

## "Gaelic" S DE GAELIC ORIGIN ASSETS SAVANT

It Means Maiden Warriors  
Land—In Modern Tongue  
of Ireland It Is Spelled  
"Cailli-fóirn-iada"

FIRST NAME EVER  
APPLIED TO STATE

Beauty of Its Daughters To-  
day Attests Correctness  
of Derivation

By CONOR MURPHY

The derivation of the name California has for centuries proved a mystifying, insoluble puzzle to scholars in both the continents of Europe and America. Every language known to them, both ancient and modern, has been searched time out of number—even all of the dialects spoken by the native American Indians—without result, except to more confuse and deepen the mystery.

During all of this scholarly investigation, carried on for centuries, and taken part in by generations of ripe scholars, including some brilliant Jesuit linguists, is it not strange that one of the purest and most ancient of the primitive Aryan tongues of Europe had been overlooked? The Gaelic, or, as some philologists prefer calling it, the "Celtic" (pronounced Keltic), has left more indelibly the impress of its existence upon the ancient topography of European Asia than the framework of its most cultured languages than probably any other tongue.

From prehistoric antiquity the course of the language down through countless ages has been marked by a complete independence, or freedom, from influence or corruption by any of the other European tongues or dialects. The ancient Gaelic was composed of five dialects, each of which constituted a complete and distinct language in itself.

Therefore, from the earliest period of its development, the language was specialized thus: First, the dialect or language specialized by the Druids, physicians and instructors in the sciences; professions closely allied or identical. This was the most secretly kept of the dialects. Second, the language specialized by the bards (chief poets, chroniclers and historians). Third, the specialized language of the ancient laws and which was used exclusively by the legal profession. Fourth, the specialized language of artisans of all trades; a survival of which has come down to our time in the secret dialect of the stonemasons and builders. Fifth, the common or spoken language of the people.

This is the reason why the Gaelic has five distinct names for everything, and the secret by which she has preserved the primitive Aryan roots purer and better than any other language in Europe. Hence the great interest taken in its study by European philologists for more than 60 years past, particularly in Germany. At this juncture it must be borne in mind that the Gaelic is the mother tongue of the Irish, and the original source from which this class of literature first sprang, and in which it flourished for centuries, and probably for thousands of years before the other European languages adopted it by translation into their own.

In "The Voyage of Bran Son of Febal," edited in 1891 by Kuno Meyer (the distinguished philologist and professor of Celtic in the University of Berlin) there is an essay by the well known English scholar, Alfred Nutt.

In this essay Mr. Nutt presents a critical deduction from the writings of the foremost scholars in Europe on the romance literature of Ireland.

He opens his chapter on "The Imram, or Oversea Voyage Literature," thus: "Of all classes of ancient Irish mythic fiction this is the most famous and the one which has most directly affected the remainder of west European literature."

"For the 'Voyage of St. Brendan,' which touched so profoundly the imagination of the people, which was translated into every European tongue, which drove forth adventurers into the western sea and was one of the contributory causes of the discovery of the new world, the 'Voyage of St. Brendan' is but the latest and a definitely Christian example of a genre of story telling which had already flourished for centuries before the advent of the new world, and which seemed good to an unknown writer to dress the old half pagan marvels in orthodox monkish garb and thus start them afresh in the popular imagination through the literature of the world."

"The Imram literature has been investigated by Professor Zimmer with all his wonted acuteness, subtlety and erudition."

Professor Zimmer argues and proves, I think, conclusively—that the "Voyage of Maelduin" is the oldest of existing tales, that it was written upon which and the quarry out of which the later Imram, and notably "St. Brendan's Voyage," was built. It had, however, been preceded by the "Voyage of the Sons of O'Cearra," the original version of which, now lost, has been replaced by a thirteenth century rifranchement, save the opening portion, which he thus looks upon as being the oldest fragment of this genre of story telling."

Professor O'Curry ascribes the origin of this tale to about the year 540, and that of St. Brendan to "about the year 600."

The Geographical society of the Pacific in 1910 issued a book of 50 pages entitled, "The Origin and the Meaning of the Name California," edited by the late Prof. George Davidson.

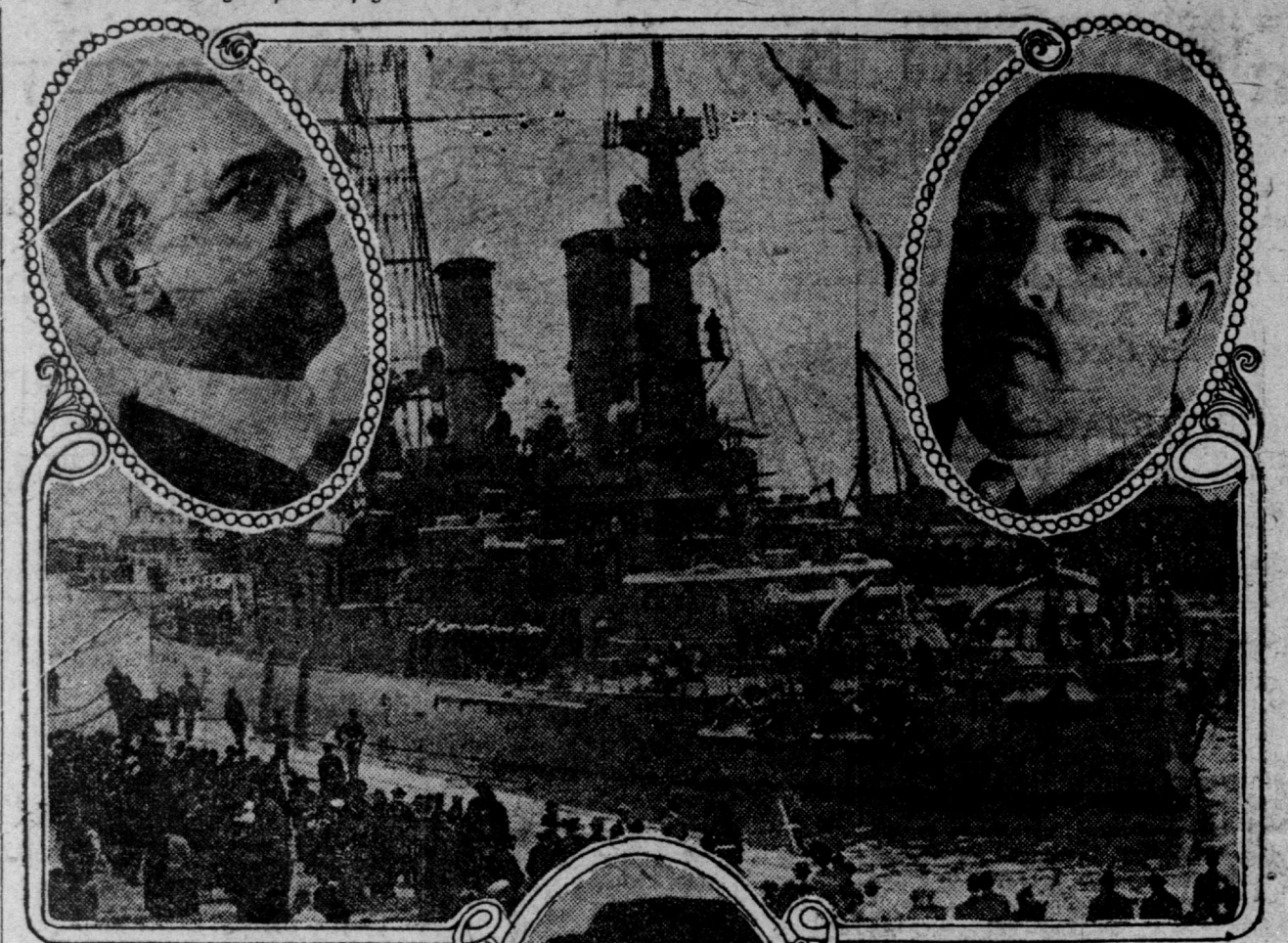
In his book Professor Davidson has given copious quotations in translation from an old Spanish romance called "Las Sergas de Esplandian."

It is in this romance that the name California first appeared, so called to an island fabled to have been wholly inhabited by Amazons, and which was mythically located off this Pacific coast of America, or, as it was then supposed to be (in reference to Spain), "at the right hand of the Indies." This "Esplandian" romance is of the Irish "Imram" type; its conception, framework, etc., are identical with them. The usual voyage to the wonderland of fair women (St. Brendan's alone being an exception). In the wonderland of California its brave and beautiful maidens are said to have been dark brunettes.

There are many "Imram" parallels in "Esplandian"—for instance, the man-eating Griffins, who protected the women on the island, is taken from the "Voyage of the Sons of O'Cearra" (of the sixth century), as in "another island they found peopled with smiths and artificers in the precious metals, and men of all trade, all striking and moaning under the incessant attacks of huge black birds, which tore the flesh from their bones with their bills and talons. And when Queen Calafia took 500 of these Griffins to aid the Turks in the capture of Constantinople from the Christians, the

## Save Good Ship Oregon, s Plea 'Bone Yard' Order Menaces Historic Cruiser

Battleship Oregon, ordered to be dismantled by navy department, and leaders who are trying to save the historic cruiser for state, Dr. L. W. Hyde (upper left), who is heading Spanish War Veterans movement; J. A. Curry (upper right), president Portland Rose society, who is studying situation, and R. W. Hogood, whose resolution in legislature concerning ship was pigeonholed.



Incident of those Griffins mistaking the Turks for the Christian enemy, inflicting great slaughter upon them, is paralleled in the "Adventures of the Children of the King of Norway," volume I of the Irish Texts society's publication, edited by Doctor Hyde (1899). In describing the attack upon the "City of the Red Stream" (Red sea, inhabited by women), which was being defended by the "King of the World" and his hosts, and who, being strangers to one another, the following took place: "Howsoever, if a son or a brother chanced to be at the shoulder of any man of them, it would have been thought that it was an enemy or foe who was in it, and it was not to be reckoned all who fell of them by Cú, by Hlan, and by Clabhan White-Knee; but that was nothing compared with all of the hosts themselves who fell by one another." (Hyde's translation.)

The name California is of pure fifteenth century Gaelic compounds, but there is ample proof that the author of "The Exploits of Esplandian" was not only a thorough Gaelic scholar, but that he was also intimately acquainted with the most ancient forms of the language, and with its various dialects. This leaves no doubt as to his nationality—that he was an Irishman, exiled in Spain; and the fact that his Spanish composition has been severely criticized proves that it was only an acquired language to him, from his lack of "literary polish," etc.

Professor Davidson's attempt to derive "the name California" from the Greek has proved a failure, like all of the other failures preceding it. That secret was solely and safely locked up and guarded in the priceless treasury of the Gaelic tongue and no other language could steal it from her.

Here are the five names derived by him from the Greek, admitting, as he did, however, that there were no satisfactory foundations for them in that language.

I. "Calafia," the queen of the island of California, from Kallí, beautiful, and phia, a female friend; or more probably, from Kallíphos, of beautiful and noble stature."

II. "California," from Kallós, beauty, or Kallí, beautiful, and ornís, a bird. "In this island are many griffins, which can be found in no other part of the world."

III. "Calafara," the name of an island, the lord of which was Garlante. From Kallí, beautiful, and phero, to bear along with the sense of motion; or more likely, pher, plural phrases, the Centaurs.

IV. "Califán," a beautiful villa, or town belonging to Barsina, lord of San Suena. From Kallí, beautiful, and phano, bright, etc.

V. "Califano," a beautiful, Califano, the superb one of the bravest of Calabro. From Kallí, beautiful, and pheno to slay."

The following are the Gaelic names connected with the name California, from the "Las Sergas de Esplandian," with their correct derivation.

Calafia, fighting maiden; from Calí, a maiden, and fia (modern genitive agha) fighting. The English word "fight" is derived from its p. p.—fighte. Calí is the "queen of the island of California."

California, Cal-forn-ia, means maiden-warrior's-land: From Calí, plural (maidens), forn, a battle; the Gaelic word for "battle" is forn, land or country. In modern Gaelic it would be written Calí-fóirn-iada. This is the genitive inflection of "ia," the "d" being thrown in to separate two vowels, as in -a.

The Romans borrowed this primitive "ia" of the Gaelic and used it as their geographical term for Gaul, Italia, Italia, German-ia, Hibern-ia, Britan-ia, etc.

Calafara, Cal-af-ara, harbor of the men, Cal-af-ara, a harbor or port, and fera, men; in contradistinction to the island of women.

Calífan, assembling place of wanderers, the Calífan, Calífan, assembling place and fan, gen. fain, pilgrims, wanderers; a beautiful villa or town belonging to Barsina, lord of San Suena. Calífan, i. e., guardian of tribe; from Calí, to guard, Calí, guardian, and fene, tribe, race or nation; the "o" is pronounced. He was "one of the forty bountiful Calífans."

The other names not explained by Professor Davidson, are As-plan-dian, "Esplandian," the hero of the romance; a name which identifies a war champion of the violent blow; from ES, (correct AS), a war hero, "As-catha"; plan, (now planice); a blow; and dian, and most perfectly shaped women in the world.

The people of California should publish a new edition of "Los Sergas de Esplandian," with a correct English translation thereof.

Our public libraries are the most backward in the world in regard to Gaelic literature. You might as well go to the north pole as to the San Francisco library looking for Gaelic romances. This condition of affairs

## FIGHTER WHICH Rounded Horn In '98'S RELEGATED

Spanish War Veterans of the  
Nation Are Asked to Join  
Movement to Prevent  
Dismantling

(Special Dispatch to the Call)

PORTLAND, Ore., March 8.—If the old battleship Oregon is finally consigned to the scrap heap, as the war department says it must be, it will be over the protests of individuals and organizations of the state whose name the grim sea fighter bears.

Opposition to the demolition of the boat may, in fact, take on a national aspect, inasmuch as the Oregon veterans of the Spanish-American war have asked their comrades throughout the land to add them in their efforts to save the Oregon to Oregon.

It is the hope of the veterans, in common with civic and business organizations of Portland, that the ship, instead of being destroyed, will be given to Oregon that it may be anchored in the harbor for use by the naval militia as a training ship.

VETERANS FIGHT MOVE

Following the dispatch from Washington that the "bone yard" looms up as a menace to the existence of the Oregon, members of Scout Young camp No. 2, United Spanish War Veterans, adopted a resolution memorializing the secretary of the navy to prevent the destruction of the famous battleship. Copies of the resolution have been sent to every camp of the organization in the United States with the request that the veterans of the entire nation join in the movement.

"The record of the battleship is one of the most splendid examples in history of the readiness for service," reads the memorial, "and we respectfully ask the secretary of the navy to save the old fighter from a junk yard by delivering it to the state after which it was named, that it may be kept as a training ship for the state, a permanent monument to the good work done and an inspiration to Oregon's growing naval militia."

HORN TRIP INSPIRES MOVE

History records the unprecedented war trip of the Oregon, when she steamed into action at Santiago after her 16,000 mile cruise around the Horn. It is the memory of the feat, together with the natural sentiment attached to the ship by the people of the state, that has spurred the veterans and public generally into action to save the vessel from an ignominious end.

Dr. Leon Willet Hyde, surgeon of Scout Young camp, is chairman of a special committee of veterans appointed to fight to save the state's navy name.

"It is particularly proper that the Oregon Spanish War Veterans should take this matter up," said Doctor Hyde. "It has been taken up in earnest, too, and will be carried to an end, even though the veterans are alone in the fight."

LEGISLATURE NOT SENTIMENTAL

"Scout Young camp has taken the matter up, not only with the secretary of the navy but with every Spanish War Veteran camp in the country, and we feel that our wishes in the matter should carry some weight."

In the Oregon state legislature cold practicality clashed with tender sentiment and a little political game when the proposition of saving the Oregon was introduced. The result was that the legislature adjourned without taking action on the matter.

Scarcely had the news that the Oregon was to be scrapped reached the state capital at Salem, when R. W. Hogood of Portland, democratic representative from Multnomah county, introduced a resolution that the battleship Oregon be assigned to the state naval militia for a training ship. The resolution was presented at an inopportune time, there just having been completed in the legislature a fight in which certain interests sought to abolish the naval militia altogether. As a result the senate killed the Hogood resolution when it reached that body.

It was further argued that so long as the old Oregon remains intact, the state will not be honored with a new first class fighting vessel. These were the notes that argued a new ship to be more desirable than the old one, despite its fighting record and associations.

It will be a sacrifice," declared Representative Hagood, "to let the grand old Oregon go to the junk pile, without at least making an effort to save it to the state. Every effort should be made to save it."

RICHMOND FEDERATION

Resolutions expressing the belief that the Richmond Federation is a vital and immediately necessary to the city's development and urging its construction were unanimously adopted by the Richmond Federation Improvement Club at its last meeting.

NORTH BEACH PROMOTION

Plans for celebrating the second anniversary of the North Beach Promotion association were outlined at the last meeting of the organization. This affair will take the form of a banquet and will be held at one of the Italian restaurants of the district on the night of March 26.

George and Mrs. Hiram Johnson, residents of the territory in which this betterment association operates, Mayor and Mrs. James Rolph Jr., President C. C. Moore of the Panama-Pacific exposition, the supervisors, heads of the local federal, state and municipal commissions, representatives of the daily press and other prominent civic workers will be among the honored guests and speakers.

The hosts and hostesses will be the officers and members of the North Beach Promotion association.

The committee in charge consists of J. S. Phillips (chairman), G. H. Catania, N. T. Glacimont, A. Picard, J. W. Hansen, R. M. Landis, Mrs. J. S. Phillips, George Skaller, W. S. Solari, C. C. Bossi and Dr. A. S. Musante, ex officio.

should be changed as quickly as possible by the trustees.

Our universities are far behind Europe in this department of comparative philology. However, no great progress can be made until a complete dictionary of the Gaelic language is published. This will cost a large sum of money and take years of patient toil delving into the vast mine of Gaelic literature, which is scattered all over the continent of Europe and other parts of the world.

When the day comes that such a dictionary is brought out, the dictionary of every language in Europe and America will have to be revised.

What a service would be rendered the cause of modern knowledge and education if some of our Irish-American milliners would only take up the problem of financing such an undertaking.

be made to have the war department reconsider its decision, and give the state its ship."

The Rotary club of Portland has taken the matter up and will make further investigation of the proposition. J. A. Curry, president of the Portland Rose society, was appointed chairman of a special committee to study the situation. Other members of this committee are Phil S. Bates and Don Zan.

The committee, though in favor of saving the Oregon, reports that the matter of upkeep of the ship, if it is given to the state, will amount to a considerable sum annually. It is advised that preparation to take proper care of the ship be made, before concerted effort is expended toward getting the vessel a permanent berth in Portland port.

George H. Himes, assistant secretary and curator of the Oregon Historical society and secretary of the Oregon Pioneer association, has suggested that the old battleship be used to house the exhibits owned by the state. The society, and he will seek the help of influential interests to accomplish this end.

URGES OREGON FOR MUSEUM

The Oregon Historical society is now without a permanent home, and its valuable relics and records are stored out of sight. Mr. Himes thinks the Oregon could be fitted up satisfactorily as a museum, and that anchored in the Willamette, in the heart of the city, it would be a wonderful attraction for native as well as tourists.

The Art club, Progressive Business Men's club and other organizations have declared themselves strongly opposed to the destruction of the ship. This opposition will probably be carried to the war department in some significant manner early this summer.

The Oregon was last in Portland last June, when it was one of the attractions of the annual rose festival. The ship is now in the new drydock at Bremerton.

The old fighting boat is scheduled to lead the naval parade through the Panama canal, on the occasion of the formal opening of the big ditch. This will be the Oregon's last voyage, unless the people of Oregon can save her for their state.

Engine House Event Today—Under direction of the North Beach Promotion association, engine house No. 23, located on street north of Greenwich, will be dedicated this afternoon at 3 o'clock. Speeches will be made by J. S. Phillips, president of the association; Supervisor Edward L. Nolan, N. T. Glacimont and William H. Hammer. The municipal band will play.

SURELY TAKE "SYRUP OF FIGS" IF  
HEADACHY, BILLIOUS, CONSTIPATED

Sweetens your stomach, clears your head and thoroughly cleanses your liver and 30 feet of bowels of sour bile, foul gases and clogged-up waste.

All those days when you feel miserable, headachy, bilious and dull are due to torpid liver, and sluggish bowels. The days when your stomach is sour and full of gas, when you have indigestion; the nights when your nerves twitch and you are restless and can't sleep could be avoided with a teaspoonful of delicious Syrup of Figs. Isn't it foolish to be distressed when there is such a pleasant way to overcome it?

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Ask your druggist for the full name, "Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna." Refuse, with scorn, any of the so-called fig syrup imitations. They are meant to deceive you. Look for the name, California Fig Syrup Company.

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Don Lee ..... 512 Golden Gate Ave.  
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California Auto Parts ..... 530-536 Polk St.  
B. & B. Automobile Co. .... 323-329 Van Ness Ave.  
H. O. Harrison ..... Van Ness Ave. and Post St.  
Eastern Auto Exchange ..... 312 Gough St.  
United Motor Co. .... 355 Polk St.  
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Valencia Machine Shop ..... 132 Valencia St.  
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S. F. Auto Repair Co. .... 150 Valencia St.  
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Larkin Auto Machine Co. .... 454 Golden Gate Ave.

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J. T. Bill ..... 357 Golden Gate Ave.  
Maggin & Hooker ..... 1628 Mkt. A. W. Houghlin, 1104 Valencia

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