## MISS BROADWOOD'S DELIGHT



## Folk Songs from Sussex and Other English Counties

edited by Lewis Jones

with guitar chords and illustrations by Margaret Crosland

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### This book is dedicated to

Florence Hilda Jones

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### Introduction

Lucy Broadwood's Legacy. Lucy Etheldred Broadwood (1858-1929) was a major figure in the folk song revival around the turn of the last century. In 1898 she was one of the 110 founder members of the Folk Song Society, of which she later became secretary, journal editor and, in the 1920's, president. In 1889 she published <u>Sussex Songs</u>, with accompaniments by her cousin Herbert R. Birch Reynardson. In 1893 there appeared <u>English</u> <u>County Songs</u>, an influential collection compiled by Lucy Broadwood and JA Fuller-Maitland, and arranged by the latter. In addition, in the words of one of Lucy Broadwood's obituarists, "scarcely a number of the <u>Journal</u> (of the Folk Song Society) has appeared without some valuable contribution from her hand, and many have been almost entirely her own from beginning to end."<sup>1</sup>

Lucy Broadwood corresponded with many of the great figures of the first folk music revival, particularly with Frank Kidson, but also with Ralph Vaughan Williams, Percy Grainger and many others. Vaughan Williams was particularly impressed with "her brilliant talents as pianist, singer, composer and essayist."<sup>2</sup>

This present collection contains the 38 songs originally edited and arranged for piano by Lucy E. Broadwood in her English Traditional Songs and Carols, published in 1908 by Boosey and Co., London and New York. It is a companion volume to Sweet Sussex: Folk Songs From the Broadwood Collections, also available from Ferret Publications. Sweet Sussex, published in 1995, like this volume, is edited by Lewis Jones and has guitar chords and illustrations by Margaret Crosland. It contains the 25 songs and 1 dance tune to be found in <u>Songs of the Peasantry of the Weald of Surrey and Sussex</u> (arranged by GA Dusart and published privately and anonymously by John Broadwood in 1843) and in Lucy Broadwood's volume of Sussex Songs cited above.

The Source Singers and Their Counties. Lucy Broadwood names fourteen individuals and one family as the sources for 35 of these 38 songs. Two of the remaining three songs were sung by groups of mummers and one by an anonymous singer. From the brief biographical details which we are given of the singers who are named it is clear that most of them were counted among the poor and the marginal. Two of the songs, numbers 28 and 27, are listed as coming from the Goby family, described as "gypsies... well known in Sussex and Surrey."<sup>3</sup> There are also ten other songs from Surrey. Eight of these were contributed by farm labourers. The names of the informants were Ede (number 21), Sparks (22), Bromham (18 and 23), Foster (29), Baker (24 and 26) and Lough (38). Number 25 was from an illiterate carter in Surrey called Grantham, and number 19 from a farm labourer's wife, Mrs. Rugman.

Apart from Sussex and Surrey another five counties are represented by songs. Number 20 was sung by Mrs Jeffreys, "an old cottager in North Devon." Number 30 was obtained from Mummers at Kingsclere, Hampshire, and number 32 from the unnamed singer mentioned above near Hinswick in Bedfordshire. Cumberland is represented by number 35, sung in the 1860s by the domestic servant, Margaret Scott, later Mrs. Thorburn. Mrs. Hills contributed number 33. She was "an old family nurse" who lived in Stamford, Lincolnshire. From Saxby-All-Saints in the north of the same county came Joseph Taylor, the singer of number 34. He described as an "estate bailiff", born at is Binbrook, Lincolnshire, in 1833. It was from Joseph Taylor that Delius got the haunting theme tune for his orchestral piece, "Brigg Fair."4 If you are fond of Dorian melodies (see below) you will not find a much better one than number 34, Joseph Taylor's contribution to this collection.

Added to the 18 songs itemised above are another 20 songs from Sussex. One of these (number 31) is listed as "sung by Mummers from the neighbourhood of Horsham about 1878-1881." Another, number 15, was obtained from "a young quarryman", Walter Searle, "near Amberley." The other 18 songs were all collected from Henry Burstow, "a shoemaker, born in Horsham, 1826."

Burstow was one of the rural poor. He earned well under a pound a week, a very low wage even for those days. He and his wife led a wretched life, especially as they got older. Burstow was a bell-ringer at his local church, despite being a selfprofessed Darwinian atheist and a radical. Assisted by his friend William Albery, Burstow produced a book, <u>Reminiscences of Horsham</u>, published in 1911. According to his own listing, Burstow knew 420 songs.<sup>5</sup> Of these, Lucy Broadwood tells us, "about fifty or sixty are of the traditional ballad type, and these have been noted and preserved."

Burstow tells us that he learned 84 of his 420 pieces from his father, who himself had a total repertoire of almost 200. Of these the first, "learnt at his knee", was "Travel the Country Round", number 36 in this collection. Burstow also cites his father as the source for numbers 1, 2, 3, 8, 12, 13 and 14. Like Burstow himself, his father sang some pieces that were not conventional English folk songs. These included "Auld Lang Syne" and "Ye Banks and Braes of Bonny Doon."<sup>6</sup>

Scales and Modes. On my count, of these 38 songs 22 are in a major key. The major scale, also known as the Ionian mode, is equivalent to c to c' on the white notes of a keyboard. It is

the most common of the various scales used in modern western music. You get it if you sing the familiar "doh, ray, me" octave in tonic sol-fa.

Of the 16 songs that are not clearly Ionian, numbers 1, 3, 4, 29, 33 and 34 are assigned by Lucy Broadwood to the Dorian mode, and number 2 is described as exhibiting "Dorian influence." The Dorian mode is the scale equivalent to d to d' on the white notes of a keyboard. You get it if you sing up an octave in tonic sol-fa beginning on ray.

Lucy Broadwood describes numbers 6, 7, 8 and 23 as tunes in the Mixolydian mode. This scale is equivalent to g to g' on the white notes of a keyboard, or what you get if you sing up an octave in tonic sol-fa beginning with soh. Number 35 is defined as Aeolian. This mode, the one nearest to the modern minor scales, is equivalent to a to a' on the white notes of a keyboard. To get it, sing up an octave in tonic sol-fa beginning on la.

Lucy Broadwood does not identify the 22 tunes which are clearly Ionian (that is, they are in a major key). Nor does she ascribe a mode to numbers 11, 18, 5 and 13. Number 11 looks to be Ionian, in the key of D major, but the last three of its five c's are unsharpened. If the first two c's had also been unsharpened the tune would be Mixolydian. As it is the melody modulates from Ionian to Mixolydian after the first two lines of each verse. Number 18 looks to be Mixolydian and number 5 Aeolian. Number 13 has Dorian connections, but there is no 6th note to the scale (that is, the `te' of the tonic sol-fa octave singing up from `ray' is missing), and in one place the note immediately above the octave (the `me' in tonic sol-fa) is flattened.

The fact that a clear majority of these songs are in the major scale challenges the received wisdom. We are told, for example, that "when it came to publishing, Broadwood selected out tunes which were in the simple major scale, and privileged those which were in other scales quite disproportionately, especially those which were `modal.'"<sup>7</sup> The research upon which this conclusion is based, however, analyses the "number of tunes published" but gives no indication of where they appeared.<sup>8</sup> When she was publishing songs in the Folk Song Journal Lucy Broadwood does seem to have favoured modal melodies. These were more unusual, and probably of greater interest to Folk Song Society members. But English Traditional Songs and Carols was aimed at a wider popular audience which might be expected to prefer a good number of tunes in the familiar major scale.

As to which modes Lucy Broadwood personally preferred, we have a number of hints in her notes to English Traditional Songs

and Carols. Number 7, for example, "The Ages of Man", which is in the Mixolydian mode, is described as having "a fine tune." Number 8, "The Duke of Marlborough", is also Mixolydian. We are told of the text that "the airs sung to it are usually very fine and most often modal." Number 29, "The Poor Murdered Woman", and number 34, "Died of Love", are both credited with a "fine Dorian tune." Clearly, Lucy Broadwood had a "love of English folk songs in minor modes."9 But did she dislike, or was she indifferent to, melodies in the familiar major scale? It would seem not. In this collection, for example, number 16, "Death and the Lady", in the familiar major mode, is described as "a fine version." Another major tune, the one to number 26, "The Valiant Lady", is commended as "far more vigorous" than a corresponding tune in Chappell's Popular Music. The truth seems to have been that Lucy Broadwood's had a catholic taste in folk songs, and was fond of good traditional tunes irrespective of their mode or scale. This conclusion is reinforced by her comments on number 33, "The Lost Lady Found." This Dorian song from Lincolnshire is described as "delightful" while, at the same time, a version collected in Sussex by her uncle "before 1840" is commended for its "good major tune."10

Texts. In her Preface to English Traditional Songs and Carols Lucy Broadwood writes that "the weakness of folk song is most often apparent in its verse." She realised that often this verse did not come direct from the mouths of the people, but that "the words ...are derived, directly or indirectly, from broadsides." This, she argues, was a two way process, so that, in turn, many broadside ballads were collected from country singers. Even so, the broadsides' content was often "feeble stuff."

However, despite the shortcomings of her texts, Lucy Broadwood always argued that they were recorded and (usually) published accurately, and as transcribed from traditional singers. Of the songs in this collection, for example, she claims that "the original words of the singers remain ... unaltered, save in trifling instances where a false rhyme, forgotten line, nonsensical corruption, or the like, has made it absolutely necessary to correct them." Even then, the correction was only for the purposes of commercial publication and "the unaltered words may in many cases be found in the Journal of the Folk Song Society." In the case of the songs from Henry Burstow we know that he "wrote out the texts and sent them on after the collecting session,"11 a practice which was likely to prove more exact and comprehensive than relying entirely on words recalled by the singer on the spur of the moment. Certainly, Lucy Broadwood went to great pains to print alternative versions and minor textual quibbles. These have been inserted into the texts published here, and readers may find some as of them unnecessarily precise to the point of nit-picking.

However, some modern commentators have doubted that this is the whole story.<sup>12</sup> The debate is too long to be fully summarised here. An interesting instance, however, is the case of song number 5, "I Must Live All Alone," which in its original form was clearly too saucy for an Edwardian audience. In her notes Lucy Broadwood claimed that "verses 1, 2 and 3, here given, are essentially the same as the first three of the five stanzas sung." But in fact they are not. What Henry Burstow actually wrote down and sung as his first verse was this:

As I was a-walking one morning by chance

I heard a maid making her moan,

- I asked what was the matter, she said in a flutter
  - "I am obliged to lie tumbling alone, alone,
  - I am obliged to lie tumbling alone."13

Final Comment. It has been claimed that the English are the only nation in the world that treat their traditional music and dance with contempt. For an English morris dancer ridicule is an unavoidable occupational hazard, and a folk song culture based upon a defunct rural peasantry is unknown to or contemptuously shunned by sophisticated, street wise urban youth. Meanwhile, our authoritative body, the English Folk Dance and Song Society, has an ageing membership of a few thousand enthusiasts.<sup>14</sup>

In 1651, the era of Cromwell's Commonwealth and of its dance-hating Puritans, John Playford published his <u>English</u> <u>Dancing Master</u>. In his Preface, Playford made an observation which also applies to this volume. "These times and the nature of (<u>The English Dancing Master</u>)" he wrote, "do not agree." Even so Playford's book went into many editions and to-day his dances are widely performed. <u>Miss Broadwood's Delight</u> makes available, at reasonable cost, an important collection of traditional music that for many years has been difficult to obtain. Perhaps some day these beautiful songs will be as popular as Playford's dances, and Lucy Broadwood and the other pioneer collectors of English folk music will be better known and honoured.

- 1. Walter Ford, "Obituary: Lucy Etheldred Broadwood," Journal of the Folk Song Society 33 (December 1929): 168-9.
- 2. Ralph Vaughan Williams, "Lucy Broadwood: An Appreciation," Journal of the Folk Song Society 8, no. 1 (1927): 44-5. The material in these first two paragraphs of the Introduction is taken from: Lewis W. Jones, "Lucy Etheldred Broadwood: Poet and Song Writer," English Dance and Song 57, no. 4

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(Winter 1995): 2-3. Some of it is also replicated on page vi of <u>Sweet Sussex</u>, the companion volume to this one, of which details are given in the next paragraph of text below.

- 3. All quotations by Lucy E. Broadwood are taken from the Preface (pages ix-xii) and the Appendix (pages 113-125) of her <u>English Traditional Songs and Carols</u>, published in 1908 by Boosey and Co., London and New York.
- 4. A recording of Joseph Taylor singing "Brigg Fair" was made by Percy Grainger in 1908. The track, together with Taylor's rendition of "Lord Bateman", is available on the CD entitled Hidden English (Topic, TSCD600).
- 5. Vic Gammon, "Folk Song Collecting in Sussex and Surrey, 1843-1914," <u>History Workshop</u> 10 (Autumn 1980): 61-89. The information in this paragraph was taken from page 63.
- 6. William Albery (ed.), <u>Reminiscences of Horsham: Being</u> <u>Recollections of Henry Burstow</u>, Horsham, 1911. Republished with a Foreword by A.E. Green and Tony Wales by Norwood Editions, Pennsylvania, 1975. The information here was taken from the Burstow's section "Songs and Song Singing" on pages 107 to 119.
- 7. Dave Harker, Fakesong (Open University Press, 1985), 168.
- 8. Gammon, op. cit., pp. 70-1.
- 9. Lewis W. Jones, op. cit. in note 2 above, p. 3.
- 10. Although this is evidence that, in principle, Lucy Broadwood liked major tunes, the specific assertion is, in fact, mistaken. Lucy Broadwood refers interested readers to <u>Sussex Songs</u> (1889). There, however, the only piece that fits the description is "Gypsy Song", which also appears as number 9 in Ferret Publication's <u>Sweet Sussex</u>. The tune to this song is certainly a "good" one. But it is not "major" but Mixolydian.
- 11. Gammon, op. cit., p. 68.
- 12. See, for example, Gammon, op. cit. and Harker, op. cit.
- 13. Gammon, <u>op</u>. <u>cit</u>., p. 71. In Lucy Broadwood's defence, it would clearly have been very embarrassing, not to say selfdefeating, for a respectable middle class spinster to have given precise details of the words she had amended.

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14. If you would like to swim against the cultural tide and sign up you can obtain details from: The Membership Secretary, EFDSS, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London, NW1 7AY. Telephone 0171-485-2206. Members get free copies of the <u>Folk Music Journal</u> and <u>English Dance and Song</u>, the right to borrow books free from the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library, and various other benefits.

#### Notes for Singers and Accompanyists

The first 4 verses of all songs have been aligned under the music, and any further verses have been placed as text after it. The melody line relates to the words of the first verse, and minor alterations may be needed to make the music fit the words of subsequent verses. For example, it may be necessary on occasions to replace a minim by two crotchets at the same pitch. Such adjustments will be easier to make if the tune is learnt thoroughly before the song is sung. Where space allowed in verses 2, 3 and 4 we have recommended, by the use of dots in the text lines, how syllables that stretch over more than one note might be sung. Where there was enough room, we have inserted similar dots in the text lines of the first verses to support the musical ties in the melody lines above them. We have also indicated how the songs might be performed ("Steadily", "Fast", "Boldly", etc.), but these recommendations may be ignored by those with different preferences.

We have suggested chords to accompany the songs, but these are optional, and you may prefer to sing the songs without accompaniment. Most of the chords are based on Lucy Broadwood's piano accompaniments. There are in general fewer chords than we used in <u>Sussex Songs</u> where, we feel, we may have inserted rather too many in places. Please ignore, amend or alter these chords if you wish.

Since the guitar is now the most common accompanying instrument the original piano settings have been omitted. For some of the tunes in remote keys alternative chords with capo positions have been provided for those who prefer simpler or more familiar fingerings.





- 7. God bless our wives and families, likewise that happy shore, That isle of sweet contentment which we shall see no more. As for our wretched females, see them we seldom can, There are twenty to one woman upon Van Diemen's Land.
- 8. Come all you gallant poachers, give ear unto my song, It is a bit of good advice, although it is not long: Lay by your dog and snare; to you I do speak plain, If you knew the hardships we endure you ne'er would poach again.

1

No. 1.

#### The Bold Pedlar and Robin Hood





No. 2.

#### Through Moorfields

#### Slowly with feeling



And when that his darling jewel he did see He took her, and sat her all on his knee, Says she "Are you the young man my father sent to sea, My own dearest jewel, for loving of me?"

- They sent for their parents, who came then with speed;
- They went to the church, and were married indeed.
- So all you wealthy parents, do a warning take,

And never strive true lovers their promises to break.

#### Bristol Town



"As for your portion I do not care, I'll wed the man whom I love so dear, I'll wed the man that I do love so, If along with him a-begging I go!"

5

6 Her father kept a valiant servant man, Who wrote a letter out of hand; This letter was the sailor to invite To meet her in the valley by night.

Her father kept a valiant Irishman, And fifty pounds he gave him out of hand, And a brace of pocket pistols likewise, He mounted, and away he did ride.

8 He mounted and away he did ride, Till at length the jolly sailor he espied, At length the jolly sailor he spied there, A-waiting for his joy and his dear. 9

He said "I am come to kill you indeed, Away! Back to some tavern with speed; Cheer up your heart with bowls of good wine, And soon I'll make you know my design:

10 I will go back to my master with speed, Saying "Master I have killed that man, indeed!

I have buried him all in his grave so low, Where streams and fountains over him do flow."

11

In course of time the rich merchant died, Which filled the lady's heart full of pride;

Now she's married to that man, you know, so brave,

Who her father thought was dead, and in his grave."



No. 5.



#### Rosetta and Her Gay Ploughboy

No. 6.



Rosetta said "My dearest father, Shall I speak with courage bold? I milk my cow, I love the plough, I value William more than gold." Then in a cellar he confined her, Where no one could her annoy, And with delight, both day and night, She sighed for Will, her gay ploughboy.

Fifteen long months on bread and water Sweet Rosetta was confined, So fast in love had Cupid caught her, No one thing could change her mind. Her father strove with all his might Her happiness for to destroy, But nothing could Rosetta daunt, She doted on her gay ploughboy.

6

At length grim death her father summoned From this sinful world of care, And then to his estate and fortune Rosetta was the only heir. Then she and William were united, No one could their peace destroy, The village bells did call Rosetta, And young Will, her gay ploughboy.

8

For miles around the lads and lasses Merrily for them did sing, At their wedding all was joyful, And the village bells did ring. No couple can be more contented, Their happiness none can destroy, They sing with joy "God speed the plough," Rosetta and her gay ploughboy.

The Ages of Man

Steadily С С F С Am Dm Am prime of years, took de- light youth-ful toys, 1. In when I was young T in 2. At twice.. seven, I must needs go learn What disc-i-pline was taught at school; At wex-èd wild, And man-hood led to be bold: 3. three times seven. Т me (take a wife)/(wive) And leave off all want-on ways, 4. At four times seven I must my C F C Dm Am Am 20 what did be- long Unto the pleasure of those days. Not know-ing then 4 more a fool. good from evil I could disc-ern I thought my-self When no own con-ceit it so me told. more a child, My T thought my-self no ing there-by sad dis-grace. Thinkperhaps to thrive And save my-self from С 3 10 At sev'n years old Ι child, And sub-ject for be be- guiled. was a to pa-rents were triv-ing then How I might live when (I became)/(grown) a man. My con-I did ventfar and near То buy de- light price full dear. Then ure at oth-er bus-So fare ye well, compan-ions all, For iness doth me call. 9

At five times seven, I would go prove What I could gain by art or skill; But still against the stream I strove, I bowled stones up against the hill. The more I laboured with might and main, The more I strove against the stream (or) and strove in vain.

At six times seven, all covetousness Began to harbour in my breast, My mind then still contriving was How I might gain all worldly wealth, To purchase lands, and live on them, To make my children mighty men.

6

7

At seven times seven, all worldly care Began to harbour in my brain; Then I did drink a heavy draught Of water of experience plain. Then none so ready was as I, To purchase, bargain, sell, or buy.

At eight times seven, I waxèd old, I took myself unto my rest; My neighbours then my counsel craved And I was held in great request. But age did so abate my strength That I was forced to yield at length. At nine times seven, I must take leave Of all my carnal vain delight (or) vanity, And then full sore it did me grieve, I fetched up many a bitter sigh. To rise up early, and sit up late I was no longer fit, my strength did abate (or)

No. 7.

I was not fit, strength did abate.

10 At ten times seven, my glass was run, And I, poor silly man, must die, I lookèd up, and saw the sun Was overcome with crystal sky. And now I must this world forsake, Another man my place must take.

11 Now you may see within the glass The whole estate of mortal man; How they from seven to seven do pass, Until they are three score and ten, And, when their glass is fully run, They (must) leave off where they first begun.

#### The Duke of Marlborough

Solemnly but not too slowly



Now on a bed of sickness laid, I am resigned to die; Yet generals all, and champions bold, Stand true as well as I: Take no bribes! Stand true to your colours! And fight with courage bold! I have led my men through fire and smoke, But ne'er was bribed with gold.

5



The Wealthy Farmer's Son



The ring out of his pocket he instantly then drew, Saying "Nancy, here's the parting gift; one half I left with you. I have been pressed to sea, and many a battle won; But still your heart could ne'er depart from me, the farmer's son."

6:

7.

8.

When these words she heard him say, it put her in surprise, The tear-drops they came trickling down from her sparkling eyes. "Oh, soothe your grief!" the young man cried, "the battle you have won,

For Hymen's chains shall bind us - you, and the farmer's son."

To church then, went this couple, and married were with speed. The village bells they all did ring, and the girls did dance indeed. She blessed the happy hour she in the fields did run, To seek all for her true love, the wealthy farmer's son.

#### The Merchant's Daughter

or The Constant Farmer's Son

Moderately



- The same replied the younger one, and swore most bitterly, But young Mary said, "Don't turn so red, nor try the laws to shun, You've done the deed, and you shall bleed for my constant farmer's son!"
- 9. Those villains soon they owned their guilt, and for the same did die; Young Mary fair, in deep despair, she never ceased to cry; The parents they did fade away, the glass of life was run, And Mary cried, in sorrow died for her constant farmer's son.

No. 10.

or Salt Seas

With spirit



5

"Oh, no! Oh, no!" cried Henry Martin "Such a thing as that never can be, For I'm a Scotch robber, all on the salt sea, salt sea, To maintain my two brothers and me!"

6

So broadside to broadside in battle they went,

They fought full two hours or three, Till Henry Martin gave her her death wound, death wound, And down to the bottom sank she.

- Bad news, bad news, my brave Englishmen, Bad news I now bring to town:
- The rich merchant's ship she is now cast

7

- away, cast away,
- And the most of her merry men did drown.



No. 11.

#### Georgie

#### or Banstead Downs



The Judge looked over his left shoulder, He seemed as he was very sorry: "My pretty fair maid, you are come too late, For he is condemned already. 7 "I wish I was on yonder hill, Where times I have been many! With a sword and buckler by my side I would fight for the life of my Georgie."

No. 12.

6 He will be hung in a silken cord

Where there has not been many, For he came of royal blood, And courted a virtuous lady."



#### Boney's Lamentation

#### [or Abdication]

No. 13.



#### Belfast Mountains

No. 14.



5.

It's not those Belfast Mountains can give to me relief, Nor is it in their power to ease me of my grief; If they'd but a tongue to prattle to tell my love a tale, Unto my bonny Cheshire lad my mind they would reveal."<sup>1</sup>

1. Lucy Broadwood put a margin note against verse three: "omit when singing." This was presumably because of the suggestion of unmarried pregnancy contained in lines 3 and 4.

#### The Young Servant Man

or The Two Affectionate Lovers

No. 15.



No. 16.





- <u>Death</u>. "Though thy vain heart to riches is inclined Yet thou must die and leave them all behind. I come to none before their warrant's sealed, And, when it is, they must submit, and yield.
- Though some by age be full of grief and pain, Till their appointed time they must remain; I take no bribe, believe me, this is true. Prepare yourself to go; I'm come for you."
- 11. Lady. "But if, oh! If you could for me obtain A freedom, and a longer life to reign, Fain would I stay, if thou my life would spare. I have a daughter, beautiful and fair, I wish to see her wed, whom I adore; Grant me but this, and I will ask no more."<sup>1</sup>
- 12. Death. This is a slender frivolous excuse! I have you fast! I will not let you loose! Leave her to Providence, for you must go Along with me, whether you will or no!
- 13. If Death commands the King to leave his crown He at my feet must lay his sceptre down; Then, if to Kings I do not favour give But cut them off, can you expect to live Beyond the limits of your time and space? No! I must send you to another place."<sup>1</sup>
- 14. Lady. "Ye learned doctors, now exert your skill, And let not Death on me obtain his will! Prepare your cordials, let me comfort find, My gold shall fly like chaff before the wind!"
- 15. "Forebear to call! That skill will never do; They are but mortals here as well as you. I give the fatal wound, my dart is sure, And far beyond the doctor's skill to cure.

- 16. How freely you can let your riches fly To purchase life, rather than yield and die! But while you flourished here with all your store, You would not give one penny to the poor.
- 17. Though in God's name they sue to you did make You would not spare one penny for His sake. My Lord beheld wherein you did amiss, And calls you hence, to give account of this."
- 18. Lady. "Oh! Heavy news! Must I no longer stay? How shall I stand at the great Judgement Day?" Down from her eyes the crystal tears did flow, She says "None knows what I now undergo!
- 19. Upon my bed of sorrows here I lie! My selfish life makes me afraid to die! My sins are great, and manifold, and foul; Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on my soul!
- 20. Alas! I do deserve a righteous frown! Yet pardon, Lord, and pour a blessing down!" Then with a dying sigh her heart did break, And did the pleasures of this world forsake.
- 21. Thus may we see the mighty rise and fall, For cruel Death shows no respect at all To those of either high or low degree. The great submit to Death as well as we.
- 22. Though they are gay, their life is but a span, A lump of clay, so vile a creature's man! Then happy they whom God hath made his care, And die in God, and ever happy are!
- 23. The grave's the market place where all must meet Both rich and poor, as well as small and great; If life were merchandise, that gold could buy, The rich would live - only the poor would die.

1.

Note (1908): Repeat last part of tune.

#### The Three Butchers

#### or Gibson, Wilson and Johnson

No. 17.

Lively С С G С Dm three: 1. sto-Ι will.. tell it is of butch-ers Α to... you ry 2. fast as they could ride/hie, long the.. road Now as they rode a-... as John- son.. cries,"Oh come tell to me, 3. "0h WOman, WOman... pray, a val- iant val- iant. man, mind. 4. Now John- son be-ing a.... he bore G С Em Dm 6 Gib-Wiland John-.....son, mark.. well what I do say; son, son, John-.....son, "For I horse" says cry!" "Spur hear man on your a woman, John-..... cries, "Have you got an- y comy?" Oh man" pan-WO-WOhind. He wrapped her in his great-coat, And... placed her up beup С G С F had five hun-...dred pounds,all market Now as they on a day,.... rode to....theAnd as they inwood the scene they spied/scanned a- round,..... no!" cries,"A-"Oh, nol no! the wo-...man as how can that be,.... could they rode long...the road as fast as they ride,..... And as a-G (C) G С G С Now they had five pounds to their as hund-. red pay up-on way, ing on the And there they found a wo-...man lay а swoonground. and beat-en me?" When been swagg-er-ing blades who robbed here have ten ve She put finto....her and gave a screek-ful her gers ear cry. Am Dm С F С With my hey ding ding, With my ho, ding ding, With my high ding ding, high dey..... Chorus: С G F G С 0 0 May ple from bad comp-any! God all. good such keep peo-[0r] May Heaven keep. good people from such bad comp-any!

- With that, came out ten swaggering blades, with their rapiers ready drawn/in their hand. They rode up to bold Johnson, and boldly bid him stand. "Oh, I cannot fight," says Gibson, "I am sure that I shall die!" "No more won't I," cries Wilson, "for I will sooner fly!" With etc.
- 6. "Come on, come on!! cries bold Johnson, "I'll fight you all so free! And, woman, stand you here behind; we'll gain the victory!" The very first pistol Johnson fires was loaded with powder and ball, And, out of these ten swaggering blades five of them did fall. With etc.
  - "Come on! Come on!" cries bold Johnson, "there are but five for me, And, woman, stand you there behind; we'll gain the victory!" The very next pistol Johnson fired was loaded with powder and ball, And out of these five swaggering blades there's three of them did fall.
    - With etc.
- 8. "Come on! Come on!" cries bold Johnson, "there are but two to me, And, woman, stand you there behind; we'll gain the victory!" As Johnson fought these rogues in front, the woman he did not mind, She took his knife all from his side and ripped him down behind/and stabbed him from behind. With etc.
- 9. "Now I must fall," says Johnson, "I must fall to the ground! For relieving this wicked woman she gave me my death wound! Oh! Woman, woman, what have you been and done? You have killed the finest butcher that ever the sun shone on!" With etc.
- 10. Now, just as she had done the deed some men came riding by, And, seeing what this woman had done, they raised a dreadful cry. Then she was condemned to die in links, and iron chains so strong, For killing of bold Johnson, that great and valiant man. With etc.



19

5.

7.

#### I. The Unquiet Grave

or How Cold the Winds Do Blow

No. 18.



"My lips they are as cold as (any) clay, My breath is heavy and strong, And if you were to kiss my clay-cold lips Your life it won't be long.

5

6

7 They're withered and dried up, dear love, Never to return any day, So it's you, and I, and all must die When Christ calls us away."

It's down in yonder garden, love, Where we were used to walk, There's finest flowers that ever grew All withered to the stalk.

#### III. The Unquiet Grave

#### or Cold Blows the Wind

No. 20.



5 "My lips they are as cold as clay, My breath is heavy and strong; If thou wast to kiss my lily-white lips, Thy days would not be long!

6 O don't you remember the garden grove Where we was used to walk? Pluck the finest flower of them all, 'Twill wither to a stalk." My time be long, my time be short, Tomorrow or to-day, Sweet Christ in heaven will have my soul, And take my life away."

8

7

"Don't grieve, don't grieve for me, true love,

No mourning do I crave; I must leave you and all the world, And sink down in my grave."



Oh, the Trees are Getting High

No. 21.

With expression



5.

And at the age of thirteen he was a married man; And at the age of fourteen he was father of a son; And at the age of fifteen then his grave was growing green: So there was an end to his growing.
# Our Ship She Lies In Harbour



5 She, like an angel weeping, On the rocks sighed every day, Awaiting for her own true love Returning home from sea.

6 "Oh, yonder sits my angel! She's waiting there for me, To-morrow to the church we'll go, And married we will be." Said the father to the daughter, "Five hundred pounds I'll give, If you'll forsake that sailor-lad And come with me to live."

8

9

"It's not your gold that glittered, Nor yet your silver that shined, For I'm married to the man I love And I'm happy in my mind!"\_\_\_\_\_

7 When they had been to Church, and were Returning back again, She espied her honoured father And several gentlemen.



## The Irish Girl

## or The New Irish Girl

No. 23.

Moderately fast D D7 G D G D as I side, Αbroad was walk-.... ing, down by the riv- er 1. 2. gled round with Her shoes were of Span- ish black, all the spandew, to lie in 3. The ver- y last time I saw my love she seemed pain, I wish love red rose, and in the gar- den grew, 4 my was G D D7 G D D7 D 0. girl..I a11 Irspied; Ι gazèd around.... me. an ish "Love shall.I do? what She wrung her hands she tore her hair cry-ing grief With and ang-.... uish her heart was broke. in twain: sorr- ow Ι to be the gar- denher Τ would.be true. And er; to С 6 С D 0 So... and rubher cheeks and ... yell- ow was...her hair, red were У I'm home.." said I'm.. going home! going home! I'm... going she, "Oh there's man-y a why should I.....comman that's worse than he, then ... plain? There's not month through- out the year, but... love Ι would.renew; G D Em G D And costrobes: of gold ly were the my Ir-...ish girl did wear. "Why lie?" will you go а rov-.... ing, and slight your dear Po1-Oh! thing! Did you ev-...er love kill..ing pain?" is such a feel the With 1111ies I Wil-li-am, would gar-..nish her, sweet thyme and rue.

5. I wish I was a butterfly, I'd fly to my love's breast; I wish I was a linnet, I'd sing my love to rest; I wish I was a nightingale, I'd sing till morning clear, I'd sit and sing to you, Pollie, the girl I love so dear.

2

1.

I wish I was at Exeter, all seated on the grass,
With a bottle of whisky in my hand, and on my knee a lass.
I'd call for liquor merrily, and pay before I go;
I'd hold her in my arms once more, let the wind blow high or low.<sup>1</sup>

Note (1908) on verse 6: may be omitted when singing.

No. 24.



- "Oh no! Deceitful damsel, your falseness shall be paid, For I can lie till morning in some distant barn or shed." It was the hour of twelve o'clock young Mary Ann did stray, And she told some other comrade where the sailor he did lay.
- 6. They went with their dark lanterns and daggers in their hands, They rode through wood and meadows, and past the muddy lands; "Cheer up your hearts," said Mary Ann, "and do not be betrayed, We will rob and slay the sailor for the little Lowland Maid."
- 7. They both then plunged their daggers into the sailor, deep; They robbed him of his glittering gold, and left him there to weep. A gamekeeper was watching them; all from his wood he strayed, Then he swore against the villain and the little Lowland Maid.
- 8. They both then stood their trials, and were condemned, and cast; And on the fatal gallows-tree they both were hung at last. There were thousands flocked to see them, and scornfully they said "Begone! You cruel monster, and the little Lowland Maid!"

The Rich Nobleman and his Daughter

Merrily





Then, with this love letter she had in her hand: "Here's an order for sea without more demand! No cares and no troubles, great bounty you'll take, No danger on sea, you your fortune will make!"

Then in a close room this young man was confined Till she changèd her dress; then she told him her mind. Then she like an angel for beauty did appear, And said "I'll prove true to thee, ploughboy so dear."

Now married this loving young couple they were, In a sweet country life, and free from all care. No cares and no troubles shall e'er them annoy, They'll be happily blessed with a fountain of joy.



## The Valiant Lady

## or The Brisk Young Lively Lad



Which bitterly did smart; Then said he

"Oh! One like thee

Once was mistress of my heart!"

27 In old England, Never roam abroad no more!" No. 26.

## The Moon Shines Bright

## [Christmas Carol]

No. 27.



## [Original Version]

King Pharim sat a-musing, A musing all alone; There came a blessed Saviour, And all to him unknown.

2

"Say, where did you come from, good man, Oh, where did you then pass?" "It is out of the land Egypt, Between an ox and an ass."

3 "Oh, if you come out of Egypt, man, One thing I fain would know, Whether a blessed Virgin Mary Sprung from an Holy Ghost?

For if this is true, is true, good man, That you've been telling to me, That the roasted cock do crow three times In the place where they did stand."

Oh, it's straight away the cock did fetch, And feathered to your own hand, Three times a roasted cock did crow, On the place where they did stand.

Joseph, Jesus and Mary Were travelling for the west, When Mary grew a-tired She might sit down and rest.

They travelled further and further, The weather being so warm, Till they came unto some husbandman A-sowing of his corn.

"Come husbandman!" cried Jesus, "From over speed and pride, And carry home your ripened corn That you've been sowing this day.

For to keep your wife and family From sorrow, grief and pain, And keep Christ in your remembrance Till the time comes round again."

## [Restored Version]

1 King Pharaoh sat a-musing, A-musing all alone; There came the blessed Saviour, And all to him unknown.

2

"Say where did you come from, good man? Oh, where did you then pass?" "It is out of the land of Egypt, Between an ox and ass."

3

"Oh, if you cone out of Egypt, man, One thing I ween thou know'st: Is Jesus sprung of Mary And of the Holy Ghost?

### 4

For if this is true, is true, good man, That you have told to me, Make this roasted cock to crow three times In the dish that here we see!"

5

Oh, it's straight away the cock did rise, All feathered to the hand, Three times the roasted cock did crow, On the place where they did stand.

### 6

Joseph, Jesus and Mary Were travelling for the west, When Mary grew a-tired She might sit down and rest.

They travelled further and further, The weather being so warm, Till they came unto a husbandman A-sowing of his corn.

#### 8

"Come husbandman!" cried Jesus, Throw all your seed away/aside, And carry home as ripened corn That you have sowed this day/tide;

For to keep your wife and family From sorrow, grief and pain, And keep Christ in remembrance Till the time comes round again/ Till seed times comes again.

## The Poor Murdered Woman

No. 29.



5

8

The next Sunday morning, about eight o'clock, Some hundreds of people to the spot they did flock; For to see the poor creature your hearts would have bled, Some odious violence had come to her head.

She was took off the common, and down to some inn, And the man that has kept it, his name is John Simms. The coroner was sent for, the jury they joined, And soon they concluded, and settled their mind.

7 Her coffin was brought; in it she was laid, And took to the churchyard that was called Leatherhead, No father, no mother, nor no friend, I'm told, Come to see that poor creature put under the mould.

So now I'll conclude, and finish my song, And those that have done it, they will find themselves wrong. For the last day of Judgment the trumpet will sound, And their souls not in heaven, I'm afraid, won't be found.





In hell it is dark, in hell it is dim, In hell it is full of lies; And that is the place where all wicked men must go

When they part from the Lord Jesus Christ.

6 Then take your Bible in your hand And read your chapter through; And when the day of judgment comes, The Lord remember you.

5

7

Then bring us some of your Christmas ale, And likewise your Christmas beer; For when another Christmas comes We may not all be here.

No. 30.

8

With one stone at your head, oh man, And another stone at your feet. Your good deeds and your evil Will all together meet.







God bless the mistress of this house With gold all/chain round her breast; Where e'er her body sleeps or wakes,<sup>1</sup> Lord, send her soul to rest.

5

6

God bless your house, your children too, Your cattle and your store; The Lord increase you day by day, And send/give you more and more.

God bless the master of this house With happiness beside; Where e'er his body rides or walks Lord Jesus be his quide.

1. Note (1908): "Wherever she sleeps or where she weeps" in another version.

## Bedfordshire May Day Carol

Brightly



When I am dead and in my grave, And covered with cold clay, The nightingale will sit and sing, And pass the time away.<sup>1</sup>

5

I have a bag on my right arm, Draws up with a silken string, Nothing does it want but a little silver To line it well within.

7

6 Take a Bible in your hand, And read a chapter through, And, when the day of Judgment comes, The Lord will think on you. 8 And now my song is almost done, I can no longer stay, God bless you all both great and small, I wish you a joyful May.

1. Lucy Broadwood writes in her Preface to English Traditional Songs and Carols: "If traditional country verse has its weaknesses it also has its strength. ...There is something hauntingly beautiful in a verse such as this one."



No. 32.

No. 33.



- 5. He travelled through England, through France and through Spain, Till he ventured his life on the watery main; And he came to a house where he lodged for a night, And in that same house was his own heart's delight.
- 6. When she saw him, she knew him, and flew to his arms, She told him her grief while he gazed on her charms. "How came you to Dublin, my dearest, I pray?" "Three gypsies betrayed me, and stole me away."
- 7. "Your uncle's in England; in prison doth lie, And for your sweet sake is condemned for to die." "Carry me to old England, my dearest," she cried; "One thousand I'll give you, and will be your bride."
- 8. When she came to old England, her uncle to see, The cart it was under the high gallows tree. "Oh, pardon! Oh, pardon! Oh, pardon! I crave! Don't you see I'm alive, your dear life to save?"
- 9 Then straight from the gallows they led him away, The bells they did ring, and the music did play; Every house in the valley with mirth did resound, As soon as they heard the lost lady was found.

## Died of Love

# or A brisk Young Lad He Courted Me

With expression



No 34.

No. 35.



No. 36.



1. Note (1908): The singer substitutes the name of the nearest town for "at home."

No. 37.





Some Rival Has Stolen My True Love Away

Lively











**h**. (

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