

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL.

A Slight Sketch of a Journey made  
Through parts of the Highlands and  
Hebrides undertaken to collect material  
for Albyn's Anthology by the Editor  
in Autumn, 1815. Mss. Edinburgh  
University Library.

p. 18. "While here [Loch maddie], I witnessed for the  
first time, persons singing at the same time they dance:  
and this is called dancing to port-na-beul, being a  
succedaneous continuance to supply the want of a  
musical instrument. ... the mode in which these merry  
Islanders perform the double exercise of singing and dancing  
- thus - the men and women sing a bar of the tune  
alternately; by which they preserve the respiration free;  
and at the same time observe the accent and rhythm  
quite accurately - the effect is animating: ...