KELLY (FERGUS)


[= BILL 5435.]

Rev. by


Bráandán Ó Mad Again, in Éigse 14/3 (Samhradh, 1972), pp. 240-296.


538. Kelly (Fergus): A poem in praise of Columb Cille.

In Ériu 24 (1973), pp. 1-34.

Edited from MS NLI G 50 (25 qq.) with reconstructed text, translation and notes. Ascribed in MS heading to Dallán [Forgaill] but ascribed to Bécán mac Luaigdech in a gloss. Beg. Fo réir Cholimb cén ad-fías. Includes discussion of metre (MS laoidh imrinn), which is described as ‘transitional’, as it displays both alliteration and regular end-rime.

667. Kelly (Fergus): Tiughraind Bhécáin.


1818. Kelly (Fergus): The Old Irish tree-list.


3449. Kelly (Fergus) (ed.): Audacht Morainn / edited by Fergus Kelly.


Rev. by

14657. Greene (David), Kelly (Fergus), Murdoch (Brian): The Irish Adam and Eve story from *Saltair na marm*.


Rev. by
Máire Herbert, in Éige 17/3 (Samhradh, 1978), pp. 411-413.

In Érin 30 (1979), pp. 181-198.

Discusses other PIE parallels of 'Act of Truth' and cognate verbal expressions of the following four expressions: 1. *Is tre fir flatheamon* 'it is through the ruler's truth'; 2. mortlíthi (*mórslóg no*) márló chéit di doínib dingbátar 'plagues, (a great host, or) great lightnings are warded off men'; 3. *gu flatheamon* 'ruler's falsehood'; 4. n[a]-aurdalat dána (support for emendation to n[-aurdalat anai 'let not riches blind him' (see F. Kelly, AM §31); 5. to-aidbli éisc i sruthaib -snáither (emends to to-aidbh éisc i sruthaib -snáither 'with abundance of fish it is swum in streams', taking to-snáither to be an impersonal passive rather than 2nd sg. deponent (see F. Kelly, AM §20).

Repr. in Watkins selected writings II, pp. 638-643.
Kelly (Fergus) (ref.)


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pp. 242-248: Notes on the Irish words (with particular reference to dating), by F.K.


Rev. by
Kelly (Fergus)


Lindeman (F. O.) (ref.)


EIL, 1. Dublin: Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 1983. xii + 214 pp. (Early Irish law series, 1).


Rev. by

399. Kelly (Fergus): Two notes on final-verb constructions.

Greene (David) (ref.)

3231. Kelly (Fergus): An Old-Irish text on court procedure.

Beg. Cis lir cenela airetha dochusin la Feniu, from TCD MS H 3. 18 (= CHI ii 601.204602.4); with English translation and notes.

904. Kelly (Fergus): Varia: III. Old Irish creomairre, Scottish Gaelic krenkkir.
In Ériu 37 (1986), pp. 185-186.

On ScG creomairre.

935. Kelly (Fergus): A guide to early Irish law.

Appendix 1: List of law-texts; 2: List of wisdom-texts; 3: Bibliography; 4: Guide to pronunciation. Includes Samples from the law-texts (with English translation): (1) Heptads I, 6, 15; (2) Bretha corlige §§30-36; (3) Críth gablach §40; (4) Selbach-text; (5) Irish canon VI [Latin]; (6) Airecht-text; (7) An archaic legal poem; (8) Bechbretha §§45-49; (9) Din techtgad.

Rev. by
Richard Firth Green, in Medium Ævum 62/1 (1993), pp. 118-120.

977. Kelly (Fergus): Daniel A. Binchy.

487. Kelly (Fergus): A note on Old Irish círmainre.
In Celtica 21 (1990), pp. 231-233.

Argues this form (< cír 'comb') contains two agentic suffixes (-am and -aire).

3105. Kelly (Fergus): Early Irish law: the present state of research.
In ÉtC 29 (1992), pp. 15-23.

629. McCone (Kim): Ofr. sencha, senchaíd and preliminaries on agent noun formation in Celtic.

ad F. Kelly, in Peritia 5 (1986), 74-106. Sencha derives from a compound "seno-k"ois(y)as, meaning 'old witness'. Senchas represents sencha + abstract suffix -as.
934. Kelly (Fergus): Early Irish farming: a study based mainly on the law-texts of the 7th and 8th centuries AD.


Appendix B: Units of measurement.

Rev. by
Nerys Patterson, in Speculum 74/2 (Apr., 1999), pp. 440-442.
Karl Horst Schmidt, in ZCP 51 (1999), pp. 200-204.


Repr. in Irish journal of medical science 170/1 (Jan.-Mar., 2001), pp. 73-76.

12632. Kelly (Fergus): Trees in early Ireland.

In Irish forestry 56 (1999), pp. 39-57.

Attempts to identify all the twenty-eight trees and shrubs which are listed in Bretha comaithcesa. Includes an account of trees which are mentioned in early Irish poetry and proverbs, and an excursus on woodland management in pre-Norman Ireland.


Discusses Giolla na Naomh's legal treatise, beg. Trachtad ann so arma tarming a cruidhchaor goodhaidh, found in TCD MS H 3. 18 (= CHII ii 691.1-690.4).


1001. Borsje (Jacqueline), Kelly (Fergus): ‘The evil eye’ in early Irish literature and law.


   Part I (pp. 1–33) by J.B.: Early Irish examples of the evil eye: 1. The destructive eye [súil mileach, Birugderc, súil mill watched, possibly tsúilcháed]; 2. The angry eye [déccain aindírait, súil (fhéig) aindiraid]; 3. Casting the evil eye [millid, aidmillid; corruginecht also discussed]; 4. Envy and the evil eye [for-oinethkar, droshmsec, droshshul]; 5. Protection against the evil eye. Part II (pp. 34–39) by F.K.: ‘The evil eye’ in early Irish law: a section of legal commentary (dating from around the twelfth century) attached to a four-word quotation from an Old Irish law text (No etlo tri ormath ‘Or stealing away through envy’), ed. with transl. and notes from MSS Rawlinson B 506 and TCD H 3. 18; cf. CHI i 144.34-145.5; ii 673.3-10; iii 955.1-8, 1051.17-23.


11595. Kelly (Fergus): Thinking in threes: the triad in early Irish literature.


3002. Kelly (Fergus): Early Irish law.


3795. Kelly (Fergus): Onomatopoeic interjections in Early Irish.


   Discusses the use of 24 interjections, presented in alphabetical order.

8533. Kelly (Fergus): Cauldron imagery in a legal passage on judges (CHI IV 1307.38-1308.7).

   In Celtica 26 (2010), pp. 31–43.

   From Egerton 88; edition, with English translation and linguistic discussion (particularly of the terms tellach, grisach, aul, drolam, imber).


   In L’Irlanda e gli irlandesi nell’alto medioev o (2010), pp. 93–108.

9409. Kelly (Fergus): Drifting on the ocean: are Old Irish cnoe gnáe ‘beautiful nuts’ to be identified as sea beans?


12621. Kelly (Fergus): The place of women in early Irish society, with special reference to the law of marriage.

   In Language and power in the Celtic world (2011), pp. 159–179.

10313. Kelly (Fergus): The recovery of stolen property: notes on legal procedure in Gaelic Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man.

With a contribution by Fergus KELLY.

Rev. by

Kelly (Fergus)


Beg. *Cis liv lanamna dochaisin la feine?* Edited from Rawlinson B 506 ( = *CH* i 144.5-150.16), complemented by H 3. 18; with 8 facs. plates, English translation, notes, glossary, index.

Rev. by
Charlene M. ESKA, in CMCS 71 (Summer, 2016), pp. 84-85.
Dagnam S. WODFiko, in ZCP 63 (2016), pp. 266-269.


Edition of a section of an Old Irish legal text on the seventeen signs of guilt, with Middle Irish commentary (= *CH* iv 1363.4-10). With English translation and textual notes.


14802. Kelly (Fergus): Below ground: a study of early Irish pits and souterrains.

Reviews information mainly from legal sources, focusing on their use for punishment, storage and trapping deer.


McLeod (Neil) (hon.)

19151. Kelly (Fergus): Dance in pre-Norman Ireland.


Discusses the question of the practice of dance in Early Christian Ireland.


EIL, 8. Dublin: Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 2020. xii + 300 pp. pls., geneal. tab., map (Early Irish law series, 8).

Beg. Tríthlaigh an sa arna tharla a mheadhrach Goadhailge; edited from MS TCD H 3. 18 (= CIH ii 691.1–699.4); dated to late 13th or early 14th c.

Introduction; Normalised text [in early modern Irish orthography] and translation; Diplomatic text [of complete version in MS H 3. 18 (= A), as well as eight fragments identified as part of this treatise (= B-I)]; Notes; Glossary; Index; Bibliography.