

TRADITIONS
OF THE
COVENANTERS

BY THE
REV. R. SIMPSON, D.D.



GALL & INGLIS

TRADITIONS
OF
THE COVENANTERS

BY THE REV. ROBERT SIMPSON, D.D.



We are
this day
in arms for
a broken Covenant and persecuted Kirk

GLOSSARY OF CELTIC NAMES

OCCURRING IN

TRADITIONS OF THE COVENANTERS.

THE following names are chiefly from the sister dialects of the British and Scoto-Irish speech. Some of these names, perhaps, may not now appear so significant as when first employed eighteen or twenty centuries ago, because the face of the country has since that period undergone a variety of changes. It may also be remarked, that in some instances a whole district is now called by a name which, in remote times, was given to an individual spot within a wide locality; and therefore in such cases the propriety of the general appellation may not be so plainly discernible. In every instance, however, the name was strikingly appropriate and descriptive when originally imposed by the Celtic people.

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| <p>AE, water.
 AFTON, a stream.
 AIRDOCH, the little height.
 AIRDS, high.
 AL, water.
 ALWEN, the clear stream.
 ANWOTH, <i>an</i> water, <i>wath</i> a hawthorn.
 ARRAN, the heights.
 AUCHEN, the little field.
 AUCHENBRAITH, the field of barley.
 AUCHENCAIRN, the field of the cairn.
 AUCHENCLOICH, the field of stones.
 AUCHENGEE, the goose field.
 AUCHENGEITH, the windy field.
 AUCHENGOWER, the field of the goats.
 AUCHENGROUCH, the field of curds.
 AUCHENSAUCH, the field of willows.
 AUCHENTAGART, the field of the priest.
 AUCHLOCHAN, field of the little loch.
 AVON, a river.
 AYR, the clear or shallow stream.
 BALLACHIN, the head of the pass.</p> | <p>BALLAGAN, the dwelling in the hollow.
 BALMACLELLAN, M'Lellan's town.
 BARABY, the top of the little cliff.
 BARR, an eminence.
 BARKIMMING, great bend of water.
 BEITH, a birch tree.
 BELLOPATH, <i>bel</i> outrage, and <i>au</i> water.
 BELLYBUGHT, bught (milking fold), beside the broom.
 BENBEOCH, the bee hill.
 BENHOLT, the wooded hill.
 BENNET, the church hill.
 BIGGAR, the little clear stream; or <i>bogar</i>, the boggy place.
 BINNS, the hillocks.
 BLAGANNACH, the milking field.
 BLEDNOCH, the smooth hill.
 BODSBERRY, the kite's hill.
 CAERLOWRIE, Lowrie's fort.
 CAIRN, a heap of stones.
 CAIRNSMOOR, the great cairn.
 CAIRNTABLE, the chieftain's cairn.</p> |
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| <p>CALDER, the dark stream (<i>dur</i> water).
 CALDOW, the dark forest.
 CAMBUSNETHAN, <i>camus</i> bend of a river.
 CAMLARG, the crooked <i>larg</i> or shank.
 CARCO, or CARCAW, winding hollow.
 CARMACOUF, Cormac's hope.
 CARRICK, a rock.
 CARRON, the winding stream.
 CARSPHAIRN, <i>carse</i> swamp, <i>fearn</i> alder.
 CESNOCK, the dark hill.
 CLAUCHRIE, the red stone.
 CLYDE, the sheltered stream.
 COG, a cuckoo.
 COLLINE, the wooded water.
 COLLISTON, the town in the wood.
 COLVEN, the hazel hill.
 CRAIGDARROCH, the rock of the oak.
 CRAIGHT, the rocky height.
 CRAIGTURRACH, the towering rock.
 CRAWFORD, the cattle shelter.
 CRAWICK, the habitation of crows.
 CREE, the muddy stream.
 CRICHOPE, the rocky hope.
 CROGLIN, the rocky stream, or the cross by the stream.
 CRONBERRY, the round hill.
 CROSSGELLIOCH, the white cross.
 CRUFFEL, the crow height.
 CUMBERHEAD, <i>cummer</i> water meeting.
 CUMNOCK, the hollow of the hill.
 DALBLAIR, the battle field.
 DALECCLES, the field of the church.
 DALGARNOCK, the field abounding in underwood.
 DALHANNA, the green or good field.
 DALJIG, <i>dal</i> field, <i>jig</i> ditch or marsh.
 DALMELLINGTON, the field of the mill, and <i>ton</i> a tower.</p> | <p>DALQUHAIRN, the field of the cairn.
 DALRICKET, field of king's slaughter.
 DALRY, the king's dale.
 DALSWINTON, Swinton's vale.
 DALVEEN, the white field.
 DALWICK, the village in the dale.
 DALYELL, the white field.
 DALZIEN, daisyfield, or John's field.
 DAR, or DAIR, or DEER, an oak.
 DARMEID, the oak wood.
 DEE, <i>dhu</i> the dark river.
 DEUCH, the dark stream.
 DOON, the dark lake or stream.
 DOUGLAS, dark stream, or grey vale.
 DRAMORE, the great ridge.
 DREVA, a dwelling.
 DRUMCLOG, the ridge of the stone.
 DRUMCLOICH, the stony ridge.
 DRUMLANRIG, ridge on bank of river.
 DRUMMELZIEB, the dwelling on ridge.
 DUMBARTON, the fort of the Britons.
 DUMFRIES, <i>dun</i> hill, <i>freas</i> brushwood.
 DUNASKEN, hill at the water head.
 DUNEATON, the whinny height.
 DURISDEER, the door of the forest.
 EARNSTALLACH, <i>ern</i> sloe, <i>sallach</i> willow.
 ELLOCK, the little rock.
 ELVAN, the clear stream.
 ENOCK, <i>ae</i> water, and <i>knach</i> a hillock.
 ENTERKIN, the head of the pass.
 ETTRICK, a wilderness.
 EVAN, a river.
 FENWICK, the village in the fens.
 FEWCHAW, the cold or wooded water.
 FINGLAND, the white glen.
 FORDONMULLACH, fortlet on the hill.
 GARRICK FELL, the rocky height.
 GARRION GILL, <i>garrion</i> a thicket, and <i>gill</i> a water-course.</p> |
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GARPLE, the rough or short stream.
 GLASGOW, *glas* dark, *gau* a valley.
 GLASPEN, the grey hill.
 GLENÆ, the glen of the *Ae*.
 GLEN AYLMEY, Aylmer's glen.
 GLENBLAITH, the flowery glen.
 GLENCROSH, the red glen.
 GLENDUREN, the glen of the oaks.
 GLENDYNE, the deep glen.
 GLENGLAS, the grey glen.
 GLENGONAR, the glen of the gold sand.
 GLENIM, the butter glen.
 GLENKENS, the glen of the Ken.
 GLENKILL, the kirk glen.
 GLENLUCE, the sunny vale.
 GLENMADDIE, the fox or the wolf glen.
 GLENMEAD, the wooded glen.
 GLENMUIR, moor glen, or great glen.
 GLENQUHARGEN, the crooked glen.
 GLENQUHARY, the sheep glen.
 GLENSHILLOCH, the willow glen.
 GREENOCK, the sandy hill.
 IONA, the isle of waves.
 IRVINE, the green margin.
 KEIR, a fort.
 KELLO, the wooded water.
 KELLS, the woods, or the cells.
 KEN, the fair stream.
 KENMORE, *can* a lake, and *more* great.
 KILLIECRANKIE, decayed wood.
 KILMARNOCK, the cell of Marnock.
 KINLOCH, loch head.
 KIRKMAHOE, kirk or field by the river.
 KNEES, *oneas* the breast, bosom.
 KNOCKALLOCH, the cattle height.
 KNOCKENHAIR, the green hill.
 KYLE, the forest.
 LAG, a hollow.

LAGMINNEAN, the hollow of the kids.
 LAIGHT, a grave.
 LANARK, a green, bare place in wood.
 LANE, a stream.
 LARGMORE, the great shark.
 LEE, a stream.
 LENNOX, *lin* a stream, *knack* a hill.
 LESMAHAGOW, *lis* a habitation, *magh* of field, and *aga* the bottom.
 LINFAIRN, *lin* stream, *fearn* alders.
 LOCHBRUIN, loch of boar or rushes.
 LOCHDOON, the black loch.
 LOCHERBEN, *ben* hill, *lacher* marshes.
 LOCHGOIN, *llwch gwyn* the white loch.
 LOCHMABEN, loch of the white field.
 LOGAN, a little hollow.
 LONDON, *lon* stream, *don* dark.
 LUGAR, the bursting stream.
 LYE, a stream.
 MARBURN, the great burn.
 MAUCLINE, the field by the stream.
 MEAUL, a hill.
 MENNOCK, the ore hill.
 MORTON, *moredun* the great fort.
 MUIRDRUGAT, the great ridge.
 NETHAN, the little Nith.
 NITH, the whirling stream.
 NYPES, the heights.
 OCHILS, the height.
 OCHILTREE, the high town.
 PAMPY LINNS, *pemfau* great cave.
 PEBBLES, *pybil* shielings, huts.
 PENBRECK, the speckled hill.
 PENICUIK, the hill of the cuckoo.
 PENNEIL, the head of the wall.
 PENPONT, *pen* head, *pant* a valley.
 PENTLAND, the hilly land.
 PENYVENIE, the milky height.
 POLGOWN, the stream of the smiths.
 POLKELLIE, the wooded stream.

POLKEMMET, the stream by the crooked field.
 POWTRAIL, the head stream.
 SANQUHAR, *sean*, *caer*, the old fort.
 SCAR, the steep rock on the stream.
 SHAW, a tuft of stunted trees.
 SORN, a corner.
 SPANGO, the sparkling stream.
 STOBO, the stub, how, or hollow.
 THRISTANE, three stones.

TINTO, the hill of fire.
 TORTHORWALD, tower of Thor in the wood.
 TRAHENNY, the green hill.
 TRAUQUAIR, the hill fort.
 TWEED, the border stream.
 WANLOCK, *wen* white, *loc* hollow
 WARDLAW, the watch hill.
 YOCHAN, or EUCHAN, the fair stream.

GLOSSARY OF SCOTCH WORDS

OCCURRING IN

TRADITIONS OF THE COVENANTERS.

Beild, shelter.

Beild of the dyke, the sheltered side of the wall.

Bent, the open field; the plain.

Bielly, sheltering.

Birle, a ringing noise.

"*Birsy*," a nick-name, meaning hot-tempered.

Black gait, the black way.

Blades, leaves, of kail.

Bole, a square aperture.

Bosky, woody; covered with thickets.

Boyns, flat-bottomed vessels for holding milk.

Brae, a hill.

Buirdly, large, and well made; of imposing appearance.

Byke, a wasp's or bee's nest.

Close, the courtyard before a farmhouse.

Cog, a wooden dish.

Crook, an iron chain and hook for hanging cooking vessels over the fire.

Dasses, heaps.

Divots, thin flat turfs used for roofing cottages.

Douce, sober.

Dyke, a wall of stones or turf.

Eery, the feeling inspired by the dread of ghosts.

Elshin, an awl.

Fail dyke, a wall of turf.

Girdle, a circular iron plate for toasting cakes over the fire.

Gudeman, the master of a family.

Gudewife, the mistress of a family.

Gully, a deep channel worn by water.

Haly bluid, holy blood.

Herd, one who tends cattle.

Kail, colewort.

Kailstocks, the stalks of colewort.

Kebbuck, a cheese.

Kent, a long shepherd's staff.

Kit, a wooden basin.

Laird, the proprietor or landlord.

Lang settle, a long wooden seat.

Loft, the upper storey of a barn or stable.

Logie, the space before the fireplace in a kiln.

Luggie, a wooden basin.

Lyart, grey-haired.

Mirk, dark.

Mow, a heap or pile, of corn, &c.

Nout, cattle.

Onstead, farm buildings.

Reeves, sheepfolds.

Rig, a ridge.

Snouked, smelled about.

Spate, a flood.

Spence, the family apartment.

Spratty, abounding in rushes.

Straught, straight.

Swaites, long rows, of cut hay

Through stone, a flat gravestone.

Trysting-place, appointed place of meeting.

Unsonsy, the nearest English word is "bewitched," but it does not convey the exact meaning.

Yarely, skilfully.