

LAMENT FOR JOHN GARVE OF RAASAY. (Cumha Iain Ghairbh Mhic Gille Chaluim.)

THERE seem to be only two slightly differing versions of this tune published—one, Donald Macdonald's M.S. version, given in Glen's Edinburgh Collection, and Angus MacKay's published version, as a representative one. The main difference is in the opening bar (and similar bars throughout the tune). MacKay opens with E and MacDonald with D. The D would appear to be the better note. There is also a slight difference in the 22nd and 26th bars. Macdonald has the double beat on E as given here, whereas MacKay has two E's of equal length separated by A, F, A grace notes. However, both versions are written in three-four time, and in rewriting, in common time, the Compiler has taken the opportunity to correct the accent in the last half of the 21st, 25th and 27th bars. If the accent in the last half of many of the other bars in the tune is correctly placed on the last note there is little doubt the accent in the case of these named bars is on the last note also. Indeed the rhythm of the tune would seem to demand it.

The Variations are not in question and it is not therefore necessary to reproduce them here.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—This tune is usually dated about 1648 and ascribed to Patrick Mor MacCrimmon.

There would appear to be some doubt as to the date John Garve was drowned. According to Mackenzie's "History of the MacLeods," John VI. of Raasay was served heir to his father on 22nd September, 1648, and met his death at the early age of twenty-one in 1688. In 1688 his sisters were served heirs of line through their father and grandfather, and it was not until 1692 that Alexander VII. of Raasay obtained resignation of their interests. According to the Wardlaw MS. the accident occurred "this April" and the *earliest* date could not be before 1649. As John Garve's father died before 1648 ("History of the MacLeods") the inference is, John was not served heir till his majority, and was drowned the following year, 1649. If the date 1688 is correct, then the tune must be credited to Patrick Og MacCrimmon, as it was too late for the father, Patrick Mor.

Macdonald's M.S. version.



Revision.



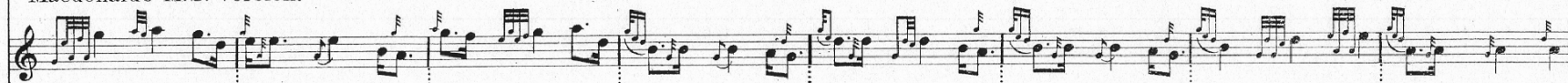
Macdonald's M.S. version.



Revision.



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