I 1.2: Society: Law, institutions: Early Irish law

   In Ériu 45 (1994), pp. 1–32.

3228. McCone (Kim): Dubthach maccu Lugaír and a matter of life and death in the pseudo-historical prologue to the Senchas már.
   Studies the pseudo-historical prologue to the Senchas már, discussing in particular its literary background, its dating, and the relationship between Dubthach’s poem and the narrative framework which surrounds it. Includes an edition of the poem, reconstructed from Harley 432 (= CIH ii 340.28–341.23); with textual notes and English translation.

   Studies the saga of Fergus mac Léti, focusing on the version in the opening two sections of Cethair áthgabálae, and argues that §1 was composed in strict verse together with §2 with the purpose of illustrating the law of distraint. Includes the restored text and English translation of §1 of this version and of §2 of the Old Irish commentary version (which is also argued to be composed in verse), and supplies an additional section of the commentary version omitted in D. A. Binchy’s edition in Ériu 16 (1952), pp. 33–48 (discussion in Appendix).

13731. Breatnach (Liam): Forms of payment in the early Irish law tracts.

   Discusses Giolla na Naomh’s legal treatise, beg, Trachtad ann so arn taming a cruadaboron goodhailgi, found in TCD MS H 3. 18 (= CIH ii 691.1–699.4).

   [1.] Introduction; [2.] The gelfine; [3.] The derbfine; [4.] Additional kinship changes when ego’s grandparents come of age: the iarfine; [5.] Additional kinship changes when ego’s grandchildren come of age: the indfine; [6.] Reckoning
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14752. Breatnach (Liam): Lawyers in early Ireland.
   Includes the edition and translation of three passages on the entitlements
   of judges (CIH iv 1268.35-1269.20, vi 1932.1-17) and advocates (CIH iii
   896.19.41).

613. Breatnach (Liam): On the original extent of the Senchas Már.
   Discusses texts belonging to SM, the tripartite division of the collection; pro-
   poses original order of texts and provides a brief discussion of the titles and
   contents of 47 individual tracts.

3438. Eska (Charlene M.): Rewarding informers in Cúin domnaig and the
   Laws of Wihtred.
   In CMCS 52 (Winter, 2006), pp. 1-11.
   Suggests that the concept of the informer’s reward found in §2 of Cúin domnaig
   and in Wihtred derives from a lost, presumably Latin, common source.

1063. Breatnach (Liam): The first third of Bretha Nemed Toiscech.
   Edited from Cotton Nero A 7, normalized to 8th c. Old Irish standard; with
   English translation and notes. Includes a transcript of the MS together with
   citations from the text.

12363. Breatnach (Liam): The lord’s share in the profits of justice and a passage
   in Cath Maige Tuired.
   Offers a new interpretation of §38 (as ed. by E. A. Gray) based on an analysis
   of the legal context of this passage, and shows that the characterization of Bres
   as an oppressive ruler is supported by his unlawful accumulation of clientship
dues.

historians?
1942. Carey (John): The testimony of the dead.
In Éigse 26 (1992), pp. 1–12.
Legal interpretation of the episode of Cormac’s sword in Seo na Fir Flatha (= \(\text{IT}\) 3/1, 183–229).
App. (a) contains Cert Claidh Chormaic, from TCD MS H 2. 153 with variant readings from Seo na Fir Flatha (cf. supra) 201–202 and O’Donovan’s glossary (W. Stokes 1903–1904 [Best 1, p. 7]) and English translation. App. (b) contains Gabhatha Curatnaid §46, from MS Rawlinson B 502, with English translation. App. (c) contains commentary to Findréith Fillioll from TCD MS H 5. 15 (= \(\text{CH}\) vi 24:43:18-40, with corrections to D. A. Binchy’s text), with English translation.

2401. Carey (John): The two laws in Dubthach’s judgment.
In CMCS 19 (Summer, 1990), pp. 1–18.
Discusses the terms \(\text{recht lité}\) and \(\text{recht aicnóid}\) as used in the ‘pseudo-historical prologue to the Senchas mór’ and interprets the episode as an allegory of the transition from pagan to Christian in Irish culture. Criticises K. McCone, in Peritia 5 (1986), pp. 1–35.

8189. Eska (Charlene M.): Varieties of early Irish legal literature and the \(\text{Cáin lánamh} \) fragments.
In Viator 40/1 (2009), pp. 1–16.
Appendix: List of manuscript sources of the fragments of \(\text{Cáin lánamh}\).

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 [\(\text{súil milletach}, \text{Birugder, súil milltech, súil neimnech} \), possibly \(\text{tsúilbheach} \)]; 2. The angry eye [\(\text{déacán andtaraid, súil (fhéig) andtaraid} \)]; 3. Casting the evil eye [\(\text{milild, aidmilild; corruinecht also discussed} \)]; 4. Envy and the evil eye [\(\text{for-moinethar, drochmse, drochshúil} \); 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 (\(\text{No etlo d tri ormath} \) ‘Or stealing away through envy’), ed. with transl. and notes from MSS Rawlinson B 506 and TCD H 3. 18; cf. \(\text{CHI}\) i 144:31-145:5; ii 673:4-10; iii 955:1-8, 1051:7-23.

ad \(\text{Cáin aicille} \) §§ (as ed. by R. Thurneysen, in ZCP 14 (1923), pp. 336-394 [1. Das Unfrei-Lehen], etc.); particularly on the process of mashing (Olir. \(\text{imdel}\)).
11827. Bemmer (Jaqueline): Validity and equality in early Irish contract law: *dliged* and *cert* in the light of *Cóic conara fugill*.
   *In SCF 8 (2011), pp. 5–18.*

11632. McAll (Christopher): The normal paradigms of a woman’s life in the Irish and Welsh law texts.
   *In The Welsh law of women (1980), pp. 7–22.*


10608. Mac Eoin (Gearóid): The early Irish vocabulary of mills and milling.

19362. Stout (Matthew): The early medieval farm.

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

3547. Bichy (D. A.): The pseudo-historical prologue to the *Senchas már*.

14899. Jaski (Bart): Marriage laws in Ireland and on the continent in the early Middle Ages.
   *In The fragility of her sex (1996), pp. 16–42.*

12364. McLaughlin (Roisin): A second source for the text on judges and poets in the pseudo-historical prologue to the *Senchas már*.

457. Gerriets (Marilyn): Theft, penitentials, and the compilation of the early Irish laws.
   *In Celtica 22 (1991), pp. 18–32.*

   *In Celtica 11 (1976), pp. 18–33.*
14428. Hily (Gaël): Et la vache devint abeille: le jugement par analogie dans l'Irlande médiévale.

In ZCP 62 (2015), pp. 21–43.

Studies the elaboration of judgements on bees by analogy with cows in the Bechbretha law tract.


In Érīu 27 (1976), pp. 21–25.

OIr. socht 'stupor' originally denoted a pathological state or variety of 'sickness'; derivation from *sóktor from root *sek- 'dryness'.

Repr. in Watkins selected writings II, pp. 500-564.


On athgabāl, etc. in Cethair ulshathgabāl, etc.

8532. Eski (Charlene M.): Problematic pigs: swine values in Bodleian manuscript Rawlinson B 506.


On the share of the profit from pigs due to the wife in the event of divorce, as set out in the 'Appendix' to Céin lánamna (= CH I 174.7–177.33).

1275. Simms (Katharine): The contents of later commentaries on the Brehon law tracts.


On the contemporary relevance of the later commentaries.


In Érīu 59 (2009), pp. 25–36.

vs. D. A. Binchy's interpretation (in Érīu 12 (1938), pp. 78–134; cf. Best 2 2175) of Bretha colíg ė (as ed. by D. A. Binchy 1938; cf. Best 2 2174); argues that this legal term maintained the same meaning throughout its textual history.


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

In Celtica 26 (2010), pp. 31–43.

From Egerton 88; edition, with English translation and linguistic discussion (particulary of the terms tellach, grísach, æal, drochm, imber).

8716. Etchingham (Colmán), Swift (Catherine): English and Pictish terms for brooch in an 8th-century Irish law-text.

On the reference in Bretha nemed leisech (in CH vi 2223.18-23) to brooches as pledges and the significance of the use of loaned terminology (briar from Old English and catit/cartait from Pictish) in this legal passage.

9256. Bretnach (Liam): A verse on succession to ecclesiastical office.
Restoration and translation of CH vi 1820.26 (Érlam, grián, manach mín).

In KF 3 (2008), pp. 33–43.
Discusses the three types of betrothal mentioned in CH i 144.10-17 (with English translation).

3229. Bretnach (Liam): The ecclesiastical element in the Old-Irish legal tract Cáin Fluitiribe.
Discusses the various versions and the state of preservation of this text, analysing various passages with the aim of elucidating its date and style of composition and the ecclesiastical involvement in it.

Poem beg. Ísucán / alar benn im disertán, ed. with English translation and notes from MSS RIA 23 P 16 (Leabhar Breac), Brussels 5100-04, RIA 23 P 2 (Book of Lecan), Franciscan A 7, Laud Misc. 610, RIA 23 P 3. Emphasises legal force of the text, with discussion of legal metaphors and terms such as ernaid, seoch, doírrthaidh.

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 comaitheces. Includes an account of trees which are mentioned in early Irish poetry and proverbs, and an excursus on woodland management in pre-Norman Ireland.

13443. McLeod (Neil): Cid ara n-gérr Cnith gablach?
Explains the title of this law tract as ‘bifurcated acquisition of status grades’.

Reconstructs the honour-prices corresponding to the previously discussed grades and examines the units of currency used in payments.


1617. Gerriets (Marilyn): Economy and society: clientship according to the Irish laws.

In CMCS 6 (Winter, 1983), pp. 43-61.

Analysis of obligations of aicillne 'base clientship' and choice of clientship partner based on Crith gablach, Càin aicillne and other legal texts.

2156. Davies (Wendy): The place of healing in early Irish society.


Discusses healing miracles in the Vitae; remedies in early Irish law (Bretha cróige, etc.); function of the liaig and female healing; magical healing, charms.

1624. McCone (Kim) (revr.): Notes on the text and authorship of the early Irish bee-laws.

In CMCS 8 (Winter, 1984), pp. 45-50.


Argues that the sevenfold division of the grades of laity is an artificial imposition of the church grades on an older, native order, and seeks to establish this original model.


Edition of a short anecdote in Bretha nemed dédenach. Text from H 2. 15a (1316); MS text and normalized text, English transl.


In StH 31 (2000-2001), pp. 53-69.

Discusses the Mellbretha; with Irish translation of the opening passage in Egerton 88 and of the fragment from TCD MS H 4. 22.


In ZCP 36 (1978), pp. 54-56.
Argues in favour of a rendering with fronted object for lines 490-491 of CG.

367. Lindeman (Fredrik Otto): An archaic linguistic feature in an Irish law text.
   On the survival of pre-anapyxis forms in *Diu techtugd* (= CH i 205.22–223.21).

3429. Scott (B. G.): An early Irish law tract on the blacksmith’s forge.
   Examines the Old Irish legal treatise *Blaí ord indeoin* (no edition, partial translation based on *Ancient laws of Ireland*).

   *In CMCS 71 (Summer, 2016), pp. 59–70.*
   Argues that *relic* in the legal commentary found in *CH ii* 820.42–821.5 refers not to cemeteries but to the the making of oaths on relics.

791. McLeod (Neil): The two *fer midboth* and their evidence in court.
   The distinction between the two kinds of *fer midboth* described in *Críth Gablach*: unnecessary to distinguish between ‘compurgation’ and ‘preserving statement’.

13757. Herbert (Máire): Dlíthe an Domhnaigh in Éirinn, 600-700.

   Takes *con-srenga*, *coisrëng* in CG line 277 as the equivalents of Lat. *contrahit*, *contractus* ‘makes a contract, contract’.

   [(In Dutch:) Of madmen, fools, imbeciles and idiots. The feeble-minded in early Irish law.]

   *In SCF 2 (2005), pp. 67–96.*

14004. Raae (Hanne-Mette Alsos): The legal implications of the *banchomarbae*.

   *In Celtica 10 (1973), pp. 72–86.*
Nach mill air a selb dwine ata atghael techta airi [. . .] edited from MSS TCD H 3. 18 and Egerton 88; with English translation and notes.

   In ÉtC 23 (1986), p. 72.

3231. Kelly (Fergus): An Old-Irish text on court procedure.
   Bog, *Cis lir conela airetha dochsen la Féniu*, from TCD MS H 3. 18 (= CII ii 601.20-602.4); with English translation and notes.

15680. Peters (Cherie N.): ‘He is not entitled to butter’: the diet of peasants and commoners in early medieval Ireland.

   In ZCP 32 (1972), p. 81.
   Welsh parallel to early Irish legal obligation for a woman to call for help if she is the victim of a rape attempt.

   In SCF 10 (2013), pp. 81–89.
   Examines references to equipment such as the kiln, the plough, the mill or the grain store, in early Irish legal texts.


   Considers the legal material attested in early Irish glossaries, and studies in particular the citations from Senchas már and Bretha numed extant in Cormac’s Glossary, arguing that groups of glossae collectae extracted from the manuscripts containing these texts intervened in its compilation.

   *ad V. Hul.,* in ZCP 18 (1930), pp. 76-71, 286 (Bent 2 297). *Lám deoraid* refers to status of person whose protection and rights under the law had been forfeited; such a person could be slain without fear of reprisal.

Edition of an Old Irish legal text (c. 700). Provides diplomatic texts from Rawlinson B 512, BL Harley 5280 and TCD H 3. 17, and a critical edition based on Rawlinson; with English translation and textual notes.

   In *Éigse* 18/1 (1980), p. 94.
   ad D. A. Binchy 1941 (*BILL* 1479).

13315. Charles-Edwards (T. M.): The manuscript transmission of *Bretha comaithecesa*.
   In *Authorities and adaptations* (2014), pp. 95-120.
   Offers a case study for the transmission of Old Irish legal texts.

19466. Esha (Charlene M.): Early Irish trade: *cnúe gnúe* ‘beautiful nuts’ revisited.
   Interprets this phrase attested in a number of legal texts as ‘fine wool’, ‘fine woolen’, or some other form of expensive textile.


9598. Sayers (William): Games, sport and para-military exercise in early Ireland.
   In *Athlone* 10/1 (Fall, 1992), pp. 105-123.
   Appendix: A synthetic version of the lists of martial feats (*cles*) as found in the Ulster cycle of tales.

   Analyses practicalities, ideals and obligations of kingship. Incl. discussion of terms *oirsdidear* ‘ordains’ and *folad* ‘contractual obligation’.

1818. Kelly (Fergus): The Old Irish tree-list.
   Identifies the 28 trees and shrubs listed in the eighth-century legal tract *Bretha comaithecesa*, which are divided into four groups of seven: 1. *airig fede* ‘nobles of the wood’: *dúr* ‘oak’, *coll* ‘hazel’, *cuilenn* ‘holly’, *ibar* ‘yew’, *uinnius* ‘ash’, *ochtach* ‘Scots pine’; 2. *airig fede* ‘commoners
of the wood': fern 'alder', sail 'willow', sae 'whitehorn, hawthorn', cáerthann 'rowan, mountain ash', beth 'birk', lem 'elm', idalh 'wild cherry?'; 3. fo d'fa fad 'lower divisions of the wood': draigen 'blackthorn', trom 'elder, bore-tree', fearns 'spindle-tree', fhecholl 'whitebeam?', caithne 'arbutus, strawberry tree', córthach 'aspen', crom 'juniper?'; 4. losa fad 'bushes of the wood': raith 'broken', rait 'bog-myrtle', aitén 'gorse, furze', dris 'bramble, blackberry', f'reó 'heather', gilcach 'broom?', spín 'wild rose?'. Also includes brief discussion of fo d'fa and ain, variant names for 'rushes', and native trees and shrubs not included in the four classes.


Discusses the qualities and entitlements of the saer; draws particularly on a legal text dealing with the reflection and fees due to craftsmen (= CHI vi 2107.36–2108.23; with English translation).


[In Dutch:] Information wanted! Conn of the Hundred Treaties and the riddle of the lost wisdom text.

Discusses the relationship between the pseudo-historical introduction of Cethair mlech agabálae and its Old-Irish glosses, Aide d Chon Róí, Echtra Fergus meic Letti, and Aide Chuind Chétchathaig.


17946. Hily (Gaël): L’aubépine sans épines: une curiosité dans la procédure d’exécution du glám dicenn.


Addresses the problem of the ‘whitehorn without any thorns on it’ mentioned in Uraicecht na ráir §24, gl. 2 (as ed. by L. Breathnach, 1987).
17244. Latvio (Riita): Immunity and liability in neimed-commoner relationships.
In 10th Symposium of Societas Celtologica Nordica (2010), pp. 129-149.

4900. Patterson (Nerys): The O’Donan legal family and the sixteenth-century recensions of the pseudo-historical prologue to the Senchas Már.
In PHCC 6 (1986), pp. 131-149.
Emphasises the role of the O’Donan legal family in the transmission of the Prologue on the grounds of their association with the main text in MS Harley 432.

3797. Murray (Kevin): Catlechta and other medieval legal material relating to cats.
In Celtica 25 (2007), pp. 143-159.
Edits and translates the surviving fragments of cat law from the Senchas már and elsewhere.

In Ériu 53 (2003), pp. 143-150.
ad §7.48 (as ed. by J. CAREY, in Ériu 45 (1994), pp. 1-32); discusses the term recht fáide ‘the law of prophets’, and concludes that the story of the origins of Senchas már implicitly compares native Irish learning with traditional divisions of the Old Testament as set forth by St. Jerome and Isidore of Seville among others.
Carey (J.) (ref.)

In Ériu 42 (1991), pp. 149-151.
Identifies their territory as being the Ards Peninsula (Airid); emends a Forthuathaib Arda to a Forthuathaib Arda in poem beg. Dlígíd ríg Eamna acus Ulad (Lebor na Cert: The Book of Rights, ed. by M. Dillon (Dublin, 1962) 1. 1376).

On the origin and significance of the numerical series 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 30 (supplemented by 2, 20, 42) used to set periods of time and to calculate payments, and the anomalous reordering of grades found in certain texts.

ad §14, as ed. by R. THRUNESSEN 1996 (Best 2 2148).
8542. Smith (Amy): A note on *Cethair slicht athgab álae*. 
   Proposes that the ‘four divisions’ in title of this tract refer to the four different lengths of stay used in the procedure of distraint.

   *Lecc dúcce* (*duíce, doíce*) (occurring in legal texts, such as *Gæbretha Caratniad* §15 and the legal commentary at *CHI* i 145.10-37, of which an English translation is given here) refers to ‘a physical defect which made a woman incapable of intercourse’; *dúcce* may, as suggested by R. Thurneysen (in *ZCP* 16 (1927), pp. 217-218 [Best 2157]), represent *do-ícce* ‘incurability’ or, possibly, an abstract based on *díic, díing* ‘difficult’.

3803. Lindeman (Fredrik Otto): *Varia*: IV. 2. Old Irish *nant, nád,* etc.
   ad line 130 of *CG*. Discusses a deviant use of *nád* n. as 3rd sg. neg. rel. of the copula.

   Tentatively translates *allabrig n-aí* as ‘one of the two *bríg’.*

   Suggests that the *airliciud* is different from the *ón* in that the former involves proprietary rights (rather than merely possessory) and included the right to alienate the property to a third party.

10631. Ó Corráin (Donnchadh): *Tír cumaile: omán ‘thistle’.*

14803. Eska (Charlene M.): *Recholl bréith*: why it is a “shroud of judgments”.
   Discusses the tract found in *CHI* i 218.31-223.21.

15742. Kelly (Fergus): An early Irish category of swindler: the *mindach méith*.
   Edition of a section of an Old Irish legal text on the seventeen signs of guilt, with Middle Irish commentary (= *CHI* iv 1:363.1-10). With English translation and textual notes.

3424. Bracken (Damian): Latin passages in Irish vernacular law: notes on sources.

ad L. Breatnach, Laws of the Irish (pt. VII), in *Peritia* 3 (1984), pp. 382-408. Suggests that the compilers of vernacular Irish law had access to a range of Hiberno-Latin sources.


*ardri* and gen. sg. *ardreich*, *ardreich* attested in Old Irish sources, incl. *Cáin Fáithide*. Brief discussion of *triath* as being of higher status than a king.

15501. Qiu (Fangzhe): A note on *comaccomol*.


Argues the term *comaccomol* in *Din techtugud* is calquing Lat. *coniunctio* in the specialised sense of ‘(state of) co-inheritance’.

12483. Stacey (Robin) (trans.): *Beraud airechta*: an Old Irish tract on suretyship.


English translation based on R. Thurneysen, Bürgschaft, 1928 (Best 2 2161); with notes.


Argues that this Latin term (attested in the *Hibernesis* and elsewhere) corresponds to the *dúilchinne* of Old Irish law.

13047. Murray (Kevin): A Middle Irish tract on *cró* and *díbad*.


English translation of *CII* ii 600.1-601.11 (cf. *Ériu* 1.209). With language notes, analysis [a discussion of the terms *rann ó ban*, *cró ó inn*, and *cró ar medén*], and technical vocabulary.

490. Lindeman (Fredrik Otto): A note on a difficult passage in *Bretha Déin Chéchtt*.


ad *Bretha Déin Chéchtt*, §36.

1834. Watkins (Calvert): The etymology of Irish *dúan*.


Derives it from *dap-nā*, cf. L. *damnum*. Also on other terminology from the reciprocal context of encomiastic poetry.

Repr. in Watkins selected writings II, pp. 536-543.

3247. Baumgarten (Rolf): The kindred metaphors in *Beebhretha* and *Coibnes nesc Bíairidhne*.

On the use of the analogy of the four categories of kinship (gél fine, deir fine, tair fine, ind fine) applied to three cases of neighbourhood law: I. *Bechbretha* §§9-11, 18-22; II. *Bechbretha* §§12-13; III. *Colbnes usc i theiridne* §§1-3, 8.

With linguistic discussion and English translation.

Appendix: ad D. A. Binchy, in *Celtica* 10 (1973), p. 80 §11 [Aithgabál bech].


Criticises E. Mac Néill's translation of the opening section of *Umiceacht Becc* (in *Best* 2 2172), showing that it is based on the glossator's comment rather than the principal text, and accordingly suggests that Mac Neill's *airruar 'is found' should be substituted by the reading of the original text, either H 3. 18 *airrar 'is bound' or BB *agar 'is pleaded'. Includes a translation of the original text of the eight following sections. Also criticises R. Thurneysen's translation (in *Best* 2 2164) of the legal terms *aithne* (MS *aichnid*) and *aithnid*.

3373. Ó Corráin (Donnchadh): Some cruxes in *Críth gablach*.


[1.] *eipit, dias fidehrann* (ad CG §14.178); [2.] The render of an *ócair *[tarr, tinned] (ad CG §1.100-111).


In Éigse 15/4 (Geimhreadh, 1974), pp. 319–322.

*fionna-chruth 'likeness, etc.' < earlier legal term *finechruth 'hereditary features'; cf. also *fineghuth*, *finebés*.


3355. Ó Corráin (Donnchadh): Synodus II Patricii and vernacular law.


Discusses the adoption by secular lawyers of a principle from canon law referring to marriage (Synodus II Patricii §206) and its general application to contracts in vernacular law.


Discusses in particular the problem posed by the fact that compensation payments made for the loss of a little finger appear to be lower than those for other forms of injury not involving amputation.

2809. Kelly (Patricia): Two relative clauses in *Críth gablach*.


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Original address: https://bill.celt.dias.ie/roll/look/classificationsindex.php?ClassificationID=156
Argues that D. A. Binchy's emendation of the two sentences introduced by cén in Críth gablach §9, 77-79 is unnecessary, and offers an interpretation of the text that allows the restoration of the original readings in MS TCD H 3. 18 (cén mbí i maice and cén bes mícenchiuil).

1382. Breatnach (Liam), Breen (Aidan), Ó Corráin (Donnchadh): The laws of the Irish.


Review article of: *Corpus iuris Hibernici*, ed. by D. A. Binchy (Dublin: DIAS, 1978). Discusses in particular the close relationship between vernacular and canon law. Section V includes text and English translation of *Udhacht Athairne* (CII iii 1115-3-22) with commentary in section VI. Section VII includes a list of 134 Latin citations from canon law, scripture and other sources with identifications of 30 of these.

3002. Kelly (Fergus): Early Irish law.


*In ELR* 14/3 (2010), pp. 418–450.

Also on the *róe*, or formal duel used in early Irish law for the resolution of disputes.

1447. Breatnach (Liam): Canon law and secular law in early Ireland: the significance of *Bretha nemed*.


Discusses *Bretha nemed*, dated to between 721 and 742, composed in Munster by three kinsmen: Forannán (a bishop), Máel Tuile (a poet) and Báethgalach hua Búirec háin (a judge). Incl. ed. with transl. of six verses of a poem beg. *Aimirmín Glungael ba thraind* by Gilla in Chlodnaed Ua Cormaic from RIA MS D ii 1 (Bk of Uí Mhaine). Old Irish version of *Collectio Canonum Hibernensis* Book XI, chaps 1-4, ed. with translation and notes from Cotton Nero A 7. Some discussion of *róse* and ‘Archaic Irish’.

2815. Mac Eoin (Gearóid): The *briugáin* in early Irish society.


Discusses the term *briugáin* and the process of promotion from the freemen grades to the noble grades according to early Irish law, and also argues, based on an analysis of their property qualifications and their moral character, that the *briugáin* of *Ua nisecht Ross* and the *mráidg* of *Críth gablach* (complemented by the *fer fulhall* are variant designations of the same rank.


Perth, Western Australia: Centre for Irish Studies, Murdoch University, 1999. 26 pp.

A public lecture by Prof. N. McL., Murdoch University, 20 October 1999.


Diplomatic edition of the early Irish law tracts in manuscripts from the professional schools: MSS TCD H 2.12 (8iii), H 2. 15A, H 2. 15B, H 2. 16, H 3. 17, H 3. 18, H 4. 22, H 5. 15, E 3. 3, E 3. 3; RIA 23 P 12, 23 Q 6, 23 P 3, C 1. 2; Rawlinson B 487, Rawlinson B 502, Rawlinson B 506; Harley 422; Egerton 88, Egerton 90, Nero A 7, Add. 4783; NLI G 3, G 11; Copenhagen 561 B.


Introductory matter (i-xxviii) also separ. publ.

Rev. by


A study of the tract Cóc connaí fugill. Includes a French translation of versions Rawlinson B 502 (= CIH vi 2200-2203), Egerton 88 (= CIH iv 1280.1-1282.23) and H 3. 18 (= CIH iii 1027.21-1041.38), with notes.

Rev. by


H 3. 18. App. 7 contains some of the Welsh material relating to bees.

Rev. by

Includes an edition of Di astud chor. Normalized text accompanied by manuscript readings; with English translation.

Part 1: Texts on the grades of the filid and bards other than Urainccht na ríar: Mùduilechta, Brehtha nemed (with English translation and notes), Mittelirische Verstehren, etc. Part 2: Urainccht na ríar: dated to second half of the 8th c. Edited from MSS TCD E 3. 3, Egerton 153, TCD H 1. 15, and TCD H 2. 15a; restored and normalized; with MS texts, English translation and notes; linguistic analysis.

Rev. by

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 1, 6, 7; (2) Brehtha eovile: §§30-36; (3) Creith gablach §40; (4) Sellach-text; (5) Irish canon VI [Latin]; (6) Airreacht-text; (7) 'An archaic legal poem'; (8) Bechbretha §§45-49; (9) Din techtagd.

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

Breanach (Liam): A companion to the Corpus iuris Hibernici.


App. 1: Concordance of the O’Carry and O’Donovan law transcripts with CIH; App. 2: Bretha Éitgid from Royal Irish Academy MS D v 2 [Text of version Ai omitted from CIH]; App. 3: From TCD MS II 3. 17 (6) [Text of passages omitted (a) before CIH vi 2128.18 and (b) between CIH vi 2128.25-26]; App. 4: From TCD MS H 3. 18 (1) [Text of legal fragments omitted from CIH]; App. 5: From TCD MS H 3. 18 (21) [Text of legal fragment omitted from CIH]; App. 6: From National Library of Ireland MS G138 [Text of a legal miscellany omitted from CIH]; App. 7: From Royal Irish Academy MS 23 Q 12 [Text of legal fragments omitted from CIH].

Rev. by
10410. Eska (Charlene M.): Cásín léamhna: an Old Irish tract on marriage and divorce law.


Edited from H 2. 15a (= CHI ii 502.7-519.35) [normalized text, variants, glosses, commentaries]; with linguistic and legal notes, English translation, and glossary.

Appendices contain additional legal commentary, edited with English translation. 1: Text from Rawlinson B 506, folios. 19b-19d (= CHI i 89.26-90.32); 2: Text from Rawlinson B 506 fol. 42d (= CHI i 144.5-17); 3: Text from Rawlinson B 506 59b-66d (= CHI i 174.7-177.33); 4 Text from H 3. 18 p. 434a (= CHI iii 974.29-975.27); 5: Text from Rawlinson B 506 fol. 22a-b (= CHI i 953.37-963.30); 6: Additional commentary [duplicates].

Rev. by
Fergus Kelly, in Medium ævum 81/2 (2012), pp. 323-324.

13604. Kelly (Fergus): Marriage disputes: a fragmentary Old Irish law-text.


Beg. Cír lírnamh dochuisin la feine? Edited from Rawlinson B 506 (= CHI i 144.5-150.16), complemented by H 3. 18; with 8 facs. plates, English translation, notes, glossary, index.

Rev. by
Charlène M. Eska, in CMCS 71 (Summer, 2016), pp. 84-85.

15910. Breantach (Liam) (ed.): Córús béstgnaí: an Old Irish law tract on the church and society / edited by Liam BREANTACH.


Edition based on the four primary witnesses: H 2. 15a (= A), H 3. 17 (= B), H 3. 18 (= C), Rawl. B 506 (= D).

1. Introduction; 2. Normalised OIr. text without glosses; with English translation and notes; 3. Diplomatic edition of A (complete text, glosses, commentary) with English translation and notes; 4. Text of B (text and commentary, incomplete) with English translation and notes; 5. Text of C (Old Irish glossing); 6. Text of D (late Mr. or EModIr. revision of commentary). Bibliography, Indexes.

Rev. by
Catherine SWIFT, in NMAJ 58 (2018), pp. 146-149.

10566. Breanach (Liam): The early Irish law text Senchas már and the question of its date.


In appendix: text of SM 1. Introduction, from CIH ii 344.24-352.12, together with variant readings.