

'Singlish Folk' Broadsheet Number 3

Contents:

Ae Fond Kiss (Burns)
Blood on the saddle
Blood Red Roses
Blow the man down
Blue tail fly
Bonnie ship Diamond
Charlie
Chilly Winds
Cindy

Come all ye fair ... girls
Crazy Man Michael
Cumberland Gap
Leaving of Liverpool
Mary Had A Baby
Over the hills
Red, red rose (Burns)
Tommy's Gone to Hilo
Whip Jamboree

Blood Red Roses

My clothes are all in pawn
Go down you blood red roses, go down
And it's mighty draughty around Cape Horn
Go down you blood red roses, go down
Oh, you pinks and posies
Go down you blood red roses, go down

It's round Cape Horn we've got to go
Chasing whales through ice and snow

Oh my old mother she wrote to me
My darling son come home from sea

Oh it's one more pull and that will do
For we're the bullies to kick her through

Blow the man down

1. She went over the bar on the thirteenth of May
Refrain: To my way hay blow the man down
The galloper jumped and the gale came away
Refrain: Oh give me some time to blow the man
down

Chorus:

Blow the man down bullies blow the man down
To my way hay blow the man down
Blow him right back into Liverpool town
Oh give me some time to blow the man down

2. As I was a walkin down Paradise Street
A flash lookin' packet I chanced for to meet
3. I says to her Polly now how do you do?
She says none the better for the seein' of you
4. Now I'll blow the man up and I'll blow the man down
I'll blow him away into Liverpool town

Blood on the saddle

Chorus:

Oh there's blood on the saddle
And blood all around
And a great big puddle
of blood on the ground

1. The cowboy lay in it
All covered in gore
And he never will ride
On his bronco no more
2. Oh pity the cowboy
All bloody and red
His bronco fell on him
And smashed in his head

Blue-Tail Fly

When I was young I used to wait
On master and serve him his plate,
And pass the bottle when he got dry,
And brush away the blue-tail fly.

Chorus:

Jimmy crack corn and I don't care.
Jimmy crack corn and I don't care.
Jimmy crack corn and I don't care,
My master's gone away.

And when he'd ride in the afternoon
I'd follow with a hickory broom,
The pony being rather shy
When bitten by the blue-tail fly.

One day he rode around the farm
The flies so numerous they did swarm,
One chanced to bite him on the thigh
The devil take a blue-tail fly.

The pony jump, he toss, he pitch
He threw my master in the ditch,
He died and the jury wondered why
The verdict was the blue-tail fly.

He lies beneath a 'simmon tree
His epitaph is there to see,
Beneath this stone I'm forced to lie
The victim of a blue-tail fly.

Ae Fond Kiss

Ae fond kiss and then we sever
Ae farewell alas forever
Deep in heart-wrung tears I'll pledge thee
Warring sighs and moans I'll wage thee

Who shall say that fortune grieves him
While the star of hope she leaves him
Me nae cheerful twinkle lights me
Dark despair around benights me

I'll no' blame my partial fancy
Naething could deceive ma Nancy
For tae see her was tae love her
Love but her and love for ever

Had we ever loved sae kindly
Had we ever loved sae blindly
Never met or never parted
We would ne'er been broken hearted

Fare thee well by first and fairest
Fare thee well my best and dearest
Thine be ilka joy and treasure
Peace, enjoyment, love and pleasure

Come all ye fair and tender girls

1. Come all ye fair and tender girls
Who flourish in your prime, prime
Beware, beware keep your gardens fair
Let no man steal your thyme, thyme
Let no man steal your thyme
2. And when your thyme is past and gone
He'll care no more for you, you
And every place where your thyme was waste
Will all spread all way through, through
Will all spread all way through
3. A gardener's son was passing by
Three flowers he gave to me, me
The pink the blue and the violet true
And the red, red rosy tree, tree
And the red, red rosy tree, tree
4. But I refused the red rose bush
And gained the willow tree, tree
So all the world could plainly see
How my love slighted me, me
How my love slighted me

Cindy

You ought to see my Cindy,
She lives way down south;
She's so sweet the honey bees
Swarm around her mouth.

Chorus:

Get along home, Cindy, Cindy, (3x)
I'll marry you some day.

The first I seen my Cindy
She was standing in the door,
Her shoes and stockings in her hand,
Her feet all over the floor.

She took me to her parlor,
She cooled me with her fan;
She said I was the prettiest thing
In the shape of mortal man.

She kissed me and she hugged me,
She called me sugar plum;
She threw her arms around me,
I thought my time had come.

Oh, Cindy is a pretty girl,
Cindy is a peach.
She threw her arms around my neck,
And hung on like a leech,

And if I was a sugar tree
Standing in the town,
Every time my Cindy passed
I'd shake some sugar down.

And if I had a thread and needle
Fine as I could sew,
I'd sew that gal to my coat tails
And down the road I'd go.

I wish I was an apple
A-hanging on a tree,
Every time that Cindy passed,
She'd take a bite of me.

Crazy Man Michael

Within the forest and out upon the sea,
Crazy Man Michael was walking.
He met with a raven with eyes black as coals,
And presently they were a-talking
``Your future, your future, I will tell to you.
Your future, you often have asked me.
Your true love will die by your own right hand.
And Crazy Man Michael will cursed be."''

Michael he ranted and Michael he raved,
And beat at the four winds with his fists-o.
He laughed and he cried, he shouted and he swore,
For his mad mind had trapped him with a kiss-o.
``You speak with an evil, you speak with a hate,
You speak for the devil that haunts me
For is she not the fairest in all these broad lands,
Your sorcerer's words are to taunt me."''

He took out his dagger of fire and of steel,
And struck down the raven through the heart-o.
The bird fluttered long and the sky it did spin,
And the cold earth did wonder and start-o.
``Oh, where is the raven that I struck down dead,
That here did lie on the ground-o?
I see but my true love with a wound so red,
Where her lover's heart it did pound-o."''

Crazy Man Michael, he wanders alone,
And he talks to the night and the day-o.
But his eyes they are sane and his voice it is clear
And he longs to be far away-o.
Michael he whistles the simplest of tunes,
And begs of the wild wolves their pardon.
For his love is flown and to every flower grown,
And Michael must be keeper of the garden.



Bonny Ship Diamond

1. The Diamond is a ship my lads to the Greenland straits is bound
The quay it is all garnished with bonnie lassies round
Captain Thompson gives the orders to sail the ocean wide
Where there's suns that never set my lads and darkness fills the skies

Chorus:

So let's cheer up me lads, Let your heart never fail
For the bonny ship the Diamond goes fishin' for the whale

2. Along the quay at Peterhead the lassies stand around
Their shawls all pulled about them and the salt tears running down
Oh don't ye fret my bonny lass though you be left behind
The green will grow on Greenlands Isle before we change our minds
3. Here's a health to the resolution boys right by here lies the swan
A health to the battler Romantoes and the Diamond ship of fame
With trousers of the white my lads and jackets of the blue
When we return to Peterhead we'll have sweet hearts anew

Charlie

Chorus:

Charlie he's a fine young man,
Charlie he's a dandy
Loves to hug and kiss the girls
And feed 'em on sweet candy

1. Step her to your weevily wheat
Step her to your barley
Step her to your weevily wheat
And beg a cake for Charlie

2. My pretty little pink who would think
That you and I would marry
Now I've lost all hope of you
And I've no time to tarry

3. My pretty little pink who would think
I care but little about you
Let you know before I go
I cannot do without you

Leaving of Liverpool

Farewell to Prince's Landing Stage
River Mersey fare thee well
I'm bound for California
And I know I'll return some day

Chorus: So fare thee well my own true love
And when I return united we will be
It's not the leaving of Liverpool that grieves me
But my darling when I think of thee

I've shipped on a Yankee sailing ship
Davey Crockett is her name
And Burgess is the captain of her
And they say she's a floating shell

I've sailed with Burgess twice before
And I think he knows him right well
If a man is a seaman then he'll be alright
But if he's not then he's sure in hell

The lights are on the harbour love
And I wish I could remain
But I know it will be some long, long time
Before I see you again.

0, my love is like a red, red rose

0, my love is like a red, red rose,
that's newly sprung in June.
0, my love is like a melody,
that's sweetly play'd in tune.

As fair thou art, my bonnie lass,
so deep in love am I,
And I will love thee still, my dear,
till a' the seas gang dry.

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
and the rocks melt wi' the sun!
And I will love thee still, my dear,
while the sands of life shall run.

And fare the weel, my only love!
And fare the well awhile!
And I will come again, my love.
Tho' it were ten thousand mile!

Whip Jamboree

1. And now Cape Fail it is in sight
We'll be on Holyhead by tomorrow night
With Liverpool and the Rock Current light
Oh Jenny get your old capes done

Chorus:

Whip Jamboree, Whip Jamboree
With your pig tailed sails oh hangin' down behind
Whip Jamboree, Whip Jamboree
Oh Jenny get your old capes done

2. And now my boys were at Holyhead
No more salt beef or green laid bread
We're manning the chains for to heave the lead
Oh Jenny get your old capes done

3. And now my boys we're at Fort Perch Rock
Our hammocks lashed and our chests all locked
We'll heave her into Waterloo Dock
Oh Jenny get your old capes done

4. And now my boys we're all in dock
We'll be up to Dan Mommery's on the spot
And there we'll drink a full pint pot
Oh Jenny get your old capes done

Chilly Winds

Chorus:

I'm going where those chilly winds don't blow, darlin' baby
I'm going where those chilly winds don't blow
I'm goin' to my long lonesome home

1. Way down in jail on my knees, darlin' baby
Way down in jail on my knees
Where they feed me on corn bread and beans

2. Make me a pallet on you floor, darlin' baby
Make me a pallet on you floor
For I'm goin' to my long lonesome home

Mary Had A Baby

Mary had a baby Yes Lord
Mary had a baby Yes my Lord
Mary had a baby Yes Lord
The people keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

What did she name Him Yes Lord
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

She named Him Jesus Yes Lord
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

Where was He born Yes Lord
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

Born in a stable Yes Lord
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

And where did she lay Him Yes Lord
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

She laid Him in a manger Yes Lord
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone

Over the Hills and Far Away

Hark now the drums beat up again
For all true soldier gentlemen
So let us list and march I say
And go over the hills and far away

Chorus:

Over the hills, and o'er the main
To Flanders, Portugal and Spain
King George commands and we obey
And go over the hills and far away

Come gentlemen that have a mind
To serve a queen that's good and kind
Come list and enter in to pay
And go over the hills and far away

Here's forty shillings on the drum
For those that volunteer to come
With shirts and clothes and present pay
When over the hills and far away

Hear that brave boys, and let us go
Or else we shall be prest you know
Then list and enter in to pay
And go over the hills and far away

The constables they search about
To find such brisk young fellows out
Then let's be volunteers I say
Over the hills and far away

Since now the French so low are brought
And wealth and honour's to be got
Who then behind would sneaking stay?
When over the hills and far away

No more from sound of drum retreat
When Marlborough and Galway beat
The French and Spaniards every day
Over the hills and far away

He that is forced to go and fight
Will never get true honour by't
Whilst volunteers shall win the day
When over the hills and far away

What tho' our friends our absence mourn
We all with honours shall return
And then we'll sing both night and day
Over the hills and far away

Prentice Tom may well refuse
To wipe his angry master's shoes
For now he's free to sing and play
Over the hills and far away

Over rivers, bogs and springs
We all shall live as great as kings
And plunder get both night and day
Over the hills and far away

And we shall live more happy lives
Free of squalling brats and wives
Who nag and vex us every day
So it's over the hills and far away

Come on then Boys and you shall see
We every one shall Captains be
To Whore and rant as well as they
When o'er the Hills and far away

For if we go 'tis one to Ten
But we return all Gentlemen
All Gentlemen as well as they
When o'er the Hills and far away

Annotations:

¹ Noel St John Williams 'Redcoats & Courtesans'

² John Childs 'Army of Charles II'

³ It is said that this is the reason that glass bottoms became popular in tankards was to overcome this practice

⁴ From a popular soldier's song of the War of the Spanish Succession

⁵ Beer mixed with water.

Tommy's Gone to Hilo

Tommy's gone, what shall I do?

Hey-yay to Hilo!

Tom is gone, and I'll go to,

Tommy's gone to Hilo.

Oh, way round to Callao

Hey-yay to Hilo!

The Spanish gels he'll see, I know,

Tommy's gone to Hilo.

Oh, I love Tom and he loves me,

Hey-yay to Hilo!

He thinks of me, when out at sea,

Tommy's gone to Hilo.

Oh, Tommy's gone for evermore,

Hey-yay to Hilo!

I'll never see my Tom no more,

Tommy's gone to Hilo

Cumberland Gap

I've got a gal, Cumberland Gap

An' I've got a kid that calls me pap

Refrain: Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap

Oh-ho hold on down Cumberland Gap

Cumberland gap's a loaded place

Three pints of water wash your face

Refrain: Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap

Oh-ho hold on down Cumberland Gap

Way down boys take a little nap

Fourteen miles off the Cumberland Gap

Refrain: Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap

Oh-ho hold on down Cumberland Gap

Goin' down town and you don't care

Leave me a jug a sittin' right there

If it ain't there when I get back

I'll raise hell with the Cumberland Gap

Refrain: Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap

Oh-ho hold on down Cumberland Gap

I've got a gal, Cumberland Gap

An' I've got a kid that calls me pap

Refrain: Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap

Oh-ho hold on down Cumberland Gap