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Llybwr Taliesin.



Vol. ix^B of the
Series of Old Welsh Texts.



*Nos. 1—80 on O.W. hand-made paper ;
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Four copies on vellum; and a
number on thin paper.*

Poems

from the

Book of Taliesin

Edited,

amended, & translated by

J. Gwenogvryn Evans

Hon. D. Litt. (Wales).

Criticism does not mention the salvages.

TALIESIN, 30'12.

Tremban, Llanbedrog, N. Wales

1915

20
2273
53
105

THERE ARE QUALITIES THAT MAKE *things live; that which lives becomes classical; and what has become classical is mostly remote needing hard linguistic and grammatical study, which is apt to dry up the little spring of poetry. By translating the words into dictionary language the original is emptied of most of its meaning; we miss form, light, and shade; because we have not the knowledge or the sympathy, we fail to catch, across the gulf of years, the peculiar thrill of what was once a 'winged word' flying from soul to soul. It is perhaps in this department that the most pressing work of pure scholarship remains to be done.*¹

Pre-
face

EVERYTHING, INCLUDING THIS LITTLE BOOK, has a history. In the far-away 'seventies' I bought a copy of the *Four Ancient Books of Wales*.² After 'looking' at the Welsh text with blank amazement I placed the two volumes reverently on my shelves. My admiration for their editor knew no bounds, for did he not understand and translate the whole? I read the prolegomena with unquestioning faith, and felt humiliated that it had been left to a Scot to render such service to Welsh studies. A few years later I read the proof-sheets of *Celtic Britain*, which followed the Scot's lead, and thus raised him still higher in my estimation. I now turned to the translations

¹ See *The Rise of the Greek Epic* by Prof. Gilbert Murray, pp. 5-7.

² Edited by William F. Skene, Edinburgh, 1868.

Pre
-face

of the Four Ancient Books with results entirely disastrous to my patriotism. I fell into the common error of judging the originals by the translations. The habit of believing the story of the first narrator is engrained in human nature. 'Where there is smoke there is fire,' sums up the collective experience of mankind. Few stay to observe closely, so as to distinguish between smoke and mirage, or mist. I was no exception. I turned my back on the Kymric Muse—I sought fresh woods and pastures new; I tended sheep with Michael in the dells of Cumberland; I wandered on the banks of bonie Doon; I talked of the Alps and Apennines, the Pyrenean and the river Po; I felt the impulse of the wild West Wind; I learnt The letters that Cadmus gave—Think ye he meant them for a slave?

The
MS.

I went to Peniarth and saw the Book of Taliesin—I borrowed the MS., and copied it. To my surprise I found the meaning of a multitude of passages was clear as day-light and, like Tartini's sixth Sonata, their pure, simple harmonies haunted me. To account for the obscurity of the other parts, I conceived the theory that the 'sixth century' work of Taliesin had been vamped in the twelfth, for I was nurtured in sixth century traditions. I elaborated my theory on 609 folios of foolscap. When the last page was written, I looked with pride upon my pile of sheets. After a week or two I set to the work of testing my thesis at every point, and by degrees demolished my own superstructure to the last line. To my credit be it recorded the 609 folios of foolscap, with all their prettily turned passages, were consigned to the flames, leaving me sadder, but no whit wiser.

A dis
-aster

About this time the late Professor Zimmer spent a day at Tremvan. I plied him with many a question about Taliesin, but received uniformly for answer: *nis gwonn—nis gallav dweyd*, I do not know—I cannot say. I next turned to a Welsh scholar of repute, and proposed that we should jointly attempt to amend and translate the text of Taliesin. He advised me to attempt no such thing—he, certainly, would not cooperate; ‘in short I funk it’ were his parting words. The distraction of reporting on Welsh MSS. thrust Taliesin aside for a time. But one day I was with my Gamaliel, and as the skies were serene I sought for guidance and light, and lo! the atmosphere became electric. He seized volume ii. of the Four Ancient Books and read: *agwr bwrr bythic . . am ys gwin ffeleic, am ys gwin mynic gyltwn*, 59·19. Eyeing me intently he asked: What do you make of that? or of these ‘bones of the mist,’ *escyrn nywl?* (22·15). Then turning over energetically some more leaves he remarked: The only sensible thing I can see in Taliesin is this—*pren onhyt yw vy awen*, 62·25, my muse is—is—wooden! Flinging the book to an adjoining table I was asked with crushing emphasis: Do you think that *you* are going to get at the bottom of stuff like that?³ Men and brethren! I thus became a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee of the straitest sect, and renounced Taliesin, as I thought and believed, for ever. But the virus was in my blood. The unprisoned spirit of Taliesin haunted me. I knew his muse was not ‘wooden.’

³ When first I asked to see a MS. it was remarked: “What is the good? You can’t read it.” The tone in which that was said became the driving force that shaped the after-activities of my life.

While sitting around the yule log one evening I unburdened my soul to the late Professor Strachan. My friend became alert, interested, sympathetic, protesting that "after so much labour it is wrong to throw your work away. You have learnt more than you think. The difficulties are, as is well known, very great, and *you will have to run the risk of making howlers; but in Keltic he, who is not prepared to face that risk, will accomplish very little.* As for criticism, why should you mind that? The few who know anything about Taliesin will appreciate your contribution—what the rest may think or say—it does not really matter."

The pages of Taliesin were scanned once more. Many plans were formed, considered, and rejected. At last the policy of the 'clean slate' was adopted. I resolved to have no plan, no theory, no object but one—to get at the *meaning* of the text, and follow the evidence whithersoever it might lead. A beginning was made with the poems that seemed easiest. Metre and orthography were regularised, and such portions as I understood translated, the remainder being left blank for future effort. This *tour de force* lasted over a year, and seven times was it repeated. Gradually one by one certain historical and topographical landmarks emerged clearly above the mists, but in isolation. I turned to the elegies to Owein Gwynedd by Gwalchmei and Kynðel with suggestive results. I, therefore, read carefully the works of Meilir, Gwalchmei, Kynðel, Hywel ap O. G., and the Bard of Mochnant, compiling an Index verborum to each poet as I went along. A comparison of these vocabularies with one another, as well as with that of Taliesin shewed that Meilir, Gwalchmei and

Taliesin belonged to the same period. Much of their topography is also in common. This led to my spending three summer outings in traversing the counties of Flint and Denbigh, as well as the English borders from Montgomery to Oswestry—from Whitchurch to Chester. I climbed the hills and surveyed the land from the promontory castle of Beeston, from Breiðin, from many points on Berwyn, from y Rhodwyð and Buðugre, from Treiðin, Caer Gwrlè, Caer Estyn, and Montalt; and from Moel y Gaer to Coppâ ILwyvenyð. With the help of a bicycle I covered close on a thousand miles.⁴ It was only after these interesting, but strenuous wanderings that I really began to understand our text, and learnt to appreciate the felicity of many a descriptive passage. How seldom do we realize that so much depends on what *we bring* to the understanding of a subject. Just as mathematical formulæ convey nothing to a non-mathematical mind, so the student who finds no meaning in Taliesin doth but proclaim his own ignorance of Brythonic twelfth-century thought and action. Acquaintance with the records and literatures of the Norman period is an illuminating factor in providing an insight into our text. It is necessary not only to master facts, but also to imbibe the spirit of the time. Paleography, Philology, Grammar can do much for us, but it is the comparative study of contemporary literatures and of history that will help most to the understanding of our author. After all it is Taliesin's poetry & message, not his words, that have the human interest.

⁴ Part was done a-foot in the company of Mr. Llywarch Reynolds. On our way from Gwerni Dygen to Breiddin the bull of Crugion disputed our progress and passage of the Severn at the Ferry. On gaining the right bank the Lord

After such a fashion did this bantling originate. But there was no idea of publishing till it became evident that the Notes, consisting of emendations, alternative suggestions, illustrative passages from the poets and historical evidence, would fill upwards of 700 pages. The expense this would involve led to the embodiment of the emendations in an edited text, thus presenting the thoughts of every poem continuously, in place of in a series of disjointed comments. To point out irregularities would be supererogatory. Metre, assonance, and rhyme act as so many detectives of the scribe's infidelities, as well as of his omissions and interpolations. Those able to count up to ten can test the metres; and the reading aloud of the MS. text makes us aware of 'things gone wrong.' The Tables of Scribal Errors shew how things do go wrong—how words get transmogrified in transcription, and why we should choose one word rather than another, though of the same meaning.

Paleographical mistakes⁵ are mainly due to certain resemblances of different letters in combination, and can be reduced to a fairly fixed rule. Emendations worked out on these lines will be outside the experience and ken of many of my critics, but are none the less valid for that—'They don't know everything down in Judee.'

put it in my heart to run, for my friend carried his seventy years with an agility that made light of ditches and seven-barred gates, thus reducing the enemy to impotent rage. The memory of the after-thirst on the slopes of Breiddin remains, as well as of the downpour we experienced west of Corwen, while ascending the Berwyn. It is no wonder that the RAIN on this mountain-range caused Henry ii. to flee.

⁵ Mistakes due to metathesis are familiar. So are repetitions and anticipations of neighbouring syllables. The tendency to telescope words, like 'whey' for 'when they,' is the mark of age—the hand is too slow for the brain.

Where there is a lacuna, consisting of a line (part or whole), or the end of one line and the beginning of the next, we must needs have recourse to divination, relying on context, rhythm, and rhyme. Insertions of this kind, which have no sanction in the original are printed in *italics*⁶, being offered tentatively as suggestions. Then there are numerous cases where there is something wrong, but exactly what is wrong, it is hard to say. In these cases there is an equal danger in the avoidance of all change as in changing too much. It is likely enough that I have erred both ways—that I have stuck in the mud here, and meddled there unadvisedly. Most *workers* do such things,⁷ because it is only ‘*Sometimes* a light surprises a Christian while he’ toils. Owing to the fitfulness of this discerning light Taliesin provides pitfalls enough to ruin the reputation of a dozen Academicians. As a guiding principle the fewer the changes the better, provided that we get good sense, which is ever characteristic of Taliesin’s muse.

In orthography I have not followed my own whims, but rather the practice of the best MSS. before Welsh lost its way in Tudor times. All the modern patents are unhistorical; they are also

⁶ It was intended to italicise also all changes not made on paleographical lines; but here and there I was too intent on the meaning of the text to remember my own rule. For example, if *cledyf* were changed into *clefyd*, *celfyd*, *crefyd*, or *dedyf* nothing should be italicised, because the five words are, paleographically speaking, liable to be confused by our scribe. But if, for any reason, *gwaew* displaces *cledyf*, *gwaew* should be in italics, because no confusion of form is possible between the two words.

⁷ The man who never makes a mistake is a prattling dummy. J. Stuart Mill spent his life “struggling on, making mistakes and correcting them.” And Sir Edward Grey has told us that ‘If we get into a mess everybody knows about it, but it is only we ourselves know the mess into which we did not get.’ 17. ii. 12.

unscientific, because they ignore the dominating influence of the accent. To intrude etymology into spelling is sheer pedantry. Our spelling once represented sound in the simplest possible way.⁸ To double consonants except under the accent is to defy the practice of the golden age of Welsh literature, and of every Welsh mouth⁹. What a reader wants are ideas, not an uncouth agglomeration of redundant consonants. The man who writes *yngh-Nghymry* is like a drunkard who sees double, but then he is drunk.

Mutations take place in the Genitive case, in the Accusative, in words expressing duration of time, and with verbs of motion, as 'aeth Von.' Words in opposition are also mutated, and even verbs, though the relative be dropped, as 'Taliesin gan,' yscriven Brydein *bryder*, etc.

Trans-
lation

The translation was begun solely for my own discipline and correction. Seeking for the inward thought and spirit of the poems, I tried to interpret them to myself, so as to render sense for sense, rather than follow the letter which killeth. In the revisions I strove further to provide not a crib for the class-room, but a version for the lover of literature who needs, along with the sense, something of the bloom of the poet's inspiration, so hard 'to keep unhurt in another tongue.' If I have failed, I have done my best, and I feel no shame to fall where 'other footsteps dare not.'

⁸ The older the MS. the simpler the spelling. See B.B.C., note 2·2. cp. 'YngHaerwys, YngWynedd.' Gr. Hiraethog.

⁹ Cp. ynghyngor 1·28, yng hyoed 33·2, yng Wensteri 30·12, yng Wyned 64·20, yngwarth 17·17, yng wlat 44·25, 76·8, ymro 30·6, ymryn 22·25, ymyt 36·6, yMon 45·18, 73·15, ymrythwch 11·6, 48·20, ymhwyllat 92·7, vyng hyfalle 3·20, vyng hynnyð 74·10, anghyfieith 79·3, amhâr 16·6, &c., &c.

The question is not so much how many mistakes have been made as how many have been avoided—how many errors have been corrected—how many obscurities have been removed.¹⁰

Taliesin is a well-authenticated historical character. He tells us that he 'was not born in adversity,' 27·3, though he grew up in abject poverty. At 71·9 he says that he was 'a prince in disguise'; and yet he had no settled home, but simply 'slept at Pulford.' His play-ground was the watery lane that led thence to the city of the Legion.¹¹ He was a subject of the earl of Chester till the battle of Godeu, whence he was carried off to Powys, and made a herdsman there. After a time he escaped into the Forest of ILwyvenyð, and became subject and bard to Owein Gwyned. There are two additional passages, 42·6·7—the one speaks of him as 'a preceptor in Dygen,' i.e. at

Tal
-iesin

¹⁰ Even if it be proved that I have made a mistake in every line the TIME OF COMPOSITION, the CHIEF ACTORS, and the GEOGRAPHY will remain unaffected. A critic may dispute my rendering, but it does not follow that he is right because he differs from me, or cannot in 7 minutes see what it has taken me 7 years to 'grip.' However the really obscure passages are but a fraction of the whole.

¹¹ Note .1. that *Caer Lleon* is not used for Chester by Taliesin (see nn. 69·12, b; 73·11); 2. that *Caer Lleon* is unknown to Aneirin; 3. that the one instance of its occurrence in the B.B.C. is later than 1200, and that it sets the metre wrong. The list of cities in the Nennian ADDITAMENTA has *Cair Ligualid*, *Cair legion*, & *Cair legeion guarufic*. In 'Taliesin and the Bard of Mochnant *Caer Liwelydd* means Chester. Can it be that the *Cair legion* of the list means Holt, to which the name of 'Caer lleon' has adhered? The 'Gweith Cair Legion' of *Annales Cambrie*, Ao. 613, may have taken place at or near Holt, or between Holt and Bangor Iscoed, whose monks were present in their hundreds. (*Bede Bk. ii. cap. ii.*) Had the battle been at Chester the monks would hardly have turned out in a body: observe also that the Welsh leader was the prince of Powys, and that Powys never reached beyond Pulford. The best ford on the lower Dee is at Holt, near which the XXth Legion had its tile kilns.

Strata Marcella; the other as 'a hoary wanderer' at Norham on the Tweed in 1209. In as much as the house of Powys was anathema to the bard, it is, on the face of it, incredible that he would enter a Powysian foundation; and chronology condemns the reference to the northern expedition as a later accretion 'in the manner of Taliesin.'

The
Welsh
Atom

On the other hand 'patriots' of the mythological school tell us that Taliesin flourished in the sixth century. In the Introduction to volume i., the evidence has been reviewed briefly, but with care. 'It will be wise to hearken not to me but to my arguments.' However, we have Mr. Lloyd George's assurance that 'there is nothing a man likes less than to be convinced by argument.' And I have myself observed that there is always in fact something trivial not to the taste of poetic minds. It has ever been so. The Greek Atomists¹² were proof against the discovery that the earth was round—they preferred a world shaped "like a tambourine" that rested elegantly 'on air.' Similarly the Welsh Atomist¹³ hugs tradition, repels discovery, and loves not the truth.¹⁴

From idle dreams, and rant—

From tambourines aslant,

Good Lord! deliver us.

¹² Leukippos, the father of the atom, deliberately rejected the Pythagorean discovery that the earth was spherical, and taught that it was in shape "like a tambourine," resting on the air, and sloping towards the south. J. Burnet.

¹³ The Welsh 'atom' is true to type—it has 'no weight,' though characterised by 'excess of magnitude.' Its votary cannot construe a dozen lines of early Welsh poetry, nor write a modern dozen with decency, but he struts before the public with hat a-tilt, deceiving himself and some others by the tinkle of his tambourine.

¹⁴ "It is difficult to get the truth believed. It is quite easy to get something which is not the truth believed." Sir Edward Grey.

The proof-sheets of a portion of this booklet were seen by Mr. T. Gwynn Jones, and received a good deal of frank, honest comment. But as there is no way of indicating minute criticism except by reproducing it, I can only refer to it in general terms, while tendering my cordial thanks. For what Mr. Gwynn Jones is directly responsible see the Notes. It is also a pleasant duty to thank the Council and Librarian of the National Library of Wales, for allowing this little book, as well as the Notes and Index of Vol. i., to be machined in their printing department. Neither must I pass over in silence the efficient and rare service of my sometime assistant, Mr. George Jones; nor omit to mention the information I received, on certain points of medieval theology, from my friend and neighbour, Mr. Ernest Edwin Williams of the Inner Temple.

J. Gwenogvryn Evans.

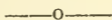
Tremvan, Llanbedrog.

May 25, 1915.

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CORRECTIONS.



* * Certain inconsistencies in the orthography were mainly introduced by the Compositors, who could not unlearn old ways. My punctuation was also persistently edited. As it was not feasible to revise the final 'corrections' on the machine many errors have remained, and a few fresh ones have crept in.

The following references specify passages that have been amended in the *Miscellaneous Notes*, (pp. 82-145 of Vol. i.)

15·79, 26·3, 28·28·70·76, 30·68, 34·121, 36·180,
38·186·195, 40·230, 50·43, 52·96, 54·108·119·131,
55·108, 56·13, 58·36, 62·19, 64·10, 70·113, 72·20,
78·3, 82·49, 84·22·29·32·33, 86·14, 88·47, 90·20,
94·13·50, 108·41, 114·28, 116·46, 118·43, 120·59,
120·4-7, 122·29·32·35, 124·6, 126·17, 128·56,
134·32, 140·15, 142·6, 144·18·26·8, 146·19·25-40,
158·29, 168·148, 176·39, 180·93, 188·6.

Alternative readings have been offered in other
xii., l. 15 for 'opposition' read 'apposition.' [places.

1·22 for '1220' read '1230.'

1·25 Delete 'Owein Kyveilog.'

7·15 for *singers* read *joglar*s.

12·24 for 'Wenðyð' read 'Gwenðyð.'

16·14 for *suden* ? read *sudem*, we must sink.

29·49 for *princes* read *prince*.

30·70 for *Gwern* read *Derw*, oak.

31·76 for *medlar* read *briar*.

41·27 read: *I was not born in adversity.*

42·3 for 'i hanghen' read *anghen*.
who sustained poverty, etc.

42·19 for 'govarvan' read *govaran*.

- 50·61 for *a dwn* ? read *adwyn*.
 53·96 read : 'in the treasury of *lyric* song.'
 55·119 From *Holy*-head to 'Lache eyes.'
 60·10 ? read : *Dedwyð ðovyð . . . the Blessed Lord, too, created my own son, Avagðu.*
 64·1 for *gelvyð* read *celvyð*.
 64·31 for 'en·ieineu' read *eneineu*.
 66·52 for *an* read *ânt*.
 69·64 read : *The Saxons, having been crippled at Seon, show signs of exhaustion.*
 71·113 for 'bears an' ? read *introduces his*
 76·12 for *a'i* read *no'i*.
 78·41 for 'eisylyð' read 'eisylyð.'
 78·3 *History suggests reading: gor·vodeso·gyvnes Welydon, (Rhun) mastered the rather near neighbourhood of the Laches.*
 85·19 for *flows* read *flowed*.
 86·10 for 'Clydwyn' ? read *cyrchyn*.
These could not sustain the counter-action of the power of the ally they 'went for.'
 101·36 for *or* read *nor*.
 158·7 for *dyd* read *dyð*.
 182 (title) read '*Am dy·dyvi*.'
 189 for 'a an' read *an*.
Change d to ð and read: gorvloeð 6·72, ðy·enn illin 10·8, ðelideu 12·21, ðy·gwyn 20·159, ðy·livas 20·175, ðeganhwy 54·107, ðovyð 60·10, vlwyðyn 68·87, ðy·hawl 84·41, byðiv 90·28, ðigones 102·8, see Preface, p. xii.

The words following should also be read in the mutated form : *verwei* 10·18, *gwyndawd* 12·25, *orffennas* 20·176, ?*waðawl* 48·21, *i drachwres* 86·14, *y ar vur* 128·31. See corrections in vol. i. of 116·46, 118·34, 140·19.

Early Welsh had a 3 pl. future-present ending in -int, which appears occasionally as -ynt.

THE ARGUMENT

THE OPINIONS OF MOST MEN ARE WORTH HAVING, so it has been said, "while their reasons seldom convince any but themselves." Acting on this maxim, I submit, without comment, in the pages which follow, a transliterated, amended version of the *BOOK OF TALIESIN*, with a sense for sense translation. In doing so I am under no illusion. The obscurities of the original are notorious; and I, of all men, have most reason for knowing them, having spent years in going systematically through the text many times. The result offered, though not unconsidered, is necessarily tentative. The stumblings may be frequent, yet the number of problems solved, with a reasonable degree of certainty, is considerable. The question of the date of composition, which goes to the root of the whole matter, has been settled. So long as a student labours under the belief of a sixth century origin, so long will he walk in blinkers, and fail to perceive the plainest references to historical events between 1098 and 1220. The bard, or bards, after the fashion of this time, sang of contemporaries under assumed names. Owen Gwyned and his sons, Henry II, Owen Kyveilog, Richard I, Gwen Wynnwyn, and King John are among the chief actors who figure in the poems which follow.

J.G.E.

LLYVYR TALIESSIN

Tanu y Gwylt.

- D**YCHYMIG pwy yw? 1
crëad cyn dilyw—
- 36 Crëadur cadarn,
24 heb gig, heb ascwrn, 4
heb wytheu, heb waed,
25 heb ben, a heb draed.
Ni byð hÿn, na ieu, 7
26 noget y dechreu.
Ni ðaw o'i oðeu
- 37 er ovn, nag angheu: 10
1 Ni ði'oes i eiseu
gan grëadurieu.
2 Mawr Ðuw morwynneu! 13
ban ðaw o ðechreu?
Mawr i verthideu,
3 y Gwr a'i goreu. 16
Y-mäes, yng'hoed,
heb law, a heb droed:
4 Heb haint a heb hoed, 19
ev eiðig aðoed.
5 Ac ev yn gyv'oed
a phymhoes pymhoed:
6 Hevyd yssyð hÿn 23
ped pymhwnt vlwyðyn.
Ac ev yn gyv'led
7 ac wyneb tydwed.
Ac ev ni aned: 27
Ac ev ni weled.
8 Ar vor, ac ar dir,
ni wÿl, ni welir. 30

BOOK OF TALIESIN

The Song of the Wind.

WHOSE idea was the wind? 1
Created before the deluge,
he is a powerful creature,
sans flesh, sans bone, 4
sans veins, sans blood,
sans head, and sans feet.
He grows nor older, nor
younger, than at the first. 8
Nor fear, nor death
will turn aside his purpose.
The world of the living will never
survive the need of him. 12
Great GOD of the whirlwinds!
whence comes his beginning?
Great the resources of Him 15
who made the Wind, (which
traverses) field and forest,
without hand, or foot.
Without sickness or sorrow, 19
he is impatient of delay.
And he is co-eval with the
five ages of the five periods.
Moreover, he is older, though 23
it be half a million years.
And he is as widespread
as the face of the earth.
Born he was not, 27
nor ever was seen.
On sea, and on land,
he neither sees, nor is seen. 30

BOOK OF TALIESIN

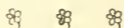
- 37 Ev yn ang·hywir, 31
ni δaw ban vynnir.
Ar dir, ac ar vor,
- 10 ev yn an·hepcor. 34
Ev yn δi·achor :
Ev yn δi·eisor :
- 11 Ev, o bedeiror,
ni byδ wrth gynghor. 38
Ev gychwyn amgor,
- 12 oδ·uch maen yn·yvnvor.
Ev llavar, ev mud,
ev yn an·vynud : 42
Ev yn wrδ, yn δrud,
ban dremyn dros dud.
- 14 Ev mud, ev llavar,
ev yn or·δëar— 46
mwyhav i vaniar
ar wyneb daear.
Ev yn δa, yn δrwg,
ev yn an·egllwg. 50
Ev yn an·amlwg,
can nis gwyl golwg.
- 17 Yn δrwg ac yn δa,
ev hwnt, ev yma. 54
Ev yδ an·rhevna—
ni δi·wg a wna :
Ni δi·wg a wrech,
ac ev yn δi·bech. 58
- 19 Yn wlyb ac yn sych,
ev a δaw·n vynyeh.
- 20 Gwres heul ac oerVEL
a dry naww awel : 62
Teithi symudir,
ac ev ni dimyir.

THE SONG OF THE WIND

He is unreliable— 31
he will not come when desired.
On land and sea,
he is indispensable. 34
He knows no restraint—
his lot has not been cast.
He comes from the four quarters ;
he will brook no counsel. 38
He starts on his round, from the
crest of a rock in the deep.
He is loquacious, he is mute,
he is frolicksome. 42
He is vehement, intrepid,
when he scours the land.
He is mute, he is loquacious,
he is uproarious— 46
The most tumultuous
on the face of the earth.
He is good, he is evil,
he is blind : 50
He is invisible—
no eye can see him.
He is evil, he is good,
he is there, he is here. 54
When he works confusion,
he will not repair what he does.
He will not restore what he wrecks,
and yet he is without sin. 58
Now wet, and now dry,
he comes frequently.
The sun's heat, and cold
affect the feel of the wind, 62
which ever changes his part,
but never is destroyed.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

40-22	MENHYD tragywyð !	65
23	ys Tydi <i>wehyð</i> ðyliv <i>oll yssyð</i> ;	
21	<i>Pawb a' th</i> edmygynt— Gwr a gadwyn wynt.	69
41-12	<i>Er</i> maint <i>vo ym'chwylð</i> <i>tonneu y Weryð</i> —	
40-22	Er gorvloed eryv	
22	ban ðel yn rhuthryð,	73
41-13	Cyn traeth, cyverchyð, <i>a'i yrua ðerwyð.</i>	
14	A'm cuðwy tywawd, <i>ac ev yn deithawg.</i>	77

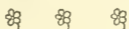


Buarth Beirdd.

	A V ym peillied ym'hob pwyllad, <i>gan veirð Brython, a'r cauwceinad.</i>	1
7	Pryðest over <i>ynghywryssed</i> : A'm rhy'or'seiv a'm rhy'or'seð.	3
15	I'r govan goval ðigawn gorð ; Wyv eisig bren, cyv'ying ar gerð.	5
16	Buarth beirð <i>ban vo</i> , <i>þwy ar nis gwypo ?</i>	8
17	Pymtheg mil drostaw, yn i gym'hwysaw.	
18	Wyv cerðoliad ; wyv saer <i>mal</i> dryw ; wyv ceiniad claer : wyv drud ; wyv syw	11
19	<i>mal</i> sarff, <i>mal</i> serch ; yð ym'geisav :	
20	Neu'd wyv varð sẃyn ; yð ar'veiðav. Ban gân ceinieid ganu yng'hôv,	15
21	nid ev wnant wy ryveð uchov.	

THE SONG OF THE WIND

ETERNAL MIND! 65
'Tis Thou that weavest
the web of all there be :
All men honour Thee
who dost chain the Wind.
However much *he upheaves* 70
the Ocean billows,
or shrieks in his violence
when he comes in gusts,
ere he touches shore, Thou speakest !
and his race is run. 75
May the sands cover me,
an the wind be in full career.



Congress of the Bards.

I Was sifted in every faculty by the 1
Brython bards, and the crowned minstrel.
Poetising is futile in competition ;
my competitor, however, chairs me. 4
Care enough to the young smith is his hammer ;
I, too, am but a slender twig, inexperienced in craft.
The congress of the bards, when it takes place,
who is there that knows not of it ?
Fifteen thousand favouring it, 9
and arranging for it.
I am a musician—an artificer like the wren ;
I am a brilliant singer ; I am formidable, subtle
as a serpent, as love ; I will enter the lists : 13
I am an enchanted bard ; I will dare (them all).
When the singers sing a song from memory,
they perform no great wonder beyond what I can do.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 7 Handid i mi eu herbyniaw,
yn di-vyvyr, heb dysc, heb braw, 18
 mal arvolfi dillad heb law—
- 23 val soði yn Ilyn heb allu naw.
 Tyrvid aches ; ehovn i grað ; 21
- 24 uchel y gwaed ; mordwy deryð.
- 25 Craig am waneg, wrth vawr drevnad—
 ang·hlud yscwrth, escar nodiad : 24
- 27 Craig *rħag* perchen pen an·ynad ;
 8.3 nid ev garav amrysoniad.
- 7.27 Ys gwna meðud veðdawd meðyð ; 27
a gor·wyth með warthrud brydyð.
- 8 Ev cell, ev drull ; ev darweir Iled ;
 ev Ilogell cerð ; ev Ilemynnied. 30
- 2 Carav i or·wýð, a chil gorr gled,
 a barð a brýd—ni brýn i ged.
- 4 A geibl gelvyð, meueð ni ved. 33
 Madws myned, er ym·dravawd
 a chelvyðeid am gelvyðawd ;
- 6 a chanu clwm, cystwm cy·wlad, 36
 i vugeil bro, porth neithoriad.
- 7 Mal ym·ðeith *tranc* heb drwyd i gad,
 8 eirið vynnei ymðeith heb oed—
 eirið vagei gneuha heb goed— 40
- 9 mal ceisaw bydav yng·rug,
 mal peireint an·rheith yn vud,
 mal goscorð Iüyð heb benn,
- 11 mal porthi ang·hlyd ar cenn, 44
 mal grynniaw tyndei a gwrach,
- 12 mal haedu awyr a bach,
 mal eirach gwaed ac yscall,
- 13 mal gwneuthur goleu i ðall, 48
 mal dogni dillad i noeth,
 mal tannu ewyn ar draeth,

CONGRESS OF THE BARDS

It falls to me to compete with them, 17
extemporaneously, without training or experience,
 like a man donning armour without a hand,
 or sinking in water without being able to swim. 20

The flowing tide seethes ; eager its pace ;
 loudly it roars ; then rushes ashore.

By a great design, the rock beyond the surf, 23
 an immovable pile, *is* an insular refuge :
 it is a defence against every madman :

I do not love contention. 26

'Tis drinking makes drunk the brewer ; *and*
over-draining of mead disgraces the bard, who is
 a cellar, a liquor store ; a lewd, paunchy fellow ;
 a receptacle of song ; a mere vagabond. 30

I love the woods,—a retreat in a cosy border, and
 a bard who creates—not one who cadges for gifts.

The man who curses the artist will never prosper.

It is well to go (to Congress) for the sake of 34
 deliberating with artists about art ; and
 to sing a string of verses, as the custom is, to the
 governor of the district, the provider of the feast.

As Death doth travel without track to war, 38
 so a number went without assignation,
 and many nursed the idea of nutting without trees,
 like men seeking for a swarm of bees in heather,
 like engines of destruction mute, 42
 like a company of soldiers without a leader,
 like men feeding the comfortless with husk,
 like ridging tumbled-down houses with a *gwraich*,
 like men reaching for the sky with a hook, 46
 like men stanching blood with thistles,
 like men striking a light for the blind,
 like men allotting a coat of mail to the unarmed,
 like men scattering foam on the strand, 50

- 15 mal porthi pycawd ar laeth,
mal tõi neuað a dail, 52
- 16 mal Hað Hurig a gweil,
mal toði tavled rhag gair.
- 17 Wyv barð neuað, wyv gyw cadeir :
- 18 Dy·ðygnad beirð ; llavar llysceir. 56
- Cyn vy ar·gywein i·m garw gyv·log
rhy·phrynwyv i·m log i·th dy, Vab Meir !



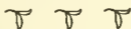
Ƨ w y n d a w d .

- B**ARÐ, yman y bo, 1
neirtheint a gaffo :
- 19 Caned ban dyrffo :
Sywed yn yd vo :
Haelon vanacco, 5
- 3 neu's bi a rotho.
Drwy ieith Daliessin,
4 beirð, dy·ennillin.
Ciawr, ban ðarvu
llïaws i olychu. 10
- 5 Bid *eiðaw* wylleith—
anrheith Avagðu :
Neu's dug, yn gelvyð,
6 gyvreu ar gywyð.
Gwiawn leveryð— 15
o ðamwein dyvyð.
- 8 *Gwidon*, y peiran,
berwei, heb *walltan* ;
7 gwnäei o varw vyw,
ac an·hyweith yw. 20

like men feeding fish with milk, 51
 like men thatching the hall with leaves,
 like men battering armour with withies,
 like men melting a tablet against speech. 54

I am the bard of the Hall ; I am the winner of the chair :
 The bards are greatly incensed ; loud their anathemas.

Before my ferrying over to my hard wages,
 may I secure a place in thy mansion, Son of Mary ! 58



The Festival.

THE Bard, wherever he may be,
 shall have entertainment.
 Let him sing when the spirit moves :
 Let him prophesy while he lives :
 Let him proclaim the generous, 5
 and there will be no lack of givers.
 By the teaching of Taliesin
 the bards greatly profit.
 He will fall, when the people
 stop admiring him. 10
 Witchery is wont to be his—
 the spoliation of Avagðu ;
 And, by skill, he has brought
 a finish to poetry.
 Gwion opens his mouth— 15
 an accident his song.
 The Gwiðon kept the kettle
 boiling without lapse of fire ;
 it could make the dead alive—
 a most difficult task. 20

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 19 Gwnaethei delideu, 21
er yn oes oeseu.
- 9 Y trwyth dy·dyccawd,
o ðawn Wenðyð gwawd. 24
- 10 Neu·d amgar cŵyndawd,
namyn pwy i chyn·evawd?
- 11 Cy·meint cerð davawd
a dêlis ciwdawd. 28
- 12 Py·r na thraethwch, rhawg,
lad uch Pyn Pathrawd?
- 13 Pennilliach *rhoed* pawb—
dy·byð yna nawd.
- 14 *Að·wyn datcaniad*; 33
neu·r ðoeth ostegiad.
- 15 Trwyðed, *peir* ynad
i vard a cheinad.
- Tri ugein mlyneð, 37
- 16 yd borthois lawrweð,
yn·ovr caw giwed,
yn elvyð Redeg.
- 17 Can gwÿs a·m dy·oeð;
Can rhi ynðun oeð;
- 18 can yw yð aethant 43
pan yw y doethant,
cân eilewyð gant,
- 19 ac a·u darogant.
P·ladon, verch Liant,
- 20 oeð bychan i chwant 48
o eur ac ariant.
- Pwy·r byw ðy·adas
- 21 waed y·ar i gwynnglas?
Odid traethator;
mawr y molhator. 53

THE FESTIVAL

She had worked at metals 21
from immemorial times.
She now brings a concoction
of the gift of the goddess of song.
She dearly loves a festival—
but what of the old custom? 26
The community's pay being propor-
tionate to the quantum of poetry,
why do ye not, for a while, recite
what is good over the sparkling li-
Let all *contribute* verses— [quor?
the custom will then appear. 32
Pleasant was the recital ;
then silence was proclaimed :
The Justiciar causes a licence (to
be given) *to bard and minstrel.* 36
For three score years,
I have supported earthly form in
the quarter of the licensed tribe,
in the land of Redeg. 40
A hundred mansions I frequented ;
A hundred chiefs in them were ;
Since they have gone,
whence they came,
the minstrel shall sing of all, 45
and prophesy concerning them.
Latona, daughter of the Ocean,
had small desire
for gold and silver.
What living person has shed 50
blood on her sacred island ?
The fact has hardly been mentioned,
though it is worthy of great praise.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 19 Mi·d·wyv Daliessin : 54
 Rhy·phrydav iawn Iî'n.
- 23 Parahav, hyd ffin,
 yng·hyn·elw Elphin.
 Neur *di·deilynghed*
- 24 o riv eur ðlyed. 60
 Pan gassâd, carad
 anudon a brad.
- 25 Nu, neur chwenych vad,
 trwy gyweg *avrllad* :
- 26 Gog·gyv·archwyv vrawd.
 Ni wyrthid an gwawd : 65
 Ni wybyð nebawd.
- 20 Doethur, priv gelvyð,
 dis·pwyllawd sywyð,
 2 am wÿth edryvyð— 69
 doleu dynwedyð.
- 3 A·m gŵyr gwawd gelvyð :
 Cerðwn ðuw yssyð.
- 4 Drwy ieith Dalhaearn,
 Bedyð vuð ðyð varn.
 A varnwys deithi 75
- 5 angerð varðoni,
 Ev, o·i rin, roðes
 awen ang·hymes.
- 6 Seith ugein ogrven
 yssyð yn awen : 80
- 7 wÿth, o bob ugein,
 yd vyð yn un *sain*—
 asswyn yn·i·wÿth ;
- 8 asswyn yng·or·wÿth ;
 asswyn *oll* yssyð. 85
- 9 Yn nev, uch elvyð,
 y mae a·u gwybyð.

THE FESTIVAL

I am Taliesin— 54
I sing of true lineage.
I shall continue, to the end,
in my pristine service of Elffin.
He was removed from among the
number of the golden nobility. 59
When he was hated, loved were
perjuries and treachery.
Now, he seeks relief
from the fragile wafers.
Let me call in a frate.
He will set no value on our praise : 65
he will know no one.
The sage, foremost in skill,
shall consult astrology,
about the main line of descent—
the links of the anthropologist. 70
I know a fine psalm :
Let us laud the Living God.
By the teaching of Talhaearn,
Baptism will help at the last.
He, who fixed the conditions 75
of poetic frenzy,
did, of his secret, impart
inspiration without stint.
Seven score chords
there are in music : 80
The octave of every score,
which is ever in harmony,
enchants in calm—
enchants in storm—
enchants all there is. 85
In heaven above there is One
who knows the harmonies.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 20 Py dristid yssyð 88
 well no llawenyð?
 GO·GWN ðeðv rhadeu
- 11 awen, ban ðy·ffreu—
 am gelvyð dāleu— 92
 am ðedwyð ðieū—
- 12 am vucheð ara
 oeseu escorva—
- 13 am hawl tēyrnva
 byhyd cyng·wala. 97
 Am gy·haval vyð,
- 14 *suðen* trwy weryd.
 Mawrhydīg sywyd! 100
- 15 Pan dy·gyv·rensid?
 Pan och awel gryd?
 Pan vyð go·hoew bryd?
- 16 Pan vyð mōr hvryd?
 Pan yw gwrð echen? 105
- 17 Pan echrēwyd nen?
 neu heul, pan ðodir?
 Pan yw tōir tir?
- 18 Tō y tir, pwy i vaint?
 Pan tyvhid gwycheint? 110
- 19 Gwycheint pan dynnit?
 Pan yw gwrð gweryð?
- 20 Gweryd pan yw gwyrð?
 Pwy echenis gyrð?
- 21 Cyrð pwy echenwys? 115
 Ys·tir, ystyriwys,
 ystyrieid llvvreu,
cylch beirð, a·u cyvreu.
- 22 Ped vwynt yd ffreuynt;
 ped ffreuynt yð ynt: 120

THE FESTIVAL

What sadness is there 88
better than gladness ?
I KNOW the law of the favours
of the muse, when she gushes forth —
about the artistic recompenses —
about the happy days — 93
about the quiet life
of the ages to come —
about the claim of the kingdom 96
unto full fruition.
To obtain such a life, they
must sink through the sod.
Majestic is knowledge ! 100
Whence has it been imparted ?
Whence the moan of the wind that stirs ?
Whence the light of the countenance ?
Whence is the sea pleasant ?
Whence is the race vigorous ? 105
Whence was created the firmament ?
or the sun, whence is it fixed ?
Whence is clothed the land ?
covering the earth to what extent ?
Whence grows its splendour ? 110
Whence does its splendour attract ?
Whence is youth ardent ?
Whence is green the sod ?
Who has sung the songs ?
Whose song did he sing ? 115
It is necessary, he considered,
to study the books of the bards, their
round, and all that pertains to them.
The *bards* bring forth what is in them ;
what they bring forth, that they are :

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 20 Beth a vont ar hynt, 121
 23 *llyna* beth ydynt.
 Y δaeaf, pwy i Iled,
 24 neu vaint i thewhed?
 Go·gwn drwst I·lav·nawr, 125
 25 a *mael* rhuδ aml awr.
 Go·gwn a drev·nawr,
 y·rh·wng nev a I·lawr.
 26 Pan at·sein go·bant?
 Pan er·gyr di·vant? 130
 21 Pan lewych ar·vant?
 Pan vyδ tywyll nant?
 Anadl, pan yw du?
 2 Pan yw creu avu? 134
 Bwch, pan yw bannawg?
 3 Gwraig, pan yw serchawg?
Llewrith, pan yw gwyn?
 Pan yw glas celyn? 138
 4 Pyr *brev*arawt myn,
 yn I·liaws mehyn?
 5 Pan yw barvawt *gwr*?
 Pan yw ceu evwr? 142
 6 Pan yw meδw Colw·yn?
 Pan yw I·eδv morw·yn?
 Pan yw brith iyrchwyn?
 7 Pan yw hallt halwyn? 146
 Cwrw, pan yw ystern?
 8 Pan yw I·ledruδ gwern?
 9 Pan yw rhuδ egroes? —
 Nev wraig a·u dy·roes. 150
 8 Pan yw gwyrδ I·linos?
 10 Pan δy·*gevn*a nos,
 py δar·weir yssyδ
 yn eur I·liant dyδ! 154

THE FESTIVAL

What they are on tour, 121
that is their true character.
The earth, what is its extent,
or how great its thickness?
I know the clash of arms, and 125
the ruddy work of constant shouting.
I know something of what is ordained
twixt heaven and earth, (but)
Whence the echo of the hollow?
Whence the stroke of extinction? 130
Whence the brightness on the height?
Whence is the ravine ever in shadow?
The breath, whence is it foul?
Whence is the liver's blood? 134
The buck, whence is it antlered?
Woman, whence is she loving?
Milk, whence is it white?
Whence is green the holly?
Why does the kid bleat
all over the place? 140
Whence is man bearded?
Whence is the cow-parsnip hollow?
Whence is the Calenian drunk?
Whence is a maiden gentle?
Whence is the roebuck spotted? 145
Whence is brine salty?
Beer, whence its ferment?
Whence the alder's reddish tinge?
Whence the ruddiness of hips? —
Heaven's lady bestowed them. 150
Whence is green the linnet?
When the night retires,
what wanton effulgence there is
in the golden flood of day! 154

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 21 Nu, a wŷr neb pam 155
y rhuðir bron huan,
12 yn Iiŷ er·cyman?
Newyð an·að·wyn,
tant telyn dy·gwyn.
- 13 Cog yn llwyn pyr gan? 160
py geidw yn ðiðan?
- 14 Pwy ðwg yng·arthan
gereint a·r arman?
Py ðy·ðwg y glain
- 15 o er·ðy·gnawd vein? 165
Pan yw pêr erwein?
- 16 Pan yw gwyrliw brain?
Talhaearn yssyð
- 17 mwyhav sywedyð :
Ev am·gyffrawd wŷð 170
aches amod dyð.
- 18 Go·gwn ða a drwg—
cwð â mownir vwg?
- 19 Mawr maint i o·gyhwg !
Cawg pwy dy·livas? 175
- 20 Gwawr pwy gor·ffennas?
Pwy a bregethas
Eli ac Elias?
- 21 Go·gwn gogeu hav—
a vyðant aeav? 180
Awen a ganav,
- 22 o ðwvn ys dy·gâv.
Awen, cyd bei tud,
go·gwn i gor·vryd. 184
- 23 Go·gwn ban ðy·veinw ;
Go·gwn ban ðy·leinw?
- 24 Go·gwn ban ðillyð?
Go·gwn ban wescryð. 188

THE FESTIVAL

- Now, does any one know why 155
the sun's breast is crimsoned
in pigment so perfect ?
- Unpleasant news, 158
the harp-string will bewail.
- Why calls the Cuckoo in the grove ?
what keeps it cheery ?
- Who will bring into camp
friends that make a great outcry ? 163
- What brings the sparkle
out of highly polished stones ?
- Whence is perfumed the meadow-sweet ?
- Whence is the greenish sheen of rooks ?
Talhaïarn is the
greatest seer : 169
He comprehends the science of
the approaching birth of day.
- I know something of good and evil, (but)
whither goes the smoke of green peat ?
- Great the size of its curlings !
- Whose bowl poured it forth ? 175
Whose dawn did it end ?
- Whom did Eli and
Elias declare ?
- I know the summer cuckoos—
do they live in winter ? 180
- I shall sing of the muse, which
I shall obtain from the abyss.
- The muse, though it were mute,
I know its great impulses. 184
I know when it minishes ;
I know when it wells up ;
I know when it flows ;
I know when it overflows. 188

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 21 Go·gwn py begor 189
 25 yssyð y·dan vor.
 Go·GWN eu heisorð—
- 26 pob un yn i oscorð—
 Beth giglwyd yn·yð, 193
- 22 bob dyð ym·lwyðyn—
 Pob paladr yng·had—
- 2 Pob dōs yng·hawad— 196
 Að·vwyn yd rann wawd ;
- 3 nwy mevl go·gyffrawd.
 Aches gwŷð gwypawd :
- 4 Go·gwn i nebawd. 200
 Fy lenwis avon
 ar bobl Pharäon ?
- 5 Py ðy·ðwg gŵynion—
 baran achwyson ?
- 6 Py oed yscawl odrev, 205
 ban ðrychavwyd nev ?
 Pwy vu ffordrych hwyr,
- 7 o ðaer hyd awyr ?
 Pet bysseð am peir,
 a·m amwyn neðeir. 210
- 8 Pwy enw y ðeu air
 ni eing yn un pair ?
- 9 Pan yw mor meðwhawd ?
 Pan yw dil pycawd ? 214
- 10 mor vwyn vyð eu cnawd,
 hyd ban yw meðysc.
- 11 PAN YW gennawc pyc—
 du troed alarch gwyn— 218
- 12 pelydrawg gwaew Pym ?
 Llwyth nev nid ystwng :
- 13 Py bedeir echen
 ni wŷs eu gorffen ? 222

THE FESTIVAL

- I know what motion
there is beneath the sea. 189
- I know the warp of the web,
of every man in his clan—
What was heard during the day,
every day in the year— 194
- Every shaft in battle—
Every drop in a shower (—these I know).
Kindly will the muse apportion praise—
she will not stir mischief.
The access of knowledge she knows :
I know nothing. 200
- What waters flowed
over the people of Pharoah ?
Who will endure complaints—
the rage of followers ? 204
- What was the ladder's base,
when it was raised towards heaven ?
Who was the evening's guide
from earth to heaven ? 208
- If it be fingers that fashion me,
the hollow of the hand will shield me.
What name of two words
will not *go* into any cauldron ? 212
- Whence is the heaving of the sea ?
Whence is the structure of fish ?
How pleasant their "flesh"
until it be tainted. 216
- Whence is fish scaly ? (Whence is)
black, the foot of a white swan ?
Whence the gleaming of the sharp lance ?
Heaven's lineage is not abased :
Which are the four stocks
which will know no end ? 222

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 22 *Gan nad* pwy vych, pyr grwydryð?
 15 A·th gyv·archav vargad *cyrð* :
 Gwr i·th gynnyð ; escyn hynt !
 16 Cuð ynt a ðên raeadr gwynt.
 Traether vying·oveg, 227
 17 yn Evrev, yng·Roeg,
 Lladin, a Chymraeg.
 18 Lauda, laudate,
 Jesu vab Jose.
- Eilweith ym rhithad :— 237
 19 Bum glas, bum gleisad ;
 Bum ci, a bum hyð ;
 20 Bum iwrch y·mynyð ;
 Bum cyff, a bum rhaw ; 237
 21 Bum bwell yn llaw ;
 Bum ebill gevel,
 vlwyðyn a hanner :
 22 Bum ceilawg brithwyn,
 ar icir yn eðrin ; 242
 23 Bum amws ar re ;
 Bum tarw trostre ;
 24 Bum rwch melinawr—
 mâl y(d a)maethawr.
 Bum gronyn *yn·horgwys* ; 247
 25 *neu·m* tyvwys ym·ryn ;
 Medawð am dodawð ;
 26 Yn sawell gyrrawð ;
 Y·m rhuglawð o law, 251
- 23 wrth vying·o·ðeivaw.
 A·m harvolles iar
 gravruð, grib escar ;
 2 Gor·ffwyseis naw nos,
 yn i chroth yn was. 256

THE FESTIVAL

Whoever thou art, why dost thou wander ?

I greet thee a student of arts :

A man to thy stature ; ascend in thy course.

Dark are what induce the rush of inspiration.

Let my mind be set forth 227

in Hebrew and Greek,

Latin and Welsh.

Praise thou, praise ye

Jesus the son of Joseph.

Another time I was enchanted :— 232

I was a kingfisher ; I was a young salmon ;

I was a hound, and I was a hind ;

I was a buck on the mountain ;

I was a butt, and I was a spade ; 236

I was a hatchet in the hand ;

I was the pin of the tongs,

for a year and a half.

I was a light-speckled cock 240

over cackling hens.

I was the stallion of a stud :

I was the bull of a homestead :

I was the miller's bolter— 244

the ground corn of the farmer.

I was a grain in the furrow's womb ;

I grew up on the hill ;

He, who sowed, reaped me ; 248

Into the kiln-pipe he drove me ;

He rubbed me out of hand,

while he was scorching me. 251

There received me a hen,

ruddy-clawed, with a divided comb ;

I rested nine nights

in her womb a child. 255

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 23 Bum ađevedig ; 256
 Bum llad rhag gwledig.
 4 Bum marw ; bum ezliw—
 ceint yđ ym'ediw.
 Bum swyv a'r wađawd— 260
 5 y'racđaw bum tawd.
 A'm eil gynghores,
 6 gras rhwyđ a'm rhođes.
 Odid traethator ;
 7 Mawr y molhator. 265
 Mi'd·wyv Daliessin :
 Rhy·phrydav iawn Iin.
 Parahav, hyd ffin,
 8 yng·hyn·elw Elffin. 270



Ţad Godeu.

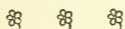
- B**UM yn Iiaws rhith, 1
 cyn bum dis·gyv·rith.
 23 *Wyu clerwr* cwlvrith ;
 Credav yng·o·rith. 4
 11 Bum dreigl yn awyr :
 Bum yn serwaw syr.
 12 Bum gair yn Ilythyr : 8
 Bum Ilyvr i'm privder.
 13 Bum Iugyrn Ieuver,
 vlwyđyn a hanner.
 14 Bum bont, a'r driger
 ar drugein aber. 12
 Bum hynt ; bum eryr.
 15 Bum corwg ym·ŷr.
 Bum darweđ yn llad.
 16 Bum dōs yng·hawad. 16

THE FESTIVAL

I was confessed ; 256
I was a wafer before the Gwledig.
I was dead ; I was a wraith.
I have sung of what I passed through.
I was the scum on the lees ; 260
Before that, I was yeast.

He, a second time, counselled me,
who gave me free grace.
It scarcely can be told— 265
greatly it will be praised.

I am Taliesin
I sing of true lineage.
I will continue to the end 268
in the pristine service of Elfin.



The Battle of the Scrub.

I Was in many a guise, 1
before I was disenchanted.
I am a grey-cowled minstrel :
I believe in illusion.
I was for a time in the sky : 5
I was observing the stars.
I was a message in writing :
I was a book to my priest.
I was the light of the altar-horns,
for a year and a half. 10
I was a bridge, which is stationed
over three score water-meets. -
I went travelling : I was an eagle ;
I was a coracle on the seas.
I was the attraction in good. 15
I was a drop in a shower.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- Bum cleðyv yn anghad. 17
- 17 Bum yscwyd yng·hâd.
Bum tant yn·helyn
- 18 Iledrith, naw blwyðyn. 20
Yn·wvr *bum* ewyn.
Bum yspwng yn·hân.
- 19 Bum gwÿð yng·warthan.
Nid un wyv ni gân ; 24
- 20 Ceint, er yn vychan,
yng·had godeu-vrig,
- 21 rhag Prydein wledig—
gwyðveirch *Gwyðelig*, 28
- 22 I·ynghes veueðig.
A gweint vil mawr em :
- 23 arnaw oeð ganpen :
Ac hâd er·ðygnawd, 32
dan vôn i davawd :
- 24 Hâd arall yssyð,
yn i wegilyð.
- 25 Ilyffan du gavlawg : 36
cant ewin arvawg.
- 26 Y neidr vreith gribawg :
Eneid, drwy *i* phechawd,
a boenir yng·hnawd. 40
- 24 Bum y·Mevenyð :
Cryssynt wellt a gwyð :
- 2 Cenynt gerðorion :
Cyrchynt gadvaon : 44
- 3 Dadwyrein Vrython
a orzu Wydion.
- 4 Gelwyssid ar nevion,
ar Grist, a·i achwysson, 48
i diffrið eu teyrnon,
- 5 hyd ban y gwarettei

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

I was a sword in the hand-grip : 17
I was a shield in battle.
I was a string in the harp of
 enchantment for nine years. 20
In water I was the spume.
I was a sponge in the fire.
I was scrub in the covert. 23
I am not one who does not sing ;
 I sang, though I was little,
 at the battle of the Scrub-shoots,
 against Britain's Ruler
 and the *Irish* ships, 28
 a rich-laden fleet.
I speared the bejewelled beast,
 which had a hundred heads ;
 with seed of great trouble 32
 under the root of his tongue ;
 and another seed
 at the base of his skull. 35
Also the cloven-footed black toad,
 armed with a hundred claws.
And the crested speckled snake—
 the soul, through *her* sin,
 will be punished in the flesh. 40
I was at Mevenyð :
They hied to the reeds and woods ;
The minstrels played ;
The (men) rushed into battles.
The ascendancy of the Brython, 45
 bested Gwydion.
They called upon the saints,
 upon Christ, and his ministers, 48
to protect their princes
 until the Father, who had made them,

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 24 eu Rhi, rhwy·digonsei. 51
 As atebwys Dovyð,
 6 drwy iaith a·chelvyð :
 “ Rhuzhwch, rieð gwÿð,
 gantaw yn llÿyð, 55
 7 i rwystraw pobl ðig,
 ar lawr annedig.
 8 Pan swynhwyd godeu,
 yng·o·weith angheu,
 go·dorrid cadeu 60
 9 o bedryd tanheu ;
 cwynynt am aereu—
 10 trychyn drymðieu.
 Dyar garðei bun, 64
 tarðei a·matgun—
 11 blaen Iin a blaen bun.
 Buðiant buch Anhun,
 12 wnæei ennill i·n, 68
 yng·waed hyd a·n glin.
- 15 Nu, G w e r n, ym·laen Iin,
 a want gysevin.
 16 Helyg a Cherdin 72
 buant hwyr i·r vyðin.
 17 Eirinwyð yspin—
 an·whant o ðynin—
 Ceri, cy·vrenhin, 76
 18 gor·thrychan wrthrin.
 If u o n w y ð eithid,
 19 erbyn Iu gwryd.
 A v a n w y ð wneithþwyd 80
 20 yn oreu ym·wyd,
 er celwch bywyd,
 nid er nerthu gwyd.

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

would bring deliverance. 51
The Lord made answer
by efficacious word :—
“Rush, ye chiefs of the wood,
with the prince in your thousands,
to hinder envious people (coming) 56
upon an inhabited region.
When the shrubs were enchanted
for the work of destruction,
the engagements were interrupted 60
by the harmony of the harps,
which deplored the conflicts,
and banished sorrowful days.
Tumult drove away many, *but* 64
brought out a noble chief—flower
of his line, and leader of the host.
The reward of Anthony’s manner
of life would do us good, 68
in blood up to our knee.

Now, the Alders, at the head of the line,
thrust forward, the first in time.
The Willows and Mountain Ash 72
were late joining the army.
The Black thorns, full of spines—
(how the child delights *in its fruit!*)
and their mate, the Medlar,
will cut down all opposition.
The Rose marched along 78
against a hero throng.
The Raspberry was decreed
to serve most usefully as food,
for the sustenance of life— 82
not to carry on strife.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

24	Rhoswyð a Gwyðvid ac Eideu yr blethid. Mor Eithnen ergryd :	84
22	Sirian levysid. Bedw, er i vawrvryd,	88
	hwyr y gwiscyssid ;	
23	Nid er i lyvrder, namyn er i vawreð.	
24	Euron, delis bryd allmyr uch gwrhyd.	92
25	Seintwyð, yng·hynteð, cadeir gyng·wrysseð.	
26	Oon goreu dyrched, rhac bron tēyrned. Lwyv, er maraneð,	96
25	ni oscöes droedveð ; Ev Haðei berveð,	100
	eithav, a diweð.	
2	Collwyð, bernyssid, wrth eiriv i arv-gryd.	
3	Gwyrös, gwyn i vyd, tarw trin, tēyrn byd. <i>Wrth</i> vorawg voryd,	104
4	Ifawyð ffyniessid. Celyn glesyssid—	108
	bu ev yng·wrhyd.	
5	Yspyðad am·nâd ; haint ech yn anghad.	
6	Gwinwyð, gorthöad, gorthorsid yng·hâd— <i>eu grawn</i> an·rheithad.	112
7	Banadl, rhag bar cad, yn rhychva briwad.	116
8	Eithin ni bu vad : er hynn gwerinad.	

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

- The Wild Rose and the Woodbine 84
with the Ivy intertwined.
How greatly the Poplar trembles,
and the Cherry dares.
The Birch, for all its ambition,
was tardily arrayed ;
Not from any diffidence, *but* 90
because of its magnificence.
The Laburnum set its heart on the
dingles rather than on bravery.
The Yew is to the fore,
at the seat of war. 95
The Ash was exalted most
before the sovereign power.
The Elm, despite vast numbers,
swerved never a foot,
but fell on the centre, 100
on the wings, and the rear.
The Hazel was esteemed,
by its number in the quiver.
Hail, blessed Cornet tree, 104
bull of battle, King of all.
By the channels of the sea,
the Beech did prosperously.
The Holly livid grew, 108
and manly acts he knew.
The White Thorn checked all—
its virus aches in the palm.
The Vines, which roofed overhead,
were cut down in battle, 113
and their clusters plundered.
The Broom, before the rage of war,
in the ditch lie broken.
The Gorse was never prized ;
thus was it vulgarized. 118

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 25 Grug, buđyđ am·nad ;
 dy werin swynad ; 120
 10 hy·dwyll erlyniad.
 Rhac Derw buanawr
 crynei nev a llawr.
- 11 Gelyn glew drussiawr, 124
 a·i enw ym·heullawr.
- 12 Craffus·rwyđ cyngres,
 cymraw a rođes.
 Gwaith *rhai*, gwrthodes ; 128
 13 ereill, go·dylles.
 Por goreu, gormes,
 14 ym·hlymnwyd mäes.
 Go·ruthrawđ gynwyđ, 132
 aches veilonwyđ.
- 15 Castan, cewilyđ,
 wrth rymiad Seinwyđ.
- 16 Handid du muchyđ ; 136
 Handid crwm mynyđ :
- 17 Handid cyl coedyđ :
 Handid gwynt myr mawr—
- 18 ergan, cigleu r awr. 140
 A·n deillas o vedw :
 A·n dad·rith, dad·edw :
- 19 A·n maglas blaen derw,
 o warchan mael·derw. 144
- 20 Wherthinawg *cri* craig,
 neb nid ev tereig.
- 21 Nid o vam a thad,
 pan y·m digonad. 148
- 22 *Ys* crai y·m crëad,
 o naw *elvenad* :

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

Heath ! that promotest obstruction,
thy multitude has been enchanted : 120
Easily ensnared, the pursuer.
Before the swift oak(-darts)
heaven and earth did quake.
A brave enemy is spared, 124
and his name preserved on a tablet.
The acuteness of his combination
caused consternation.
The attack of some he refused ;
others he riddled. 129
The foremost Prince doth give trouble
in the conflict of the field.
He rushed the primeval wood,
the passage of the mast trees.
The Chestnut feeleth shame 134
at the opposing power of the Yew.
Black is sprung from jet,
the hump from the mountain,
the furnace from the woods,
and great seas from the wind—
he, who sings, has heard the roar. 140
We have emanated *from* birches :
He, who disenchants, will restore us.
Oak saplings ensnared us,
by the incantation of the Oak-priest.
Full of laughter is the echo, 145
which offends no man.
'Twas not of father and mother,
whence I was born.
'Tis after a new fashion I was created
from nine constituents : 150

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 25 O firwyth y firwytheu, 151
y gwnaeth Duw Dechreu.
o Vriall vlodeu :
- 24 o vlawd gwýð-godeu—
25 *blawd Derw a Dynad,*
Erwein a Banad: 156
- 24 o Brið y briðred :
25 o Ðwr tonn nawved :
o Dan y lluched:
- 25 pan ym digoned. 160
26 A'm swynwys Vath *Hen,*
cyn bum daeareu.
- 26 A'm swynwys Wydion, 164
mawr uð *go-rithion,*
2 o eurvys Euron ;
o *orne* mordon ;
o bym *rhyw verthon—*
- 3 pymhwnt celvyðon. 168
Archadon, eil Math,
4 ban ym dygnawð *i lath.*
A'm swynwys Wledig,
5 ban vei loscedig. 172
A'm swynwys sywyd
sywyðon, cyn byd ;
- 6 ban vei genhyv vod ;
ban *vean* vaint bychod. 176
- 7 Harð varð, buð a'n gnawd :
yd vedav arwawd,
8 a draetho'm tavawd.
Gwarieis yn Pychvor : 180
- 9 cysceis ym Horffor.
Neu bum yn yscor,
gan Dylan, eil mor :

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

- From the essence of fruits 151
did God begin :
from Primrose flowers :
from the pollen of shrubs—
the pollen of Oak and Nettle, 155
of Meadow-sweet and Broom ;
from the Mould of the earth ;
from the Water of the ninth wave ;
from the Fire of the lightning—
from these things was I made. 160
- Math the Old enchanted me,
before I was of the earth.
- Gwydion, the great Master of
phantoms, enchanted me
from the Laburnum's golden finger ; 165
from the breaker's prismatic hues ;
from five kinds of loveliness—
the five resources of wizards.
- The fosterling of Math was chief lord
when his wand afflicted me. 170
- A Gwledig enchanted me,
when he was being toasted.
- The science of the astrologers
enchanted me, before the world was ;
when I drew the breath of life ; 175
when I was a little thing.
- Glorious bard, largess is ours :
I have a panegyric,
which my tongue shall recite.
- I played in the lagoons of the sea ; 180
I slept at Pulford.
- I was in the fortress
with Dylan, fosterling of the sea. 183

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 26 Yng·hylch, ym·herveð, 184
 rhwng deu dëyrneð :
- 11 Yn ðeu waew an·chwant,
 o nev ban ðoethant.
- 12 Yn annwvn *Peuverant*, 188
 wrth vrwydrin byðant.
- 13 Pedwar ugein cant,
 a weint er eu whant.
- 14 Nid ynt hÿn, na ieu, 192
 no mi yn eu bareu.
- 15 Arial canhwr a geni ;
 pawb anaw *cerð*, *eiðot ti*.
- 16 Cenhiv inheu i ng·hleðiv 196
 brith, a *welhyni* waed bri.
- 19 Llachar i enw ; llawz ffer,
 i luch, llyw niver ;
- 20 ysceinynt i uvel, 200
 o ðovn yn uchel.
- 17 A·i darweð, Dovyð,
 o·r golo lle byð :
 A·i oðiv llas baeð— 204
- 18 ev gwrith, ev dad·writh,
 yng·o·lithr deithoeð.
- 20 Bum neidr vraith ym·rynn :
- 21 Bum gwiber yn llynn : 208
 Bum serw gan Gynbyn :
- 22 Bum bwystner ar hynn :
 Vying·hassul a·m cawg,
- 23 armaav nid ynt dlawd : 212
 Pedrygant mwlg
- 24 y·ar bawb a ðy·ðwg.
 Pym pennwn anghell
 a·m dal, a·m cym·hell : 216

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

On the borders, and at the centre,
 (I was) between two rulers. 185
(I was) two lustless lances,
 which came from heaven.
In the abyss they will scintillate ;
 a-fighting they will be.
Four score hundred 190
 I thrust for their pleasure.
They are neither older, nor
 younger, than I in their feuds.
Of the centurion's courage thou shalt sing :
Every gift of the muse is thine. 195
I myself will sing to my decorated
 sword, which spilled blood of renown.
Flaming his name ; highly tempered,
 his flashing guides the host :
 his sparks do spread 200
 from the low (earth) up high.
The Lord guides my sword,
 from His dwelling-place ;
By its stroke was slain the boar,
 which appears, and disappears, 205
 in his elusive journeyings.
I was a speckled snake on the hill ;
I was a dragon in the lake ;
I was the slave of Kynbyn ;
I was a herdsman besides. 210
My chasuble and chalice,
 I declare, are not trumperies :
A quarter per cent of the savings,
 from every one he will take.
Five flight-feathers of the wing 215
 support, and propel me :

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 26 Whyth march melynell, 217
 canweith yssyð well :
- 26 Vy march, Melyngan,
 cyvrêd a gwylan.
- 27 My·hun nid eban, 221
 cyvrwng mor a glan.
- 2 Neu gorwyv waedlan,
 ar naw can cynran.
- 3 Rhuð em vying·hy/chrwy ; 225
 Eur vyn yscwytrwy.
 Ni·m ganed yn adwy :
- 4 A nu, y·m govwy,
neb namyn Goronwy, 229
 o ðol Edrywy.
- 5 Hir wynn ym·ysawr :
 peII na bum heusawr.
- 6 Treigleis y·mywn llawr, 233
 cyn bum llëenawr.
- 7 Cylchyneis ynys ;
 cysceis yng·hann gwys,
- 8 cant caer a·thrugus. 237
 ðerwyðon doethur !
 drogenwch i Arthur.
- 9 Yssid yssyð hÿn ;
 neu·r vu ergenhym. 241
- 10 Ac un a ðeryw
 O ystyr Dilyw,
 a Christ yn croccaw,
 a dyðbrawd rhac llaw. 245
- 11 Eurem yn er·wyll,
 a·m hudwy i berthyll ;
- 12 a byðiv drythyll,
 o armes Iferyll. 249

THE BATTLE OF THE SCRUB

The staying power of an amber-coloured
horse is a hundred times better :
Melyngan, my steed,
keeps pace with the gull. 220
I myself shall not pass
between sea and land.
(But) I am winning the battlefield
against nine hundred warriors.
Ruby gemmed is my diadem ; 225
Gold the rim of my shield.
I was not held in the pass :
And now, save Goronwy,
none will visit me
from the mead of Edrywy. 230
Thin and white my fingers :
It is long since I was a herdsman.
I wandered in the earth,
or ever I touched literature.
I circled the island : 235
I slept in a hundred mansions,
a hundred inhabited forts.
Ye learned druids !
prophesy to Arthur.
There is what is older, 240
of which we shall sing.
For instance, of what will happen
in consequence of the Deluge,
and of crucifying Christ,
and of judgment to come. 245
The gold gem in darkness—
may its beauty enchant me ;
and let me be jubilant,
because of Vergil's prophecy. 249

Tab gybreu Taliessin.

- A**YV·ARCHAV Rëen 1
 i ystyriaw·m awen :
- 27 Pwy dy·dug i hanghen
 cyn no Cheridwen.
- 15 Cynhevin i·m byd 5
 a vu eisywyd :
 Myneich *ev* a leid !
- 16 *Gwybyð*, na·m dy·weid.
 Py·r na·m enregid 9
 un awr na·m erlid ?
- 17 Pwy ðodwy reith mwg ?
 Py·r echenir drwg ?
- 18 Py ffynhawn ði·wg 13
 argel tywyllwg ?
 Pan yw calav cann ?
- 19 Pan yw nos Hoergan ?—
 arial ni chynnwyd,
 dy·yscwyd allan ? 18
- 20 Pan yw go·varvan
 twrv tonneu wrth lann ?
- 21 Er dyar dy·lann,
 dy ða haeð attam. 22
 Pan yw mor drwm maen ?
- 22 Pan yw mor Hym draen ?
 a wðost pwy gwell,
- 23 a·i *gwaell*, a·i i vlaen ? 26
 Pwy beris barwyd,
 rhwng dyn ac annwyd ?
- 24 Pwy gwell yn aðwyd,
 a·i ieuanc, a·i Hwyd ? 30

THE YOUTH OF TALIESIN

The Youth of Taliesin.

I WILL ask the Lord 1
to consider my muse :
He sustained her need
before the days of Ceridwen.
Familiar to my lot 5
has poverty been :
The monks praise poverty !
Know, there is no telling it me.
Why ! not one hour have I had
without it persecuting me. 10
Who shall give a law to smoke ?
Why will evil be praised ?
What source can improve
upon the canopy of night ?
Whence is white the reed ? 15
Whence the night's moonshine ?
(Whence) the splendour unkindled
that shakes itself out ?
Whence the angry thunder of
the waves against the shore ? 20
For all the tumult of the strand
Thy goodness doth reach unto us.
Whence is stone so heavy ?
Whence is the thorn so prickly?— 24
Knowest thou which is sharper—
its point, or the *skewer's* ?
Who *first* raised a partition 27
to protect man from the cold ?
In death, whose lot is the better,
that of the young, or of the old ?

BOOK OF TALIESIN

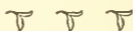
- 27 A w̄dost beth wyd, 31
 25 ban vych yn cyscwyd?—
 a'i corff, a'i eneid,
 26 a'i angel canneid? 34
 Eilewyð celvyð!
- 28 pyr na'm dywedyð?
 A w̄dost cwð vyð 37
 nos yn aros dyð?
- 2 A w̄dost ar w̄ð
 pet deilen yssyð?
 Py ðyrchis vynyð, 41
 3 cyn rhywiaw elvyð?
 Py gynheil magwyr
 4 daear, yn breswyl?
 Eneid! pwy i wynwas? 45
 5 pwy gwelas? pwy gŵyr?
 Rhyved! yn llyvreu
 6 nas gwðan yn ðiheu!
 Enioes—pwy i hadneu? 49
 7 pwy pryd i haelodeu?
 Py barth pan ðineu
 rhywynt a rhyffreu?
 8 Rhyvel an'ygnawd,
 cadwr periglawd. 54
 9 Rhyvedav arwawd
 pan vu yngwaðawd.
 Pwy goreu meðdawd,
 10 o ved a bragawd? 58
 Pwy goryw yn ffawd,
 11 namwyn Duw, y Drindawd?
 Py amgen draethawd,
 12 traethwn o honawd?
 Pwy peris ceinhawg 63
 13 ariant, yn rhodawg?

THE YOUTH OF TALIESIN

- Knowest thou what thou art, 31
when thou art sleeping?—
a body, or soul,
or angel of light?
- Skilled minstrel ! 35
why wilt thou not answer me ?
- Knowest thou where night
awaits the day ?
- Knowest thou, on a bush, 39
how many leaves there be ?
- What raised the mountain,
before making the earth habitable ?
- What supports the structure 43
of the earth, for habitation ?
- The Soul ! what is its blest abode ?
who has seen it ? who knows it ?
- Wonderful ! that in books 47
they know not for certain.
- Life ! who is its sponsor ?
what the shape of its limbs ?
- From what quarter pour forth
hurricane and flood ? 52
- A war, without utmost preparation,
will endanger the soldier.
- Most astonishing is the eulogy,
that has sprung from the lees. 56
- Who ordained drunkenness
from mead and bragget ?
- Who controls our destiny
but God, the Trinity ? 60
- What fitter utterance could
I give concerning Thee ?
- Who ordained the silver
penny to be round ? 64

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 28 Pan yw rhedegawg, 65
carr mor eichïawg?
- 14 Angheu, ys seiliawg ;
ym·hob gwlad, rhannawg.
Awyr uch an pen,
- 15 ys Ilydan i Ilen : 70
Uch nev nag wybren,
uch vyth yn Rheen.
- 16 Hynav ban anher,
a ieu ieu, AMSER.
- 17 Yssid a bryder 75
o'r bresent haeðer.
- 18 Gwedy a'n rheuveð
pyr'n gwna byrhoedleð ?
- 19 Digawn llawrydeð,
cywestwch a beð. 80
A'r Gwr a'n meithrin
- 20 o'r wlad werthevin
a'n ducwy yn hed
- 21 attaw o'r diweð. 84

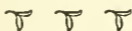


Chdeir Taliessin.

- Q**I·D·WYV merweryð, 1
Molawd Duw ðovyð :
- 31 llwrw cyvranc cywyð ;
cyvreu dyvnwedyð. 4
- 23 Harð bron sywedyð,
ban ad·leveryð.
- 24 Awen, cwð echwyð,
ar veinÿoeth veinðyð? 8

THE YOUTH OF TALIESIN

Whence is the movement 65
of a wain so squeaky?
Death is established ;
In every land, 'tis allotted.
The firmament over our head—
wide is its canopy : 70
Heaven is higher than the sky ;
still higher is our Lord.
Oldest at its birth, younger
and younger grows TIME.
There are who fear the 75
deserts of their present life.
After endowing us,
why make us short-lived ?
Humiliation enough is
association with the grave. 80
And may He, who *succours* us
from the sovereign land,
bring us *in peace*
to Himself at the last. 84



The Chair of Taliesin.

I AM the ecstasy 1
in the praise of the Lord God :
I am the life of verse competition,
and the inspiration of the orator. 4
Beautiful the presence of the prophet
when thou art repeating (his teachings).
The afflatus, where does it drop,
on a serenely fine day? 8

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 31 Beirð lavar, lugðe, 9
 eu gwawd; ni·m *tawr* gre:
 26 Rhwystrad, ar ystre,
 ystryw mawr mic·re.
- 32 Nid mi wyv gerð vud : 13
 1 Cyvarchav veirð tud :
 Rhy·ebrwyðav ðrud :
 2 Rhy·dalmav ehud : 16
 Du·hunav dremud :
 3 Terwynnau volud.
 Nid mi wyv gerð vâs :
 4 Cyvarchav veirð tras. 20
 Beth gwaðawl Jðas ?
 5 Down aig, iawn aðas !
 pwy am·lenwis gas ;
 pob camp ym·noethas.
- 6 Pan yw dien gw lith ? 25
 Pan yw Iiad gwenith ?
- 7 Gwenyn, *pw y go·lit h*,
 o glyd ac ystor ?
Py gelwy tra mor ?
- 8 *yn* eurbiben liw ? 30
 a lleu arian gwiw ?
 a rhuðem ang·rawn ?
- 9 ac ewyn eigiawn ?
 Py ðy·vrys ffynhawn ?
- 10 Berwr, py i ry·ðawn ? 35
 Py gysswllt gwerin ?
- 11 Brecci, bonheð Iyn—
 allweð Iwyr wehyn !
- 12 ILeðv Honneð medlyn.
 A sywion synhwyr, 40
 a sywyd am·lwyr
- 13 a ovrwy weð w̄yr.

THE CHAIR OF TALIESIN

- The Bards, at dawn, recite
 their songs — I heed not the herd :
 their great plot for a row
 was defeated on the spot. 9
- I am not, *as* a singer, mute— 13
 I salute the bards of the district :
 I speed the bold :
 I check the rash : 16
 I wake up the looker on :
 I make eulogy aglow.
- I am not, *as* a singer, shallow—
 I salute the bards of the clan. 20
- What should the lot of Judas be ?
 The deep sea would be a fit retribution :
 He sated his hate, (and)
 every crookedness displayed.
- Whence is dew pleasant ? 25
 Whence is wheat a blessing ?
 What attracts bees
 from shelter and store ?
 What lies hidden beyond the sea ?
 (What) *in* the orpiment hue ? 30
 and in quick-silver's sheen ?
 and in the free-flashing ruby ?
 and in the foam of the sea ?
- What hastens the spring ?
 What is the virtue of water-cress ? 35
 What will unite the people ?—
 The nob among drinks is new beer,
 the key of universal good fellowship.
 Subdued is the cheer of mead.
 Both the sparks of wit, 40
 and thorough knowledge
 light up even a wry face.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 32 Gwrth a wŷr *Myrðin*, 43
 14 a mall an·oðyn ;
 a gwaðawl tra ffin—
 15 *y* corwg gwydrin. 46
Ar·llad pererin
ynt: pybyr a phyg,
 16 ac urðawl segrffyg ;
 a llyseu medyg, 50
 ell allwy venffyg ;
 17 *Blagur* a blodeu,
 a gwðig bertheu ;
Briallu doleu ;
 18 *Briwðeil llawryveu*, 55
 a blaen gwyð-godeu ;
 A mael, a meueð,
 19 ac aml ad·neueð ;
 A gwin tal·cibeð,
 20 o gwvein rosseð ; 60
 A dwvn ðŵr echwyð—
 21 dawn hy·liv Dovyð.
 Nev bren, puvawr vyð ;
 22 ffrwythlawn i gynnyð.
 Rhed iâs berwidyð 65
 23 oð·uch peir pum·wŷð ;
 A Gwiawn avon
 a ovrwy hinon,
 24 a mel, a meillon,
 a meðgyrn *llawinion*. 70
 25 Aðwynid Dragon,
 a dawn derwyðon. *ƿ*

THE CHAIR OF TALIESIN

Myrðin shall know opposition, 43
and the decay of the abyss ;
and *for* dower, beyond the bourne,
the coracle of glass. 46

The oblations of the pilgrim
are : pepper and pitch,
and worthy sacrifice ;
and medicinal plants, 50
which may confer benefit ;
Blossom and flowers,
and hedge-row riches ;
The primrose *of the meads*,
the bruised leaves *of the bay*, 55
and the (flower-)tops of bushes ;
Also produce, and store,
and frequent garnerings ;
and cups brimful of wine,
from conventual superfluity. 60

And the sacred water of baptism,
the flowing gift of the Lord.
Heaven's tree, full of fruit will be ;
prosperously it spreads.

The boilings of the cauldron 65
of the five sciences will run over :
(this overflow), Gwion's stream,
will produce fine weather,
white clover, and honey,
and *brimming* mead-horns. 70

The Dragon will pacify
the vates with a gift. ♪

II.

GOLYCHAV Gu-lŵyð—
Ev arglwyð pob echen :

- 33 Arbenhig torvoeð, 75
yng·hÿoeð am orðen.
- 3 Ceint, yn yspyðawd,
uch gwirawd av·lawen.
- 4 Ceint rhag meibon Ilŷr,
yn ebyr Henvelen. 80
Gweleis drais tryvar,
5 ac avar, ac anghen.
Yd lethrynt lavnawr,
6 ar bennawr discowen.
Ceint rhag uð clodleu, 85
7 yn·oleu *glan* Havren—
rhag Brochvael Powys,
a garwys vy awen.
- 8 Ceint, ymŵyn rodle,
ym·ore rhag Urien— 90
9 yn *echwyð*, am a·n traed,
yð oed gwaed ar·ðien.
Neu·d amug gadeir—
10 daeth o bair Ceridwen :
Hawðvryd vyn·havawd 95
11 yn aðawd gwawd Ogrven.
- 12 Gwawd offeren *ðwyr*, rhwy ðigones
aeron, a Iefrith, a gw lith, a mes.
- 13 Ystyriem yn Ilwyr, cyn *hwyr* gyffes,
ðyvod yn ðiheu, angheu *yn* nesnes. 100
- 15 Ac o dud Enlli dy·bi a·n lles—
ðwyreant Ilongawr ar glawr aches.
- 16 Galwn ar y Gwr an digones,
a·n nothwy rhag gwyth *tylwyth* ang·hes.

THE CHAIR OF TALIESIN

II.

I Worship the Dear Lord— 73
the Lord of every race :

The supreme leader of the hosts (I
worship) publicly, because of his majesty.

I sang over the unfortunate
liquor at its spilling. 78

I sang before the sons of Llŷr
at the water-meets of Henvelen.

I witnessed malignant
oppression, and sorrow, and want.

They polished their blades 83
on the shining helmets.

I sang before a famous lord,
in the meads of Severn bank—
before the Brochvael of Powys,
who loved my muse. 88

I sang, in a pleasance,
of a morning, before Urien—
in the evening, about our feet,
was the blood of dire execution. 92

(Urien) defended the chair, which
emanated from Keridwen's cauldron.

My tongue delights
in Ogrven's treasury of song. 96

The praise of *divine* service has produced
abundant fruit, and milk, and dew, and mast.
We should consider fully, before postponing confession,
that death's certain approach draws daily nearer.
From the colony of Bardsey will come our good—
boats will appear on the face of the ferry. 102
Let us call on Him who made us :
May He protect us from the wrath of foreign tribes :

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 33 Pan *ad*alwer Von, dirion väes, 105
 gwyn eu byd wleïdon, Saeson ar dres.
- 19 Doðwyv Deganhwy, er am·rysson,
 ar Vaelgwn, vwyzhav o·r achwyson.
 Ellyngeis v·arglwyð, yng·wÿð dëon,
- 21 Elphin, bendevig *bon*hedigion. 110
 Yssid i·m gadeir gyweir gysson ;
 hyd vrawd parahawd gan gerðorion.
- 23 Bum yng·had Godeu y·gan Wydion,
 a rithwys elvyð *yr* elestron— 114
- 25 gan *vab Iweryð*, yn Iwerðon ;
 Gweleis ban *los*cwyd Morðwyd Tyl·lon.
- 27 Cigleu gyvarvod am gerðorion
 a Gwyðyl, dievyl ðifferogion.
- 34 O Benrhyn *go*·luch hyd lych Ilëon, 119
 2 Cymry, o un vryd, gwrhyd wirion—
 gwared gym·riwed yng·hymelri.
- 3 Tair ceneðl wythlawn, *an*·iawn deithi—
 Gwyðyl, a Brithion, a *Germani*,
 a wnahon ði·heð, a dy·vysci. 124
- 5 Am dervyn Prydein, cain i threvi,
 ceint rhag tÿrneð uch með lestri :
- 7 Yng·heinion dëon, a·u dy·roði,
 a·n dwg ben sywed, ced ryverthi. 128
- 8 Kyweir vying·hadeir yng·Haer Sidi :
 Nis plawð haint heneint a vo ynði.
- 10 Ys gÿyr Manawyd a Phryderi, 131
 tyrri orian a·dan *geulan* rhegði ;
- 11 ac am i banneu, ffrydieu gweilgi.
 A ffynhawn ffrydlawn yssyð achði—
- 13 whêgach nor gwin gwyn y llyn ynði.
 A gweðy·th iolav, Oruchav Ri, 136
- 41 cyn gweryd gorod, cymmod a mi. ☉

THE CHAIR OF TALIESIN

When he is recalled to Mon, pleasant land, 105
blessed the inhabitants will be, Saxons sailing away.
I came to Deganwy for the sake of competing—
to Maelgwn, gentlest of the courtiers.
I liberated my lord, in the presence of the gentry,
Elffin, the prince of the nobles : 110
My chair is one of perfect harmony ; for ever
it will endure, a possession of the minstrels.
I was at the battle of Godeu with Gwydion,
who enchanted the elements of the sedges.
I was with Bran, (son of Iweryð), in Ireland : 115
I was a witness to the burning of Morðwyd Tyllon.
I have heard of minstrels meeting with
the Gwyðyl, the protectors of evil spirits.
From *Holyhead* to the lagoons of *Chester*, 119
the Kymry, unanimously, will champion the in-
nocent—will deliver those bruised in war.
Three irascible peoples of wicked propensities—
the Gwyðyl, the Scotti, and the Northmen, 123
do create disturbance and confusion.
Beyond the border of Prydein, and its sweet homes,
I have sung before Kings over the mead cups :
At the feasts of the gentry, and their bounty-giving 127
may great inspiration, the gift of the spirit, possess us.
Harmonious is my chair at the fort of the whirlpools :
Disease shall not strike down the old therein.
Manawyd and Pryderi know of the moaning 131
that breaks out from a cave, in front of the fort ;
and of the tossings of the sea around its heights.
There is also a plentiful spring close to it ;
pleasanter than white wine is the drink therein.
And, lastly, I entreat Thee, Almighty Father ! 136
ere I go under the sod, be reconciled with me. ☉

Tadeir Teyrnnon.

- AREITH awdl eglur— 1
 Awen tra messur,
 34 am gorðeu antur,
 16 o echen *Arthur*.
 A'i ffon a'i aes ffur, 5
 17 a'i rëon rechtyr,
 a'i ri rwyviadur,
 18 a'i riv yscwthwyr,
 a'i gochl goch-assur,
 19 *ev* ergyr dros vur ; 10
Ev cadr cy-messur,
 ym·hlith goscorð nug ;
 20 Neu's dug, o gawrvur,
 veirch gwelw go·strodur.
 21 Tëyrnon, henur, 15
 heilyn bascadur—
 22 trydyð dwvn ðoethur
 i *ladu* *Arthur*.
Arthur vendigad
 23 ar gerð gyvaenad— 20
 ar·wyneb, yng·had,
 24 or·vawr bystylad.
 Pwy, y tri chynweisad,
 25 a werchedwis wlad ?
 Pwy, y tri chyvarwyð, 25
 26 a gedwis arwyð—
 a ðaw, wrth awyð,
 erbyn eu harglwyð ?
 35 Bann rhinweð rhodwyð :
 Bann vyð hynŷ hoeweð : 30
 2 Bann corn cerðetrwyð :

THE CHAIR OF TEYRNON

The Chair of Teyrnon.

HE declaims a luminous ode, 1
inspired beyond measure,
about the buffetings of adventure,
like those of Arthur. 4

With his lance & his wary shield,
with his active generals,
and his sovereign prince,
and his company of thrusters,
and his purple cloak, 9
he pushes forward over the wall :

He is judiciously bold
among his agitated retinue.
He brought, from the great wall,
creamy horses used to the saddle.

Teyrnnon, the elder, 15
waits upon his guests :
he is the third deeply wise
man to bless Arthur.

Arthur was praised
in song by all ; (for) 20
he would face in battle
tremendous tumult.

Who were the three chief ministers,
who kept guard over the country ?
Who were the three leaders 25
who observed the sign—
who will come with zeal
to meet their lord ?

High the merit of a fort in a wood :
Evident is the pursuit of mirth : 30
Loud is the horn of the hunt :

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 35 Bann biw wrth echwyð: 32
 3 Bann gwir pan ðiscleir—
 bannach pan leveir :
 4 Bann, pan ðoeth o bair 35
 Ogrven awen dair.
 Bum mynawg mygr-eir
 5 yng·horv anneðeir.
 Ni ðyly gadeir,
 6 ni gadwo vying·air— 40
 Cadeir gyniv glaer :
 Awen huawdl haer.
 7 Pwy enw y tair caer
 rhwng Iiant a Ilaer?
 8 Nis gŵyr, ni votaer, 45
 eisylid eu maer.
 Pedeir caer yssyð
 9 yn·hud Powyssyð.
 Rhieu mor Weryð !
 10 Am nid vo, nid vyð— 50
 Nid vyð, am nid vo—
 11 I L ynghesawr a ffo.
 Tohid gwaneg gro ;
 tra dy·lan dyppo.
 12 Nac ailIt, nac adon, 55
 na bron, na thyno,
 na rhynnawd godo,
ach diffrid yno
 13 rhag gwynt, ban sorho.
 Cadeir tēyrn vo ! 60
 14 celvyð rhwy cadwo :
 cedwitor yng·hō.
 Ceisitor cenig
 15 cedwyr colledig. 64

THE CHAIR OF TEYRNON

Lowling the cow at sundown :	32
Clear is truth when it shines— still more clear when it speaks.	
When they emerged from the cauldron	35
glorious were Ogrven's muses three.	
I was the master of the grand style at the dividing line in the stewards' halls.	
None will merit the chair who observes not my law—	40
the glorious chair of the contest :	
The muse of the eloquent is dogmatic.	
What are the names of the three forts twixt flood-tide and ebb?	44
Only the persistent can learn of the expulsion of their steward.	
Four strongholds there are in the Powysian country.	48
Ye lords of the Irish sea ! what may not be will not be— It will not be because it may not be— <i>Your</i> fleets shall flee.	52
The wave will cover the shingle— beyond the very bank it will flow.	
Nor villain, nor lord, nor hill-slope, nor plain,	56
nor a considerable shelter, will protect you then from the tempest, when it rages.	
The chair of a ruler be it ;	60
Skilful (the bard) who shall hold it— It shall be kept in memory.	
A ballad shall be attempted to the perished warriors.	64

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 35 Tebygav ðull dig, 65
 diva pendevig
 16 o ðull di·wynnig.
 O leon lurig
 17 dyrchawwd gwledig,
 terwynn, hynevig. 70
 18 Briwhawd bragad vrig,
 breinawl, eisorig.
 Orig ym·erwin
 19 am dervyn whevrin—
 ieith oed eðein. 75
 Aches ffysciolin
 20 mordweid merin—
 go·blant Saraphin.
 21 Dogn dwvn di·werin ;
 Dy·llyngem Elphin. 80

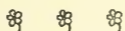


Radeir Keridwen.

- R**EEN, rhy·mawyr ditheu 1
 gyreiveint o·m caredeu.
 23 Yn·eweint, ym·hylgeineu
 llewychawd vy lleuvereu. 4
 25 Mynnon hoedl viniawg val lleu,
 a weleis yma gynheu :
 26 Diweð yn llechweð *vu i* Leu :
 Bu wrð i hwrð yng·hadeu. 8
 36 Avagðu, vy mab inheu,
 dedwyð, Dovyð rwy·goreu.
 2 Yng·hyv·amrysson gerdeu, 11
 oed gwell i synhwyr no·r veu.

THE CHAIR OF TEYRNON

- I deem it a savage custom 65
to destroy a prince
after a foul fashion.
- Out of the mailed legion 68
will arise a Gwledig,
brilliant, elderly.
- He will smash the first of the clan,
the prescriptive, chosen (heir). 72
- Shortly he will grow exasperated,
because of the border harshness—
the very language was passing away.
- Swift the approach 76
of the sea-rovers—
the fosterlings of Saraphim.
- Grievous is the solitary dungeon ;
We must set Elffin free. 80



The Chair of Keridwen.

- L**ORD, be thou mindful of 1
forgiveness for my sins.
- At midnight, and at cock-crow
My lights shall shine. 4
- I could wish for an adventurous life like
ILeu's, whom I saw here erstwhile.
- He, in ILechweð, met his end—
eager had been his attack in battle.
- Avagðu, my own son, 9
discreet the Lord created him :
- In the minstrel competitions
his wit was superior to mine. 12

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 36 Celvyðav gwr a gicleu— 13
 4 Gwydion ab Don, dygn vertheu,
 a hudwys wraig o vlodeu,
 5 a ðyðug voch o ðeheu. 16
 Can bu iðaw ðysc oreu,
 6 dyd i vryd i agor pletheu.
Ev a rithwys orwýðawd
 7 y'ar logawd *Pryderi* lys, 20
 ac en·weris gyvrwyeu.
 8 Pan varnher y cadeireu,
 ar·benhig uðun y veu ;
 9 Vying·hadeir a beir ðeðvon, 24
 a'm areith drý'n awdl gysson.
 10 Rhy·mgelwir Cyvrwys yng·lwys lys Dôn—
 11 mi, ac Euronwy, a *Thëyrnon*.
 Gweleis ymlað taer, yng·*Haer* IFrancon, 28
 13 bryd pylgeint, rhwng Gwytheint a Gwydion.
 Dyvieu, yn geugant, yð aethant Von,
 14 i geisaw n escud am hudolion.
 15 Aranrod drem·glod, tra gwawr hinon ; 32
 Mwyhav gwarth, i marth, o barth Brithon.
 16 Dy·vrys, am i Ilys, evnys avon ;
Llynghes a'i hechrys ; gwrys wrth terra.
 18 Gwenwyn i chyn·wýd, cylch byd yð â. 36
 Nid wy ðy·weid geu, Ilyvreu Beda.
 Cadeir gedwidyð yssyð yma ;
 20 hyd vrawd parahawd yn Europa.
 A'n rothwy, Drindawd ! 40
 21 drugareð ðyðbrawd ;
 a chardawd gwyrda. *ƿ*

THE CHAIR OF KERIDWEN

- The most artful man, of whom I have heard, is 13
 Gwydion, the son of Don : endless his resources.
 He enchanted a maid out of flowers,
 and brought pigs from the South. 16
 In virtue of his thorough training
 he delights in straightening tangles.
 He enchanted a number of horses
 within the precincts of *Pryderi's* Court ; 20
 he also imitated saddles.
 When the chairs are compared,
 mine will lead them all—
 my chair will set the laws, and 24
 my speech will ever turn to poetry.
 I am named Cunning in the fair court of Dôn—
 I, and Euronwy, and Tëyrnon. 27
 I witnessed a persistent fight at *Caer* I Francon
 at cockcrow, twixt Gwytheint & Gwydion.
 One Thursday, in particular, they went towards Mon
 to seek diligently for charms. 31
 The glory of Aranrod's looks exceeds summer dawn :
 Most disgraceful the harrying of her by the Scotti :
 Enemies from the Menei rush round her court ; 34
 a fleet terrifies her ; it menaces close to land.
 The infection of her early passion will circle the globe :
 The writings of Bede do not bear false witness.
 The Guardian's chair is this here ; 38
 till doom, in Europe, it will endure.
 May the Trinity grant us
 mercy on the day of judgment ;
 also, the charity of the nobility. P 42

BOOK OF TALIESIN

Bardd-gybreu Taliessin.

- P**RIV gyvarch gelvyð, pan ry-lëad?
 Pwy cynt, a'i towyll, a'i goleuad?
- 1 Neu Aðav, pan vu? pa i ðy-grëad?
 3 neu y-dan dydwed, pyr y seilad?
 4 A vollei honnyn, nis myn pwyllad. 5
 Yssyð bechadur am-nivereid,
 5 collawd wlad nevwy, plwyv offereid.
 Bore vebin, dêl; 8
 6 o'r gwânont, ceir bel.
 Ar Eingl Allwyðel
 gwnaont eu rhyvel.
- 7 Pan ðaw nos, a dyð? 12
 Pan vyð llwyd eryr?
 8 Pan yw towyll nos?
 Pan yw gwyrð llinos?
 Mor, pan ðy-verwid? 16
 9 cwð â nis gwelid.
 Yssid deir ffynnawn
 ymynyð seriawn.
- 10 Yssid Gaer gorchawn 20
 a-dan donn eigawn.
- 11 Gor-yth-gyvarchawr
 pwy enw y porthawr.
- 12 Pwy vu beriglawr 24
 i vab Meir mwynvawr?
 Pa vessur mwyhav
- 13 a orug adav?
 Pwy vessur uffern? 28
 Pwy tewhed i llenn?
- 14 Pwy lled i geneu?
 Pwy maint i en-ieineu?

TALIESIN'S BARDIC LORE

Taliesin's Bardic Lore.

THE Seer's primal questioning, when was it answered ?
Which came first, or darkness, or light ? 2
Or Adam, when was he ? of what was he created ?
Or under the sward, what was the foundation laid ?
He, who has accepted assertions, cares not for reasoning.
He who sins times without number will forfeit
the heavenly country, the home of devotion.
The striplings's morning, may it dawn ; 8
If they use the spear, there will be trouble.
Upon the Anglo-Irish of Tegeingl
may they make their war.
Whence come night and day ? 12
Whence is brown the eagle ?
Whence is dark the night ?
Whence is green the linnet ?
The sea, whence was it storm-tossed ? 16
Whither it goes, no one has seen.
There are three fountains
on mount Serion.
There is a towering fort 20
under the wave of the sea.
Thou wilt be much questioned,
as to the name of the door-keeper.
Who was the shriving priest 24
of Mary's gracious son ?
What was the greatest measuring
done by hand ?
Who will measure Inferno ? 28
How thick is its covering ?
How wide its entrance ?
How great its degrees of cold ?

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 1 Neu vlaen gwyð ffaliwm, 32
 py estwng mor grwm?
 neu py rinwēdon
- 16 yssyð yn eu bon?
 Nu, lleu a Gwydion, 36
- 17 buant gelvyðion :
 neu'r wðant lyvrion,
 pan wnant *ledrithion*.
- 18 Pan ðaw nos liant, 40
 pan vyð yn'i·vant?
 Cwð â nos rhag dyð?
- 19 Pan ðaw noswŷlyð?
 Patria nostra ambulo, 44
- 20 gentes in adiuuando :
 Tonans, similo signum,
 21 rogitans forte *castrum*.
 Am·wibiwn *ni* am gymyð— 48
- 22 Am·geisant *wy* ðeu gelvyð.
 Am Gaer, gerein a·dan ðyð
- 23 rhy·dynn eirch pwythwr ðovyð ;
 yn·wŷviant ys ân yn *lluyð*. 52
- 24 Caffwynt, yn ðirdan,
 Gymry yn griðvan.
- 25 Provator eneid,
 rhag llwyth eisyllleid. 56
 Kymry briv ðirieid—
- 26 rhann rhy·goŷl bwyeid.
 Gwae ! hir ucheneid,
 a's gwyar honneid. 60
- 27 Dy·ðöent, gwarthvor,
 wyðveirch ði·ar vor,
- 28 *ar* Eingl yng·hyngor. 63

TALIESIN'S BARDIC LORE

Or the leaders of the barberry bushes, 32
why do they bend so archedly?
or what are the medicaments
which are in their stems?

Now, ILeu & Gwydion 36
have been wizards;
they know the (Sibylline) books,
hence they practise enchantments.

Whence cometh the flood of darkness
when it is in evanishment? 41

Whither doth night retire before day?
Whence cometh the eventide?

In our native land I wander, 44
a-helping of the clans :

Thundering, I simulate a portent,
eagerly inquiring for the strong fort.
(While) we wander about the coombs,
they are seeking for two wizards. 49

The hubbub, at dawn, draws around the
fort the ships of the shoe-making chief;

Wantonly they go, a great company. 52
Far and wide, they find
Wales in distress.

The very soul has been tried
by the wandering horde. 56

Kymry's chief misfortune is
the lost blessing of the mass.
O misery! long the groaning,
which bleeds persistently. 60

There will come, athwart the sea,
ships to the shore,
unto the Angles in Council. 63

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 1 Gwelawr arwydion 64
 gwynieith ar Saeson.
- 29 Claudus in Syon 67
 o rwyvanusson.
- 30 Bydhawt penn seiron
 rhag IFichti lewon—
 marini Brithion. 70
- 31 Rhy·ðar·o·ganon
 am vedi hëon,
 am Havren avon.
- 32 O lad ffradyr cynna, 74
 masswy fissa mala—
 eu ffwyr ffinied. Sela.
- 33 Dir·drinei tra oedei ;
 Creawdwr oriolei ; 78
- 34 ILu gentis differei,
 go·s·pwyllai, go·dygnei.
 Coðei ev oscoð mur,
- 35 a gorvu a mein·ður. 82
- D**eur vum gan wyr celvyðon—
 Math Hën, a Llew, a Gwydion,
- 3 pan reibwyd ceu elestron. 85
 Bum gan·hymðeith achwyson,
- 2 vlwyddyn yng·Haer Ovanhon.
 Wyv hën, wyv newyð wyðon :
 wyv swyv, wyv synhwyr ceinon.
- 4 Dy·goviaav ðy·hen Vrithion— 90
 Gwyðyl, kyl differogion.
- 5 Ys meðud a wna meðwon.
 Wyv barð—ni rinav i eillon :
- 6 Wyv Ilyw, wyv syw amrysson. 94

TALIESIN'S BARDIC LORE

- Signs of deliverance are seen 64
 on the part of the Saxons,
 who had been shut up in Sëon,
 by the dominating peoples. 67
- The chief engineers shall act
 against the bold Picts,
 (and) the sea-roving Scotti. 70
- They prophesy about
 reaping what they sow
 beyond the river Severn.
- By the blessing of a very good frate
 calamities, disunited, will die down— 75
 their assault will be weakened. Alleluia.
- He was in constant conflict while he lived ;
 The Creator he fervently worshipped ;
 The host of the nation he defended,
 civilised it somewhat, and gently chided. 80
- He harassed the guards of the wall,
 and conquered them with pointed steel.
- I was with the wise men—
 Math the old, *and Llew, and Gwydion,* 84
 when the hollow reeds were enchanted.
- I was the companion of courtiers,
 for a year, in Caer Ovanhon.
- I am the ancient, I am the modern lore ; 88
 I am the animation and the wit of feasts.
- I remember well the ancient Scotti,
 (and) the Gwyðyl, defenders of the furnace.
It is drinking which makes the drunkard. 92
- I am a bard, I will not prophesy to strangers :
 I am the leader, and the life of competition.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 3 Ys hēi ar a hēi, 95
er a hēi, nis medi.
- 7 Dīr ffradyr yn i ffradri,
posveirð bronrein a ðyvi :
- 8 Aðevhont, uch með lestri,
y gwnahont gam varðoni. 100
- 9 A geisont *ged*, nis deubi,
10 heb gyvreith, heb raith rhoði ;
a gwedy hynn, digoni
- 11 brithvyd, o vryd dyvysci, 104
na *da*, na heðwch, *ni'w bi*.
Ervyn : *ot erchych* ni'th vi,
- 12 Rēen rymawyr weði :
- 13 Rhag ing, rhy'm'gwares moli 108
Brenhin gogoniant, *an* Rhi.
A'm go'gyvarch un celvyð :—
- 14 "A weleist, gadarn arglwyð, 111
ðarogan Buðiant Uffern?—
HIC NEMO PROGENIEM."
- 16 Dillyngwyd torv *av'lawen*,
per Domini virtutem :
Eu caethnawd a *gowyllis*— 116
- 17 *Sic salvi ipsi* estis.
A chyn bo un bai arnoch,
- 18 ter-wyn boch i Ðuw diheu. 119
- 19 A chyn y mynhwyv i'm dervyn cleu,
cyn del ewynvriw ar vying'eneu,
20 cyn vying'hyvalleu ar P'atheu pren,
21 boed i'm heneid y da gy'veðeu. 123
A'breið a'm dy-weid P'ythyr P'yvreu
- 22 *vod* cystuð gwedy gwely angheu.
A'r sawl a gicleu vym'arð gyvreu,
- 24 rhy'phrynwynt wlad nev, aðev goreu. P

TALIESIN'S BARDIC LORE

You can sow what you will, 95
for all you sow, you will not reap.
To the frate in the friary a troop
of swollen-breasted bards do come.
They admit, over the mead cups, that
they cultivate the muse irregularly. 100
They that seek a boon shall not have it,
regardless of law, and the rule of giving ;
and they that seek thereafter to create
mischief, from sheer love of anarchy,
shall have, nor presents, nor peace. 105
Supplicate : if you ask for what you cannot
have, the Lord will bear in mind your prayer.
When hard pressed, I have found relief in
worshipping the King of Glory, our Father.
An ingenious man greets me thus : 110
“ Hast thou seen, mighty master, the pro-
phesy concerning the Gain of Hell?—
THERE, NO ONE (BEARS AN) OFFSPRING.”
A miserable crowd was set free
by the merit of the Lord, 115
who dowered their bonded state—
thus are ye yourselves saved.
And before ye have any failing,
may ye be fervent to the true God.
And before I wish for a speedy end ; 120
before I foam at the mouth ; and
before my association with the boards,
may my soul enjoy the good festivals.
Scarcely do books tell me that there
will be suffering after the bed of death. 125
And such as have heard my bardic lore,
let them secure heaven, the happiest home. P

ADDWYNEU Taliessin.

- A**ÐWYN rin, penyd *grin* yn rhyred ;
 arall aÐwyn, pan vyð dy'm'gwarded.
- 8 AÐwyn með, nwy gomeð o gyffred ;
- 23 arall aÐwyn, y'am gyrrn cyv'vved. 4
 AÐwyn *warthegyð*, Nuð, *ar* breið nav ;
- 25 arall aÐwyn, hael wyl o *lud* hav.
 AÐwyn aeron amser cynhaeav ;
 arall aÐwyn, gwenith ar galav. 8
- 27 AÐwyn heul yn *uchel* yn nwyvre ;
 arall aÐwyn, rhythad hwyr, a'i ðe.
- 9 AÐwyn *amws* myng'vras y mangre ;
- 2 arall aÐwyn, march di'lyw, hwe. 12
 AÐwyn cant ac ariant am'aerwy ;
 arall aÐwyn, i vorwyn, modrwy.
- 4 AÐwyn cryr, ar lan Ilyr, ban Iianhwy ;
 arall aÐwyn, gwylein yn gwarwy. 16
- 5 AÐwyn marchawg ac eurgalch gylchwy ;
 arall aÐwyn, aÐwyn yn adwy.
 AÐwyn Einawn, meðig i liaws ;
- 7 arall aÐwyn, cellawr hael, hynaws. 20
 AÐwyn Mei i gogeu ac eaws ;
 arall aÐwyn, pan vyð *hinon* haws.
- 9 AÐwyn *rhiein*, a pherffeith neithawr ;
 arall aÐwyn, cyv'lwyn a garhawr. 24
 AÐwyn bryd wrth benyd periglawr ;
- 11 arall aÐwyn, dy ðwyn yn allawr.
 AÐwyn með yng'hynTED i gerðawr ;
- 12 arall aÐwyn, am dervyn torv vawr. 28
 AÐwyn cleir catholig yn eglwys ;
 arall aÐwyn, hyneiv neuadwys.

The pleasant things of Taliesin.

PLEASANT the feeling that penance kills excess ;
pleasant, too, will be the hour of deliverance.
Pleasant is mead ; none will refuse it with reason :
Pleasant too around the horns to drink together. 4
Pleasant herdsman is Nuð over the Lord's flock ;
pleasant, too, a generous feast of the summer's
Pleasant are fruits in harvest time ; [wealth.
pleasant, too, is wheat on the stalk. 8
Pleasant is the sun on high in the sky ; p., too,
is his looming large of an evening at his setting.
Fine is the long-maned stallion in the stud, 11
and pleasant the horse that is quiet without a bit.
Pleasant is a bracelet and necklace of silver :
pleasant, too, to a maid is a wedding ring. 14
Fair is the heron on the tidal reach at its
flooding, & beautiful are the gulls at play.
Comely is the knight with gold-enamelled shield ;
and blest is the merciful in the breach. 18
Pleasant is Einon, a physician to many ; pleasant,
too, a generous, good-natured cellarer.
Pleasant is May to cuckoos and nightingales ;
pleasant, too, when summer is more advanced. 22
Pleasant is a bride and a perfect wedding feast ;
pleasing, too, is a betrothal to one that is loved.
Noble the resolution under the penance of the
priest, and blest thine offering unto the altar. 26
Pleasant is mead, within the court, to the minstrel ;
p., too, to be beyond the edge of a great crowd.
Delightful are the broad-minded clerics of a church,
and pleasing the elders of an assembly. 30

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 8 Að·wyn plwyv cym·rwyv, Dwyv a'i towys ;
arall að·wyn, amser paradwys. 32
- 15 Að·wyn Iloer, Ilewychawd yn elvyð ;
arall að·wyn pan da ðym·govyð.
Að·wyn hav ac arav *hwyr* hirðyð ;
- 17 arall að·wyn, a·threið a geryð. 36
Að·wyn blodeu ar warthav perwyð ;
arall að·wyn, a·chre cerenhyð.
- 19 Að·wyn di·dryv *i* ewig ac elein ;
arall að·wyn, cynawr a·m harwein. 40
- 20 Að·wyn Iuarth, pan Iwyð i genhin ;
arall að·wyn, cadavarth yn egin.
- 21 Að·wyn eðystr yng·hebystr Iledrin ;
arall að·wyn, cyweithas brenhin. 44
- 23 Að·wyn glew, nwy go·leith go·gyweg ;
arall að·wyn, *i* ellein *gallineb*.
- 24 Að·wyn grug pan vytho ehöeg ;
arall að·wyn, morva i wartheg. 48
- 25 Að·wyn dymhor, pan dynn Ioi laeth ;
arall að·wyn, *enwyn* maeronaeth.
- 26 Ac yssyð i mi að·wyn nid gwaeth, 51
a·thal *llawen* vüal wrth dal meðweith.
- 27 Að·wyn *i* bysc y Ilyn y Ilywiawd ;
- 10 arall að·wyn, gor·alw gwaryhawd. 54
- 2 Að·wyn gair a leveir y Drindawd ;
arall að·wyn, penyd i bechawd.
- 3 *Ys* að·wynhav o bob að·wyndawd,
caffel cerenhyð Dovyð ðyðbrawd. 58

THE PLEASANT THINGS OF TALIESIN

- Delightful are a united people, God leading it ;
delightful too the age of innocence. 32
- Pleasant the moon that shines on earth ;
pleasant, too, when the good you recall.
- Pleasant is summer, & the lingering dusk of a long
day ; pleasant, too, the communion thou lovest. 36
- Beautiful are the flowers on the fruit-trees,
and delightful the budding of friendship.
- Pleasant is solitude to the roe and fawn ;
pleasant, too, a huntsman to guide me. 40
- Pleasant the garden when vegetables flourish ;
and sweet the charlock in young corn.
- Pleasant the charger that is bridled ;
pleasant, too, the fellowship of a King. 44
- Glorious the brave whom indecision will not destroy ;
glorious, too, his splendid *circumspection*.
- Pleasant the heath when it is green ;
pleasant, too, the meadow to the cows. 48
- Pleasant the season when calves draw milk ;
pleasant, too, the butter-milk of the dairy.
- And what is to me no less pleasant,
the guerdon of a full horn beside the mead-vat. 51
- Pleasant to the fish the water he steers in :
pleasant, too, to call decisively for the play. 54
- Pleasant the message the Trinity delivers ;
pleasant, too, (that there is) a penance for sin.
- The pleasantest of every pleasant thing —
the assured friendship of the Lord at the last. 58

Kanu Owein Gwyned.

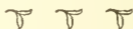
- U**RIEN yr Echwyð, 1
 haelav ðyn bedyð !
- 57 Ll̄aws a roðyð,
 15 i ðynion elvyð. 4
 Mal y cynullyð,
 16 yð *ad*wesceryð.
 Ll̄awen, beirð bedyð,
 tra vo dy vuchyð. 8
- 17 Ys mawr ll̄ewenyð,
 gan glodvan, clod rhyð :
- 18 Ys mwy gogoniant—
 boð Urien, a'i blant. 12
 Ev yn arbennig,
 goruchel wledig—
 dinas pellennig—
 ceimad cyntëig. 16
- Lloegrwys a'i gwyðant,
 pan ym'adroðant.
 Angheu a gawsant,
 a mynych goðiant— 20
 ll̄osci eu trevred,
 a dwyn eu tuðed.
- Gorvlwng o golled,
 a mawr ang'hyffred ; 24
 heb gaffel gwared
 rhag Urien Rheged.
- Rheged ðiffreidad, 27
 clodvawr angor gwlad !
 Boð yssyð arnad,
 o bob erglywad. 30

The praise of Owain Gwyned.

URIEN, (lord) of the West,
and most generous Christian !
Very many things thou givest
to the men of the world. 4
As soon as thou gatherest,
thou scatterest again.
Joyful, Christian bards will be,
while thy life endures. 8
A great joy is liberal
praise from the famed.
But greater glory is the
favour of Urien & his sons. 12
He is our leader,
and sovereign ruler—the
strong shield of the stranger,
and foremost champion. 16
The ILoegrians shall know it,
when they come to negotiate.
Slaughter they have suffered,
and frequent tribulation : 20
the burning of their homesteads,
& the taking of their coat of mail.
Very sullen (are they),
from loss and great hardship, 24
without finding deliverance
from Urien of Rheged.
Rheged's Protector, and 27
glorious Anchor of the country !
Thou hast the good-will
of every tongue that is heard. 30

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- Dwys dy beleidrad,
ban ergyryð gad. 32
- 58 Cad, ban ðy·gyrchyð,
gwynieith a wneyð.
- 2 Tenid tei cyn dyð,
rhag uð yr Echwyð— 36
- 3 yr Echwyð teccav,
a·i dynion haelav.
Gnawd Eingl heb waesav
- 4 am dëyrn glewhav, 40
Glewhav eisillyð—
- 5 ti oreu yssyð ;
A vu, or a vyð—
- 6 ni·th oes gystedlyð. 44
Ban dremher arllaw,
ehelaeth dy braw :
gnawd gwyleð a thaw
am dëyrn gognaw. 48
- Am·danat gwyrtheð,
llïaws maranheð,
Eurdëyrn Gogleð—
unben tëyrneð. 52



Rhun ap Owein Gwyned.

- Y**N i enw Ev, wledig nev or·chorðion, 1
rhy·chanav, rhy·chwynav yn dragon.
- 64 Gwrthodes o·gyv·res gweryðon ; 3
llïaws gryð Run ab nuð o lwyth Mon.
- 2 Ni or·uchav cerð beirð i o·verthon :
Rhyveð vael a ryð hael lywyðon. 6

THE PRAISE OF OWEIN GWYNEDD

Serious are thy spear-thrusts, 31
when instigating the fight :
when thou enterest the list
thou dost effect deliverance.

Houses were set on fire, ere dawn, 35
from dread of the Lord of the West.
The West is most fair,
and her men most generous. 38

The Angles are habitually unreliable
on behalf of a prince that is very brave.

Very brave are thy sons,
but thou art the best. 42

Among those who were, or will be,
thou hast not a peer.

Upon close observation, 45
wide is thy experience ; (though)
modesty and silence are usual
about the activity of a prince. 48

Thou art clothed in virtues,
like sand in number.

Thou art the golden ruler of Gogleð,
and supreme head of princes. 52



XII

Elegy to Rhun, son of O. Gwyned.

IN His name, the Lord of Heaven's glorious 1
company, I will extol, I will lament our leader.
He rejected the order of celibates ; the people
sigh for Rhun, son of the lord of Mona's race. 4
The bards' art cannot over-exalt his fine gifts :
Wondrous the bounty which generous leaders bestow.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 64 Un lle—rhy·gethlyð leithig—rhy·ðlyav ;
 4 rhy·chanav i wledig ; 8
 i wlad, tudwed er·grynig,
 nim gwel ; nis gwnav o'r newig.
- 6 An·hawð wng dy·o'llwng ad·loneð :
 Ev diffyg yn gwledig—ni orweð : 12
 Edrychwn ad·wyth trwm uð Gwyneð ;
 8 yn i vyw nis henyw buð or beð.
 Ni ðygner a hoffer : wy buchynt
 galettach, aruthrach deith hael hynt. 16
- 10 Twrv pressen tra Phryden ry·phryder ;
 Go·hoew lurigawr a ry·lyccrer.
 A ry·tharvant lawr a ry·varnher :
- 12 Rhy·varn pawb, yng·wrthawd, ban glywher
 am yn ceimat yn ing nad ad·alwer. 21
 Nid ingwr di·law roed yn·aered,
 14 namyn gwas graid i wrhyd a o·drawed.
 Ys eithawg o wallawd yn llywed, 24
 hwyr weðwid o belid ar·debed.
- 16 Ni ovyn i nebun a wnelher ;
 Nid i mi nac i chwi y dar·wetter.
 Tew vydav ðiweð hav nis cynnyð, 28
 18 namyn *awel yr oerwel ai diffyð.*
Os Owein ni wyrein or newyð,
 whegach *vyð iðaw* genaw i henyð.
- 19 Hweðleuawg drwyðedawg draethodyn— 32
 tēyrneð yng·Wyneð nwy fferchyn.
- 20 Með vâg, tebig heul hâv huenyð,
 soneð gan mwyhav. Ys cenhedyð
 gân ðoeth y·gan lwys veib eilassav. 36
- 22 Bint bydevi derw itti bryd hâv.
 Pryd mab llēenawg am aeth buarth [tarth :
 am wawl, gwyn wawl Run : mal gwyn gnes
- 25 Tra gynnys, yð enghis heb warchawd : 40

ELEGY TO RHUN

One place, the master-singer's seat, is my right ; 7
I will sing to the Gwledig ;
His country, a state perturbed,
will not see me ; I cannot revive it.
It is a hard task to restore cheerfulness :
Our Ruler is failing ; he cannot rest. 12
Behold the heavy misfortune of Gwyneð's lord, who,
in his day, will derive no comfort from the grave.
There is no tiring of the loved : *we* could wish for them
the more arduous, more eventful journey of a long life.
The present turmoil, beyond Prydein, causes anxiety ;
shining coats of mail will be tarnished.
They who disturb the country will be judged severely :
These all will condemn, when they hear 20
of our champion's abiding distress.
It is no helpless stripling that was consigned to earth,
but a youth, of ardent heroism, who had been smitten.
Dolorous from loss is our leader, who
has been lately bereft of a radiant countenance. 25
He asks of no one what is being done ;
Neither to me nor to you does he speak much.
A crowded hive in autumn does not increase ;
rather *the blast of the cold destroys it*.
If Owein cannot renew his vigour, dearer 30
to him the whelp of his old stock becomes.
The gossipy, recitative verse of the roving bard
the princes in Gwyneð would not honour.
As the sun promotes summer haze, so mead promotes
chatter for the most part. Thou permittest 35
a wise lay by the serious sons of harmony.
Let them be as oak-swarms to thee in summer time.
The literateur will sing of the camp's sorrow—of the
radiance, the bright radiance of Rhun : like the mist's
luminous mantle, while rising, he disappeared unnoticed :

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 64 A chleð cleðivad i glevychawd. 41
 26 Nid am·dyrr i *gedwyr* i ledrad,
namyn yng·hyd ym·yscwyd y gy·wlad.
 65 Rhy·dyllyn, tal·*vriwyn* yscwydawr— 44
 rhactaleu, *bron·doreu* y marchawr.
 2 O *garnial* drwst Morial *dychwelud* :
 Rhythgar *llu*, rhi·allu y Gwyndyd. 47
 3 Rhy·wystlan, gweinyðan yn Goludawg,
 o Glwyd *ael* hyd *yng·haer* ved Carawg.
 Ys dadl *hir* Pen prys *dir* : An·wallawg
 5 tēyrneð dewr *Wyned* dangweðawg. 51

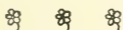


Arðwvre Rheged.

- A**R·ÐWYRE Rheged, rhyseð rhieu, 1
ev it rhy·gostis, cyn *ni's* bwy teu.
 61 Gnissynt gad lavnawr, a chad vereu ;
 3 Gwysynt wyr y·dan gylchwyawr ffleu, 4
 a chwyðyn yn gelein *rhag* yn martheu.
 5 Ni mad vrwydrwyd rhi, ac ni·d mad geu ;
 yð armerth gwledig wrth gym·riweu ;
 Neu's gyrr i·w neges i geisadon. 8
 7 Gō·chawn varthawd mwth—mollawd wirion ;
 O dreigl dylawr daw *adwythawl* donn.
 9 Ni ðoeth Wlff yn·hrais a·r *weis* i alon,
 oni ðoeth Urien ðyð yn Aeron. 12
 10 Nu, bu gy·vergryr ; ni chymriwys
 dalgynawd Urien y·rag Powys :
 11 Ni bu hy·vrwd bryd echen yrrwys.
 Hyveið a orðin, a·r Ilu towys : 16

ELEGY TO RHUN

With the sword was smitten his dolour. 41
His warriors do not break loose into theft,
but, unitedly, they give the March a shaking.
They pierce, they shiver the edges of the shields ; the
frontlets, & breast-plates of the horses. From the 45
caracolling of the tumult of Morial thou hast returned.
The men of the Venedotian sovereign power love thee.
They pledge themselves to serve our prince, 48
from the Clwydian border to the grave-fort of Carawg.
Long disputed is the land of Penprys. Faultless
are the brave princes of peaceful Gwynedd. 51



The Rising of Marchia.

THE rising of Marchia, the excess of its chiefs, 1
cost thee dearly, before it was thine.
They brandished the blades and spears of war :
They summoned, under the spreading shields, men 4
who fell dead before our blows. *It was*
impolitic to fight the sovereign, & *is* to be false,
(for) a ruler prepares retributive penalties :
He will send on his business the tax gatherers. 8
Quickly the blow will fall, even upon the innocent :
From the piling of taxes comes destruction.
Ranulf did not molest his enemies,
until *Urien*, one day, arrived in *Aeron*. 12
Then there was a conflict, (but) it did not bruise
the uplifted front of *Urien* before *Powys* :
Nor was there enthusiasm about the men (*R.*) sent.
Hyveið presses forward, and leads the host : 16

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 61 *Nu*, dewr yw yn ym·deith taith gwyð awwys :
 Di·vevl y dy·ðwyn a *gynllwynwys* :
- 14 Y·gan waed, Gwyðen *awon luvwys*.
 Gweles Lwyvenyð ; i huðyð gy·grŷn : 20
- 15 yn ði·oed ciliwyd yn eil vehyn.
 Cād, yn Rhyd ar Glwyd, gad ðy·vynner :
- 17 Cād, ger llawr Brehyr, gad hir eurer :
 Cād, ym·hrysc *Alun*, gad oleuir : 24
- Cād, yn Aberi, oed gyvranc ðir—
 briwed mawr gludweir ; yng·weith Pen Coed,
- 20 llwyr y llithr cynran ar or·niant gwaed.
 Adveilaw *yna* wŷn gor·uchyd : 28
- Cyd mynnan Degeingl, eðyl wrthryd,
 22 o ledruð gyvranc ac Wlff yn Rhyd.
 Gwell carher gwledig aned yn uð :
- Prydein ben·berchen brwysclawn ni byð : 32
- 24 neu·d ym·ðug ðillad, a glas *aesawr*,
 a chałch ehöeg wyg mor, *neu* lawr.
- 26 Ar·ðodes vorðwyd dros veirch Maelawr,
 o geneðl Voelyrch, *ynt* mor reidawl. 36
- 62 Hav y·dan aeav, arav yn llaw,
 2 o red a roðwyd i·w harwylaw ;
 a gwest y·dan geirð i·w di·wŷraw ;
 ac hyd orffen byð edrywyð caw. 40
- 4 Byðin yscubawl, dy·hawl *am wed*,
 am ðelw di·lêwr ; am leudired.
- 5 Myvi edrycheis ar weis rhag gwyð,
 peleidr ar yscwyð, yscwyd yn llaw— 44
- 7 Godeu a Rheged yn *cyd·ðulliaw*.
 Myvi a weleis wr—*ceis* ym·uarthawr—
 sarff virein vonheð, senghidyð lawr :
- 9 *Ev* go·wyr ryvel yð ar·gollawr, 48
 ar maint a gollwyd yn argoedawr.

THE RISING OF MARCHIA

Bravely he adventures the pass of the woody ravines :
Without a hitch he carries out *his ambuscades* :
With blood *the streamlet Gwyðen flows*.
He came to ILwyvenyð ; *her* lords tremble, & 20
straightway there was a retreat into another place.
There was, at Rhuðlan, a battle that will be cited :
There was, near the Baron's land, a battle that will be glorified :
There was, in the scrub of *Alun*, a battle that will be trumpeted.
There was, at the Abers, a calamitous event—a great 25
flotilla was broken up : in the fight of Pen Coed
a chief slips fatally on the profusion of blood.
Thereupon the *English* lust of supremacy dies away ;
while their opponents insist on having Tegeingl 29
after the gory enterprise with *Ranulf* at the Ford.
More beloved is the ruler that was born a lord :
Prydein's over-lord is never reckless : 32
He always bears mail, and *shield* of blue,
and armour coloured like sea-weed, or grass.
He casts his thigh over the steeds of Maelor
of the Moelyrch breed : though so mettlesome, 36
summer and winter, they are quiet to handle,
because of the race-course provided to train them,
and the whip-cord, in disgrace, to correct them :
to the end this discipline will be evident. 40
The invading army clamours for a sight,
for the presence of the destroyer, and for open lands.
I watched these men before the brake,
with lances on shoulder, and shield in hand— 44
I watched Godeu and Rheged marshalling together.
I saw the chief—observe him in the camps—
a dragon of fine lineage, the trampler of the land.
He knows, now, something of the war that is lost, 48
and the extent of the loss in the woods.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 62 Minheu ym'or·wyth *vwythus* veðlyn,
 11 gan Hy·veið hy·wr—hy·west ðilyn.
Ev ni's cenhedis gyscawd gweithen, 52
 13 ði threchu rhieu, rhadeu llawen.
Ys gwasawg gwlad ða wrthvrwydr *Urien*.
 14 Oni vallwyv, yn hen,
 i'm dygn angheu anghen, 56
 15 ni byðiv un ðirwen
 oni volwyv *Urien*. ♪

Cad Trwyn Moelvre . II57.

- Y**N enw Gwledig nev, Goludawg— 1
 hyd·drevnid vywyd cynheilwawg ;
 29 Eirig i rethren rieðawg ;
 23 Rhÿð gâr ryvel gor·herwawg. 4
Ev differth að·vwyn lann lleinawg ;
 25 a thorhid un hwch ardwyawg.
 Hil dy·chvervyð o vrenkin—*avi gym-*
 26 *horth* o borth mawr Cerdin. 8
 30 Ni chymeryn gyv·erbyn,
 Cyvoeth cyweithyð Clydwyn.
 2 Digonwyd, *ades* y llynghes, o beleidr
 o blygheid bren *mês* : 12
Gwerinos au rhygyrches :
 3 Prenial i bawb eu trachwres.
 Ang·hyvnein o gadeu ðyignes Wallawg :
 Gwell gwyðawg nog aches. 16
 5 Cadr a gyngres, o achles gwawd
 gognaw, a ðivrawd ðigones.
 Cad, ym'ro Trwyn *Moelvre*, drwy bres
 7 marwawl, an·veidrawl y trancres. 20
 8 Cadr a'u cym·riwllwy, ganhawon !
 Cahad cad ; cryned yn Aeron.

THE RISING OF MARCHIA

Meanwhile I quaff freely the luxurious mead
with Hyveið, the bold, who follows hospitality.
(Hyveið) never allows the shadow of war 52
to damp the high spirits of his chiefs.

Subdued is the rich country that opposes Urien.

Until I fall, in old age,
into my dire, inevitable end, 56
I shall have no pleasure
but in the praise of Urien. ♪

The Battle of Trwyn Moelvre. XI

IN the name of Heaven's puissant Ruler, 1
(the Prince) orders an exemplary life ;

Gleaming his commanding lance ;
Our chief loves much-harrying war. 4

He defended the bonnie bank of ILeinawg ;
and a protecting ship was destroyed.

He meets a king's descendant, with a host
from the great port of Cerdin. 8

These could not sustain the attack of
the power of the chieftain Clydwyn.

Every man who left the fleet had his fill
of darts, from the bent oak-bow— 12

The common people rushed upon them :

A shrine to all is ambition.

Loss of numbers by warfare afflicted Gwallawg.

Better a bosky place than a roadstead. 16

A strong combination, inspired by stirring
ballads, destroys his plans.

In the dale, near Moelvre point, they fought through
the deadly scrub—very long the death roll.

The brave crush them, the dogs ! 21

After the battle there was trembling in Aeron.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 30 Cad yn Arđunwen : ac Aeron
 10 eiđawed : Eured dy veibon : 24
 Cad yng hoed— beiđyđ boen rhon,
 11 đyđ ni veđyieist dy alon.
 Cád, yn rhagwyđ, awr a Mabon :
 12 Nid adrawd adrawd achubion. 25
 13 Caer Wenvrewi : arestwng hon
 Loegr sađwyawg i hav-niđeron.
 14 Cád, yn Rhos terra gan wawr, oeđ
 hwyscđion : gwragawn yn wrawl.
 15 Yn echreu yng heniad garw awr, 33
 rhieu, o ryvel, rhyđifawr.
 16 Gwyr a ođev warth ingawg— Haearn-
 17 eiđ a Hyveiđ, a Gwallawg. 36
 18 Owein, o Vaelgyning đevawd,
 a wnaho beithwyr gorweiđawg.
 19 Ym Hen Coed, cleđyvein :
 atvyđ calaneđ gwain, 40
 20 a brain ar đisperawd.
 Ym Hrydein, yn Eiđin, yn ađevawg ; yng
 21 Avran, yn advan Brecheinawg.
 22 Yn i erbyn, yn yscwn yn gaenawg,
 ni wyl was— ni welas Wallawg. 45

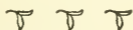


Stwath Llwyrain.

- 70 **T**ORE đyw Sadwrn cad vawr a vu, 1
 or pan đwyre haul hyd i geru.
 60 Dygryswys IFlamđwyn yn bedwar llu :
 Godeu a Rheged yn cyđ-đuđu. 4
 11 Dyvwy o Argoed hyd Arvynyđ :
 12 ni cheffid aros hyd yr un dyđ.

THE BATTLE OF TRWYN MOELVRE

(There was) a battle at Arðunwen, and Aeron was
seized. Thy sons were covered with glory. 24
In the woods, thou darest the lance's thrust :
That day thou didst not mind thine enemies.
In the first brake there was a conflict with Mabon :
Censure doth not mention the successes. 28
The fort of Gwenvrewi—this doth humble
England's pike-armed legions.
Then, at dawn, there was great havoc at Rhos
y Cra : (the men) press forward bravely. 32
At the first sound of the fierce warhoop,
Chieftains, by combat, are snuffed out.
(Aye), heroes undergo the deathly shame—
Haearneið, & Hyveið, & Gwallawg. 36
Owein, from Maelconian habit,
doth lay the intruders prostrate.
At Pen Coed they fight with swords ;
A time of lively carnage follows, 40
with crows wheeling (overhead).
In Prydein, in Eiðin he is acknowledged (chief) ;
also at Gavran on the Brecon border.
Against him he will see no youth rising in a
state of incrustation—he never saw Gwallawg. 45



The Battle of Utwybein.

ONE Saturday morning there was a big battle, 1
from the rising to the setting of the sun.
Flamðwyn made haste with four companies—
Shropshire & the March marshall together.
He marches from Argoed to Arvynyð, 5
without a halt the whole day long.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 60 Gor-elwis IFlamδwyn, vawr drebystawd,
 13 a δoδynt yng·wystl— a ynt *warawd*? 8
 14 Attebwys Owein, dir·wein flossawd,
 na δoδynt, na·d ynt, na bint *warawd*.
 16 A theirei i vab *Hoel*, bei gymwyawg
 lew, cyn a·s talei, o wystl, nebawd. 12
 17 Gor-elwis Urien, uδ yr Echwyδ :—
 “ O byδ gyvarvod am gerenhyδ,
 18 “ dyrchavwn eiδoed oδ·uch mynyδ —
 19 “ Cym·horthwn wyneb oδ·uch ymyl— 16
 “ Dyrchavwn beleidr, uch-ben *mal* gwŷr,
 21 “ a chyrchwn IFlamδwyn yn i lŷyδ,
 “ a llawdwn, ac ev a·i gyweithyδ.”
 22 A rhag gwaith llwyvein 20
 bu llawer celein ;
 23 a·r *creu*, rhuδei vrain,
 rhag rhyvel gwyrein.
 24 Gwerin a grys wys gan or·nenyδ ; 24
 a rhinav, vlwyδyn, na·d wy gynnyδ.
 25 Oni vallwyv, yn hen,
 i·m dygn angheu anghen,
 26 ni byddiv un dir·wen
 oni volwyv Urien. Ɔ 29

Trawsганu Rynan Gartwyn
 mab Brochbael.

- RYNAN, cad diffred, 1
 a·m ar·lloves ged :
 45 Cant gem *i·m* o·dyged,
 11 *y·wrth* or·gun trevred : 4
 12 Cant gorwyδ, cyv·red,
 arian eu tuδed :

BATTLE OF LLWYVEIN

Flamðwyn, of mighty swagger, demanded aloud 7
 if they had come as hostages, & are submissive?
 Owein, of cleaving stroke, answered that
 they had not—they neither do, nor will submit; 10
 & his son, Hoel, vowed he would be shrived
 a hero, or ever he would give a single hostage.
 (Then) Urien, Lord of the West, proclaimed aloud:—
 “If there is to be an unfriendly meeting, 14
 “let us hoist our banner on the mountain top—
 “let us lift our eyes over the border—
 “let us, with spears overhead, like men
 “attack Flamðwyn among his host, 18
 “and kill, both him & his companions.”

And because of the Battle of Llwyvein
 there was many a corse;
 and *gore* crimsoned the crows 22
 before the raising of the war.

The people fled along the ravines, but I prophesy that, for a year, they will not prosper.
 Until I fall, in old age, 26
 into my dire, inevitable end,
 I shall take no pleasure,
 but in the praise of Urien. † 29

I A “Satire” on Rynan
 ap Dweïn Gwynedd.

RYNAN, the bulwark of battle, 1
 has bestowed benefits *on me*:
 A hundred gems have been brought
 from the overlord of the province; 4
 A hundred horses, which run
 abreast, in silver trappings;

BOOK OF TALIESIN

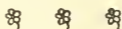
- 45 Cant Ilenh ehöeg,
o un gaen gyffred : 8
Cant arneff arved
- 14 a phym pwnt canted :
Cleddyv—gwain galched—
- 15 Dwrn moel, gwell honed. 12
Cant cywrauc, caffad ;
- 16 *phob* cas an'elwad.
Cadelling ystrad
gan gad yscogad. 16
- 17 Cad ar Wy, cyrched
gwaewawr evrived.
Gwenhwys a laðed
- 18 a llavn gwyrllfed. 20
Cad y Mon vawrdeg,
erglyd, a vroled.
- 19 Tra Menei myned,
gwârwyd a orgred. 24
- 20 Cad yng Hrûg Dyved—
Aircol ar gerðed ;
- 21 ac ni ryweled
i viw, rhag ffrîw neb. 28
Mab Brochvael, broled
- 22 Dyved, i eiðuned.
Cernyw cyvarched ;
- 23 ni mawl ieu dynghed. 32
Dys'twg ang'hyffred,
yn yð ar'ialed.
- 24 Mygr cynnelw Cynan,
cadeu ergynran. 36
- 25 A'i lew lavn llydan,
cyvwyrein vawrdan.
- 26 Cad yng wlad Brachan,
cadlan go'daran. 40

SATIRE ON KYNAN AP O. G.

A hundred green tents, with every
covering complete in one piece. 8
A hundred armlets, studded with
five spikes in their rim-bands.
A sword—its scabbard had been enamell-
ed, the handle was deemed better plain.
A hundred combats took place, & 13
every enemy was confounded.
The Cadellian Strath
by war was stirred. 16
Countless spearmen repaired
to the battle on the Wye.
The Gwentians were slain
by blood-dripping weapons. 20
A battle in Mon, the very fair
and cosy *isle*, was vaunted.
While crossing the Menei, the rash
were brought to their senses. 24
At the battle of Crûg Dyved,
when Aircol was on his travels,
the cows were not seen
being driven away. 28
Let the son of Brochvael boast
of Dyved (the object of) his desire.
Let him greet Cornwall, who
will not praise the yoke of fate. 32
He undergoes hardship
where (the land) has been laid waste.
Glorious the example of Kynan, who
participates actively in battles. 36
And his brave, broad sword
gives rise to a conflagration.
At the battle in the land of Brachan,
the battlefield reverberates. 40

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- Tëyrneð truan ! 41
 46 crinynt rhag Cynan.
 Ilywid yr ymwan,
 2 eisor Ilywethan 44
 gynghein gymangan :
 3 Nerthiad gwlad lydan.
 Cigleu ymðiðan—
 pawb yn eu cochvan, 48
 4 cylch byd go·chwiban—
 ‘Ceith ynt ði Gynan.’



Ɖadolwch Urien.

- L**LYWYÐ e·chassav ; 1
 Mi ni·w dir·mygav :
 65 Urien a gyrchav,
 7 iðaw yd ganav. 4
 Pan ðel vying·waesav,
 8 cynnwys a gaffav ;
 a·r parth goreuhav,
 y·dan eillassav. 8
 9 Nuð mawr y·m dawr byth—
 i helyth a volav ;
 10 neu·d av attaðunt,
 ganthunt y byðav. 12
 Neu chyrchav Ogleð,
 11 a·r mei dëyrneð.
 Cyn bei i·m lawreð,
 12 gwnelwn gyng·wystleð. 16
 Neu·d rhaid i·m hoffeð—
 Urien na·m gomeð.

SATIRE ON KYNAN AP O. G.

The wretched princes 41
withered before Kynan.
He controls the fighting,
as a piece of gut 44
harmonizes the orchestra.
He is the stay of *England*.
I heard the talk of all
in their gory beds : 48
Round the world it goes whispering :
The Captives are Cynan's.

X

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The Reconciliation with Urien.

THE Chief I do not dislike, 1
nor do I disregard him.
To Urien I will go—
to him will I sing. 4
When my warrant comes,
I shall have abundance ;
and that the best, under
the influence of harmony. 8
For the great lord I ever care—
his people I will praise :
I will go to them ;
with them I will stay. 12
I will set out to Gogleð,
and its territorial lords.
Before I go to my grave 15
I would have an understanding :
I cannot live without friendship—
Urien do not repel me.

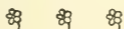
BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 13 *Plwyvenyð direð—*
ys meu eu rheuveð— 20
ys meu eu gwylteð—
- 14 *ys meu eu Pareð—*
ys meu 'r delideu
a'u gorevrasseu. 24
- 15 *Cav veð o vual,*
a thal di'eiseu,
gan dëyrn goreu—
- 16 *haelav rhygigleu.* 28
Tëyrned pob iaith
it oñ yð ynt geith.
- 17 *Rhagor, yd gwynir,*
ys hir dy o'leith. 32
- 18 *Cyd ev mynasswn,*
gweu dyliv hendrwm.
Nid oeð gwell gerwn,
- 19 *cyn ni's gwybyðwn :* 36
Weithon y gwelav
y maint a garav.
- 20 *Namyn er Duw uchav,*
ni's di'ovrydav. 40
- 21 *Dy dëyrn veibon—*
haelav dyniadon,
canant y hyscyrron,
- 22 *yn'hireð eu galon.* 44
Oni vallwyv, yn hen,
- 23 *yn'ygn anghau anghen.*
ni byðiv un ðirwen
oni volwyv Urien. 48



THE RECONCILIATION

The districts of Ilwyvenyð— 19
mine their store—
mine their wild places—
mine their cultivated parts—
mine their metals,
and their produce rich. 24
I shall get mead in my horn,
and gifts in abundance,
from the best of princes—
the most generous known. 28
The chiefs of every race
to thee are all subjects.
Still, there is grief, because
thy death is long deferred ; 32
though I could wish to weave
(for thee) the web of extreme age.
There was none I loved better,
though I knew it not ; 36
It is but now I find
how great is my love.
Except for God, Most High,
I will not renounce my love. 40
Thy princely sons are
the most generous of men :
their darts go whizzing
into the lands of the enemy. 44
Until I fall, in old age,
into my dire, inevitable end,
I shall take no pleasure,
but in the praise of Urien. 48



Glastawd Taliessin.

- A**ENNADEU doðynt, 1
 mor-hynt anvonawg :
 30 Dy·gawn i'n letcynt,
 meilynt yn ceudawd. 4
 26 Gnawd rhwyv yn heli,
 beli *a'i* gwirawd.
 31 Gnawd yscwyd yscawn
 *yng·hamaw*n yscawd. 8
 2 Gnawd gwyth ac adwyth o yspyðawd
 gaer : anav gant, maer mawrhawd :
 Ar Venei *ev* crai gyvlogawd ;
 4 Mwy, ar Gonwy, gwynieith gwnahawd. 12
 Ar oed, llwyth dy·reith anav barawd ;
 6 o heyrn er·chwyrn eðyrn ðyrnawd.
 Try·dyllyn dra·chor, dorch dron, lüawg :
 8 llynghes yn aches, armes cyn brawd. 16
 Tri diweð yd gad am dri phriawd gwlad ;
 9 Gwnahad brad *i* veðrawd :
 Trin, o bop tu, rhy·phorthawd,
 10 ac Eryri vre varnhawd. 20
 llu o Seis ac Ynt ðygn·awd yng·Hymry :
 12 yð erhy a weðrawd.
 Rhag *Hywel*, *berwid llid brawd* ;
 o varan tan·re tarðawd.
 13 Cadwaladr a·i cwyn ; 25
 briwhawd bron o vrwyn.
 14 Gwellt llawr *an·rheithawd* ;
 a tho tei, tandawd.
 15 At·vyð rhyveðawd—
 gwr gan verch i vrawd. 30

The Lament of Taliesin.

THE envoys, sent on a 1
 sea expedition, have come :
 We shall obtain news,
 which will sustain our hearts. 4
 Oars are used to the sea—
 war will prove it true.
 The shield is wont to be slight
 in the scathe of combat. 8

A thorn stockade commonly causes anger & hurt—
 a hundred inflictions its steward shall vaunt :
 On the Menei he makes a fresh concord ; 11
 What is more, on the Conwy, he effects deliverance.

In time, the clan will right the injury inflicted—
 with swift blades it will hail strokes : [cordon :
 They broke through the outer circle, a vast, strong
 The fleet in the roadstead is an omen of doom.

Three princes of the land met their ends—
 their betrayal led to the grave : 18
 (Rhodri) supports the war on every side,
 and Eryri's height decides.

He afflicts the host of Saxons and Northmen
 in Wales ; their widows only are left. 22
 Against *Hywel a brother's hatred seethes* :
Because of greed a conflagration springs up.

Cadwaladr weeps for (Hywel),
 and breaks his heart from grief.
 He lays waste the cornfields, 27
 and fires the thatch of dwellings.
 There will appear a portent—
 an uncle will lie with his niece. 30

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 31 Dy·vynhyn diriawg, 31
 o lin Anarawd :
 O honaw, tyvhawd
 17 coch gâd ry·bruðawd :
 nid arbed nebawd—
 18 na chevnder na brawd. 36
 Wrth lev corn cadwr
 naw cant, yn avrðwl,
 o bedr-or ðygnawd.
 Dy gôv eizlw i loesion o laswawd ;
 ev rêd wrth a gawð dy geudawd. 41

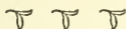


Canu y Medd.

- G**OLYCHAV Wledig pendevigva : 1
 Gwr a gynheil nev, Arglwyð pob tra :
 40 Gwr a wnaeth *diawd* i bawb yn ða ;
 6 Gwr a wnaeth bob llad, ac a·i llwyða. 4
 7 Medhed Maelgwn Von, ac a·n *llonna*
 o·i veðgorn ewyn, gwerlyn gwymha :
 9 a·s cynnull gwenyn, ac ni·s mwynha.
 Með hidleid ! malid volud pob tra. 8
 Llaws creädur, a vâg terra,
 11 a wnaeth Duw i ðyn—*wy* ry·ðonha :
 Rhai drud, a rhai mud, ev a·u mwynha. 11
 Rhai gwyllt, a rhai dôv—Dovyð a·u gwna
 13 yn vwydyð di·*llawd*, hyd vrawd barha :
 Vu ðiwig uðun, yn ðillad yð â.
 14 Golychav Wledig, Pendevig heð,
 i ðillwng Elffin o alltudeð : 16

THE LAMENT OF TALIESIN

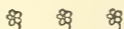
They will call to account this territorial lord, of the line of Anarawd. 31
In consequence of this (sin) will follow the massacre that will make sad— which will spare no one, not even a cousin, or brother. 36
At the blare of the warrior's horn nine hundred, on all sides, will be sadly afflicted.
(My) dirge calls to mind thy sufferings, by going over what grieves thy heart. 41



The Mead-song.

I ADORE the King of the sovereign land ; 1
Him, who supports heaven, the Lord of everything.
He made drink a blessing to all :
He made every good thing, & prospers it. 4
May Maelgwn be lord of Mon, & of what will cheer us
out of his foaming mead-horn, the finest social drink.
The bees store, but they do not enjoy it :
Strained mead inspires the praise of everything. 8
The host of creatures, which the earth fosters,
God made for man, for his welfare :
Some bold, & some timid, man enjoys them.
Some wild & some tame, God provides them 12
for plenteous foods : this goes on for ever.
What was their covering will go into clothing.
I entreat the King, the prince of peace,
to liberate Elffin from his exile : 16

- 16 Gwr a rodes i'm win, cwrw, a med, 17
 a meirch mawr modur, mirein eu gweð.
 A'm rhothwy etwa, mal *ced* ðiweð—
wrth voð Duw, yn rhwyð, trwy enrhydeð,
 bym penhwn calan yng'hyman heð.
 Elffin, varchawg med, hwyr dy ogleð! 22

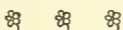


Canu y Twrw.

- Q**ENHYD TRAGYWYÐ! 1
 Ys Tydi a wehyð
 40 ðyliv nos a dyð—
 24 Dyð i'm amodaw; 4
 Nos i'm gorffwysaw:
 25 Maleð ar'vofflawr
 y'wrth Wledig mawr.
 Mawr Ðuw, digones 8
 26 heul hav, a'i rywres:
 ac Ev ðigones
 41 vuð coed a mäes.
 Galwer, yn aches, 12
 ar *i* eilig gymes.
 2 *Gwyl*, er pob neges,
 Dëws dy'm'gwares.
 3 A chyn dybyð byd, 16
 a'i lwytheu yn unvryd,
 ni vellynt ronyn
 4 heb vaeth mechtëyrn.
 Ev a'i sawð yn Ilyn, 20
 5 oni vo egin:

THE MEAD-SONG

Him, who gave me wine, beer, and mead, 17
and big spirited horses in fine condition.
May he grant me further, as a final favour,
by the grace of God, freely, & for honour's sake,
five times five new years of unbroken amity. 21
Elffin, Knight of the mead, late be
thy Northerning.



The Beer-song.

ETERNAL MIND ! 1
't is Thou that weavest
the warp of night & day :
The day for my activities— 4
the night for my rest.
Renewed life, *too*, comes
from the Sovereign Ruler,
Who created the summer sun, 8
with its great heat ;
And ordained the
produce of field & forest.
Call, in the haven, 12
upon His flowing justice.
See ! despite every transaction,
God hath delivered me.
Though the nations of the earth 16
were on one purpose bent,
they could not convert one grain
to malt, without the Lord's fosterage.
The Lord submerges it under
water, until it be all sprouted : 21

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 41 A sawð waith arall, 22
 oni vo yn vall.
- 6 Drewdawd dyðervyð—
 ys gorwag 'r elvyð. 25
- 7 Golcher y llestri—
 byð groew y brecci.
- 8 Pan vo arianell, 28
 dyðycer o gell—
 dyccer rhag rhieu
- 9 i gain gyvedeu ;
 Nis gwrthryn neb deu ; 32
 y *grawn* a'i goreu.
- 10 Duw envyn i noð ;
 yd vyð *wrth* i voð :
- 16 I deithi edmygant ; 36
 yn drylyvn carant.
- 17 Gallawr, gollyngant—
 go·dorrant an·chwant.
 Sy bwl symudant, 40
- 18 ban or·diwel tant.
- 26 Pwy a dal y ceinon?—
 aeth Maelgwn o Von.
- 42 Ev cyrch, cerðorion, 44
 3 seð syberw Sëon.
- 10 Cant calan lonnwys :
 Cant car a'i hyvwys.
- 41 Gorwyth meðw, meðwhawd,
 11 o vynud pycawd. 49
- 10 llariav yw Trindawd :
 14 Hi i hun a'm gwarawd.
- 15 Ni ðigonir nebawd,
 heb gyfoeth y Drindawd. 53

THE BEER-SONG

- He submerges it again 22
until it be all sodden.
The offensive smell will cease—
He will expel that element.
Let the vessels be cleansed, 26
and the wort will be clear.
When the (beer) sparkles brightly,
let it be brought from the cellar, 29
& its fine entertaining qualities
be placed before princes.
No couple will refuse it ; 32
it is derived from grain.
God gave grain its sap,
which pleases Him well ;
And men like its properties, 36
which are loved extra mild :
They bring relaxation of the ener-
gies, and satisfy strong desire :
they banish dullness, 40
when the strings pour forth.
Who will draw the first drinks,
(now that) Maelgwn has left Mona ?
Minstrels will repair to the 44
Court of the lord of Seiont.
Beer has cheered 100 new year (feasts) ;
a hundred friends have toasted it.
It is drinking like a fish 48
that makes the drunkard.
Most gracious is the Trinity,
which will deliver me :
None will be satisfied
without its bounty. 53

Canu Urien.

- Y**NG·OR Bowys, 1
 cân rhychedwys.
 58 Parch, a chynnwys,
 a með veðwys. 5
 15 Meueðwys veð,
 er gor·voleð ;
 a chain direð
 i mi yn rheuved ; 8
 16 a rhyssed mawr
 o eur ogawr ;
Milawr a ched
 17 a gyvrived ; 12
 a'r cyvriviant
 a dorrei whant :
 17 *A·m* whant roði
 er vy Ilochi — 16
 yd lad, yd grûg ;
 19 yd vâg, yd vûg ;
 yd vûg, yd vâg,
 yd lad yn rhag. 20
 20 Rhagweð rothid
 i veirð y byd.
Beirð, yn geugant,
 21 it yd weðant.
Wrth i ewyllis, 25
 Duw rhy·th·beris
 22 yn rihyd gwys,
 rhag ovn dy·brys—
 annogiad cad—
 23 diffreidiad gwlad ; 30

IN PRAISE OF URIEN

In praise of Urien.

14

IN the border of Powys, 1
the muse he maintained.
Respect and plenty,
and mead were his. 4
He stored mead
for great rejoicings ;
And held fair lands
for my welfare, 8
with great abundance
of golden crops.
Beasts, and gifts
were counted out ; 12
and the counting
satisfied desire.
My wants thou suppliest,
in order to cherish me : 16
Thy bounty blesses & increases :
It breeds and lows,
and lows and breeds,
and blesses for ever. 20
Thou didst countenance
the bards of the world :
The *bards*, assuredly,
will do thee homage. 24
Agreeably to his will
hath God raised thee,
to be a ruler of a people
against sudden panic— 28
to be the stimulator of battle,
and the country's defence.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

58	Gwlad diffreidad ;	31
24	Cad annodad. Gnawd am danad, twrw pystylad :	
25	pystylad dwrw, ac yved cwrw.	36
26	Cwrw i'w yved, a chain drevred, a main duðed rhy·m·an·llowed.	40
59	llwyvenyð vann, ac eircheid lann, yn un, trigan.	
2	Am vawr a bychan, mi, Taliessin gan.	44
3	Ys ti a·m diðan, a thi, y goreu, o'r a gogleu, yng·wrhydreu.	48
4	Molav inheu dy weithredu.	
5	Oni vallwyf, yn hên, i'm dygn angheu anghen, ni byðiv un ðirwen,	52
6	oni volwyv Urien.	55

II.

	AC yr un vlyneð, y bu i'n ðar·wleð.	1
59	Gwin am·hall a með— 8 gwerhid ði·gaseð.	4

IN PRAISE OF URIEN

The country has been defend-
ed, and the war ended. 32
Usually, there is around thee
the noise of prancing :
the noise of dancing,
and of drinking beer. 36
Beer for drinking,
a beautiful homestead,
and fine clothing—
these were bestowed on me. 40
Ilwyvenyð's height,
& the suppliants' court
are situated together.
Of great and small, 44
I, Taliesin sing.
Thou dost spoil me :
and, of all I have heard,
thou art the best 48
in deeds of valour.
Then will I praise
thine actions.
Until I fall, in old age, 52
into my dire, inevitable end,
I shall take no pleasure,
but in the praise of Urien. 55

II. ✓

AND the same year 1
we had a great feast.
Plenteous wine and mead
do allay animosity. 4

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 59 Ac *aerwyr* Godeu 5
 9 a heidant vereu,
 a'u penffestineu,
ym'hêg wyðvâeu : 8
 10 *Mâl elhont* aelwyd,
 ðyffynt *ym'hlymnwyd* :
 11 Pawb, a'i varch danaw,
 yn mynaw Godeu. 12
 12 Achwaneg, anaw
 vuð am li, am law.
 Wyth ugein, un Iiw,
 13 o loï a biw : 16
 Biw blith ac ychen
 a phob cain amgen.
 14 Ni byðwn lawen,
 bei Iëas Urien. 20
 Ys cu, cyn eithid
 15 eis crynion o grýd.
 Briger wen loched ;
 16 Elor ry·ðyged ; 24
 a gran gwyarllod,
 17 a'm gŵyr, go·noded.
 Ang·wr byrr·bwyllig
 vei, a weðwei i wraig. 28
 18 A'm êv gwin ffeleig ;
 a'm ês myn gylleig—
 wy a'm porth, a'm prain.
 19 A'm syrth cyv·wyrein, 32
 cyn na phar gymein.
 Tawav. Was *Wrwst* !
 21 gwarandaw py drwst—
 a'i daear a grýn,
 a'i mor a ðir·dyn ? 37

IN PRAISE OF URIEN

Hence the warriors of Godeu 5
pile up their spears,
and their helmets,
in the fair watch-towers : 8
So that those, who had come
into the conflict, may go home.
Every one, with his horse
under him, reaches Godeu. 12
Moreover, the minstrel gains
by reason of rain & flood.
Eight score, all of a colour,
of calves and cows— 16
milch cows and oxen,
and every fair thing besides.
(Still) I could not rejoice,
were Urien slain. 20
He was beloved, before the round
darts were sped from a quiver.
His white hair was spared :
the litter was brought ; 24
and his gory cheek,
I trow, was protected.
He would be a witless recreant,
should he put away his wife. 28
I drink the wine of a shrewd leader ;
I eat the kid of the stag—
these feed and feast me.
Elation befalls me, 32
though it will not last long.
I will say no more. Servant of
Gwrwst, listen ! what *is* the noise ?
Is it the earth trembling ?
or, is the sea convulsed ? 37

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 59 Dy·wyn 'yng·hyn·gar, 38
wrth i *beleitral*.
- 23 Ossid uch ym·ryn,
neu·d Urien a·i grym.
Ossid uch ym·hant,
- 24 neu·d Urien a·i gwant. 43
Ossid uch y·mynyð,
- 25 neu·d Urien a orvyð.
Ossid uch yn rhiw,
- 26 neu·d Urien a vriw.
Ossid uch yng·Hlawð, 48
neu·d Urien a blawð.
- 60 *Ar* hynt, *ac yng·hlas*,
ym·hob cam uchas.
- 2 Nac un traw, na dau, 52
ni nawd i·r angheu.
- 3 Ni byð ar newyn,
a phraið o·i gylchyn.
Yng·oror Geriawg, 56
- 4 gor·leisawg lavar,
Eil Angheu y pâr—
yd laðei i escar.
Oni vallwyv, yn hen, 60
i·m dygn angheu anghen,
ni byðiv un ðirwen,
oni volwyv Urien. þ 63

Ysgeit Taliessin. Canu Urien.

- YNG·WRHYD, go·gyv·id yn·hrafferth : 1
O gwaedwyv, a wellwyv yn *gyd·nerth* ?
- 62 Gwir, gweleis rhag neb *drais*—ni·m gwares.
19 Pob annŵys, ev ðimŵys vy·neges. 4

IN PRAISE OF URIEN

It is my old friend who shines forth
by the light of his spear-thrusts. 39
If there be groaning on the hill,
it is Urien who gives it volume.
If there be groaning in the dale, 42
it is Urien who has thrusted.
If there be groaning on the mountain,
it is Urien who is overcoming. 45
If there be groaning in a steep place,
it is Urien who is wounding.
If there be groaning in the Dyke, 48
it is Urien who is smiting.
On the march and in camp,
at every step he prevailed.
An expedition, or two 52
are not usually fatal :
And he will not starve
with a flock around him.
In the vale of *Ceiriog*, 56
that so loudly speaks,
"Fosterling of Death" was the
lance, which slew his foes.
Until I fall, in old age, 60
into my dire, inevitable end,
I shall take no pleasure,
but in the praise of Urien. P

The Spoil of Taliesin & Praise of Urien. VIII

MY BRAVERY emerges in time of stress : 1
If wounded, shall I recover strength altogether ?
Verily, I saw, before any, the oppression, which I did not escape.
Every feather-brain made my message of no account. 4

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 62 Gweleis beu, pasc am leu ac am lys. 5
 Gweleis edn—dail o dyfn a dowys.
- 21 Gweleis gaing, haval drain i blodeu.
 Neur weleis uð *hydreis* i ðeðveu. 8
 Gweleis *aeth* Ilyw gan draeth tra mäeu.
- 23 Bid wanar, nwy hachar gymyreu.
 Gwyrth vy nuð, mawr yn vuð i radeu.
- 25 Pen mäon nilwyr *Mon* am *dereu*. 12
 Preiff lwyvyð, rhein onwyð yw i arveu ;
- 26 Gwen i yscwyd, i rac-glyd, glas i llenn ;
- 63 Gloiw Hawd *Clyr*, glassav *dur*, vu i Urien :
 2 *Neb* ni or-seiv i wyrth *glair*. Gor-ðyar 16
gor Geriawg—*yn* Iivawg, gor-lavar.
- 3 Gorian-re a or-ðwyre, a phob rhai
 sang ðilyv du veryð y-mordrei.
- 4 Uð, tra blawð, yn y glaw o-th wjð êl, 20
 val yd melynawr yn neuað maer.
 Anheðawg, diffreidawg yn Aeron :
- 7 Mawr i wjñ yn amwyn ac eillon ;
 Mawr ðyval, *rodi* Iâl am i alon. 24
 Gornertthed ysclyvied *gan* Vrython :
- 8 Mal rhod tân wy dreiglan dros elvyð ;
 Mal tonn *ant*, a-theithant Lwyvenyð ;
 Mal *cyrchen* cyv-liw Gwen a gweithen ; 28
- 10 Val morjator ys mwynvawr yw Urien.
 Un i egin *ac* edlin *go-driccawr*.
 Un rhieu a rhwyveu ði-raðiawr.
- 12 Un yw meirch mäon a mwth vilawr. 32
 ðechreu Mei, towyssei vyðinawr :
- 14 *Ev* ðenwy, ban ovwy, y werin.
 Eryr tir ! ys dy-hir, yth dremyn.
- 15 Aðunyð, y-ar orwyð ffysciolin, 36
 dyðyn ieil, werth yspeil, Daliessin.

THE SPOIL OF TALIESIN, &c.

I saw a land, with pastures round the clearing & the 5
Court. I saw a bird, which brings leaves from the deep.
I saw a branch, like thorns its blossoms.
I saw a lord whose laws were *oppressive* :
I saw his *distress* along the shore beyond the plains. 9
Let him be a leader who will avoid the ravines.
A marvel is my lord ; great to us the benefit of his gifts.
The head of the chiefs of *Mona's* men smites right & left.
Strong elm-*bows*, & ashen spears are his weapons ; his 13
blue-covered shield, Gwen, was *ever* a shelter before him.
And flashing *Haute clere*, of bluest steel, had Urien.
None can withstand this wondrous glaive. The 16
Ceiriog valley roars—in flood it thunders.
Great shouting rises, and everybody treads
the honeycombed black swamps, in the great retreat.
The King, while fighting, disappears in the rain, 20
like golden-yellow grain, into the steward's hall.
He sojourns, and shelters in Aeron :
Great his rage while defending with his aliens.
Strenuously he schemes to place Yale beyond his foes.
The ravaging by the Brythons was intensified : 25
Like a wheel of fire they revolve over the land ;
Like a wave they advance & traverse ILwyvenyð.
As *they* press on the sight of Gwen means battle.
As a great prince greatly courteous is Urien. 29
His heir is the equal of the sojourner's etheling.
Chiefs are the same as rulers of low degree.
Great men's horses are as swift as beasts of chase.
Early in May he led armies : 33
He charms, when he visits, the people.
Eagle of the land ! far-reaching is thy glance.
Thou vowest, on thy lively steed, a culti- 36
vated farm, a valuable spoil, to Taliesin.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 63 Un yw gwrys gor llawr prys a gor gwŷd. 38
 17 Un brehyr a ffigur pen arglwyd.
 Un yw hyd, a'r helyd yn i'vant.
 Un yw blaid banadl wraig, ac an·whant.
 19 Un yw rhad a gwlad vad 'n egin îr. 42
 Un wed sôn cadvaon, a chedwyr.
 Un y drwg, ieuanc dwg, a chenaw—
 21 Nuð hael vrad, a herw wlad y'danaw. 45
 Ac os y dy·gwyd i ynni rhag Gwen,
 22 ev gwnëid beirð yn byd yn llawen.
 Cyn elhwyv, meirw vynhwyv veib Gwyðen. 48
 24 Gwaladr mud! gwaeð gwenwlad vo i Urien.



Aðvwyn Geyryð.

- A**Ð·VWYN Gaer yssyð ar glawr gweilgi :
 Bid lawen Galan—eirian i rhi.
 42 Ac yn amserawr mawr wrhydri,
 20 ys gnawd gorun beirð uch með lestri. 4
 Dy·dyvyð Magnus ar vrys idi—
 22 dy·vrys i'r werlas, clas y Ifichti.
 Ac a'm bych, Dëws ! dros vying·weði,
 pan gattwyf amod cymod a Thi. 8
 24 Að·vwyn Gaer yssyð ar lydan lyn—
 dinas di·achor, mor o'i chylchyn :
 26 Go·gyveirch Brydein, cwð gynghein hynn :
 Blaen llin ap Erbin, boed teu Von rynn. 12
 43 Bu goscorð—bu cerð yn eil mehyn ;
 ac eryr, uch wybr, a lwybr ranwyn.
 3 Y·rag uð ffesig escar gychwyn :
 Clod wanar a wascar dy ym·dullyn. 16

Violence is the same in scrub and in forest. 38
 A baron figures as a King.
 The stag and the huntsman are alike in death.
 The appearance of broom-root is a sign of great want.
 Prosperity is the same as good land lush of growth. 42
 The sound of battlefields and of warriors is alike.
 The youth & the puppy are alike in mischief: *the youth*
 betrays a generous lord, & harasses his country. 45
 And if his activity fail *before* 'Gwen',
 our country's bards would be made to rejoice.
 Before I go, I wish dead the race of *Beauclerc*. 48
 Beneficent Lord, the acclaim of a happy land be Urien's.



The Pleasant Strongholds.

PLEASANT the Kaer that looks down on the sea: 1
 Her year begins with feasting; her chief is full of
 cheer. And at times of valourous deeds, there is
 the usual to-do of the bards, over cups of mead. 4
Magnus suddenly descends upon her; *then* hurries
 (back) to the green-blue (sea), the domain of the Picts.
 Be Thou, O Lord, on the side of my prayer, when
 I am keeping the law of reconciliation to Thee. 8
 Pleasant the Kaer on the broad water—an
 unapproachable stronghold, girt of the sea.
 It faces Prydein, where it gives delight:
 Head of the line of Urien, thine be Mona's Rhynn. 12
 There was a retinue & feast at another place, whose
 eagle, now above the sky, is traversing the milky way.
 Against an adroit lord, put off an expedition:
 the repute of *such* a leader will scatter thy lines. 16

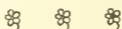
BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 43 Að·vwyn Gaer yssyð ar donn nawved : 17
 5 Að·vwyn i gwerin, *rhvð* i'n ym·wared :
 Ni wnant eu gwynvyd trwy vevlhæd :
 7 Nid ev eu devod bod yn galed. 20
 Gau ni lavarav ar vyn·hrwyðed :—
 8 Noc eillon Deudraeth gwell caeth Dyved.
 Cyweithyð, o rhyð wleð waredred,
 10 gynnwys rhwng pob deu, *wr o'i* giwed. 24
 Að·vwyn ! Kaer yssyð : a'i gwna'n gyman
 meðud, a molud, ac avarn bann.
 12 Ilyvn i cherðeu *gwygh*, yn i chalan,
 am arglwyð hywyð, hëwr eiran. 28
 14 Cyn *aeth* yn aðwyd, yn·erwin Iann,
 a'm rhoes veð a gwin o wydrin bann.
 15 Að·vwyn Gaer yssyð yn yr eglan :
 Að·vwyn y rhoðir i bawb i ran. 32
 17 Yn·Imbych adwen or·wen wylan—
 cyweithyð *hyweð vedei'r* Ilyssan.
 18 Oeð ev vyn *arver gael* nos Galan,
 leðvdawd y·gan ri, rhyvel eiran, 36
 20 a Ilen ehöeg, a með *hweg* prain,
 onid *rhwyð* tavawd ar *wawd* Prydein.
 21 Að·vwyn Gaer yssyð, a'i cyvrwyðwn :
 oeð meu y cerðeu a ðewiswn— 40
 23 ni lavarav ðaith, rhaith rhy·s·catwn.
 Ni ð'ly gelenig ni wyppo hwn :—
 24 Yscreven Brydein bryder brisiwn :
 Yn yd wna tonneu eu hamgyffrwn, 44
 26 perhëid hyð·bell y gell dreidwn.
 Að·vwyn Gaer yssyð yn Arðunwein :
 44 Go·chanwn i'm tud volud cowrein.
 2 Að·vwyn ar i *thor*, escor cyn·vrein : 48

THE PLEASANT STRONGHOLDS

- Pleasant the Kaer above the ninth wave : 17
Pleasant her people who bring us deliverance.
They do not find their happiness in making mischief, nor is it their custom to be hard-hearted. 20
I will not bear false witness on my tour—
than Deudraeth's aliens, better the serfs of Dyved.
Her prince, an he give a feast of deliverance, will
place, between every couple, one of his own people. 24
- Pleasant the Kaer is : what make it perfect are
mead-drinking, praising, & a high fee.
Harmonious, at her festival, the exquisite minstrelsy
around her discerning lord, the cheerful dispenser. 28
Before he went to his destiny, in the oaken chest,
he gave me mead & wine, from a high beaker.
- Pleasant the Kaer in the haven :
pleasant that all will receive their portion. 32
I know at Tenby a snow-white gull—the
gentle lady of the soil, who ruled the little court.
It had been my lot to receive, on New Year's eve,
a douceur from the lord of gleaming war ; and a 36
green cloak ; & the luscious mead of the feast,
till the tongue becomes fluent in Prydein's praise.
- Pleasant the Kaer that I was wont to entertain :
Mine were the poems, which I selected— 40
I do not say it for effect I kept within my right.
He will deserve no New Year's gift, who knows not
that Prydein's script will take care of *what* I prize :
As long as the waves maintain their motion, 44
the parchment of the cell I occupied will endure.
- Pleasant the Kaer in Arðunwent :
I would sing to my country a skilful pæan, *for* 'tis
pleasant on its Tor to renew old privilege. 48

- 44 Goðeg vrych dyrvir—ys hir i hadein,
 ðy·chyrch var carreg—crec mor ednein.
- 4 Ild ymywn tynghed, treið oed tra maint :
 A Bleið, uð gor·llwyd, goreu affeint : 52
- 6 Dim ffynnei uch llad, pwyllad coveint.
 Bendith Culwyð nev, a chydlev sein
 a·n gwnel yn vrowŷr, gor·wŷr Owein.
- 8 Að·vwyn Gaer yssyð ar lan llant : 56
 Að·vwyn yd roðir i bawb i whant.
- 10 Go·gyvarch Wyneð : boed teu vwyant :
 Gwaewawr cynrein, *Clar*, a ðarvuant.
- 11 Verchyr gweleis wyr yng·hynovant ; 60
 ðyvieu bu er gwarth yð ad·gorsant.
- 13 Od oed vriger coch, ac och ar dant,
 y lludedig wyr—Gwyneð aethant.
- 14 Am gevn llech Vaelwy cylchwy vriwant : 64
 Cwyðyn yng·Hw̄m Cerw̄yn ll̄u o garant.

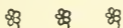


·
Marwnad Owein Gwyneð . 1170.

- Q**YD·WYV deryð gwawd, a *lawd* vedyð ;
 dyd rwyðeu : rhiv edeu eiðolyð. 2
- 69 Cyv·rwng allt, ac *is*-allt, ac echwyð,
 er·gryna Cuneða greiseryð.
- 12 Yng·Haer Veir a·cherir lyw elvyð : 5
 Er rhynawd cyv·adawd gyv·ergyr :
 an·whaneg — *dy·attreg* dân tra myr.
- 14 Ton *bron llew*—ll̄uðiaw glew i gilyð, 8
 can cavas ym·hwel *gas* uch elvyð.
- 15 *Darvu i hyn*t, val uch gwynt wrth onwyð :
 Cyd·erchyn yng·hwm̄plin i gyvlyð ;
 a·chedwyn, a·chwelyn gerenhyð. 12

THE PLEASANT STRONGHOLDS

The speckled, long-winged curlew, the sea-crake, 49
chatters when disturbed, & flies to the top of a rock.
The malice in fate persists through endless time.
Lupus, the hoary bishop, effected deliverance : nothing
 prospers like the blessing & guiding of a monastery. 53
May the blessing of the dear God, & the united voice
of the saints, make us countrymen of Owein's worthies.
Pleasant the Kaer on the tidal bank ; 56
pleasantly is given to all their want.
Welcome Venedotia's *aid* : be thine the aggrandizement.
The spearmen of the chieftain, *Clare*, have perished.
On Wednesday, I saw men on the march : 60
On Thursday, to their shame, they had returned.
If the hair was gory, and sorrowful the harp, and
men were weary—to Gwyneð they went. Beyond
Maelwy's rocky ridge they ravage the surroundings :
There fell in *Cwm Cerwyn* a host of friends. 65



The Elegy of Owein Gwyneð.

I AM the lyrist of eulogy, who praises baptism, 1
which confers graces : a host forsake their idols.
Twixt a high slope & a low, and the west,
Cuneða's crosier-bearer is trembling.
In the citadel of Mary, the ruler of the land is loved. 5
A little while since, he quitted for ever the field :
Moreover, he is checking the rebellion over-seas.
The lion's heart is sick at the brave thwarting his
fellow, for he met with a spiteful turn in his life. 9
His course ended, like the wind's moan in the ash trees :
His clerics united at compline to pray for (his soul) ;
(for) they treasured, they reciprocated his friendship. 12

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 69 *Ys cwyncein*, veirð cywrein gar onwyð :
 marw *vy nav* a gwynav *mor avar* :
- 19 Cwynitor—bu dewðor di·archar. 15
 Haval beis a dyvn-gleis, dy·chyffryn,
am ym·adaw, tuðedaw *ad·drychyn*.
- 21 *Ev noðei*, *mcithrinei* galetlwm :
oed luttach wrth *gonach* nac ascwrn.
- 22 *Ys cyrriad*, *rhy·noðad*, cyn *cudied* 20
 a thydwed : i wyneb a gadwed.
- 23 *Bu gan-waith*, cyn bu laith, yn·orglwyd :
 Dy·chludent *i Arðunwent* ym·hlymwyd.
- 25 *Go·ganwyd*, rhag arswyd, i oer-gerðed,
 26 cyn bu daer ðogn *amser* i duded. 25
 Haid, haval am wyðwal cŵn *heb* rwyd,
- 70 *geinan ved*—gwaeth *Ilyvreð ni* chavwyd.
 2 *Aðoed* hun ni ðimim. Achwynav, 28
ac am lys, *ac* am grys Cuneðav.
- 3 *Am ry·law* hallt *wylaw*, *hy·dreulaw* :
 am vleið *trwn* a garwn aballav.
- 4 *Gweðw* veirð *Mon*—a ogon, a ogav ; 32
 5 a·r eilon amrywon a rivav.
Rhy·veidawð yn er·vlawð, ac anav
- 6 can gorvyn, cyn cymun, Cuneðav.
Rhy·n·ransei viw blithion yr hav : 36
Rhy·n·ransei eðystrawr, aeav :
- 8 *Rhy·n·ransei* win gloew, ac olew :
Rhy·n·ransei dorv ceith rhag un crew.
- 10 *Ev* dyval *hogrell* o gyff *glew* : 40
 gwelad wr—pennadur bryd *Ilew*.
- 11 *ILuðiei* veðei gy·wlad rhag *geu*—
 Mab Ederu, tēyrn anaeleu !

THE ELEGY OF OWEIN GWYNEDD

The skilled bards bewailed the warrior, (but it is) 13
the death of my lord that I lament so grievously.
He will be lamented—our stout, irresistible defence.
The shallow & deep pools are agitated alike, by the 16
dying & covering of one their waters reflected.
He sheltered & fed the hard-faring folk ;
but was more bare than a bone to the wastrel.
He was forgiven, and given sanctuary ere he was 20
covered by the sod : his face was saved.
He was, ere his death, a hundred times in a litter :
They bore him *to Arδunwent* into the conflict. 23
It was portended, from dread, that his ghost would walk
abroad, ere the earth had, for any time, been his cover.
A crowd, like dogs around a lair un-netted, keeps watch
on the grave : worse cowardice there never was.
The sleep of destiny cannot be annulled. 28
I sigh for both the court and the cloak of Cuneða.
By reason of the flow of salt tears I am wasting away :
I pine for the brave countenance I loved. Like
orphans are Mona's bards : whom they glorify I will ;
and the harmonies they vary I shall esteem. 33
Cuneða ventured into dire conflict—into the scathe
of a hundred combats, before his shriving. Among us
He would freely distribute milch cows in summer : 36
He would freely distribute war horses in winter :
He would freely distribute sparkling wine & oil :
He would freely distribute slaves against any stress :
He was a strenuous youth of a brave stock : 40
A man did he appear—a lord of lion aspect.
He would not allow a border prince to play false—
the son of Edern was a tremendous ruler.

- 70 Dywal, di·archar, di·eding, 44
 am·ry·ffreu angheu dy·chyving.
 Ev go·borth i aes *yn amdiffyn* :
- 14 Rhagorawl wyr gwrawl i unbyn.
 Dym·hun ! Cysc, vad gun tal being !
- 15 Cam dra, diva hun o goeling. 49

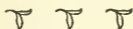


Marwnad Dwein.

- E**NEID Owein, *rhytwyssid*, 1
 go·bwyllid y ner o'i raid.
- 67 Rheged uð, a'i cuð tom clas ;
 Nid oed vas i gy·wyðeid. 4
- 21 Iscell cerð a'i chlyd clodvawr ;
 Estill gawr, a gwaew lliveid.
- 22 Can ni cheffir cystedlyð,
 i'n vyð llwenyð lladreid. 8
- 23 Medei alon Geveilawg ;
 Eisorawd i dad a'i daid.
- 24 Pan laðawð Owein llflamðwyn,
 nid oed vwy nog oed gyv·reid. 12
- 25 Cyscid llloegr lydan niver
 a llveuer yn eu llygeid.
 A·r rhai ni fföynt haeach,
- 68 oed [hydra]ch, *ynwyttach haid* : 16
- 1 Owein a'i cospes yn ðrud,
 mal cnud yn dylud deveid.
- 2 Gwr gwiw, uch i amliw seirch,
 a roðei veirch i eircheid. 20
- 4 Cyd a's cronnei vael caled
 i'n rhanned : rhagor i Eneid.

THE ELEGY OF OWEIN GWYNEDD

Bold, irresistible, irrepressible, 44
he escapes from the jaws of death.
He supports his shield on the defensive :
Excellent men & brave were his chieftains. 47
Compose thyself ! Sleep, dear lord of the high bench !
It is wrong to disturb rest from a superstitious (dread).



The Elegy of Dwein.

THE Soul of Owein *has been summoned*, 1
& his (spiritual) lord has come to his rescue.
A sanctuary's tomb now screens the lord
of Rheged. He was not low of ability, *but* 4
the life-blood of poesy, & its illustrious shield :
Champion, *too*, of the javelin & flashing spear.
That his equal is not to be found
to us will be a secret joy. 8
He mowed down the enemies of Kyveilog :
He was a fellow to his father & grandsire.
When Owein pressed the Flame-bearer hard,
it was no more than was necessary. 12
A number of broad England's host sleep
with the light still in their eyes :
But those who did not flee instantly
were a rasher, foolisher crowd. 16
And Owein did punish them severely,
as wolves punish sheep they pursue.
(Our) worthy hero, seated on gay trappings,
presented horses to the begging fraternity. 20
Though he amassed riches, among us it
was distributed ; his soul goes marching on.

Caer Sidi, a Chaer Ochren.

- G**OLYCHAF Wledig, pendefig ri, 1
 ledas i bennaeth dros draeth mundi.
- 54 Bu gyweir *gyvrang* yng·Haer Sidi,
 19 drwy *or*-chestol bwyll a phryderi. 4
Nu, neb cyn noc ev nid aeth iði—
- 21 i'r *gerwyn*, dwnn glas cyvrgas gewri.
 Rhag preiðei Annwvn tostlym gyni ;
 hyd vrawd parahawd ingawg wedi. 8
- 23 Tri lloneid Prydwen yð aeth iði ;
 namyn saith ni ðyrreith o Gaer Sidi.
- 25 Nyðwyv glod geinmyn : *cwyn* o·chlywid,
 yng·haer bedryvan pan ðym·chwelid. 12
- 55 Yng·hyweir oed pair pan ry·verwid :
 O anadl naw morwyn go·chyneuid.
- 2 Neu, Pair Pen Annwvn, pwy i *ffynud* ?
 Gwrmgant am i oror, a mererid : 16
- 4 Ni veirw vwyd *i* lwvr—*neu's* rhy·dynghid :
 Deðv llwyth llëenawg ði·ðaw ðyrchid :
- 5 Yn llaw llëmenig yð edewid :
 a rhag porth uffern llugyrn loscid. 20
- 7 A phan aeth Arthur drafferth lechlyd,
 namyn saith ni ðyrreith o gaer veðid.
- 9 Nyðwyv glod geinmyn : *cwyn* glywator
 yng·haer bedryvan—ynys bybr·ðor. 24
- 10 Ucher am i huchder gymyscetor :
 Gwin gloew y gwirawd rhag i gorðgor :
- 12 Tri lloneid Prydwen yð aeth ar vor ;
 namyn saith ni ðyrreith o gaer rigol. 28

KING RICHARD AT JOPPA & ACRE

King Richard at Joppa & Acre. 1197.

I WILL praise the King, the noble chief, who 1
spread his supremacy over the world's strand.
Complete was his victory at Whirlpools Fort,
by reason of extraordinary thought & care. 4
Now, no one before him entered this vortex,
this deep *close* of fearsome giants.
Poignant the affliction caused by the herds of the
Abyss : till doom will last the cry of distress. 8
Thrice filled Prydwen sailed thereto :
Only seven returned from Whirlpools Fort.
May I spin fine praise : moaning was heard
in the quadrangular fort, when it was overthrown. 12
Attuned was the cauldron after much boiling ;
By the breath of the Nine Muses the fire was kindled.
This Cauldron of the Head of the Abyss, what is it like ?
It has a dusky band around the edge, set with pearl : 16
It will not cook a coward's food—him it has forsworn :
The Code of the literary tribe out of it arose—
In the keeping of the minstrels it was left.
Before Inferno's portal (its) lamps were burning. 20
And when Arthur went into the rocky toils,
only seven returned from the fortress taken.
May I spin fine praise : moaning was heard in the
quadrangular fort—the tor with the boisterous gate.
Its top with the twilight was confused :
Sparkling wine was the liquor set before its council :
Thrice full did Prydwen sail the sea :
only seven returned from the citadel of the frith. 28

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 55 Ni o·bryn *ev ffavr llwyr* lywiadur : 29
 Tra Chaer Wydr gwelsid wrhyd Arthur.
- 15 Tri ugein canhwr a seiv y·ar mur—
 an·hawð ym·adrawð a·i gwyliadur. 32
- 17 Tri lloneid Prydwen aeth gan Arthur ;
 namyn saith ni ðyreith o gaer o·vur.
- 19 Ni obryn *ev ffavr llwyr* yng·hylchwy :
 Ni wðant py *bryd* perhid ðypwy— 36
- 20 Py awr ym·*hylgein* y ganed twy—
 Pwy ry·wnaeth arnynt aeth dol *Gandwy*.
- 22 Ni weðant vras ych brych y pen rwy(f)—
 saith ugein cygwng yn i aerwy. 40
- 24 A phan aeth Arthur avrðwl ovwy ;
 namyn saith ni ðyrreith o gaer *Gandwy*.
- 25 Ni o·bryn *ev ffavr llwyr* eu gohen :
 Ni wðant py *bryd* perid dy·ben— 44
- 56 Py awr ym·*hylgein* ganed perchen—
 2 Pwy wyl a gadwant ariant ym·hen.
 A phan aeth Arthur avrðwl gynhen,
 3 namyn saith ni ðyrreith o gaer Ochren. 48
- Myneich ðy·chwynyn val un yng·hor,
 5 o gyvranc uðyð a·r Gwiðanhor.
 A·i un hynt *pob* gwynt ? un dwr *pob* mor ?
 7 A·i un llwyr *torv* a thwrv di·achor ? 52
- Myneich ðy·chwynynt *am hynt* veiðawl,
 8 o gyvranc uðyð a·r Gwiðanhawr.
 Ni wðant yscein deweint a gwawr ; 55
- 10 neu wynt, pwy i hynt—pwy i rynnawr ?
 Py va ry·ðiva, py dir aplawr.
- 11 Boed *seint* yn·i·vant *weinant* allawr.
 Golychav Wledig, pendevig mawr. 59
- 15 *Bid i·m* na bwyv drist : Crist a·m gwaðawl.

KING RICHARD AT JOPPA & ACRE

He will not curry favour of the cowardly governor : 29
Beyond Glass-town was seen Arthur's heroism.

Three score centuries stand upon the wall—
It is not easy to converse with the sentinel. 32
Thrice full Prydwen went with Arthur :
only seven returned from the walled town.

He will not curry favour of the slack on their round :
They know not when will happen what is coming—
at what hour of morning the check began ; *nor* 37
who wrought their sorrow on the plain of Candevia.

They will not yoke *Saladin's* brindled, giant ox
which has seven score knots in its tie. 40
And when Arthur went on his sad expedition,
only seven returned from Candevia.

He will not curry favour of the slack in command :
They do not know when happened the end— 44
at what hour of morning the victory was won.

Who will detect secreters of treasure in the mouth ?
And when Arthur went into the sad struggle,
only seven returned from "Ochren" fort. 48

The monks wailed like one man in unison, because
of the adventure of the king with the Viedenese.
Holds every wind to one course ? Is every sea one water ?
Is the shout of a crowd the same as irrepressible thunder ?

The monks wailed because of the daring journey— 53
the adventure of the King with the Viedenese.

They do not know that night-watch extends to dawn,
nor the course of the wind, nor what its impulses— 56
what spot it devastates, what land is buffeted.

May the servers of the altar be saints after death.
I will praise the King, the great nobleman.
May I not be sad : Christ be my heritage. 60

BOOK OF TALIESIN

Marwnad Richard . 1199.

* * * * *

- 51 *Amser* croes *grwydriad*, *ban* wysiad byd, 1
 bu deu dêg ar wlad wledychyssid :
- 2 *Un* haelhav, berthav o'r ryaned—
Un terwyn wenwyn, gwae y giwed : 4
- 4 Ev dorres ardal deir gwaith yng'had,
 ac ni vyð cor-wyð i wŷr i dad.
- 5 *Y llall*, *mal* puvawr a theghwys *wlad*.
 Syrth, yng'o·diwaw Alexander, 8
- 7 yn hual eurin : Gwae ! carcharer :
 Ni pheŷ garcharwyd—i anghau ðyvu
- 8 ar le y cavas ergyr o lu.
Neb, *er oed*, *gwell* ni *roed yn*·aerawd : 12
 Meueð beð, berthrwyð o'r aðwyndawd.
- [*Haer* Alexander gymerth yna :—
Ynys Sur—*dinas* yng'wlad Syria—
- 11 A'r wlad ðinistrad *tra* din terra— 16
- 13 Ciwdawd Babilon, a *llys* Susa—
- 12 Gwlad Persia, Media, *Ykbatanna*—
- 13 *Ynialeð* Parthia a, parth India,
 Mawr Wlad Galdaria, bychan i da, 20
- 15 hyd yr ymðug tir—tywarch yna.
 Yd wnahont eu bryd wrth eu herwa :
 Cyweðant wystlon i Europa :
- 17 An·rheithant wladoeð, wysioeð terra : 24
 Gwychr gwerynt wrageð, gor·vynt yna—
- 19 Bron·loscent y·gan wyleð gwastad,
 a godei avar ban adroðad. 27
- 20 A ðy·gollynt vrait gwneint ben brithred :
- 21 Milwyr vagent ðawn ban attoded.

THE ELEGY OF KING RICHARD

The Elegy of King Richard.

* * * * *

At the time of the Crusade when the world was 1
summoned, two fair ones ruled *our* land :
The one most generous, & sweetest of those born.
The other irascible ; woe to the state : 4
He burst our border three times in war, *but*
he never will be a covert to his father's men.
The former like an apple-tree beautified the land :
While overcoming Alexander, he falls into 8
the golden fetter. Alas, he was imprisoned, but
not for long. His death came on the spot
where he received the arrow from the host.
None better was ever interred : the 12
passport of the grave is the beauty of holiness.
[Irresistible Alexander had taken
the *island citadel* of Tyre in Syria, which he
over-ran *beyond* the earthen ramparts (of Gaza)—
the state of Babilon, & *the palace* of Susa— 17
the countries of Persia, Media, Ecbatana—
the Parthian desert and, towards India,
the Great Hot Country (of little good), 20
as far as the land went—morass beyond.
They do as they please on their wanderings :
They despatch hostages to Europe : They 23
plunder the countries of the nations of the earth ;
They ruthlessly tamed, then violated the women,
whose breasts burnt with constant humiliation,
which gave rise to fresh sorrow when it was told. 26
Those who lost their freedom raised the whirlwind :
The soldiers received a boon by marrying.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 51 Rhiallu a vu varw y'rac syched— 30
 eu gau gowilleu, ac eu miled :
- 23 A's gwenwynwys gwres cyn no'u trevred.]
 24 Nev wlad i'th weison pan ðiffoðed :
 Ni byð i'th escar escor lluded, 34
 25 rhag goval yr hual a'i agaled.
 Cyn no hyn *hanffei* gwell ðigoned
- 52 i'm harglwyð llad llwyð gwlad gogoned—
 un oror oreu Jor ystlyned. 38
 2 Diwyccwyv ! Wnelhwyv, genhyv gyvred—
 A'r sawl a'm clywho boed meu y huned.
 4 Digionwynt voð Duw cyn gwasc tydwed. 41

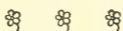


Echrys Ynys.

- E**CHRYS ynys, 1
 gwawd huðianus—
- 68 gwrÿs go·betror.
 Mon vad, gogei ; 4
 7 gwrhyd ervei,
 y·Menei ðor.
- Lleweis wirawd— 7
 8 gwin a bragawd,
 gan vrawd escor.
- Tëyrn orwyv : 10
 9 diweð pob rhwyv,
 rhewineter.
- Tristlawn deon 13
 10 yr archadon,
 can rychitor :

THE ELEGY OF KING RICHARD

A hundred thousand died from thirst,
with their false brides, & their beasts : the 31
heat destroyed them before their return home.]
The heavenly kingdom be thy men's heritage at death ;
Thine enemies will never shake off their weariness,
because of the care of the fetter, & the hardship (thereof).
Or ever this happened better was prepared 36
for my lord, the blessings of the Land of Glory—
the unparalleled clime associated with God.
May I amend ! what I do keeps step with me.
Mine be the prayer of all who hear me : Let them 40
do the will of God ere the pressure of the sod.



The Island Dread, 1197.

THE island dread 1
has muffled the muse—
upheaval everywhere.
It shook bonnie Mon ; 4
Bravery triumphed,
at Menei's door.
I drank liquor— 7
wine and bragget,
with an uterine brother.
The prince I will vanquish :
The end of every ruler 11
is to be ruined.
Very sad the chieftains
of the over-lord, 14
because he is buried.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 68 | Nid vu, nid vi, | 16 |
| 11 | yng·hymelri,
i gyv·eisor. | |
| | Pan ðoeth adon, | 19 |
| 12 | o wlad Wydion—
Seon dewðor, | |
| | Gwenwyn pyr ðoeth ; | 22 |
| 13 | peðei beunoeth,
meinÿoeth dymhor. | |
| | Cwyðynt gyvoed, | 25 |
| 14 | ni bu glyd coed—
gwynt yng·oror. | |
| | Math yr euzgryð, | 28 |
| 15 | hudwyth gelvyð,
rhy·ðelwei vor. | |
| | Ym·yw Gwydion, | 31 |
| 16 | ae vamaeth, Don,
yð oed gynghor. | |
| | Twyll-dâl roðawd | 34 |
| 17 | ffyrv ffodiawg—
ffyrv ði·achor. | |
| 18 | Cadarn gyngres | 37 |
| | i varanres,
ni bu warth-vor. | |
| 19 | Ilawen gyveð, | 40 |
| | ym·hob gorseð,
wnelid i bor. | |
| 20 | Cun Tynaethwy, | 43 |
| | hyd tra vwyv vyw,
Crybwylltor. | |

THE ISLAND DREAD

- There never was, nor will 16
be, in time of trial,
his equal.
- When the chief came 19
from Gwydion's country—
the stout defence of Seon,
- The Plague also came— 22
it stalked nightly, through
a lovely summer :
- Contemporaries fell ; 25
The woods were no shelter
from the tempest in the land.
- Math, the golden cordwainer—
the expeditious craftsman,
bepantomed the sea. 30
- In the time of Gwydion,
& of his foster-mother, Don,
there was a *modus operandi*.
- He gives to illusive payment
a fortunate appearance— 35
an irresistible semblance.
- The mighty muster, 37
of his battle array,
had never been to sea.
- Joyous feasts were made, 40
at every station,
for the chief.
- The lord of Dinoethwy
while I live, shall 44
be commemorated.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

68 Am bwy gan Grist, 46
 hyd na bwyv drist,
 ran ebostol.

22 Hael archadon, 49
 gan engylion,
 cynwysetor.

II.

ACHRYS Ynys 52
 gwawd huðianis—
 gwrys go'chyva :

24 Rhag bugeil-was, 55
 Cymry ðivas,
 aros ara.

25 Dragonawl ben— 58
 (Priodawl berchen
 ym·Retonia),

26 ðiva r Gwledig, 61
 or·bendevig,
 a'i ða derra.

69 Y teir morwyn, 64
 wedy ðirwyn,
 ðygnant eu tra :

2 Er·ðygnant wir, 67
 ar vor a thir—
 hir eu trestra.

Wy wir honyn, 70
 3 na ðigonyn
 ðim go·ðrutta.

Ceryðus wyv, 73
 4 na chrybwyllwyv,
 a'm rhy·wnel ða.

THE ISLAND DREAD

May I have with Christ, 46
that I may not be sad,
The portion of an apostle.

The bounteous over-lord,
by the angels, has been
encompassed. 51

II.

THE island dread 52
has muffled the muse—
Upheaval is general

Against the regent, who 55
has devastated Kymry,
enduring patiently.

The military head— 58
(the rightful owner
being in Bretonia),
is eating up the King— 61
an august nobleman,
and his good land.

The three maidens, 64
after the winding,
toil at their task.

They do truly, toil hard 67
on sea & land : long
their arduous labour.

They truly asserted, 70
that they did
nothing at all rash.

I am to blame 73
for not mentioning
one who benefits me :

BOOK OF TALIESIN

69	I lary lywy,	76
	pwy gwaharðwy?—	
5	pwy attrevna?	
	Y Pary adon	79
	a gynheil Mon,	
6	mywn go'wala.	
	Am bwy gan Grist,	82
	(hyd na bwyv drist	
7	o ðrwg, o dra),	
	ran trugareð,	85
	i wlad Rhieð—	
8	bucheð gyva. <i>p</i>	

Crogiad Madawg vab Maelgwn.

	M ADAWG mur menwyd 1	
	<i>a grogiad</i> cyn beð :	
66	Bu was en'rhyveð	
	o gamp a chyveð—	4
11	Mad-wychr cyn Peas ;	
	i w lawr dy'm'wystlas.	
12	Bu Erov greulawn :	
	Pewenyð ni chawn :	8
13	Tristid anwogawn,	
	a oreu 'r Creulawn.	
	<i>Am</i> vradu Jessu,	
14	ac ev yn credu,	12
	<i>mae Cred yn gwgu—</i>	
	daear yn crynu—	
	elvyð yn garmu—	
15	cysteg, ac arswyd,	16
	<i>am</i> vedyð ar grwydr.	

THE ISLAND DREAD

His liberal provision— 76
who shall check?—
who control?

(He is) the liberal lord, 79
who maintains Mon,
in abundance.

May I have with Christ— 72
(that I may not be sad,
because of evil & excess),
the portion of mercy 85
for the Lord's country—
a perfect life. P

King John hangs Madawg . 1212.

MADAWG the bulwark of genius 1
was hanged, or (he came to) the
grave. He was a wonderful youth
in feats of skill & entertainment : 4
Good & brave, or he was slain, he gave
himself a hostage for his country.
But "Herod" was blood-thirsty ;
& we shall, no more, have joy : 8
Overwhelming sorrow
the Cruel One wrought.
For betraying Jesus,
and he a believer, 12
Christendom is wrath—
the earth is quaking, &
the elements are howling :
(There is) affliction & horror 16
because baptism is missing.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 66 *Dryglam anwogawn*
 16 a oryw 'r Creulawn,
 yn myned, yn y drevn, 20
 17 ym·hlith oer gethern,
 yng·waelawd uffern. P

Marthawd Dylan . . 1212.

- AN Duw uchav, 1
 Dewin doethav,
 67 mwyhav amner.
 10 *Pwyn* dylivas ; 4
 Pwy a'n swynas,
 a *gras* trahael.
 11 Neu, gynt nog Ev,
 pwy vu dangnev 8
 ar reðv go·vel?
 12 Gwrthriv *gan draeth,*
 Gwenwyn a wnaeth— 12
 13 gwaith gwythloneð.
 Gwanas Dylan—
 adwythig *van,*
 14 dreis yn hydr·weð. 16
 Ton Iwerðon,
 a thon Vanaw,
 15 a thon Ogleð :
 a thon Prydein— 20
 torv oeð virein
 ym·heiranneð.
 16 Golychav Dad,
 Duw, dovyðad 24
 gwlad, heb omeð :
 17 Creawdr celi
 a'n cynnwys ni,
 yn·hrugareð. 28

KING JOHN HANGS MADAWG

Overwhelming the fate that will
overtake the cruel one, when
he goes, in the order of things, 20
among the heartless fiends
into deepest hell. ♪

The harrying of Dylan (point).

THE One God supreme, 1
the wisest prophet, (&)
the greatest almoner :
Who threaded our warp ; 4
Who blessed us with
grace abounding.
Now, who, before His time,
acted as harmony 8
on the spirit of war ?
The hostile force along the
coast raised discontent— 12
it rouses evil passions.
The Point of Dylan—
a miserable place, the
force pillages ruthlessly, i.e.
the crew from Ireland,
and the crew from Man,
& the crew from Gogleδ, 19
and the crew from the 'South'—
a company which excelled
in feats of engineering.
I worship the Father,
God, the indisputable 24
Ruler of the land.
The Creator of heaven
will encompass us about
with mercy. 28

BOOK OF TALIESIN

(Stw)had Erov . 1213.

- Y**M·CHWELES elvyð, 1
 val *troi* nos yn ðyð.
- 65 Go·ðyvod clodryð—
 Erov beir vedyð. 4
 Ev a ðywedei,
- 66 angheu na's rhivei.
 Y·mordei, *i* yscwyd
 arnaw a dorrid. 8
- 2 Erov, sywessid,
 “ermid Loegr i gyd.”
- 3 Pedeir *llorv* cyhyd,
 rhuðeur ar eu hyd— 12
 Colovneu Ercwl
- 4 ni's ar·veil bygwł.
 Bygwł, ni's beiðei ;
- 5 gwres heul, ni's gadei. 16
 Nid aeth neb i·r nev,
 hyd i *warogaeth* ev.
- 6 Erov, mil ffossawd,
ban am·duð tywawd, 20
- 7 A's rhoðwy Trindawd
 drugareð ðyðbrawd—
- 8 wyndawd heb eiseu. **ƿ**

Mar(th)awd Corroi mab Dayry.

- D**YFFYNHAWN lydan ðy·leinw aches :
 i ðaw a·i hepcyr—di·bris i bres. 2
- 66 Mar(th)awd Corroi a·m cyffrões.
- 20 Over dovi gwr garw i an·wydeu,
 a oeð vawr i ðrwg—mwy ni's cigleu. 5
- 22 Mab Dayry ðalei arwr Deheu ;
 dathlawg oeð i glod cyn no·i adneu.

JOHN SUBMITS TO THE (POPE)

John submits (to the Pope).

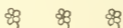
HIS reversal of polity is 1
like *turning* night into day.
It is a glorious event—
Herod brings about baptism. 4
He was wont to boast
that he would not heed death.
On the coast his shield
was shivered upon his arm. 8
Herod, it was prophesied, would be
in conflict with all England.
Four pillars of equal length,
all covered with ruddy gold— 12
the pillars of Hercules,
no rebellion will bring down.
He did not dare the interdict : he 15
would not quit the sun's warmth.
No one went to heaven
until his submission.
Herod, of conflicts innumerable, 19
when the sand shall cover,
May the Trinity grant him
mercy, on the day of doom,
& complete felicity. 23

The Smashing of King John . 1215.

THE spreading flood fills the road-stead ; His 1
son-in-law thrusts him aside & recks not his
adversity. The smashing of Corroï has moved me.
Vain is the appeasing of a man of harsh passions,
who did much evil—I never heard of greater. 5
This son of Dairi detained the hero of the South,
who was renowned before his imprisonment.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 66 Dyffynhawn lydan dy·leinw nanneu : 8
 i daw a·i hepcyr—dy·vrys Deheu.
- 25 Marthawd Corroï genhiv inheu.
 Over dovi &c.
- 26 Dyffynhawn lydan dy·leinw y Ilyr : 12
- 67 Rhysaeth dy·chyrch draeth di·wng ebyr.
 Gwr a werescyn *gylchyn Deheu* ;
- 2 M[a]wr i varanres *torres gaereu*.
 Ac wedi mynaw, myned trevyð : 16
- 3 a[eth]ant wy vrodyr vre Wynionyð.
 Tra mi 'm·Uðugre, vore, dugawr
 chwedleu am gwyðaw awyr hyd lawr.
- 5 Cyvreing Corroï a Chocholyn— 20
 Iliaws eu tervysc am eu tervyn.
- 6 Tarðei·n pen i amwyn gwerin aðvwyn.
 Caer yssy i Gulwyð, ni gwyð, ni grÿn :
- 8 Gwyn vyd yr eneid a·i harobryn. 24



Marwnad uthyr Ben.

- M**YVI vum volltawd yn·hrydar ; 1
 ni pheidwn, rhag Ily heb wyar.
- 71 Myvi a elwit Gor·lassar :
 9 'ng·wregys, bu envys i·m hescar. 4
 Myvi, tywyssawg yn·hywell :
 a·m rhithwys a·m dug yng·hawell.
- 11 Myvi, eil Sawyl yn Arðu,
 ni pheidwn heb wyar rhag Ily. 8
 Myvi a amug, wrth vessur,
 13 yn·i·vant, a·charant Gasnur.
- Neur or·dyvneis waed am Wythur—
 15 cleðyval hydr rhag meib Cawrnur. 12

THE SMASHING OF KING JOHN

The spreading flood fills the channels : his son- 8
in-law thrusts him aside and hastens South.

Of the smashing of Corroi will I sing.

Vain is the appeasing, &c.

The spreading flood fills the tidal reaches : an 12
expedition seeks the strand of spacious Abers.

Our hero over-runs the ambit of the South
with a great host : he broke its Castles.

After penetrating (everywhere) all turn homeward :

The brothers went to the height of Gwynionyδ. 17

While I was at Buδugre, one morning, news
was brought of the skies falling down.

“John” struggles with “Ilwelyn”— 20

many their quarrels over their frontier.

Our prince arose to defend the honest poor.

The loving God’s citadel will neither fall,
nor totter. Blessed the soul that shall win it. 24



The threnody of uthyr Ben.

I WAS a bolt in the tumult : 1
I would shed blood to stop a host.

I was called Blue Enamel’s Glory ; my
girdle was as a rainbow to my enemy. 4

I was a prince in disguise : He, who
enchanted me, placed me in the creel.

I was the fosterling of Sawyl in Arδu :
I would shed blood to stop a host. 8

I defended, in reason, the friends of
Casnur on (his) evanishment.

I drew blood to avenge Gwythur— 11
Daring the fight against the sons of Cawrnur.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 71 Myvi a *geveis*, wrth vessur, 13
nawved rhan yng·wrhyd Arthur.
- 16 Myvi a dorreis gant caer :
Myvi a leðeis gant maer. 16
- 18 Myvi a roðeis gant Ilen :
Myvi a leðeis gant pen.
- 19 Myvi a roðeis, i Henben,
gleðyvawd gor·vawr gynghallen. 20
- 20 Myvi a *dereu* daran hyð,
helyator i deith pen mynyð.
- 22 Gweðw, i·m cov, Hyðwn o gilyð :
Nid oed vyd, ni bei eisillyð. 24
- 23 Mi·d·wyv varð moladwy, cywreint,
a gân *am* vraenad eryr gwytheint :
- 25 Avagðu a·i deubu yng·Him *neint*, 27
ban ymsyrth bydrŵyd rhwng dwy gainc.
Dringaw i nev (oed ev vy chwant),
- 72 a·r eryr, rhag ovn am·heirant.
- 2 Wyv bard a thelynawr—
wyv pibyð a chrythawr 32
3 i seith ugein cerðawr
ðy·or·vawr gynghallen—
- 4 Bu *gethlyð* ry·vreinad ;
hu, *escud*, *ðatceinad*. 36
- I vab ðy·veirw nad—
- 5 ðy·veirw ðewindab,
ar vlaen vyn·havawd,
i draethu marthawd. 40
- Handid, o·m main *ganiad*,
- 7 gwrthgloðiad wýd Prydein,
hüyscein ym·hwyllad.
- 8 Wledig Nev ! *Clyw* 'ng·hennad,
na·m *gomeð dy* döad. 45

THE THRENODY OF UTHR BEN

I obtained, by measure, 13
the ninth part of Arthur's prowess.

I destroyed a hundred forts :
I killed a hundred castellans : 16
I bestowed a hundred tents :
I cut off a hundred heads :

I administered, to Henben,
the stroke of the great enchanter. 20

I enchanted a fair-sized stag,
that was driven to the mountain top.

Desolate, I remember, was Hyðwn without a 24
partner : it was not life without an offspring.

I am a skilled bard, worthy of praise, who
sings of the putrefying of the chafing Eagle.
Avagðu came to him in the dales of Cim, when 27
his putrid flesh was falling between the branches.

To climb with the Eagle to heaven, for fear
of dissolution—that was my desire.

I am bard and harpist—
I am piper and crowder ; 32
to seven score minstrels
of the very great enchanter,
who had been a highly gifted singer,
and a spirited, fluent, reciter. 36

His son will inspire the dirge,
and prepare the witchery,
on the tip of my tongue,
to tell of the death. 40

Mayhap, by my trifling song, the
wrath of Prydein has been soothed,
dispersing itself into wisdom.

Ruler of Heaven, give ear to my embassy :
Do not deny me thy roof-tree. 45

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- A**AIN gyveðwch 1
 y'am dawelwch —
 72 elwch amhad.
 10 Peryð ang'harwr, 4
 roed yn elawr,
 rhy·yscrinad.
 11 Milein ffo Caw —
 Llynghes rhagðaw — 8
 mwyedig *vrad*.
 Draig ym·vryssiei,
 12 oðuch Ilyreu, 12
yn Ilestreu Iad.
 Iad yr eur-daw,
 13 med-gorn yn Iawr, 16
 Iawr ysciad.
 14 Y·modrydav, 16
 ev ryth·iolav,
yn rhyð mad.
 Buðugawl Veli !
 am·Hanogan ri ; 20
 15 rhy·geidw yn teithi.
 Ynys vei Veli —
 teithawg *vyð iði* :
 16 Pym pennaeth ðybi, 24
 o Wyðyl IFichti —
 17 o berth gadeithi —
 o geneðl ysci.
 Pymp ereið ðybi, 28
 18 o *Ffreinc* Normandi.
 Wheched, rhyveð ri,
 19 o hau hyd vedi.
 Seithved, o heni, 32
 dym·werid dros li.
 20 Wythved, Linx a vi —
 ni·d Iwyð *i escori*. 35

TO LLEWELYN WHEN JOHN DIED

- PLEASANT the festivity— 1
 a thank offering for peace—
 the rejoicing of many races.
- The unprincely sovereign, 4
 who was placed in a litter,
 has been entombed.
- Sullen the flight of "John,"
 fronting him a fleet, and 8
 ever-growing treason.
- The "Dauphin" hastened,
 up the tidal reaches,
 in goodly vessels. 12
- The glorious son-in-law,
 mead-horn in hand, blesses
 the country's deliverance.
- At the mother-court 16
 I will greatly praise thee,
our beneficent prince.
- Victorious "Llywelyn",
 son of the chief Manogan, 20
 will maintain our privileges.
- The island that was Beli's,
 will know wandering (spirits) :
- Five chiefs will come 24
 of the Irish Picts—
 of fine fighting mettle—
 of a ravaging race.
- Five others will come— 28
 the *Franks* of Normandy.
- A sixth, a wonderful King
 from seeding time to harvest.
- A seventh, outside *the island*, 32
 will be delivered over-sea.
- An eighth, a Lynx will be—
 his birth will bring no blessing.

DAROGANEU.

- D**YS·GO·GAN Awen *Ffreinc* dy·vryssyn—
 maranheð a meueð héd genhyn :
- 70 A phennaeth ehalaeth IFraw unbyn,
 wedy heð, dy·anheð bob mehyn. 4
- 22 Gwlad veirw—dy·chyrchir Mon—
 tyrvhit hyd Valäon.
- 23 Ymðeithig i haelon—
 Iluðedig *marchogion*— 8
- 24 Gwlat, gwehyn bargodion.
 Collawd gymyrreð
- 25 yn rhy·gystlyneð
 o bennaeth weison. 12
- 26 Rhy·dybyð ILeinawg,
 a vyð gwr hwannawg
- 71 i werescyn Mon.
 A rhewin Wyneð— 16
- 2 i heithav, a·i pherveð,
 a chymmer wystlon.
- 4 Dy·ðaw gwr o guð,
 a wna gyvamruð 20
 a chad yng·hyn·don.
- 3 Ys dig i wyneb ;
 ni·d estwng i neb, 23
 na *Ffreinc* na Saeson.
- 5 Arañ a ðyvyð—
 pellenawg lywyð,
 Iewenyð Brython. 27

PROGNOSTICATIONS.

THE Muse prophesies that the *French* will hie away—
that their people & possessions will fly with them—
that the wide supremacy of the *Aberffro* princes,
when peace is made, will settle everywhere. 4

The land will seethe—*Mon will be attacked*—
upheaval will extend as far as Balaon.

Our princes will be wanderers—

Our knights will be worn out : & men 8
of the border will exhaust our land.

Kymry will lose its status
from too much intercourse
on the part of her princes. 12

There will come to ILeinog
a man who will be eager
to conquer Mon :

He will ruin Gwyneð— 16
its extremity, & centre,
& will take hostages.

A hero will come out of the void,
who will execute bloody work, 20
& give battle in the breakers.

Fierce of aspect
he will cringe to no one—
nor *French*, nor Saxon. 24

Another will come—
a wandering chieftain,
the joy of the Brython. 27

Canu Owein ap Kadwgan.

- R**HY·ðyrchawwy Duw, ar blwyv Brython,
arwyð llewenyð—llüyd o Von.
- 72 Cyv·rysseð Gwyneð, brys or·chorðion.
- 25 IFaw claer o bob aer caffael gwystlon : 4
Dybyðant ffõwys yn·wys ffyllon :
- 73 Gwyr gor·wyn, gõrynt ar eu deðvon.
- Deu *gun* lüydant, byðant gysson,
2 yn un reðv, un eir, gyweir, gymon : 8
cyv·ranant yn iawn, *cyviawn* vāon.
- 4 Ban welych wrthryn am Lyn Aeron—
Ban vo trwm Towi, a Theivi·n Iion,
wy wnant aer, ar vrys, am lys Lonion. 12
- 6 Y gau ni·s dewis, yn os·corðion,
ni nothwy ðinas rhag *tras* wythlon.
- 7 Dyn clud, dyn maerud, dyn dar·ymson—
neu·d oeð lwyr ðengyn—dyn rhieðon. 16
- 9 Ban ðyvu Gadwgawn
dros eigawn Iwerðon
yð atrevnwys neð yr arð Verion :
Ni bu hir yno heb ovalon : 20
- 11 Ys moch y clywis *am* geisadon—
am varchawg mor daer am gaer Lonion—
12 am ðial Ithel ar an·wynion—
am ware pellen a phen Saeson. 24
- 13 Ys tra·bluð Cath Vraith ang·hyvreithlon :
O Ryd ar Daradr hyd Wygyr Von,
15 Jeuanc ði·vwynas ðinas māon.
O·r pan amlygir mel y·meillon 28
- 17 gagent ý hamrydar, a·u hamrysson :
ni·d di·wystl godi dig wrth alon.

TO OWEIN AP CADWGAN

To Owain ap Cadwgan.

- Q**UAY God hoist on high, over the Brython race, the 1
flag of rejoicing : the armed host is leaving Mon :
The strife in Gwyneð speeds away the great retinues.
- Great the glory of receiving hostages, after every fight : 4
Those that fled into the dense thicket are returning ;
and the hoary elders are brooding over the laws.
- Two *princes* are marshalling—they will act harmoniously,
with one impulse, in accord, equipped, & orderly : 8
they will divide fairly and equitably their territories.
- When you see trouble beyond the Vale of Aeron—
when the Towy is sad, and the Teivi is feasting,
they will hurriedly lay siege round Lonion's Court. 12
- The traitor will not choose for his champions, those who
will not hold the fort against the outraged kindred.
- The abductor, a steward's kin, a notorious fellow,
was a thorough villain of patrician descent. 16
- When Cadwgan returned
over the Irish sea,
He set in order a nook in hilly Merion :
He was not long there free from cares : 20
He soon heard about men seeking him—
about the Knight so ardent around Lonion fort—
about the vengeance of Ithel on the recreants—
about the rolling in play of Saxon heads. 24
- Troubled is the striped Cat of the foreigners : from
Taradr Ford (on the Wye) to Kemeis bay in Mon,
Owain afflicted the strongholds of the territorial lords.
- From the time honey is produced in clover, 28
they quitted their tumult and their conflict :
To stir a foe's ire is to give hostage (to fortune).

Canu Cadwgan ap Bleðyn . II07.

- Q**Y·CHWEÐYL a·m doðyw o Galch·vynyð :
 Gwarth yn·Eheubarth—an·rheith glodryð.
- 38 Da ðylei ðyvalei *wleð* vedyð,
 a llawn *vyðei* i Ystrad *o lad* gynnyð. 4
- 14 *Ys* llary llwyðei *barwb vei yno*,
 oni ðaeth penbleth *wnaeth* arallvro.
- 15 *Am Nest* cad gormes tra trach·wres bro ;
 odid o Gymry a·i llavaro. 8
- 16 Dyved ðy·gyrchei *vei va* Wyðno,
 ac ni lyvessid *Nest* niweido :
 Er talu can mu *bu* erot lo :
- 18 Go·leith d·yscarant amgant dy vro, 12
 mal y twym *huan* darth yn yd vo.
- 19 Ban gyrchad *ðaired* ar dir Gwyðno,
 oed celein vein wen rhwng graean Gro.
- 21 Ban hwyles echwyð o glyd *lwys* vro, 16
 nid evrevwys *butwch* wrthol y llō.

Cadeu Mabon, a Brad Owein . III6.

- 23 Cyvarchav Vabon o arall vro ! 18
 Caffad, ban amug Owein i vro,
- 24 cad yn Rhyd *y Gors* ; cad *ar Gowyn* :
 cad yng·o·ffyllwyð—*affan* uðun ; 21
- 25 cad rhag rhoda*wl* wys—*Fflemys* erwin,
 i gwaewawr dereu a lleu lein :
- 39 cad rhwyvan *syberw* der·lyw der·lin, 24
 a·i yscwyd yn llaw yng·arthan grŷn
- 2 A welei Vabon ar vron Rheidawl,
 rhag·*ðaw*, *ar* redeg, dy·gymyscawr.
- 3 Oni bei ac adaneð yð ehettyn, 23
 rhag Mabon, heb galaneð, wy ni·d ðyn
- 5 O arvod discyn a thervyn cad,
 gwehenid *Razo* an·o·leithad. 31

To Cadwgan ap Bledŷyn.

A TALE has come to me from Calch-vynyð 1
of shame in the South, & of glorious spoil.
He should fare well who conceived a feast of baptism :
Full should his valley be of increasing blessings. 4
Kindly he governed all who dwelt therein,
until the entanglement arose—an outsider's work.
The Nest affair brought hardship, over and above local
explosion : scarcely out of Wales may one speak of it. 8
Dyved would have attacked the land of Gwyðno,
but it had not dared lest Nest should suffer.
Though fined a hundred cows you had the calf.
Your adversaries are dissolving around your 12
valley like a mist warmed by the sun.
When the mortuarium was sought on Gwyðno land,
the corse of the fair lady was under the sands of Gro.
When *Owein* sailed west from a cosy pleasant 16
home, the cow did not low after the calf.

Griffith ap Rhys, & Owein ap Kadwgan.

I greet Mabon from another valley ! When Owein
ap Cradog was defending his land, we had
a battle at Rhyd *y Gors* ; a battle on the Cowyn ; 20
a battle in the darksome thicket—a curse upon it ;
a battle against the roving horde—the uncouth *Flemish*,
whose spearmen *Mabon* smote with gleaming lances ;
a battle with the high-lineaged lord's proud steward, 24
who, shield in hand, was quaking in the camp.
Those who espied Mabon, on the hillside above
Rheidol, ran before him pell-mell.
Were it not with wings that they flew, 28
from Mabon, without slaughter, they would not escape
Between the descent and the end of the war,
Razo was delivered from destruction. 31

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 39 Ban ffowys *deryw* rhag Ilyw y wlad, 32
 tawled calch achlwyr o grys-grwydrad.
- 8 Nu, nid ev yscavael
 i neb *dy*·*dwyn* biw moel.
 Cy·geschwch, *Gynreion* ! 36
- 9 rhag gwyr Ilein rhuðion —
 rhag pedrydan dan·*de* —
- 10 rhag cadarn gyvwyre —
 rhag gwyar er·*dygnawd* — 40
 rhag avar ystaenawd. P
- 11 Cy·chweðyl a·m doðyw o dirion Deheu —
 traeth rhieu glew, haelon :
- 13 ni·th o·gyveirch echwynogion,
 am ry·gur gwern yng·hadvaon. 45
- 14 Ban berid *rhywel* gan Ri Dragon,
 bollt na o·wyllted *neb* rhag Mabon.
- 15 O arvod gwrthun ! cun *dy*·*gwydws*
yng·halaneð *brad* *Ystrad* Rwnws :
a bu lewenyð ið *ar*·*cyrchws*. 50
- 17 Bann ymadrawð gwyr gwedy nuchein
 cad : ni·s dienghis yscwyd Owein —
- 18 yscwyd volch wrthiad, yng·had tra·bluð.
 Ni ry·vei wartheg heb wyneb rhuð ; 54
- 20 a rhuð eu beudy *wedyr* mawr vrâd —
 gor·loched gwyar ar warthav iâd.
- 21 Ac ar wyneb *llwyd* yd rhy·gaffad
 eur·obell greuled, gain i dulliad. 58
- 23 Praið *Bowys* ioles ðaresteinad
 rhag taer vrwydr y tri·cyv·estrawn *hâd*.
- 25 *Wy*, ban gy·vylchyn gainc rhy·scwydad,
 ðis·creinynt *yn* vawr lavnawr am iad. 62
- 26 Torrad Owein *lawr* o vawr irad :
- 40 Vein·dyð, *ev* cwyðei·*vei*·n amwyn gwlad.
 Ban ðiscynn Owein *yng*·wenlad yr
- 3 Echwyð, ervyn vuð o·i Dad. 66

When Mabon's men fled, from the ruler of the place, 32
 their entire armour was discarded in hasty flight.

Now, it is no credit to anybody
 to carry away defenceless cattle.

Band together, *ye chieftains*, 36

against the men with ruddy lances —

against general conflagration —

against a mighty rising —

against the gore of the conflict — 40

against the spread of sorrow. *P*

A story has come to me from the lands of the South —
 from the shore of brave, generous princes.

The aggrieved will not welcome thee,
 because of the hardship of alder battle-grounds. 45

When the Dragon's King caused war to be made,
 (it was) a shock that none felt wild against Mabon.

By a tragic chance the Dragon fell, in the
 treacherous butchery of Ystrad Rwnws,
 and it was a joy to his attackers. 50

Loud the talk of men after the stress of battle :
 the shield of Owein did not escape — the shield
 that was notched, by resisting, in grievous fight.

Nor, were the cattle without gory faces, 54
 and gory their byre, after the great treachery —
 gore was lodged on the top of their heads.

And over a pallid face was found a finely
 wrought saddle of gold, stained with gore. 58

The *Powysian* herd sought ways of dispersion from
 the persistent attacks of the three alien stocks, who,
 when they forced a breach in a section that swayed,
 brandished wildly their blades about their heads. 62

Owen was cut down from intense hatred :

At dawn, he was felling defenders of their country.

When Owein is descending into the blessed land of the
 West, he craves for a blessing from his Father. 66

The Battle of Llech Wen.

- A**M *wyraeth* gwŷr cadr aeth, y'gan dyð, 1
 am Wledig, gweithvuðig warthegeyð.
- 56 Urien *ffawd*, hwn an·wawd o'r newyð ; 4
 cyv·lüed tēyrneð a'i gorvyð.
- 17 Rhy·vêlir rhwysc en·wir rhwyv bedyð :
 Gwyr Prydein a dwythein yn llüyð.
- 19 Yn Ystrad ys dadl cad, cyn y ðyd ; 8
 ni noðes y·mâes na choedyð.
- 20 Tud achles ðy·ormes, pan ðyvyð,
 mal tonnawr, tost eu gawr, dros elvyð.
- 22 Gweleis wyr, gwych *gedwyr*, yn llüyð ; 12
 gwedy *brud* bore câd briwgigyð.
- 23 Gweleis *drin*—torv teir ffin *yn*·hranc dig ;
 gwaed godan, *ar* baran go·chlywid.
- 25 Yn amwyn Ystrad Gwyn y gwelid 16
 govud *mawr* ang·wyr llawr, llüðedig.
- 26 Yn·rws tŷr, gweleis wŷr lledruðion,
 57 eirv ðillwng y·rag *blwng* gyv·oedion.
- Unyn *yn*·hanc, gan aethant goluðion :
- 2 llawð yng·hroes, eu gryd roes ranwynion. 20
 Cyv·edwein i gynrein gywym dôn ;
- 4 gwanecawr, llychant rawr eu callon
 Gweleis *vig* goscothig bystylad :
- Gweleis waed* a vagled ar ðillad. 24
- 5 A ðullyn ði·av·lym, ðwys wrthgad,
 gânt ortho. Ni bu ffo : ban bwyllad,
- 7 glyw rhy·gas, rhy·vedas pan veidat.
- 8 Gweleis *vig* rhy·o·ðig am Urien, 28
 yn ymrysson a'i alon yn llech Wen.
- 9 Yng·henveint galwytheint oed lawen :
 Aerawd wyd, go·borthid wrth anghen.
- 11 Awyð cad ðiffoðad yn Urien. 32

OIVEIN AP CADWGAN

Owein ap Cadwgan, slain III6.

BECAUSE of perfidy, brave men went, at dawn, 1
against the Gwledig, the victorious cattle-lifter.
Owein's *fate* will be a fresh cause of shame :
The joint action of the princes will overthrow him. 4
The baptized ruler's evil career shall be utterly crushed.
The men of Prydein will leap into action.
At Ystrad the strife began before daybreak :
(Owein) gave quarters neither afield, nor in the woods. 8
He devours the fat of the land as he goes : like
baleful-sounding billows (he sweeps) over the country.
I saw men, fine *warriors*, in battle array : after the
morning's treachery, their mangled bodies were found. 12
I saw a *battle* : the host of three confines, in the hateful
grip of death, raise a shout, & the rage (of war) is heard.
In defence of Ystrad Gwyn had been seen *the great*
tribulation of the poor sons of the soil, exhausted. 16
At the portal of the towers, I had seen blood-stained
men who drop their arms before their angry fellows.
They made peace, for they went into the interiors ;
Solaced in misfortune their shout causes blanched cheeks.
(Owein's) chieftains know the triumphant note ; *as* 21
it is poured forth, they hide the tumult in their hearts.
I witnessed the spite of the wrathful retinue's activity,
and the blood that was sprinkled on their mail. 24
They planned a sharp, severe attack, and take
cover. There was no flight : upon reflection
the behated prince wondered that he was challenged.
I saw the animus of the spite around Owein, 28
contending with his enemies at ILech Wen.
(Still) in the thick of the wrath of war he was cheerful.
The lust of slaughter was satisfied as fate decreed :
Eagerness for battle was quenched in Owein. 32

BOOK OF TALIESIN

Armes Prydein.

- D**YS·CO·GAN Awen *Ffreinc* dy·vryssyn — 1
 marhaned a meued hêd genhyn.
- 13 A phennaeth ehalaeth IFraew unbyn,
 4 wedy heð, dy·anheð bob mehyn. 4
 Gwyr gwychr yn trydar gasnar *dreisyn* :
 6 Escud yng·ovud, rhy·hyd ðiffyn.
 Gwaethl *Mwng* wyr Gweryð ; gwascar *i* Allmyn
 8 wnahawnt or·voleð ; gwedy, gwehyn. 8
 A chymod Cymry a gwyr Dulyn —
 9 Gwyðyl *rhy·doethon* Von, a Phrydyn.
 Cornyw achludyn gynn·wys genhyn :
 11 Ad·borion vyð Brython ban dy·orvyn. 12
 Bell amser, dyo·ganher, dybyðyn
 13 tÿrneð o vonheð, *a* orescyn
 wyr Gogleð yng·hynteð eu cylchyn —
 14 ym·herveð eu tachweð y discynnyn. 16
- D**ys·go·gan Myrðin cyvervyðhyn,
 16 Yn Aber yðon, meiron tÿrn.
 A chyn ni bei raith, ðaith a gwynyn :
 17 O ewyllis vryd yd wrthvynnyn. 20
 Meiron eu tretheu dy·chynnullyn ;
 19 yng·hedoeð Kymry ni·d *vi* delhyn.
 Yssyð ðyledawg a ðywawd i·n
 na ðyffeï a daleï, yng·heith, *ðim*. 24
- V**ab Mair ! mawr o air, pryd na tharðed
 22 rhag·bennaeth Saeson, weïson hoffed.
 Pell bwy y cylchyn y·wrth dÿrn Gwyneð —
 Ev gyrhawd Allmyn i alltudeð ; 28
 24 neb ni·s arhaedwy ðyffwy yn·aer.
 Ni wys py·r dreiglynt ym·hob aber.
 26 Ban brynwyd Daned, drwy ffed calleð,
 gan Hors a Hengys — ing eu rhyssed. 32

THE PROPHECY OF PRYDEIN

The Prophecy of Prydein.

THE Muse prophesies that the *French* will hie away—
that their folk with their property will fly with them—
that the widespread supremacy of the *Aberffro* Princes 3
will extend everywhere, when peace has come.
The stalwarts will loudly hate the marauders :
He, who rushes into trouble, will have a long defence. 6
Magnus will attack the men of Dee ; *his* Northmen will
scatter them at their triumphal feast ; he will, then, depart.
And the Kymry will make peace with the men of Dublin—
the Gwydyl *who had come* to Mon and Prydyn. 10
The Cornovi will carry natives away with them ;
Remnants will the Brythons be when they triumph.
At a distant time, it is prophesied, there will come 13
high-born princes, who will overcome
the men of Gogleð at the centre of their circuit—
in the middle of their retreat they will fall. 16

Myrðin prophesies that the stewards of the King
will meet at Aber Yðon ; and before there
could be any right (the Kymry) will complain of a levy,
against which they will, heart and soul, protest 20
that the stewards will gather their crops, since
in Kymry's treasuries there will be no reserve.
A great authority has told us that no one would
ever come, who should pay anything in bondage. 24

Son of Mary, of puissant power, may the time never
arise for the supremacy of the Saxons, sons of greed.
Far be their border from the Prince of Gwynedð,
who will drive the Northmen into exile : 28
May none he fails to seize escape the grave.
It is not known why they wander in every bay :
When Thanet was secured, through manifest wisdom,
by Hors and Hengist—straightened were their means. 32

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 14 Eu cynnyd y wrthym : ys an vonheð, 33
 2 wedy rhyn, dilein ceith y mynwer.
 3 Dy chyvyd anghen angheu llawer :
 2 Dy chyvyd meðdawd mawr wirawd með : 36
 4 Dy chyvyd aereu dagreu gwraðeð :
 5 Cyffry etgyllaeth bennaeth lledffer :
 Dy chyvyd tristid byd o ry her
 7 ban vyð *Normanieid* an tēyrneð. 40
 Gwrthottid Trindawd ðyrnawd bwyllor —
 8 dilein o Saeson Vrython anheð.
 Boed gynt a u rheges yn alltudeð,
 10 no myned Kymry yn ði vrøeð. 44
- Vab Mair, mawr o *ras*, pryd na's terðyn
 11 Gymry, rhag göeir brehyr unbyn?
 Cynrycheid eilweith an rheith gwynyn —
 13 un gor, un gynghor, un eisor ynt. 48
 Ni vyð, er mawreð, na's lleverynt ;
 15 nag er hepcor *cas* na's cymodynt.
 I ðuw a Dewi dym orchmynnynt :
 16 Talent *ged*, *fallent* fflod i Allmyn : 52
 Gwnaent an eireu eiseu trevðyn.
 Saeson a Chymry gyvervyðyn :
 y am lan *Dwy*, treulyn *drwy* ym wrthryn.
 19 O ðirvawr vyðin yð ym brovyn : 56
 ac y am allt llavnawr angawr a gryn :
 20 A amwyn Geiriog ergyr verw llyn ;
 a llym awr a ðaw, a garw ðiscyn ;
 22 ac mal baläon Saeson syrthyn. 60
 Cynrycheid Kymry, cyv un ðullyn ;
 23 blaen wrth von granwynnion, cyvyngyn.
 Yng warth gevyneu meirion greinhyn,
 25 a u byðin yng waedlin yn eu cylchyn.
 Ereill, ar eu traed, trwy goed cilhyn . 65

THE PROPHECY OF PRYDEIN

Their prosperity comes from us : it is, *therefore*, 33
churlish to destroy so soon serfs under the yoke.
Want will cause the death of many :
Much mead-liquor will give rise to drunkenness :
Battles will give rise to women's tears : 37
Wailing will affect the feeble chieftain :
A world-sadness will arise, from insubordination,
when the *Normans* shall be our lords. 40
The Trinity will avert the blow that is meditated—
the destruction of the Brython home by the Saxons.
Sooner be he, who has cursed them, in exile
than that the Kymry should lose their land. 44
Gracious son of Mary, when would not the Kymry
rise against the abuse of the baron-chiefs ?
Our representatives, a united band, of one mind
and lot, will complain a second time of plunder. 48
There is nothing, by way of magniloquence, they will
not say ; nor, to avoid ill-feeling, they will not agree to.
To God and Dewi they commit themselves : they 51
will pay tribute, but refuse a domicile to the Allmyn,
who will create disturbances from want of a home.
The Saxons & the Kymry will meet beyond the banks
of the *Dee* : they will wear out by contention. 55
With a great army they will prove each other ; & be-
yond *Berwyn* the spearmen will tremble miserably.
He, who will defend the *Ceiriog*, will contend with a
boiling flood : a shrill war-cry will come, & a fear-
some descent : like blossoms will the Saxons fall. 60
Kymry's men will form as one body ; close to the
rear of the pale-faced *foes* their van will hem them in.
In the disgrace of gyves the stewards will cringe—
& their army in a pool of blood will surround them.
Others, on foot, through the woods will retreat ; 65

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 15 Drwy Vwlch y Dinas Voras ffohyn. 66
 Rhyvel ni δym·chwel i dir Prydyn :
- 2 Attor glaw gynghor—mal mor llithryn.
Queirion Caer Geri di·vri gwynant ; 69
 4 rhai·r dyffryn, rhai·r bryn ni·s dir·wadant.
 Yn Aber Yδon ni vad δoethant ;
- 5 anaeleu dretheu, dy·chynullant : 72
 Naw ugein canhwr y dis·cynnant—
- 7 Mawr watwar ! namyn pedwar ni·d atcorant.
 Dy·heδ i·w gwrageδ a δywedant—
- 8 eu crysseu yn llawn creu a or·olchant. 76
 9 *Gwyned* gynyrcheid, eneid di·chwant,
 wŷr Deheu *rhag* tretheu a amygant.
- 11 ll·ym·liveid lavnawr, llwyr y lladant :
 Ni vyd meδig mwyn o·r a wnäant. 80
- 12 Byδinoeδ gwaladr cadr y deuant ;
 dyrchawwynt *eu gwlad, bob* cad a wnant.
- 14 *Ar hynt* an·o·leith yδ *ym·deithant* ;
 yn gorffen tretheu angheu wδant. 84
- 15 Ereill, ar ostri, a ry·blanhant,
ac yn oes oeseu ni·s escorant.
 Yng·hoed, y·maes, *ym·ro*, ym·ryn,
- 17 *ev* gerδ yn·howyll ganhwyll genhyn. 88
 Cynan a rag·wan ym·hob discyn :
 Saeson rhag Brython gwae a gēnyn.
- 19 Kadwaladr yn baladr gan i unbyn ; 91
 drwy synhwyr, yn llwyr, *ev* a·u dichlyn.
- 21 Ban syrthwynt yng·hlas dros eu herchwyn,
 dagreu custuδ rêd ar ruδ Allmyn : 94
- 23 yng·orffen ang·reith an·rheith dengyn.
 Sais â i hynt Gaer Wynt, pwy gynt t·rechynt :
- 24 Gwyn eu byd, Gymry, ban adroδynt. 97
 Rhy·ngwarawd Trindawd o·r trallawd gynt.

THE PROPHECY OF PRYDEIN

Through the Pass of Dinas to Boras they will flee. 66
War will not return to the land of Prydyn : Rain will
upset all plans : like the flood, the *foes* will glide away.

The stewards of Caer Geri will lament ingloriousness :
Some the dale, some the hill will not disdain. 70
Unto Aber Ydon they will not come for their good :
Terrible tribute they will collect—
Nine score centuries they will be descending— 73
O the mockery ! there will return but four. These
will report great tranquillity to their wives, *while*
their garments, soaked in gore, they will be washing.

The uncovetous soul of the *Gwyned* representatives 77
will defend the men of the South from *paying* tribute.
Sharply-ground blades do kill outright, and
no compassionate healer can make alive again. 80
The armies of our Prince will bravely advance :
May they glorify their country in every fight.

On a very destructive *expedition* they will go :
in putting an end to tributes they will taste death. 84
Fresh levies they will impose in the form of hospitality,
which never, never will be set aside.

In forest and field, in dale, and on hill, this
(hospitality) will attend them *as a* lamp in darkness. 88
Kynan will lead the attack in every descent :
Brythons will cause the Saxons to sing songs of woe.

Kadwaladr will be a pillar with his chieftains, 91
whom, for their ability alone, he will select.

When the Allmyn fall into a district beyond their bor-
der, in custody their cheeks will run with tears. 94
After a successful onslaught the villeins will pillage.

The Saxon will go to Winchester after vanquishment.
Blessed the Kymry, when they shall tell these things.
The Trinity will deliver us from our former trouble. 98

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- Na chryned Dyved na Glywyssing : 99
- 16 Ni's gwnahon volawd meirion tēyrn,
 1 na chynghor Saeson, ceffyn obryn.
 Ni's gwna go·veðud veðdawd genhyn.
- 3 Heb ðal, yd roðeint vaint a geffyn
 i ymðiveid, *gweðwon*, a *thlodion* ryn. 104
- 5 Drwy eiriawl Dewi a sein Prydyn,
 hyd I·Frwd ar *Lairgo* ffohawd Allmyn.
- D**ys·go·gan Awen dy·ðaw y dyð,
 7 ban ðyffo Iwys, yng·wÿs *rhÿyð*, 108
 yn gôr un gynghor— I·Loegr lüosyð,
 er gobeith ann·eir ar·n prydawl lüyð :
- 9 A cherð arallvro, a ffo beunyð :
 Ni wÿr rhuð ymlað cwð â, cwð vyð. 112
- 11 Dy·chyrchwynt gyvarth, mal arth o wyð,
 i dalu gwyneith, gwaed eu henyð.
- 12 Ad·vi beleitral—*gwyar* ðillyð ;
 ni·d arbettwy car gorff i gilyð. 116
 Ad·vi ben *gwallawg* heb *eneinyð* :
- 14 Ad·vi wragedð gweðw a meirch gweilyð :
 Ad·vi ubein uthr rhag rhuthr *rheinyð* :
- 16 I·Liaws I·lawn a phar wascar lüyð ; 120
 cennadeu angheu, dy·chyvervyð.
 Can saffwynt *yng·had* wrth eu henyð,
- 18 ev dialawr ar·werth y dreth beunyð ;
 a·r *aml* gennadeu, a·r geu lüyð. 124
- 20 **D**y·dyrvir Kymry—cy·vergyrant
 yn gyt·ffyð, gyd·eir, gyweir *yð ant*.
- 21 Dy·dyrvir Kymry i beri *gwysiant* ;
 a I·wyth, I·liaws gwlad, a gynullant. 128
- 23 I·Luman glan ðewi a ðyrchavant,
 i rysiaw Gwyðyl : drwy li eingant
- 24 a·r Gynhon Dulyn : Genhym savant,
 ban ðyffont i·r gad, ni·d ym·wadant. 132

THE PROPHECY OF PRYDEIN

Dyved and Glywyssing need have no fear : 99

Those who will not praise the King's stewards, nor
do the bidding of the Saxon, shall have their reward.
Mead-drinking leads not to drunkenness with them.
Without reservation they will distribute all they get
among orphans, widows, and *the poor* not a few. 104
By the intercession of Dewi and the saints of Prydyn,
as far as Portlaw on the Suir the Northmen will flee.

The Muse prophesies that a day will come, when
the Gewissi will answer the summons of the King, 108
a unanimous company—England's forces—in the
hope of bringing disgrace on our timely hosting.
It will traverse strange districts & daily flee : active 111
warfare knows not its course, nor what will happen.
They will make for the barking, like a bear from the
wood, to avenge the blood of their ancestors. 114
There will be spear-thrusts, and flow of blood ; even
a friend will not spare the body of his fellow :
There will be a chief lost without an *anointer* :
There will be widows, and riderless horses : 118
There will be a fearful outcry at the onset of the
lancers : the countless blades & javelins will scatter
the host, whom the angels of death will intercept. 121
Since they will stand in war by their kin,
the farming of the tribute will be avenged daily,
upon the many collectors and the traitorous host. 124

The Kymry will be roused—they will strike together :
confident, unanimous, prepared *they will go*.
The Kymry will be roused to mobilize ; & the nation,
in the plenitude of its numbers, will assemble. 128
They will raise the banner of holy Dewi to con-
found the Gwyðyl, who will escape by water to the
Northmen of Dublin. Those who stay behind,
when they come to battle, will not hold back. 132

- Govynnann i'r Saeson py geisant : 133
- 17 Pwy vaint yn'yled o'r wlad ðaliant ?
 Cw mae eu helyth—pan seilassant ?
- 2 Cw mae eu ceneðl—pan y doethant ? 136
- 3 Er *oed* Gwrthëyrn *arnom* sathrant :
 ni cheffir gwir randir a'n carant.
- 4 Neu, breinheu a'n Sant rhy·sanghassant—
 rheitheu *Ty-Ðewi* rhy·dorassant. 140
- 6 Ym·gedwynt Gymry. Ban ym·welant,
 ni'd ahont Allmyn o'r van savant,
- 8 *nes* caffont seith-weith werth ðigonsant ;
 neu angheu ðieu yng·wrth eu *chwant*. 144
- 9 Ev talhawr an·war Armawn garant
am drais a gormes escorassant
- 10 ym·hedeir blyneð ar bedwar cant.
 Gwyr gwychrion, wallt hir, er·gyrch donnyð—
- 11 i ði·hol Saeson o *Von* ðyvyð. 149
 Dybi o *Lairges* lynchges rewyð—
- 13 rhewiniawd yn *gwlad*—rhwygawd llüyð.
 Dybi o Alclud wyr drud, gweiryð, 152
- 14 ðihol o Brydein virein lüyð.
 Dybi oludawg braw gyweithyð—
- 16 cedwyr y·ar gadveirch—ni pheirch i henyð.
 Saeson o bopparth yng·warth ðeubyð : 156
- 17 rhy·drenghit eu hoes, ni's di·oes *rhyð*.
 Dy·ðeubi angheu'r Du Gyweithyð :
 clevyd a weryð a·u rhy·ðiffyð.
- 19 Gwedy cur, gorian, a chanhwynyð, 160
 boed berth a'n differth yng·wrth dryg·ffyð :
- 21 Boed vur am·gor a'n cyffyllwyð :
 Boed greu, boed angheu eu cyweithyð. 164
- 23 *Ev* a Chadwaladr, cadr yn llüyð,
 edmyccawr hyd vrawd, ffawd a ðeubyð.

THE PROPHECY OF PRYDEIN

They will demand of the Saxons what they are seeking :
How much of the land they hold in fee ? 134
Where is their stock—when was it founded ?
Where are their people—whence did they come ?
Since the time of Gwrtheyrn they trample upon us : 137
We cannot enjoy the rightful share of our heritage.
And now, they have trampled on the prerogatives of our
Saint, and disregarded the rights of *St. David's*. 140
Let the Kymry be on guard. When they visit us, the
Allmyn will not quit the place in which they settle,
until they get seven times the value of their work ;
or meet with certain death in return for their greed. 144
The barbarous Northern race will be paid
for the oppression and plunder it carried on
during four years and four hundred.
Brave, long-haired, men will rush the waves, 148
and will come to expel the Saxons out of Mon.
From Portlaw will come a wanton fleet,
which will ruin our country, and rend our host.
There will come from Alclyde bold rustics 152
who will expel from Prydein a magnificent host.
There will come a prince who will prove the allies—
warriors, on their steeds, whose race he will not respect.
The Saxons, on every side, will fall into disgrace— 156
their time will come to an end, but freedom will endure.
The Dark allies will surely come to their death—
the plague that will spring up will extinguish them.
After anxiety, the war-cry & the conflict, let him 160
be prosperous, who defended us against bad faith :
Let him be the fence-wall around us & our comfort :
Let him shed blood & bring death to the allies.
He & Cadwaladr, valiant in warfare, will be 164
admired till doom ; fortune will favour them.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 25 Deu unben dengyn, dwys gyng^harwsyð, 166
 Saeson or-sengyn, pleidyn ðovyð.
 Deu hael, deu geidwad gwlad warthegeyð,
- 18 di·archar, parawd, unffawd, unffyð.
 Deu erchwyn Prydein virein lüyð ; 170
 2 deu a·r ni's gwna gwarth, þarchaw beunyð.
- Ðys·go·gan derwyð vaint a ðervyð : 172
 4 O Vanaw hyd Lydaw i·w llaw vyð—
 O ðyved hyd ðaned wy bieuvyð—
- 6 O Wawr hyd Weryð, a·i haberyð,
 lletawd eu pennaeth dros yr Echwjð. 176
 Attoran Gynhon ; Saeson ni vyð :
- 8 At·chwelwynt Wyðyl a·r eu henyð :
 rhy·ðyrchwynt Gymry gadr gy·weithyð.
- 10 Byðinoeð am·gor athor lüyð, 180
 a thëyrneð dwys gedwys eu ffyð.
 ði wys pob llynghes a thres ðervyð ;
- 12 a chymod cynran gan i gilyð.
 Ni alwawr Gynhon yn gynivyð 184
- 14 namyn cyrch Cadwaladr gynniweiryð.
 Eil Gymro, llawen a llavar vyð ;
 am ynys bweid haid a ðervyð.
- 16 Ban *wnant* galaneð ar eu henyð, 188
 hyd yng·Haer Santwig cwynedig vyð.
- 18 Allmyn a·r-gychwyn yn alltudyð,
 ol wrth ol atcor ar eu henyð.
- 19 Saeson wrth angor, ar vor beunyð ; 192
 Kymry wenerawl, wrawl orvyð.
- 21 Na cheiswch lyvrwr angawr brydyð—
 Armes yr Ynys namyn hyn ni byð.
- 22 Jolwn Ri grëwys nev ac elvyð : 196
 Boed tywys Dewi i·r cynivyð.
- 24 Yn yr ing gwell no dim dwy^vawl ffyð :
 ni threinc, ni ðieinc, ni·d ar·ðispyð—
- 25 ni wyw, ni wellyg, ni phlyg, ni chryð. 200

THE PROPHECY OF PRYDEIN

These two leaders of the people, deep of counsel 166
will trample on the Saxons, and support the Lord.
Two generous ones—protectors of the land of cattle ;
irrepressible, equipped, of one faith, and fortune.
Two bulwarks of Prydein's magnificent army—two 170
who do no ignoble thing, I shall ever respect them.

The sage prophesies what great things will happen :
From Man to Brittany they will hold : from 173
Dyved to (the forest of) Dean they will possess :
From Woore to the Dee, and *thence* to its mouths
their sovereignty will spread over the West. 176
The Northmen will be thrust back ; Saxons will flee :
The Gwyðyl will return to their own people :
The Kymry will extol them, their brave allies.
The armies of the border, our host will break up, 180
and our sage princes will keep their faith.
Against our people every fleet & trouble will disap-
pear : our chieftain will make peace with his fellow.
The Northmen will not be called combatants, 184
but the gathering of Cadwaladr's tourists.
The other Kymro, (*O.G.*) merry and jubilant will be :
Around the battered island a horde will perish. 187
When they make a murderous attack upon their kin,
there will be sorrowing as far as Kaer (Gybi)'s
Holy Bay. The Northmen will fly as exiles,
and retrace their course to their own people. 191
The Saxons will remain at sea, riding at anchor ;
and the venerable brave Kymry will conquer.
Search not the books of a miserable bard— 194
there will be no other Prophecy about the Island.
Let us worship the Father who created Heaven & earth :
Let (St.) David be a guide to the combatants.
In distress there is nothing like holy faith : 198
it dies not, deserts not, is not exhausted ; it does
not faint, nor fail, nor turn aside, nor waste away.

Daronwy.

- D**UW nev differwy, 1
rhag llanw lled orðwy.
- 28 Cyntav y tarrwy,
23 a dreis dros ðovrdwy.
Py ðren a vo vwy 5
- 24 nog yn Daronwy?
Ni'd vi a'n noðwy,
- 25 ban gyrch Balch nevwy. 8
Ys rhin y suðwy—
- 26 gwanawr gwyr Cornwy.
Odid a'i gwypwy—
hudlath Vathonwy. 12
- 29 Yng hoed pan tyffwy—
ffrwytheu nwy cymrwy.
- 2 A'r lan Gwyllionwy,
Kynan a'i caffwy, 16
pryd pan wledychwy.
- 3 Dyðeuant etwaeth,
dros drei a thros draeth,
- 4 bedeir priv bennaeth : 20
A'r bymhed, ni'd gwaeth—
- 5 gwyr gwrð ehalaeth,
a'r Brydein arvaeth.
- 6 Gwrageð a vi ffraeth : 24
Eillon a vi caeth :
Rhyverthwy hîr aeth,
- 7 a veð warogaeth.
Dyðaw dwy riein— 28
- 8 Gweðw a gwriawg vain :
lledyn eu hadein
ar wyr yn goriein. 31
- 9 Dyðeuant, gynrein,
o am dir Prydein ;

DARONWY

Daronwy.

QAY God of heaven defend (us) 1
against the rising tide of violence.
First may He strike him,
who will pillage beyond the Dee. 4
What insolence can be greater,
than that *at* Daronwy? There
will be none to protect us when
the Proud one enters the sanctuary.
'Tis a secret that *Hugh* will sink— 9
that the Cornovi will be dispatched.
Scarcely may any know
the magic wand of Mathonwy. 12
In the wood where it is growing,
its fruits none may take.
On the banks of Gwyllionwy
may Kynan find it, 16
at the time when he rules.
Over ebb and strand four
sovereign powers will yet 20
again come upon the fifth,
which is not inferior—
upon brave, generous men,
who rule over Prydein's lot.
The women will be violated : 24
Strangers will be made captive :
Prolonged pressure of adversity
will secure submission.
Two queens will come— 28
a widow and a married fair one :
They will extend their protection
over men in dire stress.
Leaders will come, from 32
beyond the land of Prydein ;

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 29 Eu cerðed gyngain ; 33
 10 Eu gwawd a yscein.
 Anan ðerw a drain :
 a'r gorð yd gyngain. 37
 11 *Gnawd* ci i rynnu ; march i ryniaw ;
 Eidon i wan ; hwch i *dyriaw* :
 12 Pymhed, Iwdn gwyn — *aberth* Jesu,
 a wisc Aðav, o'i ymatru. 41
 4 *Bwystwled* coed cain eu syllu,
 hyd yd vuant, a hir yd vu.
 15 Ban wnel Kymry ý cam-hüalu,
 ceir arall vro pwy carho nu. 45
 16 Ilestaireis gam, gor·gam eglwg :
 Ile cewsit da ni'r gaho drwg.
 Mygedorth Rhun ys ev amlwg, 48
 18 rhwng Caer Riein a Chaer Rynwg —
 rhwng Din Eiðin a Din Eiðwg :
 19 eglur dremyn a wyl golwg. 50
 Rhag tan rhynawd dychyffrwy mwg.
 20 A'n Rhëen, Duw, a'n rhy amwg. *f*

Stawd Huydd mator.

- A**ATHLEU *darogant* 1
seith niu nodant :—
 74 Dyw Ilun dy·byðant ;
 i beithaw yð ant. 4
 14 Dyw Mawrth, yd rannant
 wýth i·w hyscarant.
 Dyw Merchyr, mediant
 ry·odres ry·chwant. 8
 16 Dyw Ieu, escorant
 eiðolyð an·chwant.
 17 Dyw Gwener, gormant
 yng·waed go·noviant. 12

DARONWY

Their advance will be in unison ; 34
Their fame will spread.
They will attack oak and thorn
(*fences*) : The nation will rejoice. 37
The dog *is wont* to shiver ; the horse to shy ;
the bull to gore ; the sow to upturn the soil :
The fifth, the sacrifice of Christ, a white
beast will clothe Adam, by fleecing it. 41
Beasts of the forests, lovely the sight of them,
while they flourished, and long that was.
When the Kymry will wrongly fetter them,
a stranger will be found who loves them still.
I checked wrong, manifest great wrong : 46
Where you find good you will not find evil.
The funeral pile of Rhun is conspicuous,
twixt Maiden and Beeston castles—
twixt Din Eiddin and Din Eidwg : 50
a clear vision will catch a glimpse of it.
Shortly before there is fire a smoke rises.
May our sovereign God protect us. P

The Great Hosting.

THE prophetic songs 1
specify seven days :—
Monday, they will come ;
to scout they will go. 4
Tuesday, they will impart
discontent to their foes.
Wednesday, they will display
the pomp of excess. 8
Thursday they will indulge
their idols of lust.
Friday, in abundance
of blood they will wade. 12

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 74 Dyw Sadwrn, *swynant* ; 13
au meirwon gladant.
- 18 Dyw Sul, yn geugant
 dieu dy *m·chwelant.* 16
- 20 Pym llong a phym cant,
 o *rithad* noviant.
 O brithi rithes,
- 21 *ni·d* oes *ni vedri.* 20
 O rith Brithoni,
 ysedig *ei·di*—
- 22 eil coed *cllogwyni* :
 Antareð *dy·bi.* 24
 Pawb *ði adon äei* ;
 ar Weryð *cwympei.*
- 23 *Drywon* *ðarogaw*n 27
 wae hir rhag Garmawn.
- 24 Hir, cylch oed gynghan
 i'n gwaladr, ach Cynan.
- 25 Pyd, o byð bychan,
ðiva wrês hüan. 32
- 26 Dys·co·gan derwyð :—
 “A vu a *dyvyð.*”
 Wybr eir gerð *ðovyð*—
- 75 *cerðlawn ynghenyð.* 36
 Wylhawd eil echwyð
 2 yn·horroed mynyð.
 Ban *vyð* beu llawn hyð,
 Brithion a'r gynhyð. 40
- 3 I Vrithion dybi
 waeð Wynyð o·vri.
- 4 Gwedy aur renni
 diffeithan Moni, 44
 Llŷn, ac Eryri—
- 5 anheðant ynði.

THE GREAT HOSTING

- Saturday, *they will consult the oracles, and bury their dead.* 13
- Sunday, inevitably,
they will verily return. 16
- Five ships and five hundred,
by enchantment float.
- If you colour what he enchanted 19
there is nothing you cannot attain.
- By the enchantment of the Scotti,
consumed is the ivy— 22
the fosterling wood of the cliffs :
Mad fury will follow.
- Every one against his lord would go :
on the Dee, he would fall.
- The druids predict a long 27
misery on account of Wexford.
- This haunt had long been friendly
to our leader, of the line of Kynan.
- Ill-feeling, though it be little, 31
destroys the warmth of the sun.
- The druid prophesies that,
what has been, will be. 34
- The sky pours forth the Lord's song—
full of music, its undertones.
- The Fosterling of the West will weep
in the recesses of the mountain. 38
- When the country is full of deer,
the Scotti will increase.
- To the Scotti will come the
appeal of renowned Gwyneð. 42
- After you distribute gold,
they will lay waste Mon,
Ilÿn, & Snowdonia,
and will dwell therein. 46

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 75 Dys·co·gan perffeith — 47
 anhedyn diffeith.
- 6 Cymry, bedeir iaith,
 symudant i hareith. 50
- 7 I't dyvi vuwch vraith
 a wna ho gwyneith :
- 8 Veinδyδ a vrevawd, 53
 veinoeth y berwhawd :
Ac ar dir verwhawr,
- 9 yn llongoeδ yssawr. 56
 Cathl gwae cenhitor,
- 10 cylch Prydein amgor.
 Ant, o un gynghor,
- 11 yng·wrthol warth mor. 60
 Boed gwir eu myned—
 Tragwyδawl, byded !
- 12 Dorwys δ·oll ynghid
 o δovaeth eithlyd. 64
 Cyvran llawn *tristid*,
- 13 yd gyvarch gywid.
 Heb ebawl aeav—
 Heb henvon hâv— 68
- 14 Heb o·vur *gobeith*,
 byd a vyδ diffeith.
 Direid tynghettor ;
y grog a'u *hescor*. 72
- 15 Hoiw gweδ trwy grevyδ :
 Gwyrein bron drwy ffyδ :
- 16 Terwynn tuth i jolyδ,
 i hewyd ar vedyδ. 76
- 17 Ni wân cylllellawr
 veiwyr cleδyvawr.
- 18 Ni·d oeδ uδu y puchyssyn—
 anaw angerδawl trevδyn. 80

THE GREAT HOSTING

Most true the prophecy— 47
they will dwell in the wilderness.
They will change the speech
of Kymry, with its four languages.
To thee will come the brindled cow,
which will work deliverance. 52
At dawn it will low ;
at eve it will seethe :
What will be boiled on land
will be eaten aboard ships. 56
The song of woe shall be chanted
around Prydein's border.
They will, of one accord,
return athwart the sea. 60
True be it that they are going ;
Forever let it be !
He entreated that he be set free
from a painful durance. 64
A lot full of sadness
eagerly seeks friendship :
Without a horse in winter :
Without a cow in summer : 68
Without the buffer of hope
the world becomes a wilderness.
The wicked will be exorcised ;
the Cross will deliver them. 72
Bright the countenance of the pious :
Exalted the breast through faith :
The fervent speeds to the act of
worship, intent on baptism. 76
Those armed with a dagger cannot
pierce warriors armed with swords.
They had not what they desired—
the intense inspiration of a home. 80

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 75 A ry·wyr gareð Creuðyn—y Gwyðyl, 81
a'r Eingl, a gwy'r Prydyn :
- 20 *Saeson* gyvred ar discyn,
 21 o Wynvynyð—o Hirmyn 84
 Dygedawr gwyðveirch *hyd* ar lyn Gogleð ;
i Arllechweð y cyrchyn :
- 22 Y cas wyr o glas *Dulyn*—
 o echen *achas* henyn. 88
 Dygedawr drwy *li* ðy·gyrchyn vranhes,
 a or·goðes wyr einym :
- 24 Y·meryð miled seithyn,
 a'r mor agor *am* gryssyn, 92
- 26 heb erglywaw arawd nebawd vehyn
y'gan vynawg, *neu vrawd*.
- 25 Uch o vor, uch o voryn,
 uch o orr yniâl ebyrn— 96
 coed, mâes, tyno, a bryn.
- 76 Yd ðyvi brithred
 Pïaws gynired :
- 2 Govud am wehyn 100
 ðïal *Duw ernyn* !
 Drwy hoiw *gardodeu*
- 3 *yn i breswylvaeu,*
 Creawdr cyvoethawg 104
a vadeu'th becharwd.
- 4 Pell, cyn no dyðbrawd,
 y daw diwarnawd
 a ði·wÿr ðaer ffawd— 108
 a dervyn dreison
 o dir Iwerðon.
- 6 Yna, ym·Hrydein 111
 y daw dadwyrein—
 Brython o vonheð
a rwyv yng Wÿned. 114

THE GREAT HOSTING

- The Gwyðyl, the Angle, & the men of Prydyn
will know well the crime of Creuðyn : 82
Saxons flock together into the attack,
from Gwynvynyð and Long Mynd. 84
Ships will be brought as far as Gogleð water—
to Arllechweð they will repair :
Hateful the men from the clan of Dublin—
from a hated origin they descend. 88
By sea will be brought those who will attack the
forces, which have so harassed our men :
In the plashes they will shoot the horses :
The sea will open about those who rush in
without their hearing prayers at any place 93
from monk *or brother*.
Their cry will rise from sea and breaker,
and the recess of a wood-bank wild— 96
aye, from wood and field, and dale and hill.
There will come the turmoil
of numerous expeditions :
But the chagrin of evacuating 100
God will visit on them.
By cheerful offerings,
in His tabernacles,
the puissant Creator 104
will remit thy sins.
Long ere doomsday
will come a time, which
will un-crook earth's lot ; 108
and end incursions
from the land of Erin.
Then, in Prydein, 111
will become ascendant
a Brython by descent,
who will rule in Gwyneð : 114

- 76 A bi barn o dyð 115
 ang·hngres *lluyð*.
 Go·gan sywyðon
 ing colledigion : 118
- 9 Go·gan derwyðon,
 “Tra mor tra Brython.”
 Hav ni byð hinon :
- 10 Byrhawr brëyron : 122
 a·u deubyð gwangred :
- 11 Tra merin *cad cêd*.
 Mil ymbrawv Brydein urðin :
 Ac *ry·am·gyffrwn gy·ffin* 126
 ni chwynav : ym·ogled wern—
- 13 Gwerni weð waelod uffern.
 Ergryniŕ cylllestrig gaen 129
- 14 gan wledig gwlad an·orffen.

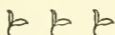


Am a dy·dyvi.

- Y**N wir dy·dyvi rhwyv a vi gâr ; 1
 odid o vab dyn *welyn* i bâr.
- 76 Rhy·glywhawr rhagðaw maw gyvagar ;
 Byðin a gwaedlin a ry·escar. 4
- 18 Ot rhy·ganer kyrn gwerin dringar,
 rhy·thrych rhy·gyrchynt yng·hleðyval.
 Brein ac eryron olych wyar, 7
- 20 ac, ar lwybr gwrid*goch*, wrys di·archar.
 Ar·ðyrch *ev*, waladr, lu *cadŕ*, llachar,
 22 ac wyneb vyðin bröyð ynial.
- Y**N wir dy·dyvi ymrysonau : 11
- 23 Govuned dyngant yng·hyn·echreu
 blwyðyn, yd vuðid rhi hyd draetheu.

THE GREAT HOSTING

And he will be a law-giver from 115
the day the host *become* disunited.
The prophets will chant
the " miserere " of the lost :
The druids will chant, 119
" Brython & sea co-eval will be."
The summer will not be sunshiny.
The barons will be overthrown— 122
faint-heartedness will assail them.
Beyond the border there had been spoil.
A thousand will test Prydein's line ; 125
and him, who will greatly disturb the border
I will not bewail : Let him avoid alders—
alder copses befit the bottom of hell.
The adamantine firmament will be shaken
by the Lord of the land everlasting. 130



Prophecies.

VERILY there will come a friendly ruler ; 1
scarcely among men will they see his like.
In front of him will be widespread shouting.
The army from bloodshed he will deliver. 4
If the trumpets of a warlike people be sounded
he will cut down such as rush into the conflict.
Crows and chieftains delight in gore, 7
and, on the scarlet path, unrestrained violence.
The leader will exalt his brave, brilliant host,
and will face the army of the wild regions. 10
VERILY ruptures will come : A vow they
will make at the very beginning of the year,
which will profit the King along the coasts. 13

- Gaeav, gyrr *wynt* Ilym— Ilywid longeu— 14
 25 certh iawn ciliassyn mynud rhyffreu :
 Pryd myr ryverthwy, ar warr tonneu,
 77 *gwylein* dygyrch dam o glawr brocheu.
 Arth a Ilew ðer-Ilyv oleu bylleu : 18
 2 Dibyn y tervyn ar ruð vereu.
 Rhwygeisir cystuð— rhybuð rhag geu,
 rhag y varanres o vawr greðu. 21
 Cwyðir tyrch torvoeð, dyrvynt daleu,
 5 yng'hynniv gwaladr, o glod lathr gleu.
 6 Dyðyrchawyd torch o barth Deheu, 24
 ygan was ryðadlas am i veu.

- Y**N wir dydyvi hael hy-wreð,
 8 a dyrvawd volud mawr edrysseð.
 Ilyw byrr, tew, llyð, Ilydan i weð, 28
 9 hyd ban vwynt seith *meib* i ri Gwyneð—
 hyd ban dranghwy *llyw* drwy ffawd ryveð.
 11 Rhi eiðun dyhun 'n *Reding* dudweð :
 Treisant Eingl ar hynt o alltudeð : 32
 12 Trwy vor yd lithrant a'u heisilleð.

- Y**N wir dydyvi teithiawg Von—
 13 Draig a diffreidiad o bobl Vrython :
 Pen Ilyð perchid lurigogion. 36
 14 Dwnn y darogan dewin drywon
 pebylliawnt a'r Dren a Tharanhon—
 16 gorlethant dyvynt i geisaw Mon.
 Hoff ðebed dyhynt o Iwerðon : 40
 17 Teg ffaw *diffygiaw* Cesarogion.
 Gorgan ang'harad o ðelwad heð :
 19 Gorgan y perir cad arw yn neð— 43
 Arth o ðehebearth gyvarth Wyneð
 20 yn amwyn rhyð, — rhyved rosseð—
 Yd heiðir all-tir a'i ðarmertheð— 46

PROPHECIES

- Winter will send bitter winds that will control ships 14
 which would certainly withdraw at times of storm :
 When the seas rush upon the crest of the waves
gulls will snatch a morsel from the spume's surface.
 Bear and lion will lap the shallow pools : 18
 The boundary will depend on ruddy spears.
 Hostages will be sought—a caution against treachery,
 against the marching army of mighty projects. 21
 Standards of forces, which disturb the land, will be
 thrown down in fighting a leader of brilliant fame.
 A standard was raised, on behalf of the South, 24
 by a youth who fought stoutly for his inheritance.
- VERILY there will come a very brave prince,
 who will stir up eulogy *by* liberal largess. 27
 A short, stout, broad-faced Ruler will wage war, until
 there will be seven sons to the prince of Gwyneð—
 until *the Ruler* shall die by a strange fate. 30
 The King will crave for his long rest *in Reading* soil :
 The Angles will pillage on their homeward journey :
 By sea, they and theirs will glide away. 33
- VERILY there will come a true prince to Mon—
 a dragon and defender to the Brython people :
 The invading chief will respect his mailed warriors. 36
 Confidently the diviner of the druids prophesies that
 they will pitch their tents on the Tern & Tarannon ;
 and will overwhelm those who will come to seize Mon.
 Happy the departure of an expedition from Ireland : 40
 Fair the report of the failure of the King's warriors.
 (The diviner) prophesies enmity in the guise of peace :
 That a fierce war will be waged in the dingle : 43
 That the Bear from the South will harass Gwyneð,
 in defence of the King, a strange excess (of zeal) :
 That the strange land and its crops will be attained : 46

- 77 Gaeav goledir yn lleudireð— 47
 Rhylenwynt aesawr, yng'awr o gleð,
 22 yng'hynniv gwaladr ar ior Gwyneð.
- Y N wir dy·daw awr dy·derbi hyn :
 24 lloegrwys ym·ollyn oll vei genhyn. 51
 Gweler arðebed y gwyr brychwyn,
 26 rhag saetheu, bereu, a haearn gwyn.
 Gelwhitor y'ar vor, a'u gwaewawr grŷn :
- 78 Nychawnt yn eigawn tra llŷdŷn :
 Halltazwg ymyleð vyð eu bwðyn. 56
- Y N wir dy·dyvi ði dra Havren
 3 wrthredid Brydein, vrenhin gorðen.
 llwrw lywyð llaws, llŷd i echen—
 Tëyrnas cyn adas cawas wlaen. 60
- 5 Gwerin byd, yn wir, byðawnt lawen ;
 meðhawnt ar beiron, berthwyr echen.
- 7 lFlemychawd hirell ði uch Havren :
 llwyth Kymry gynnoll yn ðiscowen 64
- 9 yng'hynniv gwaladr ; bythid lawen—
 pen rhi cerðorion, clod a weithen.
- Y N wir dy·daw cawr ; 67
 10 a'i lu, a'i longawr ;
 a thorv yscwydawr ;
 a newyð waewawr. 70
- 12 A gwedy gwychr awr,
 i voð ev gwnahawr.
 Cyrchid ev Benvro ; 73
- 13 flemychid yng'wo :
 Draig ni'd ym'gelho,
 er maint ðel iðo.
- 14 Nid yscawn ioled, 77
 orescyn Dyved.
- 15 Dy·dyccawd niwed,
 tra merin Rheged. 80

PROPHECIES

That the winter will be spent in the cultivated parts :
That their swords will load their shields in war,
in the attack of our leader on the lord of Gwyneð. 49

VERILY the hour will come when we shall see
the English collect all they have with them,
and the departure of the fair, freckled men 52
before arrows, spears, and flashing steel.

They will be challenged from the sea & their spearmen
will shudder : they will perish in the water while
marshalling : the salt sea-edges will be their tomb. 56

VERILY the King of destiny will come, from
beyond Severn, and invade Prydein. This
impetuous leader of the host will marshall his people—
before he quitted *his* kingdom he received the crown.

Verily the populace will rejoice that the 61
rich men of the nation will possess cauldrons.

A light will flash forth from upper Severn :
The Kymric race will assemble cheerfully 64
in its leader's struggle, who will be merry—
the chief patron of minstrels, the fanners of fame.

VERILY a hero will come 67
with his host and his ships :
with a pile of shields,
and brand new spears. 70

And after a victorious shout,
his will will be done.
He will proceed to *Pembroke*,
and blaze in his progress. 74

A dragon may not hide himself,
however many may oppose him.
It is no slight praise, 77
the vanquishing of Dyved.

He will carry destruction,
beyond the border of the March. 80

16	Peryv, perchen ced, wledych yn Elved. Hael, hydr y dy·liv ;	81
17	gor·vawr i gynniv. Wrth a wŷr i oðiv,	84
18	caffad gweith heiniv.	86

Darogan kad Waladr.

	W archawg <i>march</i> mwth, mysterin, a'r ðeu wyneb, beir vrwydrin—	
80	Rhodiawg brad—llad i drenghi, ac yn Eryri i oloï.	4
20	Ban ðel cad waladr go·wna, yn·ôl, ym·Hrydein, ben ma ;	
21	<i>ari amlwg</i> oes moes nywia ; a'i ffinieu, vyð i'n vad·va.	8
22	Ys deubi, yna, Sais i erchi bwyta :	
23	Dogn wŷr : o <i>dra</i> rhyvyg, <i>troseða</i> .	12
	Jeuhaw gwraig gan was hên gas <i>a nywia</i> .	
24	Dogn wŷr : o ryvyg <i>tremyg—brad a wna</i> .	16
25	A weleist vying·har <i>yn gware</i> a'm priawd ? Gweleis gelein vain, a brain a'r ðygnawd.	20
26	Ac o'r rhy·ðamwein, gwall grain cleðyvawd. Ac am lan	

PROPHECIES

The lord, owner of tribute, 81
 will rule in Elved.
 The prince boldly over-runs (the
 country) very great his struggle. 84
 With such as turn aside his stroke
 a brisk encounter followed. 86

Llewelyn and M. de Braose.

THE Knight of the swift, bay *horse*, 1
 with the double face, creates turmoil:
 With treachery afoot, a blessing his
 death and burial in Snowdonia. 4
 When our war-lord comes he will make,
 in a mead in Prydein, a chief place.
 His manifest life will invigorate morals:
 and his confines will be to us a an Eden.
 There will come, thither, 9
 a Saxon seeking hospitality.
 Grief he will know ; from excess
 of presumption, he will sin. 12
 The yoking of a wife by a vassal
 will renew old hatred : he will
 know grief: from presumption
comes contempt ; he commits treason. 16
 Did you see my friend
playing with my spouse ?
 I saw a slim corse,
 and crows full of activity. 20
 But the catastrophe lacks the pros-
 trate form of the sword-stroke.
 And beyond the bank of . . .

APPENDIX.*

<p>QAWR Đuw ðigones heul hav, a'i rywres :</p>	1
<p>40·26 Ac Ev ðigones vuð coed, a mäes.</p>	4
<p>23 Ys Ev a wehyð ðyliv nos a dyð :</p>	
<p>24 Dyð i'n annogaw ; nos i'n gor'ffwysaw.</p>	8
<p>41·18 Nu, nos cwð ðyvyð ? 19 cw ðir'gêl rhag dyð ? 20 Py ðug wyll gaeav ? 21 Py gyrch ðechreu hâv ?</p>	12
<p>19 A wÿr cerð gelvyð py gêl calloryð ? 20 Am'dyrr o'r anwe, o'r parth pan ðwyre.</p>	16
<p>42·3 Ev cyrch cerðorion seð Syberw Söon.</p>	
<p>41·21 Yn·ewis aethawg, ffysc ffo, ys ffodiawg.</p>	20
<p>22 Ev di·hun hunawg ; Ev go·bryn Carawg—</p>	
<p>23 Cymry gaer·veðrawd, i dad Garadawg.</p>	24
<p>24 Dïal Meneivron— dial Mynawg Mon vawr, erch anudon.</p>	27

*This Appendix contains several sections of poems that seemed out of harmony with their surroundings.

APPENDIX.

T HE great God ordained the summer sun, & its great heat : He also ordained the produce of wood and plain.	1 4
'T is He who weaves the warp of night and day : The day for our activity ; the night for our rest.	8
.	
Now, the night, whence comes it ? Where hides it from day ? What took away winter's gloom ? What fetches early summer ?	12
Knows the artificer of song what the cauldrons conceal ? <i>The song</i> issues from the vapour— from that source it rises.	16
The artists resort to the seat of Seiont's Superbus. In a painful dilemma, swift flight brings good luck.	20
He will rouse up the dead. He will win Carog— Kymry's tumulus fort to the father of Caradog.	24
He will avenge Meneivron— He, the prince of Mon, will avenge the great and terrible perjury.	27

The text of pages 190—198 should have appeared before the Daroganeu, but was omitted by an oversight.

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 25 Gwenhwys vyllt hirion 28
 ant Gaer Wyrangon.
- 42¹ Ev dy·vyð Aeron
 y coel ganawon—
- 2 y gor·weðw veibon. 32
 Ni·d an·chwarð i alon
 roi i Ynyr wystlon.
- 4 Neur di·ervis Rynn,
 ym·Horth Godoðin— 36
 ymoryd Uffin,
- 5 esceirvrith vrenhin :
 i·w vraw, bor edewim.
- 6 Wyv cerðenhin hen : 40
 Wyv cyvreu llawen—
- 7 Athraw yn·Ygen :
 Meu, molawd Urien :
 Eirian i eiroes ; 44
- 8 llyminawg, llwm *i* oes.
 Rhuðvedel, a anwys
 Ruð·din, ellyngwys.
 Caer—yr harð Wenn wys—
 Ynyr a·i briwys. 49
- 11 Gweleis wyr gor·vawr
 a ðy·gyrchynt awr :
- 12 Gweleis waed ar llawr 52
 rhac rhuthr cleðyvawr.
- 13 Glesynt escyll gwawr—
 Escorynt gwaewawr. 55
 Trychant golan
 cyman clodvawr—
 i vur a·i dir,
- 15 yn wir, cochawr. 59

APPENDIX

The long-armed Gwentians will go to Worcester.	28
There will come to Aeron the petted whelps— the be-orphaned sons.	32
'T is no laughing matter to <i>John's</i> enemies to give him hostages. He disarmed the promontory at the Gate of Godoðin ;	36
and, at the great Ubban-ford, the shank-plaided King : To his fears I will leave the <i>Scot</i> .	
I am an old wayfarer :	40
I am full of rejoicings :	
I am a preceptor in Dygen :	
Mine the praise of Owein : Shining the purity of his life :	44
Austere and bare his living.	
The gory reapers set free those whom Castell Coch contained.	
The citadel, Gwenn's fair castle, <i>King John</i> destroyed it.	48
I saw the mighty men, who were rushing to the war-shout :	
I saw blood on the ground spilt	52
by the onslaught of the swordsmen.	
<i>As</i> the wings of dawn grow grey the spearmen pour forth—	
They cut down a fellow-soldier	56
of outstanding eminence— His stronghold and land will, verily, be reddened.	59

Codiad yr Haul.

- GORRID mynudawl, 1
 duthiawl, dân ysawl.
 47 Ev iolem, uch llawr,
 dann tanllwythin gwawr— 4
 21 uch awel—uchel!
 Uch no phob nyvel,
 mawr i a'nyvel.
 22 Ni thrig yng'ovyr, 8
 noc yn heithawr llyr :
 23 Dy'lwyr yr ebyr—
 dyval yng'hynvyr.
 24 Gwawr wenn wrth uchyr ; 12
 gwen wrth wâr, wrth wrÿs—
 wrth bob hevelis—
 25 wrth *bilis* Nwython—
 wrth bevr Avaon. 16
 26 Arðwyreav a varn
 wryseð y cadarn.
 48 Trydar *galanas*—
 hir a dwyn i gas. 20
 1 Ni'd mi gwr llwyr llwyd
 dy'grwydr wrth *hel* bwyd.
 2 Hud vying'hleu garant—
 cleu, di'var, di'chwant. 24
 3 Ac o'm llaw i'rh law
 ni ðyd dwyll ðim *mau*.
 4 Tri-thri march noded—
 y cor a'r enwed— 28
 A'r *nau*, meirch meiawg,
 5 oedynt go'wythawg :
 Oed march Caradawg
 gyvrvy teithiawg : 32

SUNRISE

Sunrise.

PUNCTUAL the orb of 1
consuming fire bursts forth.
We should give thanks for the spread
of the blaze of dawn above the 4
earth—above the breeze, high !
Above every cloud,
great the brilliance !
The *sun* abides not in the bays, 8
nor in the reaches of the tides.
It traverses the estuaries, &
is unceasing on the high seas.
Pearly dawn repels the powers of 12
darkness : it smiles upon every-
thing alike, both tame and wild :
upon the *skin-clad* Nwython—
upon the spruce Avaon. 16
I extol Him, who condemns
the violence of the strong.
The din of *carnage*—
long and deep the horror of it. 20
I am not a shy, pale fellow,
who wanders as he begs his fare.
Enchantment is my trusty friend—
faithful, spleenless, without greed. 24
And from me to you counterfeit will
pass on nothing tangible.
Thrice three horses were noted—
the team was named— 28
and the *nine* war-steeds
were somewhat mettlesome.
The steed of Caradawg
was a perfect saddle-horse : 32

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- 48 6 *Velly* march Gwythur ; 33
Hevyd march Gwarður.
- 7 *Pedweryð tu i* Arthur—
 ehovn rhoðei gur. 36
- 8 A march Taliessin ;
 A phevr, Iledvegin
- 9 varch ILeu, I Lwydin :
 A Grei varch Cunin. 40
- 10 *Wythved*, Awyðawg,
 march cynheil vodawg.
 Du—mor oeð enwawg—
- 11 march Brwyn, vron vradawg. 44
 A'r tri charnavlawg—
- 12 ni'd ant hynt halawg :
 Kethin varch Keidaw—
- 13 carn gavr oeð arnaw. 48
 Yscwyð-vrith, Goðig,
- 14 gorwyð Ilemenig.
 March Rhyðerch—Rhyðig
- 15 Iwyd, Iiw elleig,
 Iamei'n Iawn elwig. 52
- 16 IFroenvoll, gwyrenhig
 oeð march Sadyrnin,
 a march Custenhin ; 56
- 17 Ac ereill yn trin,
 rhag tir allwerin.
- 18 Henwyn mad dyðug,
 chweðl o Hiraðug, 60
- 19 Bum hwch, a bum bwch ;
 Bum syw, a bum swch :
 Bum banw ; bum banhwch :
- 20 Bum gawr ym'rythwch : 64

SUNRISE

- So, the horse of Gwythur ; 33
 and, also, that of Gwarður.
The Fourth was Arthur's,
 who fearlessly inflicted pain. 36
 And the horse of Taliesin ;
 And ILwydin, the fine,
 half-trained horse of ILeu.
 Also Grei the horse of Cunin. 40
The eighth, Awydawg was
 a pleasing horse to carry one.
 And Ebony, that was so famous,
 the steed of traitorous Brwyn. 44
 There are three cloven-footed : these
 will not go on a knavish expedition :—
 Kethin, the steed of Keidaw,
 had the hooves of a goat : 48
 Goðig, the steed of Ilemenig,
 was pied-shouldered :
 Rhyðig, the steed of Rhyðerch—
 a pear-coloured grey, 52
 would leap full of spirit.
 Wide-nostrilled, and active
 was the horse of Sadyrnin,
 and the horse of Custenhin, 56
 as well as others in battle
 against the land of the strangers.
 Henwyn, the gentle, brought
 the story from Hiraðug. 60
 I was a sow ; I was a buck :
 I was a wizard ; I was a share :
 I was a store pig ; I was a store sow :
 I was a hero in trouble : 64

BOOK OF TALIESIN

- Bum *or*lliv yn eirth :
21 Bum ton yn eng'eirth : 67
Bum cavn *yn*istryw
ysceinad Dilyw.
22 Bum caeth ar dri phren :
Bum pell, *a* bum pen.
Bum gynran gwala, 71
welei olwg dra.
24 Gres mire morva,
cadwent geneðl ða.
25 O'r vyð is awyr, 75
gwedy caffer gwir,
26 Ni'd byw *neb yn llwyr*
wrth voð maint a'i gŵyr. 78

I was a great current on the slopes :
I was a wave in the plains :
I was a (ferry)-boat in the destruc-
tive spread of the flood : 68
I was a captive on the cross :
I went afar, and I was chief :
I was a leader, with abundance,
who saw beyond the present. 72
Welcome the aspect of the salt marsh,
which protected the good people.
Of those that be beneath the sky, 75
when all the truth is bare,
none lives entirely to the mind
of such as know him there. 78

POSTSCRIPT.

BESIDES the poems given on pages 2-198 there are certain other poems of a theological nature. These appear to belong to the second or third quarter of the xiiiith century, and cannot, therefore, be the work of Taliesin. However, they have been edited and translated, and will, I trust, appear in a supplementary booklet, or find a hospitable corner in some publication. The following is a list of the omitted matter.

Marwnat y vil veib	3-7
Dews Duw delwat	10-12
ILoer yn anlles, l. 20	37-38
Plaeu yr Eifft	44-45
ILath Moesen	46-47
Ar clawr elvyð	52
Ryveðav nachiawr	52
Ad Duw meidat	53-54
Trindawd tragywyð	73-74
Gwawr Iluyð mawr	74-76
Ymarwar Iluyð bychan	78
Kanu y byt mawr	79-80

FINIS.



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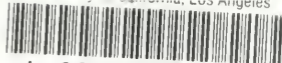
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