Gu ma Slaint dhuit Donail (Good health to you Donald)

This tune is found in a single manuscript source:
– Nether Lorn canntaireachd, ii, 11-14

Colin Mór Campbell treats the tune as follows:

1st. Cherede chedroo hiharin cheendo hihorodo hinodro hindreho hiodin
2d. Cherede chedroo hiharin cheendo hihorodo hinodro hiodin hiodro hiodrorodin chehodroe hiodrodin hioedro hihorodo hihorodo hinhodro hindreho hiodin
3d. Cherede chedro hiharin cheendo hidhrodo hinodro hindreho hiodin

D 1st. Cherede diliodroo hiharin cheendo hihorodo hinodro Iendreho hiodin
2d. Cherede diliodroo hiharin cheendo hihorodo hinodro hiodin hiodro hiodrorodin Iedreve hiodrodin hioedro hihorodo hihorodo hinhodro hihorodo hiodin
3d. Cherede diliodroo hiharin cheendo hihorodo hinodro Iendreho hiodin

S. Taolive
1st. Chedarid chedarid Idarid hodarid hiharin hiodarid hodarid Idarid chedarid hiodin
2d. Chedarid chedarid Idarid hodarid hiharin hiodarid hodarid Idarid hihorodo hodarid hodarid hihorodo hihorodo hedarid hedarid chedarid hiodin
3d. Chedarid chedarid Idarid hodarid hiharin hiodarid hodarid Idarid hihorodo hodarid hodarid hihorodo hihorodo hedarid chedarid hiodin
D 1st. Chedarid chedarid Idarid hodarid hindarid hiodarid hodarid Idarid chedarid hiodarid
2d. Chedarid chedarid Idarid hodarid hindarid hiodarid hodarid hiodarid hodarid ffour times, hedarid hedarid chedarid Idarid hedarid chedarid hiodarid
3d. Chedarid chedarid Idarid hodarid hindarid hiodarid hodarid Idarid chedarid hiodarid

S. Crulive
1st. Chebandre chebandre Ibandre hobandre hiharin hiobandre hobandre Ibandre chebandre hiodin
2d. Chebandre chebandre Ibandre hobandre hiharin hiobandre hobandre hihorodo hobandre hebandre hebandre chebandre Ibandre hebandre chebandre hiodin
3d. Chebandre chebandre Ibandre hobandre hiharin hiobandre hobandre Ibandre chebandre hiodin

D 1st. Chebandre chebandre Ibandre hobandre hinbandre hiobandre hobandre Ibandre chebandre hiobandre
2d. Chebandre chebandre Ibandre hobandre hinbandre hiobandre hobandre hiobandre hobandre hiobandre hobandre ffour times, hebandre hebandre chebandre Ibandre hebandre chebandre hiobandre
3d. Chebandre chebandre Ibandre hobandre hinbandre hiobandre hobandre Ibandre chebandre hobandre

The structure is unusual, moving from a 4 8 4 bar pattern in the ground and thumb variation to a 3 6 3 pattern in the later variations. A progressive concentration of metre in this way is not uncommon and thoughtful players may wish to consider some of the alternatives before committing to James Campbell and Archibald Kenneth’s score contained in the Piobaireachd Society Collection (second series) volume 13, pp.395-7. While Campbell and Kenneth’s score is very symmetrical (a symmetry achieved by swapping material between parts) it is difficult not to feel that this may have been achieved at the cost of musical urgency and dynamism. The following tentative reading in staff notation may give some idea of the possibilities here:
and so on. The crunluath can be taken off the taorluath singling and doubling above.
Since the bulk of the tune is metrically regular it seems reasonable to suppose that the sections which are not so are the result of scribal error rather than deliberate artistic intention, and the interpretation above has been guided by this. At the same time I have tried to stay as close to the original score as possible.

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