

O Carolan's lament on the death of his wife Máire Maguire

Intleacht na h-Éireann na Gréige agus na Róimhe
Bíodh uile í n-éinfheacht í n-aon bheartín rómham-
sa
Ghlacfuainn mar fhéirín tar an méid sin de na
seodaibh
Máire on Éirne, as mé bheith dá pógadh

'Sturfach tinn tréithlag, me féin gach tráth nóna
'S air maidin ag eirigh, mar d'éug úaim mo nuachar
Dá bhfagainn anois tréda, 's gach saibhreas dár
nósadh.
Ní ghlacfaínn na dhéidh sin, aen bhean le pósadh

Fuair mé seal í n-Éireann, go haerach, 's go
sóghamuil
Ag ól le gach tréan-fhear, bhí éifeachtach, ceolmhar
Fágadh 'na ndéidh sin, leam féin mé go brónach
Í ndeireach mo shaoghail, s gan mo chéile bheith
beo agam

M'intleacht mhaith aerach ní fhéadaim a
chumhdach
M'intinn na ndéidh sin, is leir go bhfuil smúiteach
Go déimhín i d' dheigh-si ní fhéadaim a bheith
súgach
A Mháire na céille, in san traeghal bhí go cliútach

If the great minds of Ireland, of Greece and of
Rome
Were all granted to me and in my possession
I'd yield up their treasures with no hesitation
They are nothing to your sweet kiss and affection

All the day I am weary and sick and exhausted
No dawn has appeal since my heart was destroyed
Life's empty without you, of all joy devoid
No one and nothing can fill this dark void

I loved my old life that was carefree and easy
Drinking with rovers and musicians-in-chief
But now I'm so lonesome, just me and my grief
For the rest of my days, I'll know no relief

There's no comfort in music or roving or playing
No relief from the gloom and the pain and distress
Gone is the cheer I used in old days possess
In this wilderness devoid of all happiness

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Walker suggests that lament is sung to the Irish Air of 'Concovar Mac Curely' (Conchobar Mac Curley)
https://archive.org/details/historicalmemoir00walk_0/page/92/mode/2up

References:

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