

a great victory over them in a battle fought at Glenelly, in Tyrone.¹ After this they took an active part in the Irish wars, fighting like mercenaries on different sides—at one time in alliance with the *drd-ri*, Malsechnaill, who was at war with the Norsemen;² again, with an Irish clan against the Dublin Vikings under Ivarr,³ and still later we find them joined with the men of Waterford in opposition to the *drd-ri*.⁴ Led by Caittil Find (O.N. Ketill + Ir. *find*—fair) they made their last stand against the Dublin Vikings under Olaf and Ivarr, but were defeated with heavy losses, and after this there is no further record of their activities in Ireland.⁵ On one occasion at least, they fought

¹ Cf. *Annals of the Four Masters*, A.D. 854. *Three Fragments of Annals*, A.D. 852, referring to the same event, mention the "fleet of the Gaill-Gaedhil."

² *Annals of Ulster*, A.D. 855.

³ *Annals of the Four Masters*, A.D. 856.

⁴ *Fragments of Annals*, A.D. 858.

⁵ There was also a mixed Norse and Gaelic population in Galloway (the word is a corruption of *Gall-Gaedhil*, Welsh Galwydel) as well as in the Hebrides (Ir. *Innse Gall*, i.e., the "Islands of the Foreigners or Norsemen") and other parts of Scotland. There is a reference to these Gaill-Gaedhill in the *Four Masters* (A.D. 1154): "The Cinél Eoghain and Muirchertach, son of Niall, sent persons over the sea to hire the fleets of the Gaill-Gaedhil of Aran, Cantire and the Isle of Man and the borders of Scotland in general, over which Mac Sgelling was in command". . . . (For other references see Marstrander, *op. cit.*, p. 9.)

By *Gaddgethlar* the Norsemen understood "the place . . . where Scotland and England meet" (cf. *Orkneyinga Saga*, ch. 28). It is also interesting to note that in Norse sources the inhabitants of Galloway are called *Vikinga-Skotar*, a direct translation of Gaill-Gaedhil.

O'Flaherty (*Ogygia*, p. 360) thought that the Gaill-Gaedhil mentioned in the Annals of the mid-ninth century came to Ireland from Scotland, but the ancient *Three Fragments of Annals*, which contain the fullest accounts of the Gaill-Gaedhil (pp. 138-141) speak of them as *Scuit* (i.e., an Irish form of the Latin *Scoti*, a word which is always used with reference to the Irish before the tenth century). Moreover, the impression received from reading the *Fragments of Annals* is that the Annalist had in his mind the Norse-Gaelic population of Ireland, not of Scotland.