

Leitir Ó Dhonnchadh Ó Fhloinn chun Míchíl Í Longáin

Author(s): Donnchadh Bán Ó Flionn and T. F. O'Rahilly

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## LEITIR Ó DHONNCHADH Ó FHLOINN

CHUN MÍCHÍL Í LONGÁIN.

A chara na dáimhe,

As maith do rin Aodh<sup>1</sup> (A. Ó H.) a theachtaireacht anois. Tug sé damh an sean-leabhar fa dheóig ⁊ is fíor nach a lámhaibh namhad do chuir sé é. As truagh nachar fhág an sgríobhnóir an obair ní bu bhunudhasaighe ina dhiaigh. Gidheadh, as maith í d'fhagháil mar so féin. Atáid trí fichid leathnach aithsgríobhtha agam don tsean-leabhar, ar mhodh<sup>2</sup> do chuirfigh luathgháir<sup>3</sup> ort, aithbheoghdha, san litir san ordughadh ⁊ san oirleaghadh<sup>4</sup> chéadna, go díleas gan earráid, ach san mhéid nach féidir le géardhearc sgríobhnóra d'fhaicsin,—óir atáid línte go hiomlán gearrtha amach d'uachtar chuid do na duileógaibh, ⁊ as d'fhéachain an foirtíl<sup>5</sup> me dá bhfagháil ad' shean-mhacleabhar-sa do chuireas m' achnaidhe<sup>6</sup> dá iarraig; ⁊ as buidheach me ó d'éistis í.

Ag so thall agat an duain ba mhian leat d'fhagháil, ⁊ tá dóchas agam ná caillfigh Aodh í ó cuireadh ar a aireachas é. Níor chluineas focal d'uacht Chormaic<sup>7</sup> N. ó sgríobhas duit é. An é gur chaill sé é sin? As maith do rinis an chúirt neamhchrábhaidh<sup>8</sup> d'fhuathughadh. Cuirfead<sup>9</sup> Seán Ó Muláin<sup>10</sup> ar a aire. Cuir tuairisg Agallamh na Seanóiridhe, leabhar saidhbhir; atá sé ar bhruach na Soininne a n-áit éigin. Do chuir Árd-easbog na Mumh-an tamal beg ó shoin obair éigin a Ngaidheilg chun Séamuis<sup>11</sup> Í Éilí dochum í do phriontáil. As é Diarmuid MhagCraith tug aníos an obair, ⁊ as é D. d'inis damh sin, air gcathamh proine am fhochair. Do thrácht sé ar mh'ainm-si re Séamas Ó Héilí, ⁊ adubhairt Séamas go ma mhaith leis me d'fhaicsin na hoibre sul gcuirfeach í a gcló; ach ní fheaca í fós.

Cluinim go bhfuil an Cathmhíle Vallancey<sup>12</sup> ar aigne teacht ó Áthcliath gus an gcaithir so Chorcaighe chum lonughadh inti. Ní haithreach linn sin, a Mh[íchl] ghrádhach. Go dtuga<sup>13</sup> Dia do chéile ionmhuin<sup>14</sup> slán óna toircheas. Más cúpla inghean bheas<sup>15</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Aodha MS.    <sup>2</sup> mho    <sup>3</sup> luathcháir    <sup>4</sup> sic    <sup>5</sup> fortail    <sup>6</sup> i. athchuinghe  
<sup>7</sup> Cormac    <sup>8</sup> neamhcrábad    <sup>9</sup> cuirfid    <sup>10</sup> S. O Mullane    <sup>11</sup> seamus  
<sup>12</sup> Valancy    <sup>13</sup> dtugadh    <sup>14</sup> ionmhun    <sup>15</sup> bhios

aice, as dóil liom gur maith na hainmneacha <sup>1</sup> dóibh Anna ⁊ Máire.  
Atá a fhios agat gur bh' <sup>2</sup> Anna máthair na hÓgh ionar gineadh  
ár S[lanuightheóir], ⁊ gur Mháire <sup>3</sup> a hainm féin.

As me an duine sin atá a Gcorca <sup>4</sup>

i. Gráthóir na Suagh.

an 25 d'Ochtmhí na bliadhna

1805.

As ró-ionmhuin <sup>5</sup> re cat iasg, gé mionca iad a' fiach na luch ⁊c.  
Níl sgéal faghálta (?) <sup>6</sup> fós ó na hImpribh ach go bhfuilid a'  
drantughadh go dian.

#### NOTES

The original of the above letter now forms pp. 79-80 of 23C19, a MS. of which a considerable portion was written by Ml. Óg Ó Longáin. I have supplied a title, and have slightly edited the MS. spelling so as to make it more readable, adding some of the MS. readings in footnotes.

O'Curry (Betham Cat. p. 472) identifies the handwriting of the letter as that of 'Denis O'Flinn' of Cork. This O'Flinn (Donnchadh Bán Ó Floinn) was a close friend of Mícheál Óg Ó Longáin during many years. Verses addressed by one to the other at various times between 1805 and 1828 will be found in the MS. 23N32, and in vols. 7, 60 and 97 of the Murphy collection in Maynooth. In 1815 Col. Curry, agent of the Duke of Devonshire, lent the then recently discovered Book of Lismore to "Dennis O'Flinn, a professed but very indifferent, Irish scholar, living then in Mallow Lane in the city of Cork" (O'Curry, MS. Materials, 196). O'Longan made numerous transcripts from this MS. in O'Flinn's house (*ibid.*, 197). When it was returned to Lismore the MS. was in an imperfect condition, lacking about a third, which was retained in other hands for many years.

The valuable MS. of 'Agallamh na Seánóiridhe' referred to in the letter as being in existence somewhere on the banks of the Shannon may be identical with a similar MS. of which Sylvester O'Halloran speaks and of which unfortunately there appears to be now no trace. "There are yet preserved," says O'Halloran (Introduction to the History of Ireland, 1772, p. 363), "copies of a very antient Irish MS. entitled *Agallamh na Seanoiridhe*, or Dialogues of the Antients, a large and noble collection of which, in a thick volume in quarto, on vellum, were some years ago in the hands of Eagan ó Rahilly, an Irish antiquarian, since deceased, and are still somewhere in the counties of Limerick or Kerry, altho' I have not been able to come at them."

The Emperors alluded to in the postscript are Napoleon, Alexander of Russia and Francis of Austria. In August, 1805, Napoleon marched his army off from Boulogne in order to attack Austria and Russia. On October 14th he compelled the Austrians at Ulm to capitulate; but apparently the news of this victory had not yet reached Cork when the above letter was written eleven days later.

T. F. O'RAHILLY.

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<sup>1</sup> hainmna      <sup>2</sup> ba      <sup>3</sup> gur ba maire      <sup>4</sup> gcorcadh      <sup>5</sup> roionmhun      <sup>6</sup> O