

1623. Charles-Edwards (Thomas), Kelly (Fergus): *Bechbretha: an Old Irish law-tract on bee-keeping*.

EIL, 1. Dublin: Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 1983. xii + 214 pp.

Normalised edition with variants based mainly on MS TCD H 2. 15A (also TCD H 3. 18, H 3. 17, H 2.12 (8iii); Egerton 88; RIA 23 Q 6; Rawlinson B 502, Rawlinson B 487); with English translations and notes. Commentaries from MSS TCD H 2. 15A, H 3. 17, H 3. 18 and Egerton 88 printed with English translations in Apps. 1–4. App. 5 contains restored text with English translations of an Old Irish passage on *Caithchi Bech* ‘trespass-penalties of bees’, based on MSS TCD E 3. 5 and H 3. 18. App. 6 contains a normalised version of an Old Irish passage on *Athgabál Bech* ‘distrainment of bees’, based on D. A BINCHY’s edition, in *Celtica* 10 (1973), pp. 72–86 (§11), from MS TCD H 3. 18. App. 7 contains some of the Welsh material relating to bees.

*Rev. by*

Édouard BACHELLERY, in *ÉtC* 21 (1984), pp. 361-362.

Kim R. McCONE, in *CMCS* 8 (Winter, 1984), pp. 45-50.

Pádraig Ó RIAIN, in *Éigse* 21 (1986), pp. 241-243.

Morfydd OWEN, in *StC* 20-21 (1985-1986), pp. 276-278.

Karl Horst SCHMIDT, in *ZCP* 41 (1986), pp. 322-324.

*Classifications:*

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

*Indexes:*

Manuscript Sources:

- Dublin, Royal Irish Academy, 23 Q 6 (1243)
- Dublin, Trinity College, E 3. 5 (1433)
- Dublin, Trinity College, H 2. 12/8iii (1308)
- Dublin, Trinity College, H 2. 15a (1316)
- Dublin, Trinity College, H 3. 17 (1336)
- Dublin, Trinity College, H 3. 18 (1337)
- London, British Library, Egerton 88
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Rawlinson B 487
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Rawlinson B 502

Author/Textual Sources:

- Athgabál Bech
- Bechbretha
- Caithchi Bech