

Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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We'll Go to Sea No More

We'll Go to Sea No More

Oh! blythly shines the bonnie sun
Upon the Isle of May,
And blythly comes the morning tide
Into St. Andrews bay;
Then up, gudeman--the breeze is fair;
And up my braw bairns three,--
There's goud in yonder bonnie boat
That sails so well the sea!

When haddocks leave the Firth of Forth,
And mussels leave the shore;

When oysters climb up Berwick Law,
We'll go to sea no more,
No more,
We'll go to sea no more.

A truncated version of this stanza as "Fisherman's Song", from Fife, in SC (1946), 144 (no. 258) (differs: 3 rolls 5-8 omitted). It is the first of 4 stanzas by the Misses Corbett, from their Odd Volume, Second Series (1827); also in Whitelaw, BSS (1844), 1875, 419. Grace Corbett (c. 1765-1843), when eleven years old, composed the melody to a new version of "The Siller Crown", printed in Johnson's Scots Musical Museum VI (1803), 605 (no. 585) ["O Mary, ye's be clad in silk", copied from Urbani's collection]; and along with a sister produced several works of fiction, tales, legends, etc.
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