# HILL TUNES

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#### 1

### CARISTIONA.

But yestereve the daughter of Clanranald had been laid into her deathssleep in the island of St. Finnan.

Today the men of Moydart had come back from the wars and the aged chief, with sorrow eating out his own heart, smiled a welcome on the men who had come home. And that night there was a feast of feasts in Castle Tirrum of Moydart and handing round of horns and health drinks.

Out from the lights and the joy-shouts went the Lady of Clanranald, not knowing whither, groping blindly, led by a mother's soul-agony, the loss of her child. But far across the Bens lay the waters of Loch Sheil and the Isle of St. Finnan and long ere she could reach them the Lady of Clanranald sank into the heather and from her lips broke the cry: My Caristiona, wilt answer my cry"? But only the night-hags answered and the far-away keening of the Western Sea.

Kenneth Macleod.

### CARISTIONA.

For Piano by M. KENNEDY-FRASER.



<sup>\*</sup>From Vol.II. Songs of the Hebrides." Copyright 1922 by Boosey & Co

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#### THE SONG OF THE LINN-QUERN.

The Gaelic byword says that "Second sight comes from the blood, second hearing from the blindness."

A blind woman of Uist was wont to go out each evening, with the township lads, to bring the cattle home to the milking—she having the ear to hear, and they the eye to see, where the cattle would be. One evening, the lowing being far away, the lads set forward towards it, and the blind woman laid her fatigue by the side of a linn. And here the strange thing happened—what came out of the linn but beautiful music, the lilt, laughing, leaping, frolicking, of two water-fairies busy at the quern-grinding. When the blind woman went home that night, she had a tale to tell and a song to sing in the township; and each day, anew, she told that same tale and sang that same tune, morning, noon, and evening. "Foolishness is on thee," said the other women, "dost thou not know that it is ever forbidden to sing what the fairies sing, and to tell what the fairies tell? Sure, the black-corrow will come on the heel of thy foolishness." And perhaps the black-sorrow did come—if it was not white-joy instead!—at any rate, one morning the blind woman went out, and in the evening she returned not. And the township women said: "To-night there will be three of them singing the Song of the Linn-quern."

KENNETH MACLEOD.

<sup>\*</sup> The quern, in its simplest form, consisted of two flat, circular stones, between which the grain was ground, a handle or handles being inserted into a hole or holes in the upper stone. A waterfall so acting on the stones in the linn or pool below may form natural querns.

# <sup>®</sup>Song of the <sup>\*</sup>Linn-Quern.<sup>†</sup>

Fuaim na Brathain anns an Linnidh.



\*Linn = Waterfall. †Ouern = Hand mill. <sup>①</sup>From Vol.II."Songs of the Hebrides." Copyright 1922 by Boosey & Co





An Islesman is under spells both to his heart and to his head, to give love to Mary Macleod, the most fascinating figure in Gaelic poetry from the beginning of the seventeenth century to a century on which fate has not yet put a name.

Mary Macleod or Mairi, daughter of Alastair Rua, sleeps, face downward, by the church of St. Clement, in Rodel of Harris, the Iona of her Clan. "Not on the clouds, would my eyes be, 0 kinsfolk," said she in the parting, "but on Rodel of Harris." Her thought was perhaps the thought of Bride, the Foster-Mother, even as her blood was the blood: Beautiful the cloud on high, my children, but more beautiful still the shower which falleth, giving growth to the corn and milk to the cattle, for little children.

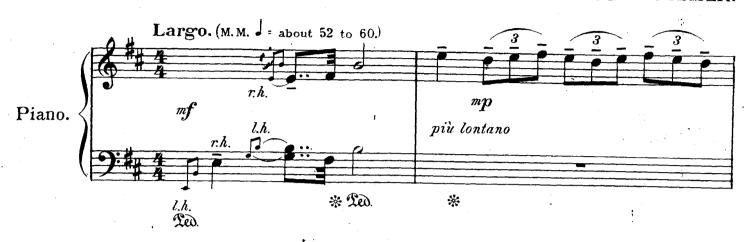
Kenneth Macleod.

From a pencil drawing by Patuffa Kennedy-Fraser of a Celtic Cross in Iona.

## ON THE HILLS.

\*Rannoch Herding Song.

For Piano by M. KENNEDY-FRASER.









<sup>\*</sup>From Vol.II. Songs of the Hebrides. Also published as a separate song. Gopyright 1922 by Boosey & CO





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