STUDIES IN SCOTTISH LITERATURE

VOLUME I  NUMBER 4  APRIL 1964

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL
PAGE 213

WILLIAM GILLIS
AN AUTHENTIC FERGUSSON PORTRAIT
PAGE 215

JOHN MACKECHNIE
THE GAELIC MANUSCRIPTS IN SCOTLAND
PAGE 223

LAURENCE L. BONGIE
THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY MARIAN CONTROVERSY
AND AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER
BY DAVID HUME
PAGE 236

TOSHIRO NAMBA
ROBERT BURNS IN JAPAN
PAGE 253

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS
PAGE 259

REVIEWS
PAGE 265
STUDIES IN SCOTTISH LITERATURE

EDITED BY G. ROSS ROY
TEXAS TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE

EDITORIAL BOARD:
DAVID DAICHES
A. M. KINGHORN
HUGH MACDIARMID (C. M. GRIEVE)
A. L. STROUT
KURT WITTIG

STUDIES IN SCOTTISH LITERATURE is an independent quarterly devoted to all aspects of Scottish literature. Articles and notes are welcome. Subscriptions are available at $5.00 U.S. per annum in the United States and Canada, elsewhere 30 shillings. All communications should be addressed to the Editor, Department of English, Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, U.S.A.

PUBLISHED BY TEXAS TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE
AND PRINTED BY THE TEXAS TECH PRESS
LUBBOCK, TEXAS, U.S.A.
EDITORIAL

In this day of specialization dictionaries play a particularly important role. There is a dictionary for almost anything—slang, underworld talk, even “beatnick” jargon has been considered worthy of a small dictionary. And yet there is still no adequate dictionary of Scots.

Scottish dictionaries have already been published, of course, notably John Jamieson’s *Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language* (1808, 1825; and revised reprints). But the idea of what a dictionary should be changes with the times, and the *Oxford English Dictionary* altered the entire concept of dictionaries. It was, in fact, at the suggestion of the co-editor of the *OED*, Sir William Craigie, that work was begun under Craigie’s own editorship on the *Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue*, a record of the Scottish language down to the Union of Parliaments (1707). The *DOST* is part of Craigie’s plan to supplement the *OED* with a series of dictionaries for each of the main periods in English and Scots. In addition to the *DOST* the *Scottish National Dictionary*, under the editorship of William Grant, was commenced to cover the period 1700 to date. The first part of both dictionaries appeared in 1931, both are now up to the letter *M*, or about half completed. The expected date of their completion is 1973.

Since their inception the cost of producing these works has soared with no corresponding increase in revenue from their sale. The *DOST* and the *SND* are sold as sets at the price current when the purchase is agreed upon; ironically the early enthusiasm shown by libraries and individuals in subscribing to the dictionaries now means that later parts must be furnished at a fraction of their actual cost, although many of these subscribers have made voluntary additional contributions to help defray the increased cost of publication. Adjustments have, of course, been made in the price to new subscribers based on current costs, but past events give little hope that these costs will prevail when the final volumes go to press. At present, for instance, the *SND* requires an additional £30,000 to complete its work.

Since 1952 the Scottish Dictionaries Joint Council, consisting of the Scottish universities, the Cargenie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, and the Scottish National Dictionary Association, has co-ordinated the
work of the dictionaries under the able editorship of A. J. Aitken of the
DOST and D. D. Murison of the SND. Premises on George Square are
supplied by the University of Edinburgh, appropriately beside the School
of Scottish Studies. Continuing contributions are made by these bodies;
in addition there have been sizeable donations in the past by the Rocke-
feller Foundation, the Chicago University Press, the Burns Federation, the
Educational Institute of Scotland, as well as certain Scottish burghs.

But this is not nearly enough. Hundreds of dedicated voluntary
workers have collected about 2 million quotations for use in the dic-
tionaries. Trained professional workers are needed to use this material,
getting it ready for publication. Grants and subscriptions are urgently
required. Our readers should do all in their power to enable both these
great dictionaries to meet their target date for completion.
CONTRIBUTORS
TO THIS ISSUE

Laurence L. BONGIE: Associate Professor in the Department of Romance Studies
at the University of British Columbia, B.A., University of British Columbia;
Doctorat d'Université, University of Paris, with a thesis on Hume in France. Has
published studies of the continental reception of Hume's work and thought in French
Studies and an article on Voltaire in Modern Language Quarterly. A monograph on
Hume and the French Counter-Revolution has been accepted for publication by the
Oxford University Press.

William GILLIS: Chairman of the Department of English at Bradley University.
He took his A.M. degree at Boston University and, after further graduate work there,
was transferred to the University of Edinburgh where he took his Ph.D., with a thesis
on Ferguson. Editor of The Unpublished Poems of Robert Ferguson and author of
articles on literature, history, education, and foreign languages.

Rev. John MACKECHNIE: Has been for many years actively engaged in research
in the various Celtic languages, the history, traditions, etc. of all the Celtic peoples.
He has been Assistant in the Department of Celtic at Glasgow University and has
acted as Interim-Professor of Celtic languages at Edinburgh University. His pub-
lished works include Instructio Pie Vivendi et Superba Meditandi (2 vol., Irish Texts
Soc.), Binn Dorain, the highly popular Gaelic Without Groom, and the Deuchar MSS.,
Vol. I. He now holds the position of Reader in Celtic Languages at the University
of Aberdeen.

Toshsu NAMBA: Born in Osaka, educated at Osaka Music Academy and Nihon
University. Has lived in Tokyo since 1937 where he has worked in educational circles.
At present Assistant Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature
at Nihon University. In addition to the articles and books on Burns mentioned in
the text of his article, is author of A Study of English Grammar (1951) and