TONE-POETRY OF ROBERT BURNS

I. LOVE—PERSONAL

No. 1. O, once I lov'd a bonie lass.

Tune: I am a man unmarried. (Unknown.)

O, ONCE I lov'd a bonie lass, Ay, and I love her still, And whilst that virtue warms my breast

I'll love my handsome Nell.

As bonie lasses I hae seen, And monie full as braw; But for a modest, gracefu' mien, The like I never saw.

A bonie lass, I will confess, Is pleasant to the e'e; But without some better qualities She's no a lass for me. But Nelly's looks are blythe and sweet;
And, what is best of a',
Her reputation is compleat,
And fair without a flaw.

She dresses ay sae clean and neat,
Both decent and genteel;
And then there's something in her
gate,
Gars ony dress look weel.

A gaudy dress and gentle air May slightly touch the heart; But it's innocence and modesty That polishes the dart.

'Tis this in Nelly pleases me;
'Tis this inchants my soul,
For absolutely in my breast
She reigns without controul.

No. 2. In Tarbolton, ye ken.

(Tune unknown.)

In Tarbolton, ye ken, there are proper young men, And proper young lasses and a', man; But ken ye the Ronalds that live in the Bennals? They carry the gree frae them a', man.

Their father's a laird, and weel he can spare't, Braid money to tocher them a', man; To proper young men, he'll clink in the hand Gowd guineas a hunder or twa, man.

N

There's ane they ca' Jean, I'll warrant ye've seen
As bonie a lass or as braw, man;
But for sense and guid taste she'll vie wi' the best,
And a conduct that beautifies a', man.

The charms o' the min', the langer they shine
The mair admiration they draw, man;
While peaches and cherries, and roses and lilies,
They fade and they wither awa, man.

If ye be for Miss Jean, tak this frae a frien',
A hint o' a rival or twa, man;
The Laird o' Blackbyre wad gang through the fire,
If that wad entice her awa, man.

The Laird o' Braehead has been on his speed For mair than a towmond or twa, man; The Laird o' the Ford will straught on a board, If he canna get her at a', man.

Then Anna comes in, the pride o' her kin, The boast of our bachelors a', man; Sae sonsy and sweet, sae fully complete, She steals our affections awa, man.

If I should detail the pick and the wale
O' lasses that live here awa, man,
The faut wad be mine, if they didna shine
The sweetest and best o' them a', man.

I lo'e her mysel, but darena weel tell, My poverty keeps me in awe, man, For making o' rhymes, and working at times, Does little or naething at a', man.

Yet I wadna choose to let her refuse,

Nor hae't in her power to say na, man;

For though I be poor, unnoticed, obscure,

My stomach's as proud as them a', man.

Though I canna ride in weel-booted pride,
And flee o'er the hills like a craw, man,
I can haud up my head wi' the best o' the breed,
Though fluttering ever so braw, man.

My coat and my vest, they are Scotch o' the best;
O' pairs o' guid breeks I hae twa, man,
And stockings and pumps to put on my stumps,
And ne'er a wrang steek in them a', man.

My sarks they are few, but five o' them new, Twal' hundred, as white as the snaw, man; A ten-shillings hat, a Holland cravat; There are no mony poets sae braw, man.

I never had friens weel stockit in means, To leave me a hundred or twa, man; Nae weel-tocher'd aunts, to wait on their drants, And wish them in hell for it a', man.

I never was cannie for hoarding o' money,
Or claughtin't together at a', man,
I've little to spend and naething to lend,
But deevil a shilling I awe, man.

No. 3. Altho' my bed were in you muir.

Tune: Galla Water. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 125.



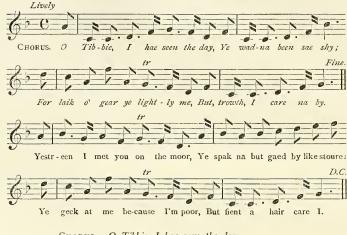
Altho' my bed were in yon muir, Amang the heather, in my plaidie, Yet happy, happy would I be, Had I my dear Montgomerie's Peggy.

When o'er the hill beat surly storms,
And winter nights were dark and rainy,
I'd seek some dell, and in my arms
I'd shelter dear Montgomerie's Peggy.

Were I a Baron proud and high,
And horse and servants waiting ready,
Then a' 'twad gie o' joy to me—
The shairin't with Montgomerie's Peggy.

No. 4. Yestreen I met you on the moor.

Tune: Invercauld's Reel. Stewart's Reels, 1762, p. 31.



CHORUS. O Tibbie, I had seen the day,
Ye wadna been sae shy;
For laik o' gear ye lightly me,
But, trowth, I care na by.

YESTREEN I met you on the moor, Ye spak na but gaed by like stoure: Ye geck at me because I'm poor, But fient a hair care I.

When comin hame on Sunday last, Upon the road as I cam past, Ye snufft an' gae your head a cast— But, trowth, I care't na by.

I doubt na, lass, but ye may think, Because ye hae the name o' clink, That ye can please me at a wink, Whene'er ye like to try.

But sorrow tak him that's sae mean, Altho' his pouch o' coin were clean, Wha follows ony saucy quean, That looks sae proud and high! Altho' a lad were e'er sae smart, If that he want the yellow dirt, Ye'll cast your head anither airt, And answer him fu' dry.

But if he hae the name o' gear, Ye'll fasten to him like a brier, Tho' hardly he, for sense or lear Be better than the kye.

But, Tibbie, lass, tak my advice, Your daddie's gear maks you sae nice; The deil a ane wad speir your price, Were ye as poor as I.

There lives a lass beside yon park, I'd rather hae her in her sark Than you, wi' a' your thousand mark That gars you look sae high.

No. 5. If ye gae up to you hill-tap.

(Tune unknown.)

If ye gae up to yon hill-tap, Ye'll there see bonic Peggy; She kens her father is a laird, And she forsooth's a leddy.

There's Sophy tight, a lassie bright, Besides a handsome fortune; Wha canna win her in a night Has little art in courtin.

Gae down by Faile, and taste the ale,

And tak a look o' Mysie; She's dour and din, a deil within, But aiblins she may please ye. If she be shy, her sister try, Ye'll maybe fancy Jenny; If ye'll dispense wi' want o' sense— She kens hersel she's bonie.

As ye gae up by yon hillside, Speir in for bonie Bessy; She'll gie ye a beck, and bid ye light,

And handsomely address ye.

There's few sae bonie, nane sae guid In a' King George' dominion; If ye should doubt the truth of this— It's Bessy's ain opinion!

No. 6. Her flowing locks, the raven's wing.

(Tune unknown.)

HER flowing locks, the raven's wing, Adown her neck and bosom hing; How sweet unto that breast to cling, And round that neck entwine her!

Her lips are roses wat wi' dew; O, what a feast, her bonie mou'! Her cheeks a mair celestial hue, A crimson still diviner!

No. 7. Had I a cave.

Tune: Robin Adair or Aileen a roon (see No. 45).

HAD I a cave on some wild distant shore,

Where the winds howl to the wave's dashing roar,

There would I weep my wees

There would I weep my woes, There seek my lost repose, Till grief my eyes should close, Ne'er to wake more! Falsest of womankind, canst thou declare

All thy fond, plighted vows fleeting as air?

To thy new lover hie, Laugh o'er thy perjury, Then in thy bosom try What peace is there!

No. 8. It was upon a Lammas night.



It was upon a Lammas night,
When corn rigs are bonie,
Beneath the moon's unclouded light,
I held awa to Annie:
The time flew by, wi' tentless heed*,
Till, 'tween the late and early,
Wi' sma' persuasion she agreed
To see me thro' the barley.

CHORUS. Corn rigs, an' barley rigs,

An' corn rigs are bonie:

I'll ne'er forget that happy night,

Amang the rigs wi' Annie.

The sky was blue, the wind was still,
The moon was shining clearly;
I set her down, wi' right good will,
Amang the rigs o' barley:
I kent her heart was a' my ain;
I lov'd her most sincerely;
I kiss'd her owre and owre again,
Amang the rigs o' barley.

I lock'd her in my fond embrace;
Her heart was beating rarely:
My blessings on that happy place,
Amang the rigs o' barley!
But by the moon and stars so bright,
That shone that hour so clearly!
She ay shall bless that happy night
Amang the rigs o' barley.

I hae been blythe wi' comrades dear;
I hae been merry drinking;
I hae been joyfu' gath'rin gear;
I hae been happy thinking:
But a' the pleasures e'er I saw,
Tho' three times doubled fairly,
That happy night was worth them a',
Amang the rigs o' barley.

^{*} In editions 1786 and 1787, 'head'; editions 1793 and 1794, 'heed.'

No. 9. O, leave novéls, ye Mauchline belles.

Tune: Ye Mauchline belles. Scots Musical Museum, 1803, No. 573.



O, leave no - véls, ye Mauch-line belles, Ye're sa - fer at you



spin - ning wheel! Such witch - ing books are bait - ed hooks For

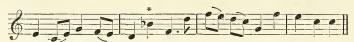


rak - ish rooks like Rob Moss-giel.

Your fine Tom Jones and



Gran - di - sons They make your youth - ful fan - cies reel; They



heat your brains, and fire your veins, And then you're prey for Rob Mossgiel.

O, LEAVE novels, ye Mauchline belles, Ye're safer at your spinning-wheel! Such witching books are baited hooks For rakish rooks like Rob Mossgiel.

Your fine *Tom Jones* and *Grandisons*They make your youthful fancies reel;
They heat your brains, and fire your veins,
And then you're prey for Rob Mossgiel.

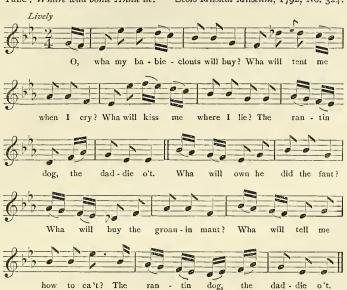
Beware a tongue that's smoothly hung, A heart that warmly seems to feel; That feeling heart but acts a part— 'Tis rakish art in Rob Mossgiel.

The frank address, the soft caress,
Are worse than poisoned darts of steel;
The frank address, and politesse,
Are all finesse in Rob Mossgiel.

* An 8ve lower in original.

No. 10. O, wha my babie-clouts will buy?

Tune: Whare wad bonie Annie lie. Scots Musical Museum, 1792, No. 324.



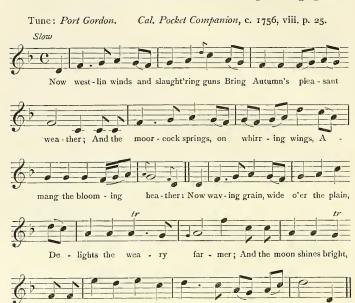
O, wha my babie-clouts will buy? Wha will tent me when I cry? Wha will kiss me where I lie?— The rantin dog, the daddie o't.

Wha will own he did the faut?
Wha will buy the groanin maut?
Wha will tell me how to ca't?—
The rantin dog, the daddie o't.

When I mount the creepie-chair, Wha will sit beside me there? Gie me Rob, I'll seek nae mair,— The rantin dog, the daddie o't.

Wha will crack to me my lane? Wha will mak me fidgin fain? Wha will kiss me o'er again?— The rantin dog, the daddie o't.

No. 11. Now westlin winds and slaughtring guns.



Now westlin winds and slaught'ring guns
Bring autumn's pleasant weather;
And the moorcock springs, on whirring wings,
Amang the blooming heather:
Now waving grain, wide o'er the plain,
Delights the weary farmer;
And the moon shines bright, when I rove at night,
To muse upon my charmer.

up - on

muse

my

charm - er.

The partridge loves the fruitful fells;
The plover loves the mountains;
The woodcock haunts the lonely dells,
The soaring hern the fountains:
Thro' lofty groves the cushat roves,
The path of man to shun it;
The hazel bush o'erhangs the thrush,
The spreading thorn the linnet.

night, To

rove at

when

Thus ev'ry kind their pleasure find,
The savage and the tender;
Some social join, and leagues combine;
Some solitary wander:
Avaunt, away! the cruel sway,
Tyrannic man's dominion;
The sportsman's joy, the murd'ring cry,
The fluttering, gory pinion!

But Peggy dear, the evening's clear,
Thick flies the skimming swallow;
The sky is blue, the fields in view,
All fading green and yellow:
Come let us stray our gladsome way,
And view the charms of Nature;
The rustling corn, the fruited thorn,
And ev'ry happy creature.

We'll gently walk, and sweetly talk,
Till the silent moon shine clearly;
I'll grasp thy waist, and fondly prest,
Swear how I love thee dearly:
Not vernal show'rs to budding flow'rs,
Not autumn to the farmer,
So dear can be, as thou to me,
My fair, my lovely charmer!

No. 12. Full well thou know'st I love thee, dear.

Tune : Rothiemurchie's rant.

CHORUS. Fairest maid on Devon banks,

Crystal Devon, winding Devon,

Wilt thou lay that frown aside,

And smile as thou wert wont to do?

Full well thou know'st I love thee, dear, Couldst thou to malice lend an ear? O, did not love exclaim:—'Forbear, Nor use a faithful lover so!'

Then come, thou fairest of the fair,
Those wonted smiles, O let me share;
And by thy beauteous self I swear
No love but thine my heart shall know.

No. 13. Behind you hills where Lugar flows.



Behind you hills where Lugar flows 'Mang moors an' mosses many, O,
The wintry sun the day has clos'd,
And I'll awa to Nanie, O.
The westlin wind blaws loud an' shill;
The night's baith mirk and rainy, O;
But I'll get my plaid, an' out I'll steal,
An' owre the hill to Nanie, O.

My Nanie's charming, sweet an' young; Nae artfu' wiles to win ye, O; May ill befa' the flattering tongue That wad beguile my Nanie, O. Her face is fair, her heart is true; As spotless as she's bonie, O; The op'ning gowan, wat wi' dew, Nae purer is than Nanie, O. A country lad is my degree, An' few there be that ken me, O; But what care I how few they be, I'm welcome ay to Nanie, O. My riches a's my penny-fee, An' I maun guide it cannie, O; But warl's gear ne'er troubles me, My thoughts are a', my Nanie, O. Our auld guidman delights to view His sheep an' kye thrive bonie, O; But I'm as blythe that hauds his pleugh, An' has nae care but Nanie, O. Come weel, come woe, I care na by, I'll tak what Heav'n will sen' me, O; Nae ither care in life have I, But live, an' love my Nanie, O!

No. 14. True-hearted was he, the sad swain o' the Yarrow.

Tune : Bonie Dundee.

TRUE-HEARTED was he, the sad swain o' the Yarrow,
And fair are the maids on the banks of the Ayr;
But by the sweet side o' the Nith's winding river
Are lovers as faithful and maidens as fair:
To equal young Jessie seek Scotia all over:
To equal young Jessie you seek it in vain;
Grace, beauty, and elegance fetter her lover,
And maidenly modesty fixes the chain.
Fresh is the rose in the gay, dewy morning,
And sweet is the lily at evening close;
But in the fair presence o' lovely young Jessie
Unseen is the lily, unheeded the rose.
Love sits in her smile, a wizard ensnaring;
Enthron'd in her een he delivers his law;
And still to her charms she alone is a stranger—

Her modest demeanour's the jewel of a'!

No. 15. Young Peggy blooms our boniest lass.



Young Peggy blooms our boniest lass, Her blush is like the morning,
The rosy dawn, the springing grass,
With early gems adorning;
Her eyes outshine the radiant beams
That gild the passing shower,
And glitter o'er the chrystal streams,
And chear each fresh'ning flower.

Her lips, more than the cherries bright-A richer dye has graced them-They charm th' admiring gazer's sight, And sweetly tempt to taste them; Her smile is as the ev'ning mild, When feather'd pairs are courting, And little lambkins wanton wild, In playful bands disporting. Were Fortune lovely Peggy's foe, Such sweetness would relent her: As blooming Spring unbends the brow Of surly, savage Winter. Detraction's eye no aim can gain Her winning powers to lessen, And fretful envy grins in vain The poison'd tooth to fasten. Ye Powers of Honor, Love, and Truth, From ev'ry ill defend her! Inspire the highly-favour'd youth The destinies intend her! Still fan the sweet connubial flame

No. 16. Altho' thou maun never be mine.

Responsive in each bosom; And bless the dear parental name With many a filial blossom.

Tune: Here's a health to them that's awa.

Chorus. Here's a health to ane I lo'e dear,

Here's a health to ane I lo'e dear;

Thou art sweet as the smile when fond lovers meet,

And soft as their parting tear—Jessy.

Altho' thou maun never be mine,
Altho' even hope is denied;
'Tis sweeter for thee despairing
Than ought in the world beside—Jessy.
I mourn thro' the gay, gaudy day,
As hopeless I muse on thy charms;
But welcome the dream o' sweet slumber,
For then I am lockt in thine arms—Jessy.
I guess by the dear angel smile,
I guess by the love-rolling e'e;

But why urge the tender confession, 'Gainst Fortune's fell cruel decree?—Jessy.

No. 17. The Catrine woods were yellow seen.



The Catrine woods were yellow seen,
The flowers decay'd on Catrine lea;
Nae lav'rock sang on hillock green,
But Nature sicken'd on the e'e;
Thro' faded groves Maria sang,
Hersel' in beauty's bloom the while;
And ay the wild-wood echoes rang;
'Fareweel the braes o' Ballochmyle!'

'Low in your wintry beds, ye flowers,
Again ye'll flourish fresh and fair;
Ye birdies, dumb in with'ring bowers,
Again ye'll charm the vocal air;
But here, alas! for me nae mair
Shall birdie charm, or floweret smile;
Fareweel the bonie banks of Ayr,
Fareweel! fareweel sweet Ballochmyle!'

No. 18. Stay, my charmer, can you leave me?

Tune: An gille dubh ciar dubh. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 129.



STAY, my charmer, can you leave me?
Cruel, cruel to deceive me!
Well you know how much you grieve me:
Cruel charmer, can you go?
Cruel charmer, can you go?

By my love so ill requited,
By the faith you fondly plighted,
By the pangs of lovers slighted,
Do not, do not leave me so!
Do not, do not leave me so!

No. 19. My heart was ance as blythe and free.

Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 103. Tune : To the weaver's gin ye go.



blythe and free as sim - mer days were heart was ance as



lang; But a bonie, west - lin weaver lad Has gart me change my sang.



I rede you right, gang ne'er at night, To the weaver's gin ye

My heart was ance as blythe and free

As simmer days were lang; But a bonie, westlin weaver lad Has gart me change my sang.

To the weaver's gin ye go, fair maids, CHORUS. To the weaver's gin ye go, I rede you right, gang ne er at night, To the weaver's gin ye go.

My mither sent me to the town, To warp a plaiden wab; But the weary, weary warpin o't Has gart me sigh and sab.

A bonie, westlin weaver lad Sat working at his loom; He took my heart, as wi' a net, In every knot and thrum.

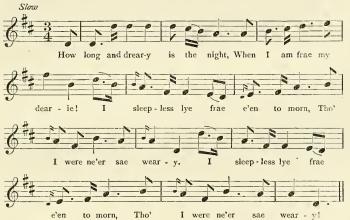
I sat beside my warpin-wheel, And ay I ca'd it roun'; But every shot and every knock, My heart it gae a stoun.

The moon was sinking in the west Wi' visage pale and wan, As my bonie, westlin weaver lad Convoy'd me through the glen.

But what was said, or what was done, Shame fa' me gin I tell; But O! I fear the kintra soon Will ken as weel's mysel!

No. 20. How long and dreary is the night.

Tune: A Gaelic air. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 175.



How long and dreary is the night,

When I am frae my dearie!

I sleepless lye frae e'en to morn,

Tho' I were ne'er sae weary.

When I think on the happy days
I spent wi' you, my dearie:
And now what lands between us lye,
How can I be but eerie!

How slow ye move, ye heavy hours,
As ye were wae and weary!
It wasna sae ye glinted by,
When I was wi' my dearie.

No. 21. You wild mossy mountains.



You wild mossy mountains sae lofty and wide,
That nurse in their bosom the youth o' the Clyde,
Where the grouse lead their coveys thro' the heather to feed,
And the shepherd tents his flock as he pipes on his reed.

Not Gowrie's rich valley nor Forth's sunny shores, To me hae the charms o' yon wild mossy moors; For there, by a lanely, sequesterèd stream, Resides a sweet lassie, my thought and my dream.

Amang thae wild mountains shall still be my path,
Ilk stream foaming down its ain green, narrow strath;
For there wi' my lassie the day-lang I rove,
While o'er us unheeded flie the swift hours o' love.

She is not the fairest, altho' she is fair;
O' nice education but sma' is her share;
Her parentage humble as humble can be;
But I lo'e the dear lassie because she lo'es me.

To Beauty what man but maun yield him a prize, In her armour of glances, and blushes, and sighs? And when wit and refinement hae polish'd her darts, bis They dazzle our een, as they flie to our hearts.

But kindness, sweet kindness, in the fond sparkling e'e Has lustre outshining the diamond to me,

And the heart-beating love as I'm clasp'd in her arms, bis
O, these are my lassie's all-conquering charms!

No. 22. Anna, thy charms my bosom fire.

Tune: Bonny Mary. Cal. Pocket Companion, 1743, i. p. 24.



Anna, thy charms my bosom fire,
And waste my soul with care;
But ah! how bootless to admire
When fated to despair!
Yet in thy presence, lovely Fair,
To hope may be forgiven;
For sure 'twere impious to despair
So much in sight of Heaven.

No. 23. 'Twas even—the dewy fields were green.



'Twas even—the dewy fields were green,
On every blade the pearls hang,
The zephyr wanton'd round the bean,
And bore its fragrant sweets alang;
In ev'ry glen the mavis sang,
All Nature list'ning seem'd the while,
Except where greenwood echoes rang
Amang the braes o' Ballochmyle.

With careless step I onward stray'd,
My heart rejoic'd in Nature's joy,
When, musing in a lonely glade,
A maiden fair I chanced to spy;
Her look was like the morning's eye,
Her air like Nature's vernal smile;
Perfection whisper'd, passing by:—
'Behold the lass o' Ballochmyle!'

Fair is the morn in flowery May,
And sweet is night in autumn mild,
When roving thro' the garden gay,
Or wand'ring in the lonely wild:
But woman, Nature's darling child—
There all her charms she does compile;
Even there her other works are foil'd
By the bonie lass o' Ballochmyle.

O, had she been a country maid,
And I the happy country swain,
Tho' shelter'd in the lowest shed
That ever rose on Scotia's plain!
Thro' weary winter's wind and rain
With joy, with rapture, I would toil,
And nightly to my bosom strain
The bonie lass o' Ballochmyle!

Then pride might climb the slipp'ry steep,
Where fame and honours lofty shine;
And thirst of gold might tempt the deep,
Or downward seek the Indian mine;
Give me the cot below the pine,
To tend the flocks or till the soil,
And ev'ry day have joys divine
With the bonie lass o' Ballochmyle.

No. 24. As I gaed up by you gate-end.

(Tune unknown.)

As I gaed up by yon gate-end,
When day was waxin weary,
Wha did I meet come down the street
But pretty Peg, my dearie?

Her air sae sweet, her shape complete, Wi' nae proportion wanting, The Queen of Love did never move Wi' motion mair enchanting!

Wi' linkèd hands we took the sands Adoun you winding river;O, that sweet hour and shady bower Forget it shall I never.

No. 25. How pleasant the banks.

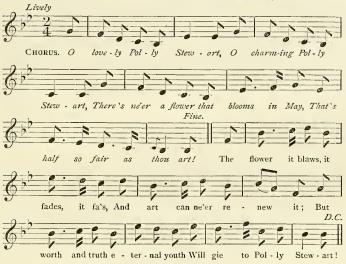
Tune: Bhannerach dhon na chrie. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 157. green spread-ing bush - es That

How pleasant the banks of the clear winding Devon,
With green spreading bushes and flow'rs blooming fair!
But the boniest flow'r on the banks of the Devon
Was once a sweet bud on the braes of the Ayr.
Mild be the sun on this sweet blushing flower,
In the gay rosy morn, as it bathes in the dew!
And gentle the fall of the soft vernal shower,
That steals on the evening each leaf to renew!

O, spare the dear blossom, ye orient breezes,
With chill, hoary wing as ye usher the dawn!
And far be thou distant, thou reptile that seizes
The verdure and pride of the garden or lawn!
Let Bourbon exult in his gay gilded lilies,
And England triumphant display her proud rose!
A fairer than either adorns the green vallies,
Where Devon, sweet Devon, meandering flows.

No. 26. The flower it blaws, it fades, it fa's.

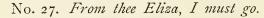
Tune: Ye're welcome Charlie Stewart. Scots Musical Museum, 1796, No. 471.



Chorus. O lovely Polly Stewart,
O charming Polly Stewart,
There's ne'er a flower that blooms in May,
That's half so fair as thou art!

The flower it blaws, it fades, it fa's, And art can ne'er renew it; But worth and truth eternal youth Will gie to Polly Stewart!

May he whase arms shall fauld thy charms
Possess a leal and true heart!
To him be given to ken the heaven
He grasps in Polly Stewart!





From thee Eliza, I must go,
And from my native shore:
The cruel fates between us throw
A boundless ocean's roar;
But boundless oceans, roaring wide
Between my love and me,
They never, never can divide
My heart and soul from thee.

Farewell, farewell, Eliza dear,
The maid that I adore!
A boding voice is in mine ear,
We part to meet no more!
But the latest throb that leaves my heart,
While Death stands victor by,
That throb, Eliza, is thy part,
And thine that latest sigh!

ish'd blaze.

art's most

No. 28. Where, braving angry winter's storms.

Tune: Lament for Abercairney. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 195. Moderate time bray - ing an - gry win - ter's storms, The lof - ty Where, in their shade my Peg - gy's charms First Far rise, blest my wonder - ing eyes; As one by lone - ly A - ston - ish'd sav - age stream A gem sur -

> Where, braving angry winter's storms, The lofty Ochils rise, Far in their shade my Peggy's charms First blest my wondering eyes; As one who by some savage stream A lonely gem surveys, Astonish'd doubly, marks it beam With art's most polish'd blaze. Blest be the wild sequester'd shade, And blest the day and hour, Where Peggy's charms I first survey'd, When first I felt their pow'r! The tyrant Death with grim control May seize my fleeting breath; But tearing Peggy from my soul Must be a stronger death.

beam With

marks it

doub - ly,

No. 29. My Peggy's face, my Peggy's form.

Tune: My Peggy's face. Scots Musical Museum, 1803, No. 501.





age might warm, My Peg - gy's worth, my Peg - gy's mind Might







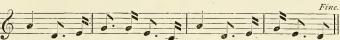
My Peggy's face, my Peggy's form The frost of hermit age might warm; My Peggy's worth, my Peggy's mind Might charm the first of human kind. I love my Peggy's angel air, Her face so truly heavenly fair, Her native grace so void of art; But I adore my Peggy's heart.

The lily's hue, the rose's dye, The kindling lustre of an eye-Who but owns their magic sway? Who but knows they all decay? The tender thrill, the pitying tear, The generous purpose nobly dear, The gentle look that rage disarms-These are all immortal charms.

No. 30. By Oughtertyre grows the aik.

Tune: Andro and his cutty gun. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 180.





Blythe by the banks of Earn, And blythe in Glen - tu - rit glen!



By Ough-ter - tyre grows the aik, On Yarrow banks the bir - ken shaw;



CHORUS. Blythe, Blythe and merry was she,
Blythe was she but and ben;
Blythe by the banks of Earn,
And blythe in Glenturit glen!

By Oughtertyre grows the aik, On Yarrow banks the birken shaw; But Phemie was a bonier lass Than braes o' Yarrow ever saw.

Her looks were like a flow'r in May, Her smile was like a simmer morn: She trippèd by the banks o' Earn As light's a bird upon a thorn.

Her bonie face it was as meek
As ony lamb upon a lea:
The evening sun was ne'er sae sweet
As was the blink o' Phemie's e'e.

The Highland hills I've wander'd wide, As o'er the Lawlands I hae been, But Phemie was the blithest lass That ever trode the dewy green.

No. 31. A rosebud, by my early walk.

Tune: A rosebud. Scots Musical Museum, 1788, No. 189.

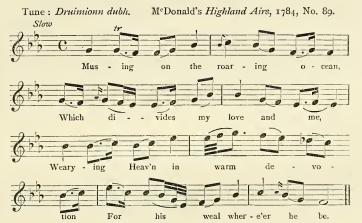


A ROSEBUD, by my early walk
Adown a corn-inclosed bawk,
Sae gently bent its thorny stalk,
All on a dewy morning.
Ere twice the shades o' dawn are fled,
In a' its crimson glory spread,
And drooping rich the dewy head,
It scents the early morning.

Within the bush, her covert nest
A little linnet fondly prest,
The dew sat chilly on her breast,
Sae early in the morning.
She soon shall see her tender brood,
The pride, the pleasure o' the wood,
Amang the fresh green leaves bedew'd,
Awake the early morning.

So thou, dear bird, young Jeany fair,
On trembling string or vocal air
Shall sweetly pay the tender care
That tents thy early morning!
So thou, sweet Rosebud, young and gay,
Shalt beauteous blaze upon the day,
And bless the parent's evening ray
That watch'd thy early morning.

No. 32. Musing on the roaring ocean.



Musing on the roaring ocean,
Which divides my love and me,
Wearying Heav'n in warm devotion
For his weal where'er he be.

Hope and fear's alternate billow Yielding late to Nature's law, Whisp'ring spirits round my pillow, Talk of him that's far awa.

Ye whom sorrow never wounded, Ye who never shed a tear, Care-untroubled, joy-surrounded, Gaudy Day to you is dear,

Gentle Night, do thou befriend me; Downy Sleep, the curtain draw: Spirits kind, again attend me, Talk of him that's far awa!

No. 33. She's fair and fause that causes my smart.

Tune: The lads of Leith. Cal. Pocket Companion, 1752, iv. p. 31,



wo man is but warld's gear, Sae let the bon-ic lass gang!

She's fair and fause that causes my smart;
I lo'ed her meikle and lang;
She's broken her vow, she's broken my heart,
And I may e'en gae hang.
A coof cam in wi' routh o' gear,
And I hae tint my dearest dear;
But Woman is but warld's gear,
Sae let the bonie lass gang!

Whae'er ye be that woman love,
To this be never blind;
Nae ferlie 'tis tho' fickle she prove,
A Woman has't by kind.
O Woman lovely, Woman fair,
An angel form's faun to thy share,
'Twad been o'er meikle to gien thee mair!—
I mean an angel mind.

No. 34. Now Spring has clad the grove in green.

(Tune unknown.)

Now Spring has clad the grove in green,
And strew'd the lea wi' flowers;
The furrow'd, waving corn is seen
Rejoice in fostering showers;
While ilka thing in Nature join
Their sorrows to forego,
O, why thus all alone are mine
The weary steps o' woe!

The trout within yon wimpling burn
That glides, a silver dart,
And, safe beneath the shady thorn,
Defies the angler's art—
My life was ance that careless stream,
That wanton trout was I,
But love wi' unrelenting beam
Has scorch'd my fountains dry.

The little floweret's peaceful lot,
In yonder cliff that grows,
Which, save the linnet's flight, I wot,
Nae ruder visit knows,
Was mine, till love has o'er me past,
And blighted a' my bloom;
And now beneath the withering blast
My youth and joy consume.

The waken'd laverock warbling springs,
And climbs the early sky,
Winnowing blythe his dewy wings
In morning's rosy eye;
As little reck't I sorrow's power
Until the flowery snare
O' witching love in luckless hour
Made me the thrall o' care!

O, had my fate been Greenland snows
Or Afric's burning zone,
Wi' man and Nature leagu'd my foes,
So Peggy ne'er I'd known!
The wretch whase doom is, 'Hope nae mair,'
What tongue his woes can tell,
Within whase bosom, save despair,
Nae kinder spirits dwell,

No. 35. O, wilt thou go wi' me, sweet Tibbie Dunbar. Tune: Johnny M^oGill, Scots Musical Museum, 1790, No. 207.



O, wilt thou go wi' me, sweet Tibbie Dunbar? O, wilt thou go wi' me, sweet Tibbie Dunbar? Wilt thou ride on a horse, or be drawn in a car, Or walk by my side, O sweet Tibbie Dunbar?

I care na thy daddie, his lands and his money; I care na thy kin, sae high and sae lordly: But say that thou'lt hae me for better or waur, And come in thy coatie, sweet Tibbie Dunbar.

No. 36. Fate gave the word—the arrow sped.



FATE gave the word—the arrow sped,
And pierc'd my darling's heart;
And with him all the joys are fled
Life can to me impart.
By graph hands the spaling drops

By cruel hands the sapling drops, In dust dishonour'd laid: So fell the pride of all my hopes, My age's future shade. The mother-linnet in the brake
Bewails her ravish'd young;
So I for my lost darling's sake
Lament the live-day long.
Death, oft I've fear'd thy fatal blow,
Now fond I bare my breast!
O, do thou kindly lay me low
With him I love at rest!

No. 37. The day returns, my bosom burns.



The blissful day we twa did meet;
Tho' winter wild in tempest toil'd,
Ne'er summer sun was half sae sweet.
Than a' the pride that loads the tide,
And crosses o'er the sultry line,
Than kingly robes, than crowns and globes,
Heav'n gave me more—it made thee mine!
While day and night can bring delight,
Or Nature aught of pleasure give;
While joys above my mind can move,
For thee, and thee alone, I live!
When that grim foe of life below
Comes in between to make us part,
The iron hand that breaks our band,
It breaks my bliss, it breaks my heart!

No. 38. Ye gallants bright, I rede you right.



Ye gallants bright, I rede you right,
Beware o' bonie Ann;
Her comely face sae fu' o' grace,
Your heart she will trepan:
Her een sae bright like stars by night,
Her skin is like the swan;
Sae jimply lac'd her genty waist,
That sweetly ye might span.

Youth, Grace, and Love attendant move, And Pleasure leads the van: In a' their charms, and conquering arms, They wait on bonie Ann. The captive bands may chain the hands, But love enslaves the man: Ye gallants braw, I rede you a', Beware o' bonie Ann!

No. 39. I gaed a waefu' gate yestreen.



I GAED a waefu' gate yestreen,
A gate I fear I'll dearly rue;
I gat my death frae twa sweet een,
Twa lovely een o' bonie blue!
'Twas not her golden ringlets bright,
Her lips like roses wat wi' dew,
Her heaving bosom lily-white—
It was her een sae bonie blue.

She talk'd, she smil'd, my heart she wyl'd,
She charm'd my soul I wist na how;
And aye the stound, the deadly wound,
Cam frae her een sae bonie blue.
But 'spare to speak, and spare to speed'—
She'll aiblins listen to my vow:
Should she refuse, I'll lay my dead
To her twa een sae bonie blue.

No. 40. Blythe hae I been on you hill.

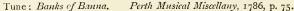
Tune: The Quaker's Wife. Bremner's Reels, 1759, p. 53.



BLYTHE hae I been on yon hill As the lambs before me, Careless ilka thought, and free As the breeze flew o'er me; Now nae langer sport and play, Mirth or sang can please me; Lesley is sae fair and coy, Care and anguish seize me.

Heavy, heavy is the task,
Hopeless love declaring;
Trembling, I dow nocht but glow'r,
Sighing, dumb despairing!
If she winna ease the thraws
In my bosom swelling,
Underneath the grass-green sod
Soon maun be my dwelling.

No. 41. Yestreen I had a pint o' wine.





Yestreen I had a pint o' wine,
A place where body saw na;
Yestreen lay on this breast o'
mine

The gowden locks of Anna.
The hungry Jew in wilderness
Rejoicing o'er his manna
Was naething to my hiney bliss
Upon the lips of Anna.

Ye monarchs take the east and west

Frae Indus to Savannah;
Gie me within my straining grasp
The melting form of Anna:
There I'll despise imperial charms,
An Empress or Sultana,
While dying raptures in her arms
I give and take wi' Anna!

Awa, thou flaunting god of day! Awa, thou pale Diana! Ilk star, gae hide thy twinkling ray.

When I'm to meet my Anna!
Come, in thy raven plumage, Night!
(Sun, moon, and stars, withdrawn a'),

And bring an angel-pen to write My transports with my Anna!

POSTSCRIPT,

The kirk an' state may join, an' tell
To do sic things I maunna:
The kirk an' state may gae to hell,
And I'll gae to my Anna.
She is the sunshine o' my e'e
To live but her I canna:
Had I on earth but wishes three,
The first should be my Anna.

No. 42. Wishfully I look and languish.



CHORUS. Bonie wee thing, cannie wee thing,

Lovely wee thing, wert thou mine,

I wad wear thee in my bosom

Lest my jewel it should tine.

Wishfully I look and languish In that bonie face o' thine, And my heart it stounds wi' anguish, Lest my wee thing be na mine.

Wit and Grace and Love and Beauty In ac constellation shine; To adore thee is my duty, Goddess o' this soul o' mine!

No. 43. O, how shall I, unskilfu', try.





O, now shall I, unskilfu' try The poet's occupation? The tunefu' powers, in happy hours That whisper inspiration; Even they maun dare an effort mair Than aught they ever gave us, Ere they rehearse in equal verse The charms o' lovely Davies. Each eye, it cheers, when she appears, Like Phæbus in the morning, When past the shower, and every flower The garden is adorning! As the wretch looks o'er Siberia's shore, When winter-bound the wave is, Sae droops our heart when we maun part Frae charming, lovely Davies.

Her smile's a gift frae 'boon the lift, That maks us mair than princes; A sceptred hand, a king's command, Is in her darting glances: The man in arms 'gainst female charms, Even he her willing slave is: He hugs his chain, and owns the reign Of conquering lovely Davies. My Muse to dream of such a theme Her feeble powers surrenders: The eagle's gaze alone surveys The sun's meridian splendours: I wad in vain essay the strain: The deed too daring brave is! I'll drap the lyre, and, mute, admire The charms o' lovely Davies,

made her

what she

No. 44. O, saw ye bonie Lesley?

Tune! The Collier's bon'e lassie. Thomson's Scotish Airs, 1798, No. 33.



O, saw ye bonie Lesley, As she gaed o'er the Border? She's gane, like Alexander, To spread her conquests farther! To see her is to love her, And love but her for ever; For Nature made her what she is, And never made anither!

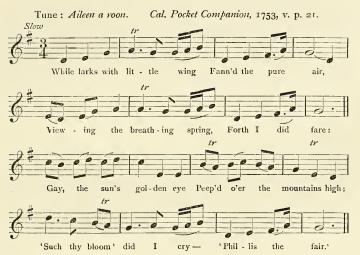
- er

made a - ni - ther!

is, And

That art a queen, fair Lesley-Thy subjects, we before thee: Thou art divine, fair Lesley-The hearts o' men adore thee. The deil he couldna skaith thee, Or aught that wad belang thee; He'd look into thy bonie face, And say :- 'I canna wrang thee!' The Powers aboon will tent thee,
Misfortune sha' na steer thee:
Thou'rt like themsel', sae lovely,
That ill they'll ne'er let near thee.
Return again, fair Lesley,
Return to Caledonie!
That we may brag we hae a lass
There's nane again sae bonie.

No. 45. While larks with little wing.



While larks with little wing
Fann'd the pure air,
Viewing the breathing spring,
Forth I did fare:
Gay, the sun's golden eye
Peep'd o'er the mountains high;
'Such thy bloom,' did I ery—
'Phillis the fair.'

In each bird's careless song, Glad, I did share; While yon wild-flowers among, Chance led me there: Sweet to the op'ning day, Rosebuds bent the dewy spray; 'Such thy bloom,' did I say— 'Phillis the fair.'

Down in a shady walk
Doves cooing were;
I mark'd the cruel hawk
Caught in a snare:
So kind may Fortune be,
Such make his destiny,
He who would injure thee,
Phillis the fair.

No. 46. Farewell, thou stream that winding flows.



FAREWELL, thou stream that winding flows
Around Eliza's dwelling!
O mem'ry, spare the cruel throes
Within my bosom swelling:
Condemn'd to drag a hopeless chain
And yet in secret languish,
To feel a fire in every vein,
Nor dare disclose my anguish!

Love's veriest wretch, unseen, unknown, I fain my griefs would cover:
The bursting sigh, th' unweeting groan Betray the hapless lover.
I know thou doom'st me to despair,
Nor wilt, nor canst relieve me;
But, O Eliza, hear one prayer—
For pity's sake forgive me!

The music of thy voice I heard,

Nor wist while it enslav'd me;
I saw thine eyes, yet nothing fear'd,
Till fears no more had saved me:
The unwary sailor thus, aghast,
The wheeling torrent viewing.
'Mid circling horrors sinks at last
In overwhelming ruin.

No. 47. A slave to love's unbounded sway.



Chorus. O, lay thy loof in mine, lass,
In mine, lass, in mine, lass,
And swear on thy white hand, lass,
That thou wilt be my ain.

A slave to love's unbounded sway, He aft has wrought me meikle wae; But now he is my deadly fae, Unless thou be my ain.

There's monie a lass has broke my rest, That for a blink I hae lo'ed best; But thou art queen within my breast, For ever to remain.

No. 48. Turn again, thou fair Eliza!



Turn again, thou fair Eliza!
Ae kind blink before we part;
Rue on thy despairing lover—
Canst thou break his faithfu' heart?
Turn again, thou fair Eliza!
If to love thy heart denies,
For pity hide the cruel sentence
Under friendship's kind disguise!

Thee, dear maid, hae I offended?

The offence is loving thee:

Canst thou wreck his peace for ever,

Wha for thine wad gladly die?

While the life beats in my bosom,
Thou shalt mix in ilka throe:
Turn again, thou lovely maiden,
Ae sweet smile on me bestow!

Not the bee upon the blossom,
In the pride o' sinny noon;
Not the little sporting fairy
All beneath the simmer moon,
Not the poet, in the moment
Fancy lightens in his e'e,
Kens the pleasure, feels the rapture,
That thy presence gies to me.

No. 49. There was a lass, and she was fair.

To its ain tune. (Unknown.)

THERE was a lass, and she was fair, At kirk and market to be seen When a' our fairest maids were met, The fairest maid was bonie Jean.

And ay she wrought her country wark, And ay she sang sae merrilie; The blythest bird upon the bush Had ne'er a lighter heart than she!

But hawks will rob the tender joys,
That bless the little lintwhite's nest,
And frost will blight the fairest flowers,
And love will break the soundest rest.

Young Robie was the brawest lad, The flower and pride of a' the glen, And he had owsen, sheep, and kye, And wanton naigies nine or ten.

He gaed wi' Jeanie to the tryste, He danced wi' Jeanie on the down, And, lang ere witless Jeanie wist, Her heart was tint, her peace was stown!

As in the bosom of the stream

The moonbeam dwells at dewy e'en,
So, trembling pure, was tender love
Within the breast of bonie Jean.

And now she works her country's wark, And ay she sighs wi' care and pain, Yet wist na what her ail might be, Or what wad make her weel again.

But did na Jeanie's heart loup light, And did na joy blink in her e'e, As Robie tauld a tale o' love Ae e'enin on the lily lea?

The sun was sinking in the west,

The birds sang sweet in ilka grove;

His cheek to hers he fondly laid,

And whisper'd thus his tale o' love:—

'O Jeanie fair, I lo'e thee dear—
O, canst thou think to fancy me?
Or wilt thou leave thy mammie's cot,
And learn to tent the farms wi' me?

'At barn or byre thou shalt na drudge, Or naething else to trouble thee, But stray amang the heather-bells, And tent the waving corn wi' me.'

Now what could artless Jeanie do?

She had nae will to say him na:

At length she blush'd a sweet consent,

And love was ay between them twa.

No. 50. O Philly, happy be that day.

Tune: The Sow's tail to Geordie. McGlashan's Scots Measures, 1781, p. 39.

Blythly



O Phil - ly, hap-py be that day When, rov-ing thro' the gath-er'd hay, My



youth . fu' heart was stown a way, And by thy charms, my Phil-ly.