



Cluny MacPherson's Salute

There are settings of the tune the Piobaireachd Society calls "Cluny MacPherson's Salute" in the following manuscript sources:

- Angus MacKay**, ii, 39-40
- Duncan Campbell of Foss**, ff.203-5
- D. S. MacDonald**, i, 60-2

And in the following published source:

- C. S. Thomason's** *Ceol Mor*, p.394

Angus MacKay sets the tune as follows:

Shall the piper blow

Cluny Mass

No. 19.

Var. 1st.

Quadruple

40

Waltz 2nd

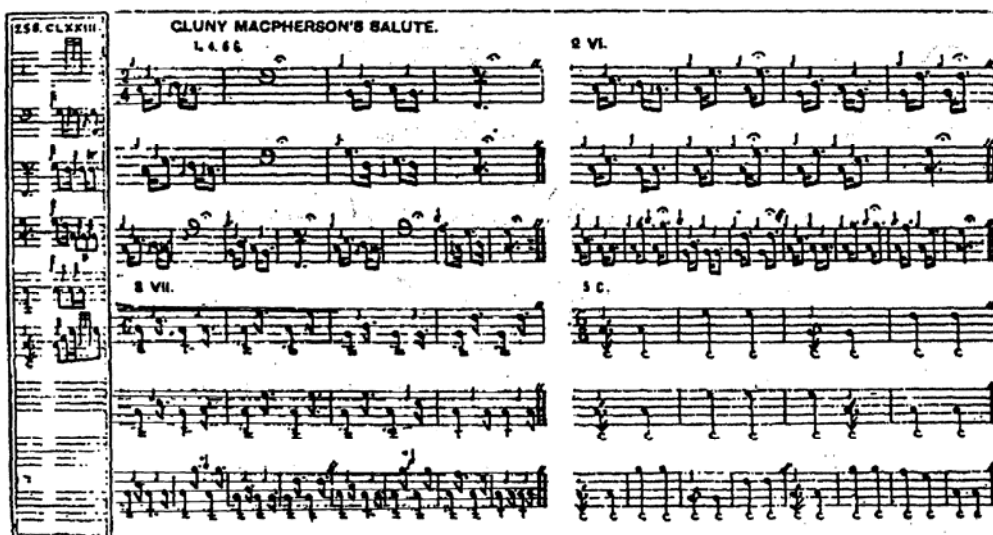
Dr. Wm. Donaldson.

Al fine

Archibald Campbell has, following his usual practice, silently removed Angus MacKay's instructions to repeat the ground after the taorluath and crunluath variations, and silently altered MacKay's changes of time signature within the tune.

Commentary:

There is an awkward confusion of titles here. Angus MacKay has a setting, nameless in his MS, ii, 121, of the tune known to Uilleam Ross, C. S. Thomason and David Glen as "Cluny MacPherson's Salute," a simple but characterful little piece, rather pleasingly put together. It goes like this:



Ex. Remove repeating dots at end of last line and make the Metre 4, 4, 4, 4.

Archibald Campbell published a completely different tune under this title in the *Piobaireachd Society Collection* (second series), iv, 115, 117, following the score in Angus MacKay's manuscript as above, who, at ii, 39-40, has the present tune with the title "Failte Thighearna Chluainie Cluny Mac" casually scribbled at the top of the folio in a style rather unlike MacKay's usual neat hand. Duncan Campbell of Foss who had access to MacKay's papers when compiling his own collection calls the tune simply "Piobaireachd." Since Angus MacKay died in 1859 and Duncan Campbell in 1860, the conclusion would appear to be that at the time of MacKay's death this tune was untitled. Equally, that title had been added by the early 1880s when D. S. MacDonald saw MacKay's papers (by Michael MacCarfrae, perhaps, in whose keeping they had been), for MacDonald duly gives the title as "Failte Tighearna Chluani."

Campbell creates further confusion by stating in his notes that Dr. Charles Bannatyne had without good evidence called this tune "Blar Leine—the Battle of the Shirts." But Campbell's "Cluny MacPherson's Salute" is not the tune called "Blar Leine" by Dr. Bannatyne, which refers to the *other* "Cluny MacPherson's Salute" as published by Uilleam Ross and General Thomason, as a note in David Glen's MS, f.101, makes clear.

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