

# An Infamous Highlander

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BALNACEILL CHURCHYARD, DURNESS.

*(The tombstone, with inscription, in the left foreground, marks the bard's grave.)*



ANCIENT TOMBSTONE IN BALNACEILL CHURCH.

When you go to Durness, you will see the tomb of an excellent specimen of the west country highlander of the seventeenth century-one Mac-Murshoo, vic-ean-Mohr., who, determined that posterity should appreciate his character to its full value, composed the following epitaph on himself, which is still to be seen "Donald Mak-Murshov Hier lyis 16, Vas ill to his Friend, var to his Fo; True to his maister, in veird and vo."

He died in 1623, and was as brutal a ruffian as ever disgraced humanity; he raised murder to the rank of one of the fine arts, and murdered from pure thirst for blood; and; yet was permitted to hold his own, unchallenged, probably being useful to his." Maister," who was either the Lord Reay of the time, or the devil. Legend tells that he built a house without a door or' window, which he entered through a hole in the roof.