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movement. However, the Easter Rising of 1916, with its associated turmoil in Irish-Australian politics, dramatically undercut support for O'Donnell's Home Rule stance. Perhaps he was so disillusioned that he felt the story no longer worth the telling?

This is a scholarly work of high quality. The editor has thought carefully about how best to present the manuscript to his readers, and has provided a detailed discussion of his editorial method (pp. 15–17). Primarily it is an edition of the manuscript: but is greatly enhanced by the editor's notes, introduction and epilogue. The reader's enjoyment is also partly derived from the fact that O'Donnell himself conducted detailed research and planning, so that the original manuscript has a good degree of coherence and narrative strength. Nevertheless, O'Donnell's manuscript was a work in progress spread over nearly a decade. How to alert readers to the additional information acquired by O'Donnell during that decade (and by the editor afterwards) was one of the challenges the editor faced—a challenge he has met admirably.

As Noone notes at p. 10, the raw materials made available in this excellent edition of O'Donnell's manuscript provide invaluable insights to 'those interested in the history of the Irish in Australia or of the nineteenth century in County Limerick'.

The book is replete with images: nearly a hundred photographs, maps, family trees, copies of correspondence, documents, and drawings. There is a detailed bibliography and a thorough index. (The index will prove a useful starting point for those readers wishing to check whether their own family histories intersect with the expansive family histories detailed by O'Donnell.)

NEIL McLEOD

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Matthieu Boyd 2016 *Ollam: Studies in Gaelic and Related Traditions in Honor of Tomás Ó Cathasaigh*, Madison NJ; Teaneck NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, ISBN 978-1-61147-834-1.

**T**HE many scholars and students of Celtic around the world who have been privileged to meet Tomás Ó Cathasaigh will always carry with them the memory not only of his massive intellectual contribution to the field, but also of his kindness,

generosity and encouragement. This volume shows the extent of the regard in which he is held by his peers and juniors alike. As William Gillies eloquently explains in the Foreword, Professor Ó Cathasaigh has ‘creat[ed] and cultivat[ed] a blooming garden where the streams of literature and mythology converge, whose fragrance is inviting to many sorts of scholars and whose seeds blow widely into the fields of language, history, and beyond.’ (x)

The festschrift draws together studies of Gaelic literature, history, material culture and law through the ages with essays on Icelandic, Romance and Welsh literature. Contributions are grouped into three parts themed around ‘Heroes’, ‘Law and Language’ and ‘Poetry’. The leading lights of Celtic Studies around the world are well represented: Ahlqvist, Breatnach, Breatnach, Gillies, Kelly, McCone, McKenna, McManus, Nagy, Ó hUiginn, Simms. Also present are scholars taught by the honorand, now also dispersed around the world, including editor Matthieu Boyd, Charlene Eska and Síomhainn.

Noteworthy among the contributions are Aled Llion Jones’ interesting treatment of paired characters in chariots in *Táin Bó Cúailnge*; Patricia Kelly’s documentation of *Esnada Tige Buchet* as yet other example of the pervasiveness of legal preoccupations in early Irish literature; Morgan T. Davies’ discussion of hagiographical devices in the ostensibly secular *Bórama* as evidence of the shift of authority towards the church in the Middle Irish period; Liam Breatnach’s detailed examination of the effect of definiteness on the strength of the connection between head nouns and genitives; William Gillies’ masterful discussion of the relationship between love poems in the *Book of the Dean of Lismore* and the *dánta grá*; and Síomhainn’s excellent hypothesis of a line of transmission leading from early Irish manuscripts through print and oral channels from Dublin via Perthshire to the Western Isles. A full list of contributions is included at the end of this review.

Readers are assisted by a sensible and useful clarification of editorial decisions and citation formats in the Preface. Likewise, the Index is very serviceable. Decidedly unhelpful is the use, presumably at the publisher’s insistence, of endnotes to each chapter, rather than the much more serviceable system of footnotes, or even the less helpful consolidated endnotes; it is tiresome to be constantly leafing through seeking the end of a chapter in order to find an elusive reference promised by the text.

A four-page bibliography of Ó Cathasaigh spans almost fifty years of work and is an excellent ready reference to all of his varied publications, many reprinted in the excellent recent collection *Coire Sois, The Cauldron of Knowledge: A Companion to Early Irish Saga* (2014, edited by Matthieu Boyd, University of Notre Dame Press). The consolidated list of other works cited might serve well as a reading guide for one starting out as a Celtic researcher and seeking breadth of understanding.

This collection is the first in a new Celtic Publications Series from Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, under Boyd's general editorship. It is an auspicious start, and the Press is to be congratulated on their commitment to this field of study.

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Anders Ahlqvist: *Pangur Bán*

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Ruairí Ó hUiginn: Annals, Histories, and Stories: Some Thirteenth-Century Entries in the Annals of the Four Masters

Katharine Simms: Heroes Humiliated: A Theme in Bardic Eulogies

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