"Tis me that's happy".

SPIRITEDLY.

Nº VIII.
Pipe Reel.

8
The Black Heir's

5



Nº IX.⁹

“Nuair bhi's cach ^{el} na'n cadal samhach?”

“When the rest are sound asleep”.

SLOW.

Chorus.



Air.



'Tha mo chean' air an fhleasgach'.

Chorus

"My affection is on the Lad".

WITH SPIRIT.

Musical score for 'Tha mo chean' air an fhleasgach'. The score is written for piano in 3/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems. The first system is labeled 'Chorus' and includes the instruction 'WITH SPIRIT.'. The second system is labeled 'Air.'. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The score ends with a double bar line.

N^o. XI.

An Islay Pipe Reel.

(Merry Wives Wedding)

Musical score for 'An Islay Pipe Reel'. The score is written for piano in 3/4 time, key of D major. It consists of four systems. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The score ends with a double bar line.

Nº XII.

"Cha 'n 'eil cailleach agam fhein?"

"I am alone since my wife died."

A Pipe Melody.*

SLOW, WITH
MARKED
EXPRESSION.

The main musical score consists of four systems of piano accompaniment. Each system has a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features various dynamics including piano (p), forte (f), and mezzo-forte (mf). There are also markings for 'w' (shake) and 'hr' (half rest) above certain notes. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass staff.

* There is a particular shake in Bagpipe music, which few people are acquainted with, and which is particularly exemplified, in this truly beautiful and ancient Bagpipe melody. That it may be played in its proper and original style, and that the performer may know where to apply it, I have put a w above the shake mark.

The common shake is, thus

A short musical phrase on a single staff, demonstrating a common shake. It consists of a series of eighth notes.

where in Pipe music

thus

A short musical phrase on a single staff, demonstrating a pipe music shake. It consists of a series of eighth notes, with a 'w' marked above the first note.

but this shake is not to be used

unless w is marked over it.

Example how it is to be played.
first bar of the "Pipe melody"

A short musical phrase on a single staff, demonstrating the first bar of the pipe melody. It consists of a series of eighth notes, with a 'w' marked above the first note.

Nº XIII. 13
"Pipe Reel".

A musical score for a piano piece titled "Pipe Reel". It consists of four systems of two staves each. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The piece features a lively, rhythmic melody with many eighth and sixteenth notes. There are some slurs and accents throughout. The first system ends with a repeat sign. The second system ends with a repeat sign. The third system ends with a repeat sign. The fourth system ends with a repeat sign.

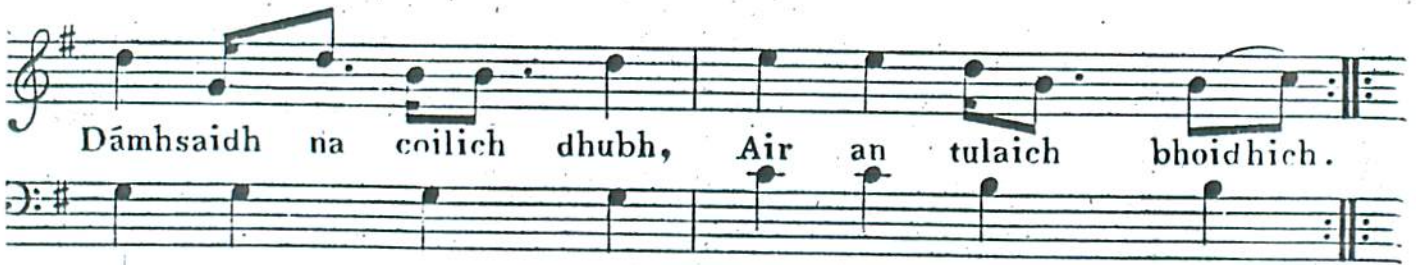
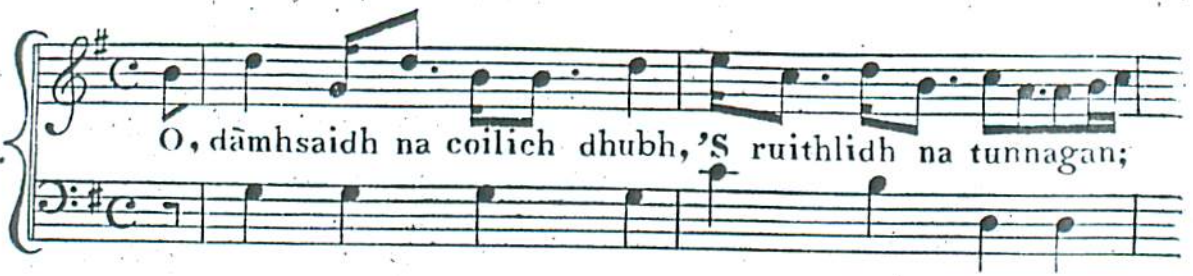
Nº XIV. 14
"S tric mi smuaineach ort."
"Oft am I thinking of thee."

LIGHTLY AND
WITH SPITIT.

A musical score for a piano piece titled "S tric mi smuaineach ort." with the English translation "Oft am I thinking of thee." It consists of two systems of two staves each. The key signature is two flats (Bb, Eb) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The piece is marked "Alr." (Allegretto) and "Chorus." The first system ends with a repeat sign. The second system ends with a repeat sign. The piece features a gentle, flowing melody with many eighth and sixteenth notes. There are some slurs and accents throughout. The first system ends with a repeat sign. The second system ends with a repeat sign.

Cainntearachd.

SUNG IN
REEL TIME.



O, dāmhsaidh na coilich dhubh,
'S ruithlidh na tunnagan;
Dāmhsaidh na coilich dhubh,
Air an tulaich bhoidhich

Translation.

O, the black cocks will dance,
And the ducks will reel,
The black cocks will dance,
On the bonny hillock.

10
No. XVI. 16 11, 33

"Cainntearachd."

"As is played on the pipe?"

REEL.



Cainntearachd pronounced Canderach's are I believe a species of Music peculiar to the Highlands of Scotland. Before Pianos became so general, they were universally used for dancing at small merry meetings. At larger ones Weddings, &c. there was a Piper.

Two or three females sing together and seldom the dancing drowns the voice for they hawl in their loudest key.

This ancient custom like many others has nearly worn out, but I am happy to say that Cainntearachd, are still used in the islands and some few parts of the mainland, I have often danced to them and liked it as well, perhaps better than a Reel performed on an Instrument.

The Pipers have picked up the tunes, I have given both sets. The words have in general no meaning and are merely used to bring out the air.

Nº XVII.

11

"Thug mi gaol do mhac a Phìobair?"

"I have lov'd the Pipers Son?"

MODERATE
TIME.



Nº XVIII.

18

'Strathspey.'

Like the Strathspey



Nº XIX. 19
Pipe Reel.

Nº XX. 20

"Latha dhómhsa 's mi siubhal garbhlaich." 23 bars
"One day as I was traversing mountains?"

Air.

WITH
FEELING.

Chorus.

Nº XXI. ²¹

13

"C' arson nach rachinn cuide riut."

"why would I not go with you."

MODERATE TIME



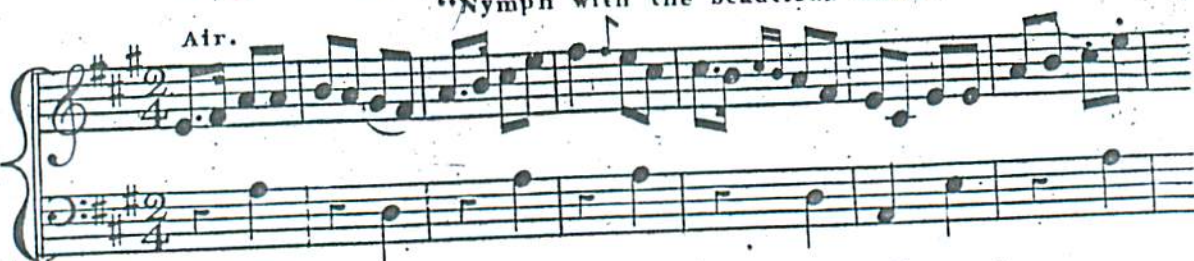
Nº XXIII. 23

"A ghruagach an leadain?"

"Nymph with the beautiful hair?"

Air.

WITH
ANCHOLY
SESSION.



Chorus.



Nº XXIV. 24

"Gu'n d'thug mi sùil air an trupa ghlas?"

"I cast an eye on the grey troop."

PLAYFULLY.



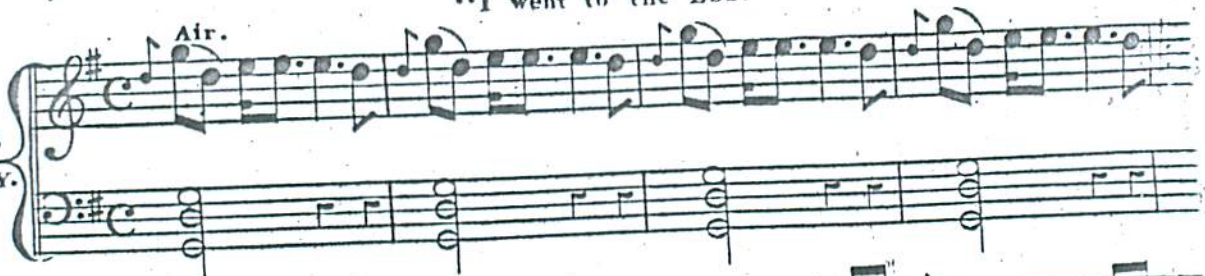
Nº XXV. 25

"Chaidh mi thun na traigh."

"I went to the Ebb."

Air.

MODERATE TIME
WITH DROLLERY.



Chorus.

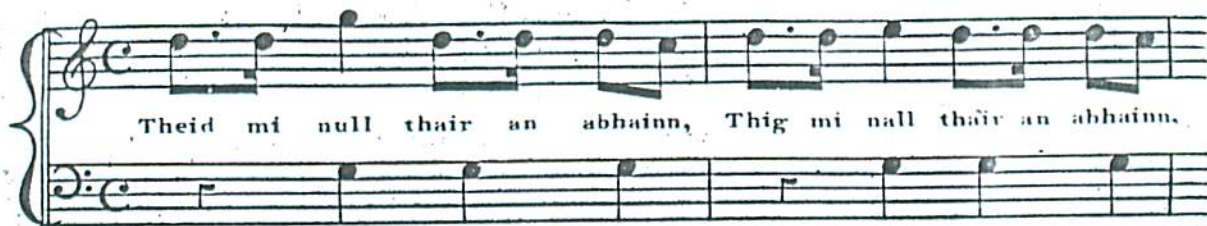


Nº XXVI. 2p

15

Cainntearachd (Vocal Set)

SUNG IN
REEL TIME.



Nº XXVII. 2p

Cainntearachd

'Pipe Set'

Some air

REEL.



Theid mi null thair an abhainn,
Thig mi nall thair an abhainn,
Theid mi null thair an abhainn,
'S fàgaidh mi 'n tàilleir.,

I'll go over the river,
I'll come over the river,
I'll go over the river,
And I'll leave the tailor.

“* Faillte na meisg.”

“Salute to Drunkenness.”

SLOW.



* This tune is ancient — it has been long in manuscript in a family — so long indeed that tho' it was composed immediately before they got it, I would call it a tolerable age. I procured it and give it to the world, with the addition of a plain bass.

This page contains six systems of handwritten musical notation, likely for piano accompaniment. The music is written in G major, indicated by one sharp (F#) on the treble clef. The notation is organized into six systems, each consisting of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The first system shows a treble staff with eighth-note patterns and a bass staff with quarter notes. The second system introduces a half rest (hr) in the treble staff. The third system features triplets (marked with a '3') in the treble staff. The fourth system continues with triplets and includes a half rest in the bass staff. The fifth system shows more complex treble staff patterns with triplets and half rests. The sixth system concludes the page with a final measure in the treble staff and a half rest in the bass staff. The handwriting is clear, and the page shows signs of age with some staining.

No XXIX. 29

Pipe Reel.

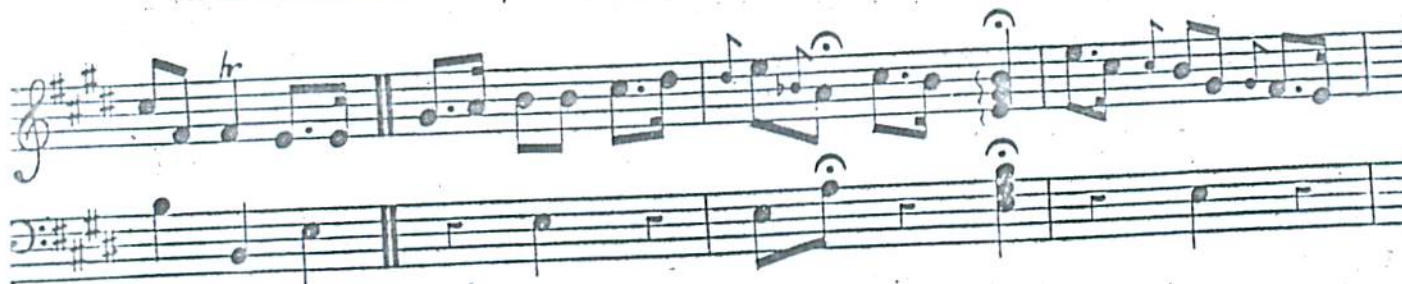
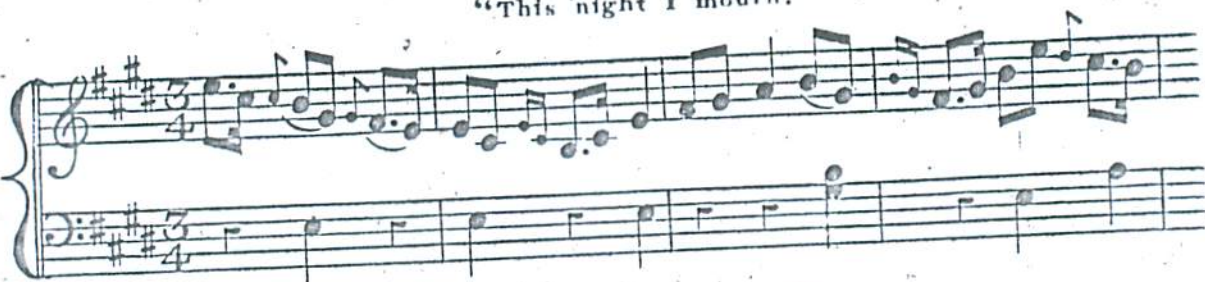


No XXX.

"Nochd 's mi tuire."

"This night I mourn."

URNFULLY.



Nº XXXI.

19

“S truagh gun d’ thug thusa ’s mise gaol.”

“Alas, that you and I have loved.”

LOW AND
SMOOTH.



Nº XXXII.

“Cha dean u e thall na bhos.”

Chorus.

“Ye’ll neither do it here nor there.”

RIGHTLY
PLAYFUL.



Nº XXXIII.

Pipe Reel.



Nº XXXIV.
"Gilean an fhraoich."

"The Island of the heather."

LOW AND
SOLEMN.



Nº XXXV.
Cainntearachd.



Nº XXXVI.
"Tha mi mo chadal."
"I am asleep."

3D

21

SLOW.



Nº XXXVII. 37

Pipe Reel.

(Sometimes Lamenting)



Nº XXXVIII. 38

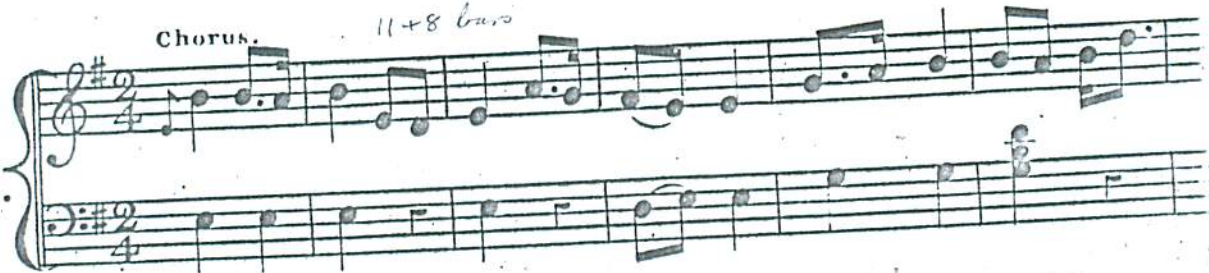
"Na be mise 'n t-ean beag eatrom."

"If I was the little airy bird."

Chorus.

11+8 bars

WITH
PRESSION.



Air.



39
Nº XXXIX.

23

"Marbhaig air a mhulad."

"Woe to Melancholy."

of Italian jig
and the Fiddle's Midge
JIG TIME.



Nº XL.

"Cha d' theid, cha d' theid mise."

"I will not, I will not go."

Gaelic Song.

WITH
LIGHTNESS
AND
FEELING.



Nº XLI. 41
Cainntearachd

UNG IN
EL TIME.



Thanig iad, thanig iad, thanig iad,
Fir an sgadain;
Thanig iad, thanig iad,
Gillean geala chur na 'n lion.

Eoghan 's Dughall,
Fionladh 's Iseabail,
Eoghan 's Dughall,
Iseabail 's Oighrig.

Translation.

They've come, they've come, they've come,
The herring fishers;
They've come, they've come,
The fair lads who throw the nets.

Hugh and Dugal,
Finlay and Isobel,
Hugh and Dugal,
Isobel and Euphan.

Nº XLII. ⁶²

25

"Cainntearachd?"

"Pipe Set"

Semitone as previous only

REEL.



Nº XLIII. ⁴³

"Latha ghabh i fuadach."

"The day she drove away."

Chorus.

WITH GAIETY
AND FEELING.



Nº XLIV. *at the Wedding House*
Pipe Reel.

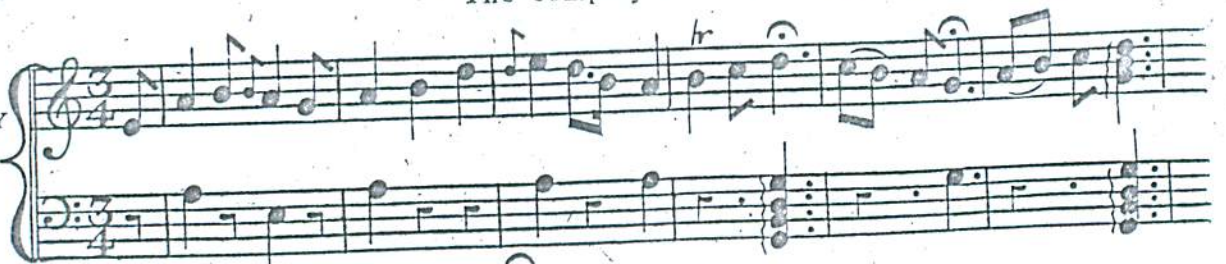


Nº XLV.

‘Gur boidheach an comunn tha’n comhnuidh’s t-Strathmhór.’

“The Company is beautiful that resides at Strathmore.”

ATHETICALLY
SLOW, WITH
FEELING.



Nº XLVI.
Pipe Reel.

27



Nº XLVII. ⁴⁷ { *truly remembered reel.*
For a March }
Short Pipe March.

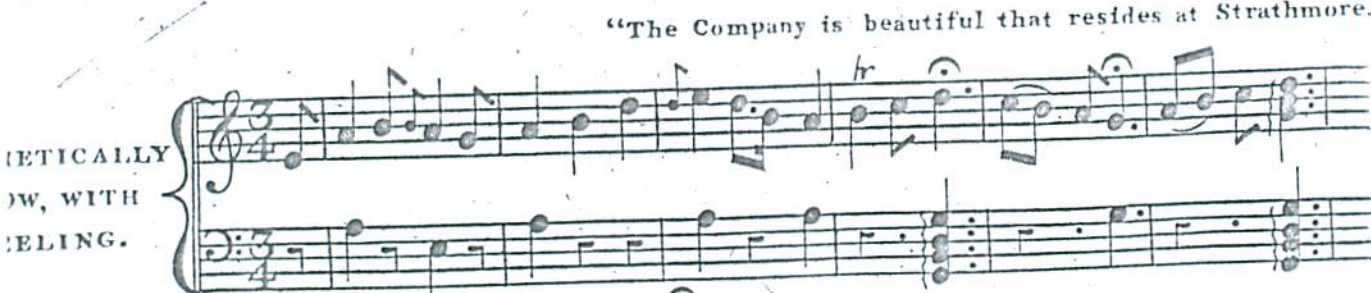


Nº XLIV. *The Wedding Hoax*
Pipe Reel.



Nº XLV.

“The Company is beautiful that resides at Strathmore.”
“The Company is beautiful that resides at Strathmore.”



Nº XLVIII. 48

"An cuideachd rium fhein a b' fhearr leam."

"In my own company I would prefer you."

MODERATE.



Nº XLIX. 49

"Mo ghaol air falbh."

"My Love's away."

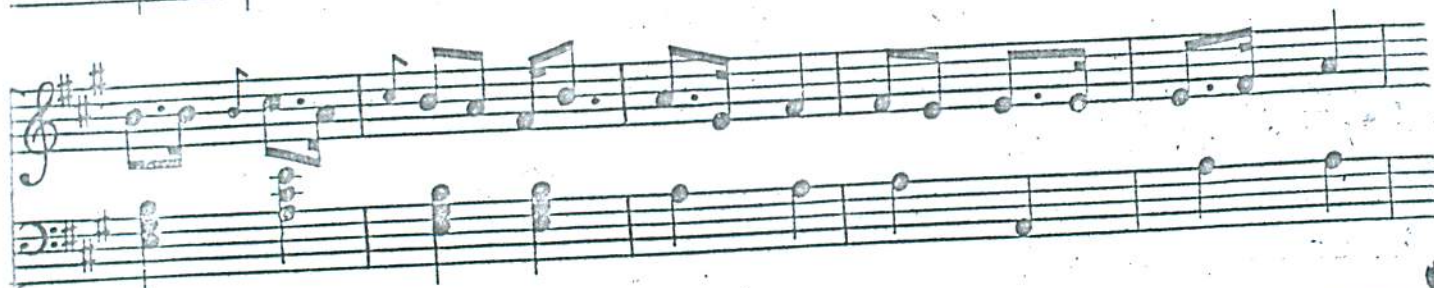
8+12 bars

Chorus.

SOBLY.



Air.



No. L. 50
Strathspey.

[The Wenny Maid} 11, 31

28

No. LI. 51

11, 35

Pipe Reel.

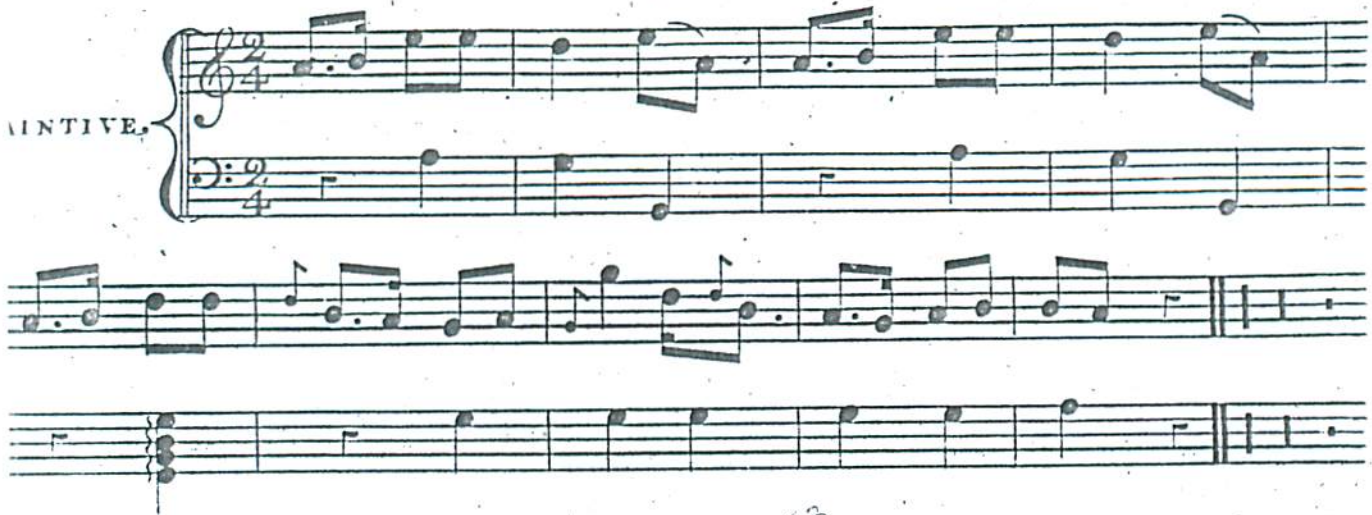
[The Woman with the black Hair]

James Stewart has / an only
all the stars / for him

Nº LII.

"Bha mo nighean donn bhòidheach?"

"My bonny brown maid and I?"



Nº LIII.

"O mar sud chaidh an Clòth?"

"So and So went the Clòth?"

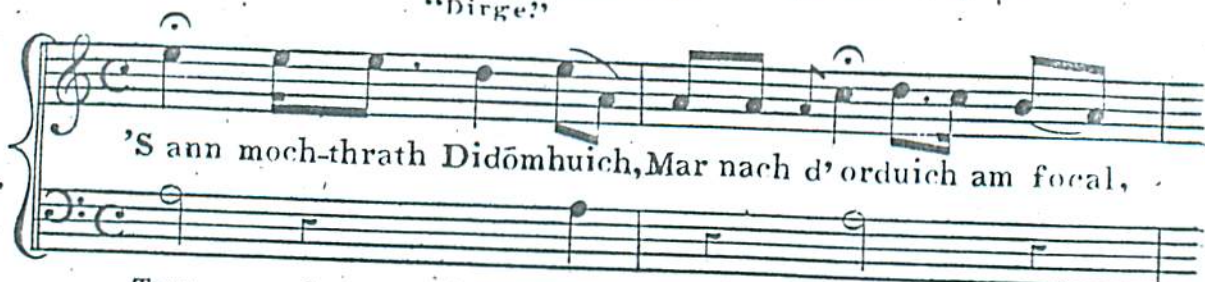


Nº LIV.

Pipe Reel.

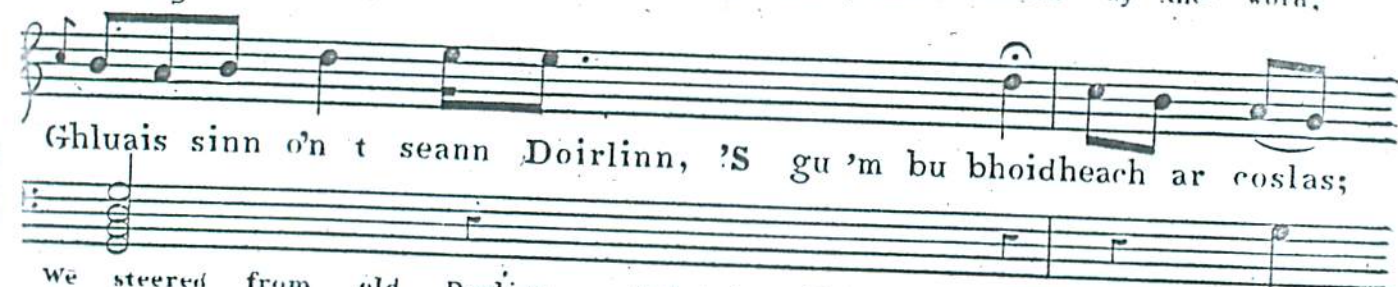


LOW WITH
PECULIAR
EXPRESSION.



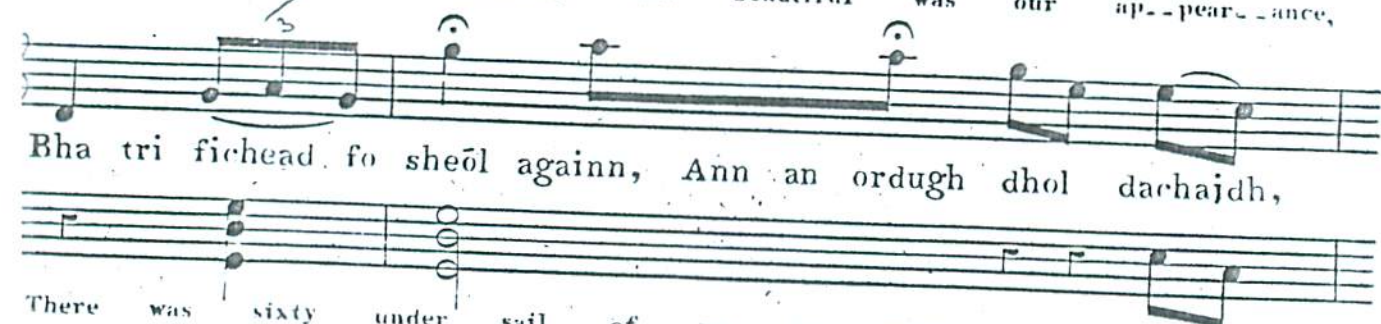
'S ann moch-thrath Didōmhuich, Mar nach d'orduich am focal,

Tw'as early on Sunday, As not ordered by the word,



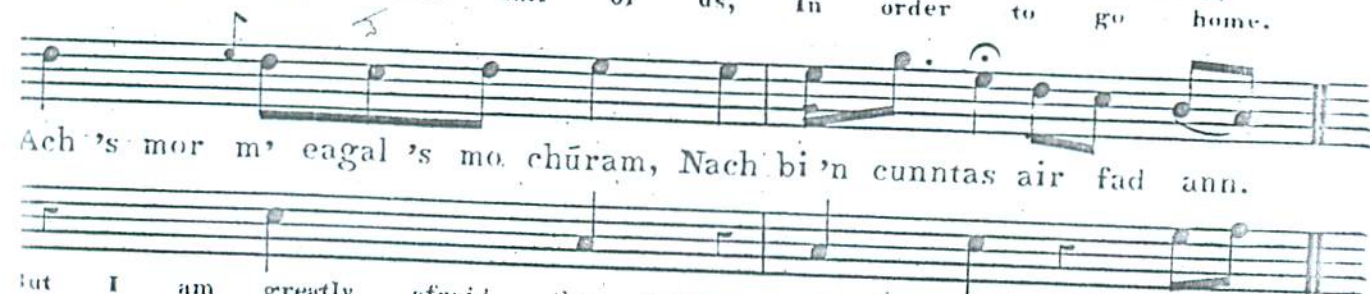
Ghluais sinn o'n t seann Doirlinn, 'S gu'm bu bhoidheach ar coslas;

We steered from old Dorlinn, And beautiful was our ap-pear-ance,



Bha tri fichead fo sheōl againn, Ann an ordugh dhol dachaidh,

There was sixty under sail of us, In order to go home.



Ach 's mor m' eagal 's mo chūram, Nach bi'n cunntas air fad ann.

but I am greatly afraid, the number will not all be there.

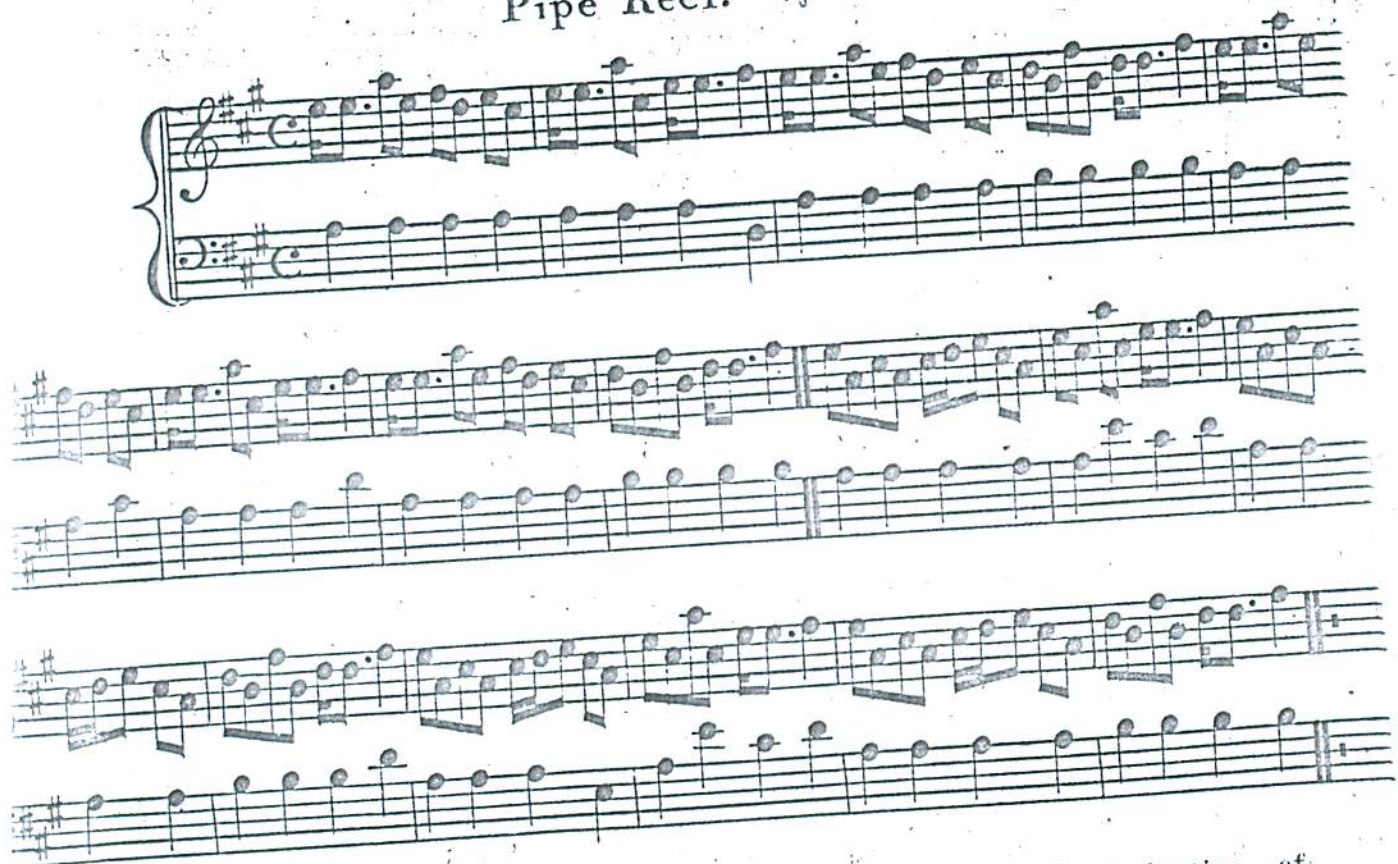
* This is a wild undisciplined, but singularly beautiful air. I have given the words, which will show there is an immense run of them. I can very faintly convey the manner in which it is sung. One note (or perhaps bar), is lengthed beyond its usual time, when the rest of the bar and sometimes the two following, are hurriedly slid over to the next long note, in a manner quite fascinating to the hearer.

50
No LVI.
"Marbh-Rann."
"Dirge?"

Particularly Beautiful



51
No LVII.
Pipe Reel.



I think our Highland reels are not improved of late, by the introduction of quadrille steps thro' the reel and setting.

Keep a Quadrille in its own place,
And it's beautiful and graceful,
And keep a reel in it's primitive purity,
And what is better.

56
No LVIII.

33

"Gur mise nach 'eil slán bho'n trá so 'n dé?"
"I am unwell since this time yesterday?"

Chorus.

MOURNFUL.



Air.



59
No LIX.

"Ga d' thei mi 'n so am aonar?"

"Tho' I am here alone."

SLOW, BUT
CHEERFUL.



Another superlatively elegant new fashion in the reel system, is to see four persons chasing each other round a room, exactly if I may use the simile and old adage, 'Like a string of wild geese? I appeal to any person not dancing, if the neat and ancient manner of crossing in the reel, does not look five thousand times bet-

No LX. ⁶⁰
Pipe Reel.* {*Johnnie Lamb*}



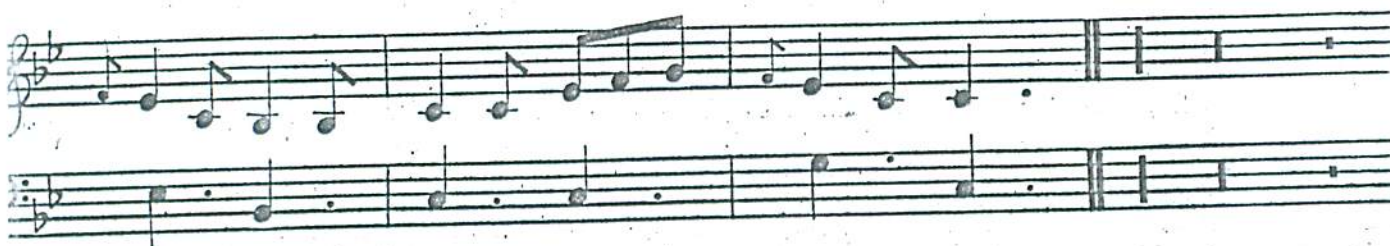
This Reel does famously for the highland way of dancing. It must appear to droll to a stranger. The right foot is first put down, the left drawn on a level with it, the right foot advanced again, and a kind of hob or lsey for the fourth movement, this is not done smoothly but thumped enough telling every step, the setting is the same, perhaps with the addition a few side kicks to finish, just as you or I would finish with a "Jetté Assemblée?" But the lads brogue it so heartily, and the maidens trip it heartily, that it is a question whether it is not more animated, than half sailing, half sleeping, and half walking, of the higher classes.

Nº LXI.
A Jacobite Air.

35

Gaelic Song.

SOFTLY.

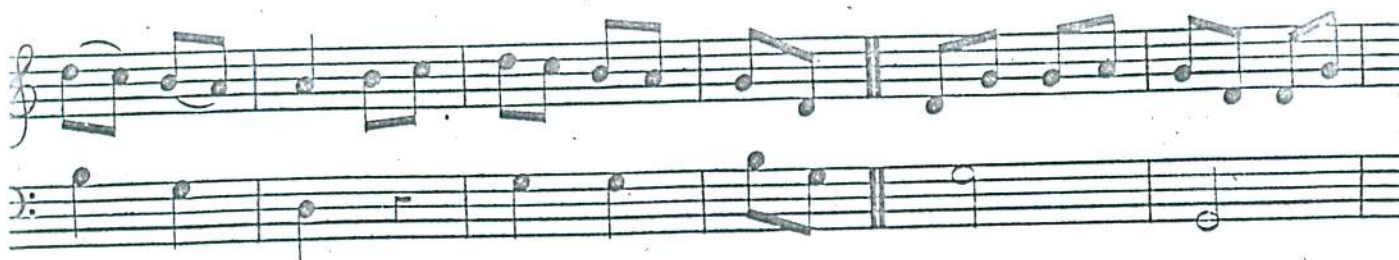


Nº LXII.

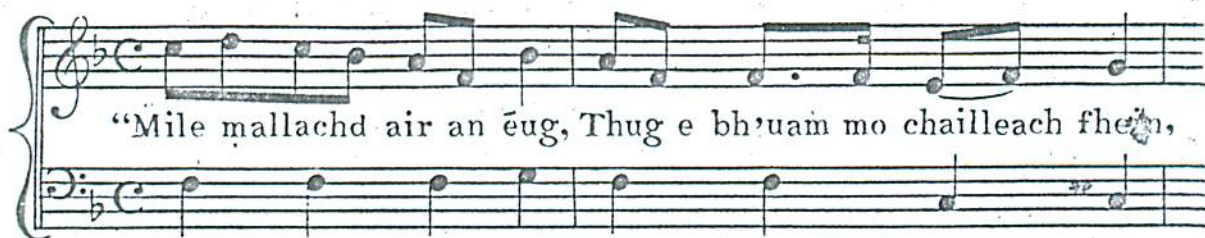
"Mo shorridh sunntach slán leibh?"

"My hearty lively wishes to you?"

GAILY.



Nº LXIII. 63
Cainntearachd.



"Mile mallachd air an ēug,
Thug e bh'uam mo chailleach fhein,
H_uile rud gu'n d'rinn i dh' fhēum,
'S ēibhinn gu'n de shiubhail i?"

(Last line repeated four times.)

Translation.

"A thousand curses upon death,
That took from me my old wife;
For all the good she ever did,
It is pleasant she has left us."

Nº LXIV. 64

37

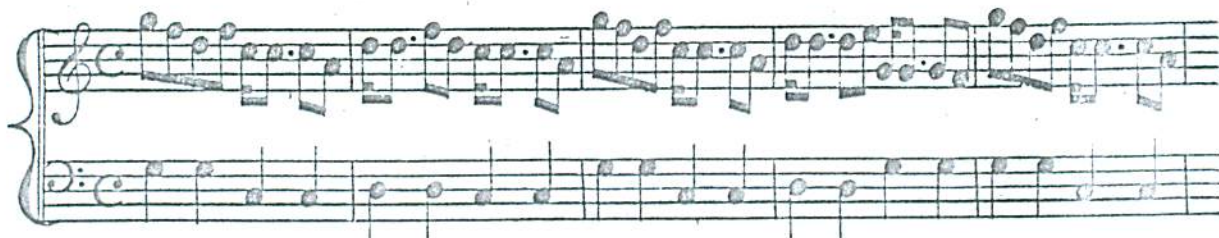
Cainntearachd. *Samuel ards*

REEL.



Nº LXV. 65

Pipe Reel. *[The hands of Lochaber.]*



6b
N^o LXVI.
"Faillte Scarba,"*
"Scarba Salute"

Published before

In the 2nd edition of the

p. 25

Air.

SLOW
WITH
LING.



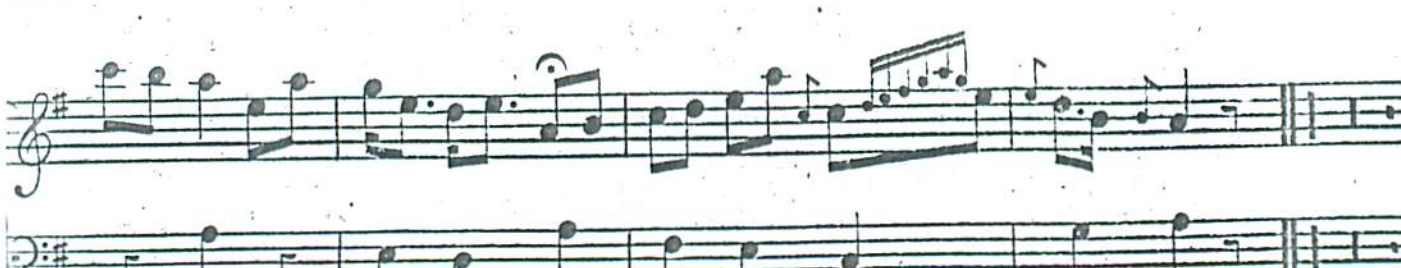
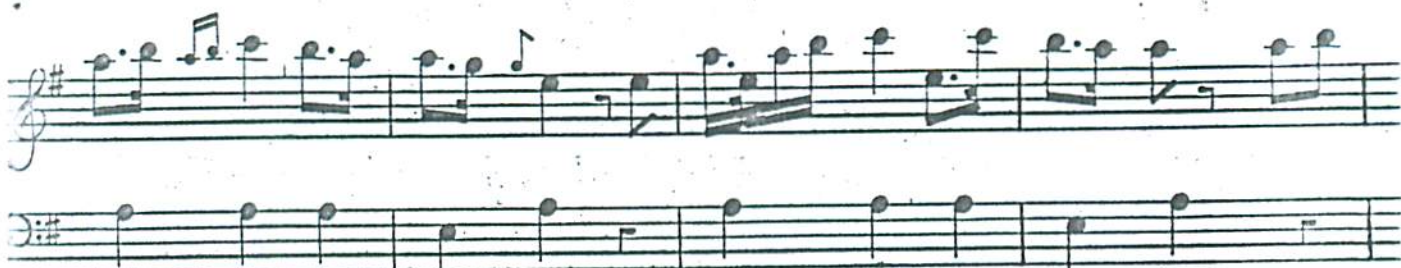
Chorus.



* Faillte Scarba is given in the Revd Patrick Mc Donald's Collection, but in such a mutilated condition, that unless a person knew it before, they would hardly select it for a beauty.

It is perfectly wild, as much so as Scarba itself. I noted it from the singing of a Highland Lady.

"Am Bruadar?"
 "The Dream?"



I got this in M.S. and think it a most perfect piece of musical composition.

he Woone with the Rock & Meel

No LXVIII. 68
Pipe Reel.



N^o LXIX. ⁶⁹

Tha gaol again air an nighinn.

'I love the Lassie!'

