

St. Patrick (5th century): *Atomriug indiu niurt trén togairm trinoit*

I. *Goidelica: Old and Early-Middle-Irish Glosses, Prose and Verse*, ed. Whitley Stokes, 2nd ed. (London: Trübner & Co., 1872), pp. 150-152.

II. *The Writings of St. Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland*, ed. Charles H.H. Wright (London: Religious Tract Society, 1889), pp. 31-34.

III. *The Writings of St. Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland*, ed. Charles H.H. Wright (London: Religious Tract Society, 1889), pp. 99-102.

IV. Kuno Meyer, *Selections from Ancient Irish Poetry*, (London: Constable & Company, 1911), pp. 25-27.

VII. PATRICK'S HYMN.

[fo. 19b.] Patraicc dorone innimmunsa. INaimseir loegaire meic néil dorigned. Fád adénma hautem diadiden conamanchaib arnámídb inbáis robátár inetarnid arnacléircheib. Ocus isluirech hirse inso frihimdegail cuirp 7 anma ardemnaib 7 dtúinib 7 dualchib. Cech duine nosgéba cechdía cominnithem léir india nfhairisfet demna friagnúis . bid dtín dó arcechneim 7 format . bidcomna dó fridiánbas bidlúrech dianmain iarnaétecht. Patraicc rochan so intan dorata nahetarnaidi arachinn óloegaire nadigsed dosilad chreitme cotemraig conid annsin atchessa fiadhlucht nanetarnade comtis aige alta 7 iarróe inandiaid .i. benen . 7 féth fiada ahainm.,

Atomriug indiu niurt trén togairm trinoit
 Cretim treodataid foisi[ti]n óendatad indúlemain dail
Atomriug indiu niurt gene crist conabathius
 niurt crochta conaadnocul
 niurt neseirge cofresgabail
 niurt tóniud dobrethemnas bratha.


Atomriug indiu niurt grád hiruphin
 inurlataid aingel
 [ífrestul nanarchaíngel]
 hífrescisin eseirge arcenn focharice
 inernaighthib huasalathrach
 ífairchetlaib fátha
 hipraiceptaib apstal
 inhiresaib fuismedach
 inendgai nóemingen
 hingnimaib fer firean

Atomriug indiu niurt nime
 soilse gréne
 etrochta snechtai
 áne thened
 déne lóchet (.i. lassrach)
 luathe gáethe
 fudomna mara
 tairisem talmain
 cobsaidecht ailech

Atomriug indiu niurt dé domluamaracht
 cumachta dé domchumgabail
 ciall dé dommimthús
 rosc dé domreimcise
 cluas dé doméstecht
 briathar dé domerlabrai
 lám dé dommimdegail
 intech dé domremthechtas
 sciath dé domdtín
 sochraite dé dommanucul
 arintleadaib demna
 araslaighthib dualche
 arirnechtaib aicnid
 arcechnduine midúthrastar* dam
 ícén 7 inocus
 inuathed 7 hisochaide

[fo. 20 a.]

I.—THE HYMN, OR 'BREASTPLATE.'¹

1.
 BIND myself² to-day,
 To a strong power, an invocation³
 of the Trinity,
 I believe in a Threeness with con-
 fession of a Oneness in⁴ the
 Creator of Judgment.⁵

2.
 I bind myself to-day,
 To the power⁶ of the birth of Christ, with
 His baptism,
 To the power of the crucifixion, with His
 burial,
 To the power of His resurrection, with His
 ascension,
 To the power of His coming to the judgment
 of Doom.

3.
 I bind myself to-day,
 Col. i. 16. To the power of the ranks of
 cherubim,⁷
 Heb. i. 14. In the obedience of angels,
 Rev. xxii. 9. In the service of the archangels,⁸
 Acts xxiii. 6. In the hope of resurrection unto
 reward,
 Gen. xxviii. 20. In the prayers of patriarchs,⁹
 1 Pet. i. 12. In the predictions of prophets,
 Matt. xxviii. In the preachings of apostles,
 19, 20.
 Acts vii. 55-60. In the faiths of confessors,¹⁰
 Rev. xiv. 4. In the purity of holy virgins,
 Matt. v. 16. In the acts of righteous men.

4.
 I bind myself to-day,
 Psa. cxlviii. 1. To the power of heaven,
 The light of sun,
 Psa. cxlviii. 3. The brightness of moon,¹¹
 The splendour of fire,
 Psa. cxlviii. 7. The speed of lightning,¹²
 Psa. civ. 4. The swiftmess of wind,
 The depth of the sea,
 Psa. civ. 5. The stability of the earth,
 The firmness of rocks.¹³

5.
 I bind myself to-day,
 Deut. xxxiii. To the power of God to guide me,
 27. The might of God to uphold me,
 Col. iii. 16. The wisdom of God to teach me,
 The eye of God to watch over me.
 The ear of God to hear me.
 The word of God to speak for me,¹⁴ 1 Pet. iv. 11.
 The hand of God to protect me,
 The way of God to lie before me,¹⁵
 The shield of God to shelter me, Psa. xviii. 1, 2,
 The host of God to defend me, 2 Kings vi. 17.
 Against the snares of demons,
 Against the temptations of vices,
 Against [the lusts¹⁶] of nature, Eph. vi. 10-17.
 Against every man who medi-
 tates injury to me,
 Whether far or near,
 Alone and in a multitude.¹⁷

II.

MRS. ALEXANDER'S VERSION.

I BIND unto myself to-day
 The strong name of the Trinity,
 By invocation of the same,
 The Three in One and One in Three.

I bind this day to me for ever,
 By power of faith, Christ's Incarnation ;
 His baptism in Jordan river ;
 His death on cross for my salvation ;
 His bursting from the spicéd tomb ;
 His riding up the heavenly way ;
 His coming at the day of doom ;
 I bind unto myself to-day.

I bind unto myself the power
 Of the great love of Cherubim ;
 The sweet ' Well done ' in judgment hour ;
 The service of the Seraphim,
 Confessors' faith, Apostles' word,
 The Patriarchs' prayers, the Prophets'
 scrolls,
 All good deeds done unto the Lord,
 And purity of virgin souls.

I bind unto myself to-day
 The virtues of the star-lit heaven,
 The glorious sun's life-giving ray,
 The whiteness of the moon at even,
 The flashing of the lightning free,
 The whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
 The stable earth, the deep salt sea,
 Around the old eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself to-day
 The power of God to hold and lead,
 His eye to watch, His might to stay,
 His ear to hearken to my need.
 The wisdom of my God to teach,
 His hand to guide, His shield to ward ;
 The Word of God to give me speech,
 His heavenly host to be my guard.

THE DEER'S CRY

Patrick sang this hymn when the ambuscades were laid against him by King Loeguire (Leary) that he might not go to Tara to sow the faith. Then it seemed to those lying in ambush that he and his monks were wild deer with a fawn, even Benen, following them. And its name is 'Deer's Cry.'

I arise to-day
 Through a mighty strength, the invocation of
 the Trinity,
 Through belief in the threeness,
 Through confession of the oneness
 Of the Creator of Creation.

I arise to-day
 Through the strength of Christ's birth with His
 baptism,
 Through the strength of His crucifixion with
 His burial,
 Through the strength of His resurrection with
 His ascension,
 Through the strength of His descent for the
 judgment of Doom.

I arise to-day
 Through the strength of the love of Cherubim,
 In obedience of angels,
 In the service of archangels,
 In hope of resurrection to meet with reward,
 In prayers of patriarchs,
 In predictions of prophets,
 In preachings of apostles,
 In faiths of confessors,
 In innocence of holy virgins,
 In deeds of righteous men.

I arise to-day
 Through the strength of heaven :
 Light of sun,
 Radiance of moon,
 Splendour of fire,
 Speed of lightning,
 Swiftmess of wind,
 Depth of sea,
 Stability of earth,
 Firmness of rock.

I arise to day
 Through God's strength to pilot me :
 God's might to uphold me,
 God's wisdom to guide me,
 God's eye to look before me,
 God's ear to hear me,
 God's word to speak for me,
 God's hand to guard me,
 God's way to lie before me,
 God's shield to protect me,
 God's host to save me
 From snares of devils,
 From temptations of vices,
 From every one who shall wish me ill,
 Afar and anear,
 Alone and in a multitude.

Tocuirius etrum thra nahuile nerto
fricehnert namnas nétrócar fristí domchurp ocus-
dommanmain
fritinchetla saibfáthe
fridubrechtu gentliuchta
frisáibrechtu hereteeda
frihimcellacht nidlachta
fribrichta ban 7 goband 7 druad
fricechfiss arachuilu anman duini

Crist dommindegail indiu
arneim arloseud arbadud arguin
conomthair ilar fochraice

Crist lim crist rium crist imdegaid crist innium
crist issum crist úasum crist dessum crist tuathum
crist illius crist issius crist inerus

Crist icridiu cechduine immimrorda
crist ingin cechóen rodomlabrathar
crist incechruse nomdercædar
crist incechcluais rodamecloathar

Atomriug indiu niurt trén togairm trinoit

Cretim treodataid fíisitin oendatad in dulemain [dail]

Domini est salus domini est salus christi est salus
salus tua domine sit semper nobiscum

* MS. midústrastar.

Patrick made this hymn. In the time of Loegare son of Niall it was made. The cause of making it, however, was to protect himself with his monks against the deadly enemies who were in ambush against the clerics. And this is a corselet of faith for the protection of body and soul against demons, and human beings, and vices. Everyone who shall sing it every day, with pious meditation on God, demons shall not stay before him. It will be a safeguard to him against every poison and envy: it will be a *comma* to him against sudden death: it will be a corslet to his soul after dying. Patrick sang this when the ambuscades were set against him by Loegaire that he might not go to Tara to sow the faith, so that there they seemed before the ambuscaders to be wild deer and a fawn after them, to wit, Benén; and *faet fiada* ('guard's cry') is its name.

6.
I summon to-day¹⁸ around me all
these powers,
Against every hostile merciless
power directed against my body
and my soul, Jude 20.
Against the incantations of false
prophets, Acts xiii. 8-12.
Against the black laws of heathen-
ism,
Against the false laws of heretics,¹⁹
Against the deceit of idolatry, 1 John v. 27.
Against the spells of women, and
smiths, and Druids,
Against all knowledge which hath
defiled man's body and soul.²⁰ Jude 10.

7.
Christ protect me to-day,
Against poison, against burning, Mark xvi. 18.
Against drowning, against wound,
That I may receive a multitude
of rewards.

8.
Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ within me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ at my right, Christ at my left,
Christ in breadth, Christ in length,
Christ in height.²¹ Eph. iii. 18, 19.

9.
Christ in the heart of every man
who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of every man
who speaks to me,
Christ in the eye of every man that
sees me,
Christ in the ear of every man that
hears me.

10.
I bind myself to-day,
To a strong power, an invocation
of the Trinity,
I believe in a Threeness with con-
fession of a Oneness in the
Creator of Judgment.²²

11.
Salvation is the Lord's,
Salvation is the Lord's,
Salvation is Christ's,
Let Thy salvation, O Lord, be ever
with us.²³ Psa. iii. 8.
Rev. vii. 10.
Isa. xxv. 9.

Against the demon snares of sin,
The vice that gives temptation force,
The natural lusts that war within,
The hostile men that mar my course;
Or few or many, far or nigh,
In every place, and in all hours,
Against their fierce hostility,
I bind to me these holy powers.

Against all Satan's spells and wiles,
Against false words of heresy,
Against the knowledge that defiles,
Against the heart's idolatry,
Against the wizard's evil craft,
Against the death-wound and the burning,
The choking wave, the poisoned shaft,
Protect me, Christ, till Thy returning.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the Name,
The strong Name of the Trinity;
By invocation of the same,
The Three in One, and One in Three.
Of Whom all nature hath creation;
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.



I summon to-day all these powers between me and
those evils,
Against every cruel merciless power that may
oppose my body and soul,
Against incantations of false prophets,
Against black laws of pagandom,
Against false laws of heretics,
Against craft of idolatry,
Against spells of women and smiths and wizards,
Against every knowledge that corrupts man's body
and soul.

Christ to shield me to-day
Against poison, against burning,
Against drowning, against wounding,
So that there may come to me abundance of
reward.
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of every one who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise to-day
Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the
Trinity,
Through belief in the threeness,
Through confession of the oneness
Of the Creator of Creation.