

163 B

- 1 Story & verses of Gaelic songs, Mr. Wm. E. McDonald, Merion Bridge, a bit mixed up
- 2 Burial Story, English & Gaelic not very interesting
- 3 Mo rogh ainn 's mo rian, old country love song, can be used for m. d. Inglewood is, here
- 4 Nighuan Oran Broidhacch, My Nat Brown Maid, Mr. Alex Morrison & Mrs. Katie Ferguson, ~~Morrison~~ Merion Bridge, Not Transcribed by Major MeLeod
- 5 Ghost Story told by Mr. Wm. E. McDonald, joke, in English and Gaelic

6 Bagpipe Tunes, Jimmy McLeod,
furious. Not bad for beginner.

7 Fiddle, Mr. Willie Morrison,
Merion Bridge, name unknown. Is
old country tune

8 Original fiddle tune, Mr.
Willie Morrison, quite good

9. Laidh. Gen. 28, sung in Gaelic
by Mr. Philip Morrison, very good
for men who has had a stroke.

10 Chief Brechtunn, sung by Mr.
John Renny Milderigan.

11 Nicknames

Reel 163B

- 1-3 Story of Gaelic Song sung over telephone; told and sung by Mr. Wm.E. MacDonald, Marion Bridge in English and Gaelic; must be more to story in Gaelic as it has little point as told in English; dialect however is interesting, and Gaelic is typical of this district
- 3-8 Burial Story in English & Gaelic; by Mr. Wm.E. MacDonald, Marion Bridge; story as he tells it is not very clear, but is elucidated by another story teller; Mr. MacDonald is aged 81.
- 8-9 Love Song in Gaelic; sung by Mr.Wm.E. MacDonald and Mr. Alex Morrison, Marion Bridge; they do not write Gaelic, so could not write it down, but seems to be a good song and well known here.
- 9-10 Ho ro mo nighean donn bhoidheach; sung by ~~Mr. Wm.E. MacDonald~~ ~~xxx~~ Mr. Alex Morrison and Mrs. Katie Ferguson; both sing at top volume as many Cape Bretoners do, but they have quite good voices. See reel 168A
- 10-15 Ghost Story in English and Gaelic; told by Mr. Wm.E. MacDonald; story made up to frighten people; not much to it in English but must be better in Gaelic; all these stories of great amusement to whole roomful, all of whom have the Gaelic; they all say that is the language to tell them in.
- 15-16 Bagpipes, Sweet Maid of Glendaruel; played by Mr. Himmy MacLeod, Gaberous Lake.
- 16-17 Bagpipes, ~~Col. Robertson's March~~ ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~; played by Mr. MacLeod Road to the Isles
- 17-18 Bagpipes, Col. Robertson's March; played by Mr. MacLeod; this is the best of this trio; he is a young man who has just taken up the pipes lately.
- 18-21 Fiddle, Old Scotch Tune; played by Mr. Willie Morrison, Marion Bridge; name of this traditional tune not known.
- 21-23 Fiddle, Original Tune; composed and played by Mr. Willie Morrison, Marion Bridge.
- 23-24 Laoidh 11. Genis XXVIII, 20-22 sung in Gaelic; Capt. Allan Morrison, Marion Bridge; must have been good singer in his day, but has had stroke and to sing this much was a great undertaking and accounts for his remark after the first verse that he made that one.
- 27
- 24-~~end~~ Cheap Breatunn; sung in Gaelic by Mr. John R. McKeigan, Marion Bridge; song in praise of Cape Breton composed by Mr. Dan Alex McDonald, Framboise; 13 vs. well sung; one of best Gaelic songs I have recorded. He is expressing his love for the island of Cape Breton and what took place when he was a boy at Framboise. and he still remembers those days and some of the characters he knew in those days. Very popular song among Cape Bretoners.
- 27-end Talk on Names in Cape Breton; by Mr. McKeigan. This was unrehearsed.

Story of Gaelic Song Sung Over Country Telephone. Reel 163B1-3

Anyway he was going to telephone home, you know, this fellow who was going to Sydney, and he was at the captain's place, and anyway they couldn't get to Marion Bridge, and "It's all right. Just hold the 'phone a few minutes," says Hume, "till I sing you a little bit of a Gaelic song."
(Sings in Gaelic)

And the captain says, "Get away from that telephone you darn fool." (Much laughter from the family). That finishes it.

(There was probably much more to this story because all the people in the room knew it and seemed to think it very funny.)

Told by Mr. Wm. E. MacDonald, Marion Bridge, and recorded by Helen Creighton, July 1956

When his wife died there was quite a do of the young fellows with him, and they was burying there, carrying the casket you know on poles, and there was four around, but anyway they were going and going and going and Hughie was telling stories, and the young fellow said,

"Listen to him," and they all were going, and Philip McPherson and Archie MacLean and I don't know who's the others fellows that is carrying the casket, but anyway they were in turn and Hughie hollered(?), "Turn the four of yez," and they weren't turnin' at all, they were following Hugh, and when they got to the graveyard road Hugh turned around and looked.

"You over there, why didn't you turn when I told you to?" he sez. Anyway they got up to where he was, and Philip MacPherson almost et him alive. They buried the woman all right.

Told first in English and then in Gaelic by Mr. Wm. E. MacDonald, Marion Bridge, and recorded by Helen Creighton, July, 1956

This is a story about Hughie Cameron who came from Scotland and was a great story-teller. Young men would gather around him before church and would always go in laughing.

In another account of the above story the funeral, or perhaps another when the same thing happened, the snow was too deep for most things but there was a heavy enough crust to stand part of it. They had to carry the coffin on hand barrels - three long stocks and three men on each side. Every half mile the six men were relieved by others in the procession with the leader calling out, "Six of you stand aside." By telling stories all the way Mr. Cameron kept them so interested that they forgot to make a change, and he didn't have to do any carrying/

Question: Do you use Gaelic very much these days?

Answer (Mr. MacDonald): Yes, in my own house. I'm trying to learn that feller Gaelic (pointing to 7 year old grandson). He'll understand quite a bit. (He speaks, and I think says the Gaelic for how-do-you-do)/

Alex Munro and Angus McKeigan were going in to Uncle John's. There used to be a crowd there, you know, and Angus says, "Now one of yez tell the ghost story

(words here unintelligible).

Alex wasn't saying anything anyway, but when Donald got time to go, Uncle Donald got up and took hold of the stick they used to dry the clothes on. Donald got up and he got hold of this stick and I said to myself, "It's time to say some thing about the ghost story. Well," I says, "I was comin' from Stanfield last night and indeed I got frightened. Comin' around the crossroads there where I was just going up to where Maman(?) was I saw this affair ahead of me, and I had no other way to go home with the wagon, and I said, well I'm goin' to continue on till the horses stop. The horse didn't stop at all, but this light came right over me head there and it was about 12 feet square and 30 feet long and we all left and went on." And we all left and went on.

Angus came over the next morning and Donald was sitting on a big log that was out there.

"I wonder," Angus says, "Donald was it the truth that William was telling about that ghost story?"

"Certainly," says Donald, "you never heard William telling a story like that before. There wasn't a word of lie in it," says Donald, and it was her old horse and she was scared to come to the bridge. That put an end to it.

(This was about his uncle Donald who was blind. They made up the story and when it went out nobody would go over the bridge at night. The district was full of ghost stories and people were easily frightened. The Gaelic version is probably better told, for they assure me stories lose much by translation).

Told by Mr. Wm. E. MacDonald, Marion Bridge, and recorded by Helen Creighton, July 1956

It was Dan Alex MacDonald who composed the last song. I always get the MacDonalds and MacLeods mixed at Framboise. Now for your information, Mr. MacDonald has a brother at Marion Bridge, Dan MacDonald. I think you have made a visit at their house. And he also has another brother at Sydney, Alex MacDonald, so the three brothers are Alex and Dan and Dan Alex. I think that straightens the thing out pretty well now.

Question: Does it happen very often that the same name is used in one family?

Quite often among the Scottish people. They very often where there are ~~xxxxxxx~~ boys in the family more than two or three boys in the family, they always want to have the Angus and the Dans and the Alexs if it's possible at all. It's nothing out of the ordinary to have a Dan Alex or a Dan Angus or if possible at all to have two names.

Question: You have two names, haven't you?

I have two names. They are John Ranny, but I'm not too struck on the name myself and I try to get them to use the one name if at all possible. But there are very few who do.

Told by Mr. John R. McKeigan, Marion Bridge,
and recorded by Helen Creighton, July 1956