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Che Road to the Isles



M. Kennedg-Fraser
and Kennech MacLeod

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### THE ROAD TO THE ISLES.

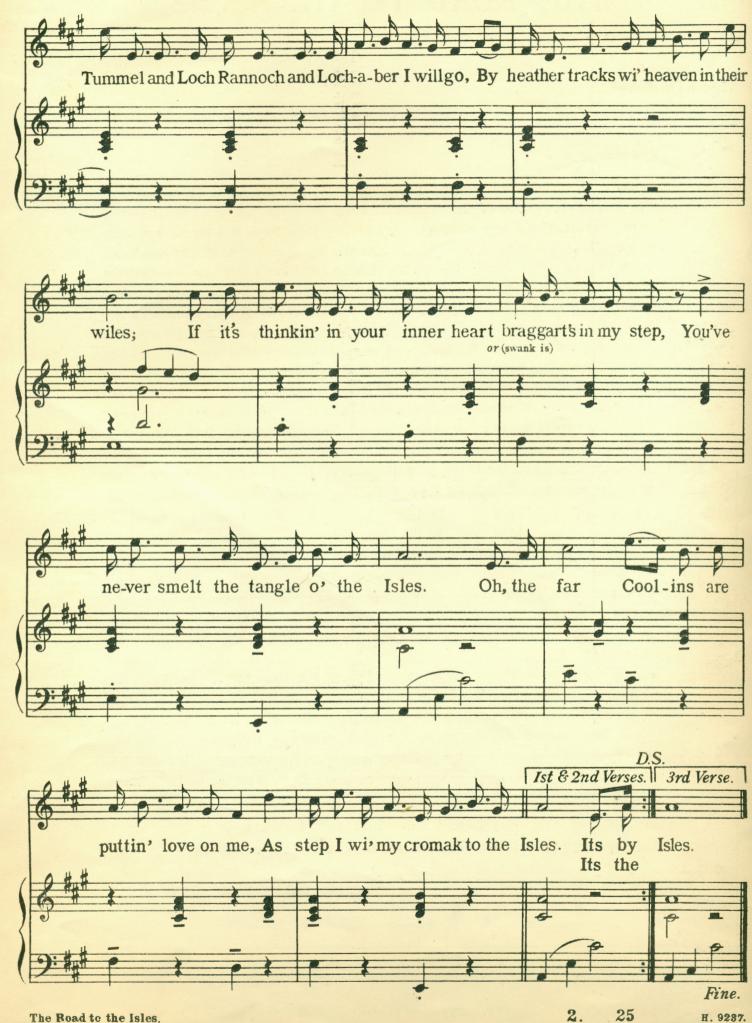
A Tramping Song.

Words by KENNETH MACLEOD. To an air played by MALCOLM JOHNSON, Barra, on the chanter; arranged for Voice and Harp, (or Piano) by



A crook-handled walking stick. Copyright 1917 by Boosey & Co.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Pronounce exactly like the English word "Lose?"
<sup>4</sup>Pronounce first syllable like English "Isle."



#### APPRECIATIONS.

"Mrs Kennedy-Fraser holds the highest place among British folk-song collectors. She has laboured hard in the collection and editing of Hebridean song, She has a poet's love of the islands and the peculiar phase of civilisation they represent; but she is also a very skilled musician, and the accompaniments she has arranged for these songs are equal to the best that has been done in any other field. The songs themselves have a strange beauty that grows on us the better we know them. They have a very definite physiognomy and a very definite soul, both of them the result of the constant pressure of a very definite environment upon a people virtually isolated from the general life of Europe. These islands seem to have produced some song-writers to whom it is not at all extravagant to attribute genius. There are melodies among these songs that are as purely perfect as any melody could be. Schubert and Hugo Wolf would have knelt and kissed the hands of the men who conceived them...for sheer beauty of invention, sheer loveliness in the mere fall of the notes, some of these melodies are without their superior, whether in folk-song or in art-song. Schubert himself never wrote a more perfectly satisfying or more haunting melody, for example, than that of the Sea-gull of the Land-under-Waves'.

ERNEST NEWMAN,

When the pianoforte is used as a medium of approach to understanding the peculiar idiom of Celtic music, the harmony and rhythm should be most subtly adapted to the mood or atmosphere following it sinuously as the foamwake whitens around the boat's keel, or the sail is trimmed to a favouring breeze.

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