

North Country Folk Tunes V

"Sair fyel'd hinny"

arranged W.G. Whittaker Note by Whittaker in original publication:

The picture is a pathetic one of an old man addressing a tree which he has known since youth, and comparing the condition of his active manhood with that od his decrepit old age. Noe he is "sair fyel'd" (sorely failed); when he was young he could leap a dyke, now he can scarcely step over a "syke" (an old Anglo-Saxon word for a tiny streamlet).

Sair fyel'd hinny, Sair fyel'd noo, Sair fyel'd hinny, Sin' aa ken'd thoo.

Aa was young and lusty, Aa was fair and clear, Aa was young and lusty Mony a lang year.

When aa was young and lusty, Aa could loup a dyke, But noo aa'm aad and stiff, Aa can hardly step a syke.

When aa was five and twenty Aa was brave and baald, Noo at five and sixty Aa'm byeth stiff and caald.

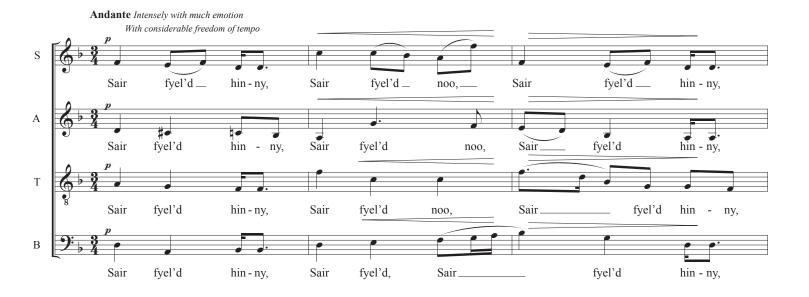
Thus said the aad man To the Oak tree. Sair fyel'd is aa Sin' aa ken'd thee.

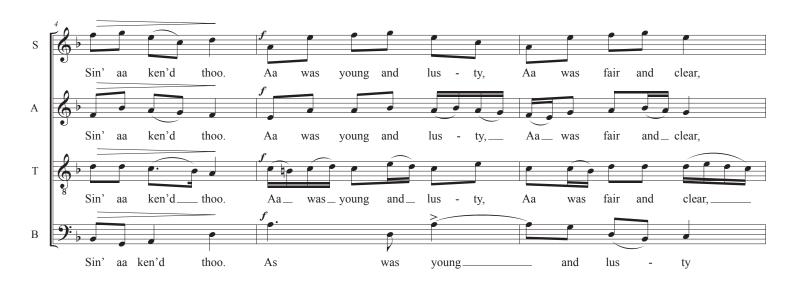
GLOSSARY

Sair= sorely, greatly
Fyel'd= failed, weakened, decayed (vowel as in "byeth", see below)
Hinny= term of endearment (like "honey") It is used even when addressing strangers. y= ee.
Noo= now
Thoo= thou
Sin'= since
Aa- I (The vowel to be pronounced as in "at.")
Lang= long (The vowel to be pronounced as in "at.")
Aad= old (The vowel to be pronounced as in "at.")
Baald= bold (The vowel to be pronounced as in "at.")
Caald= cold (The vowel to be pronounced as in "at.")
Ken'd= knew
Loup= leap (vowel as in "how")
Syke= a tiny streamlet (Rhyme with "dyke")
Byeth= both (vowel as in "yet")

"Sair fyel'd hinny"

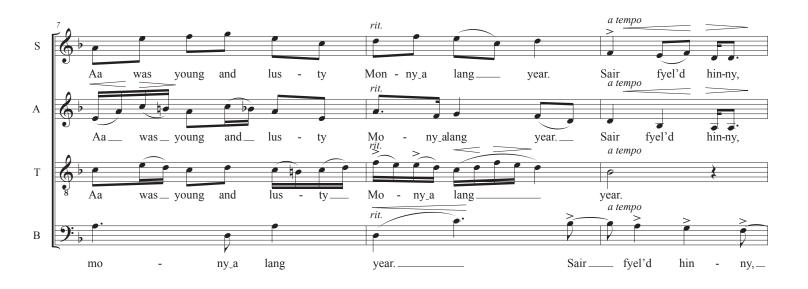
arr. W. G. Whittaker

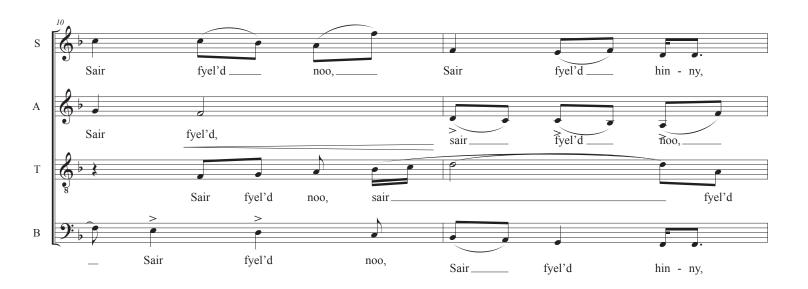


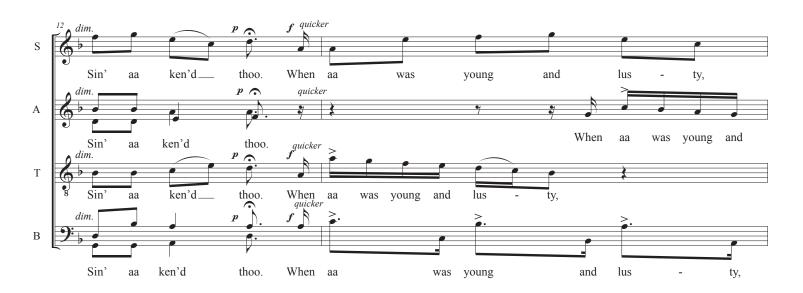


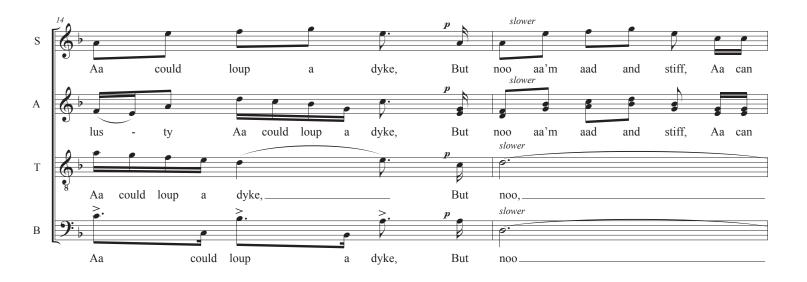


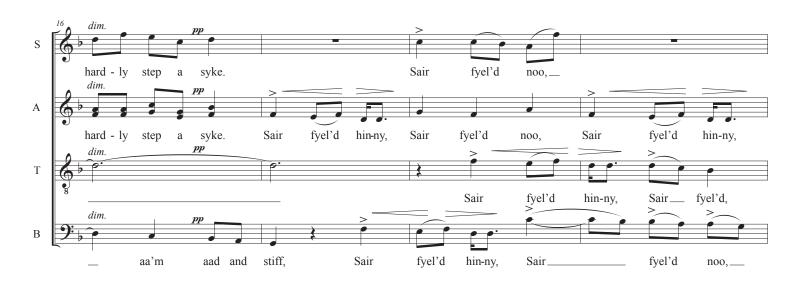
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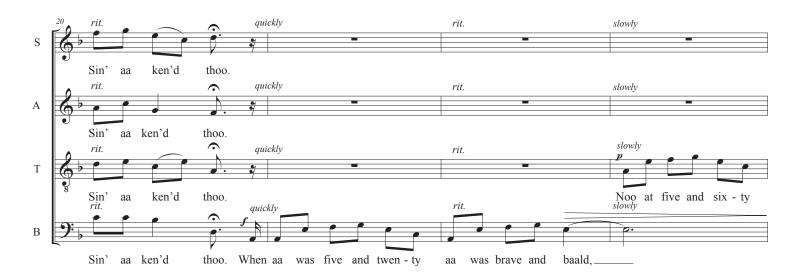


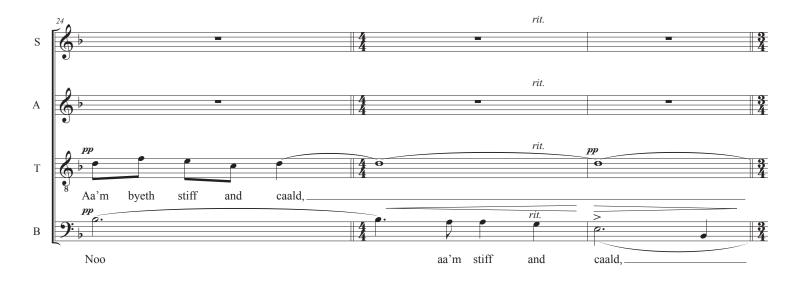


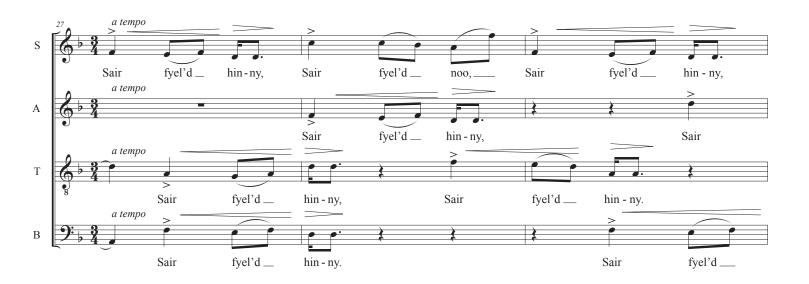


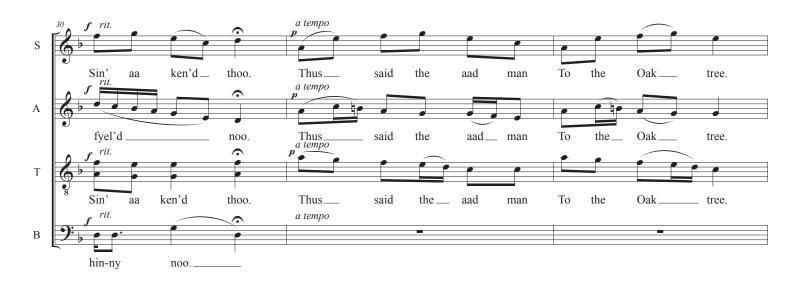


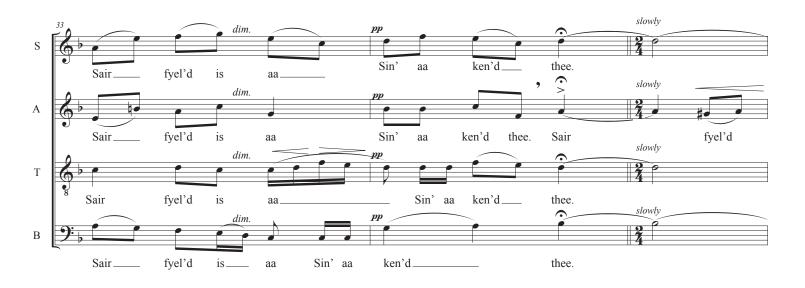


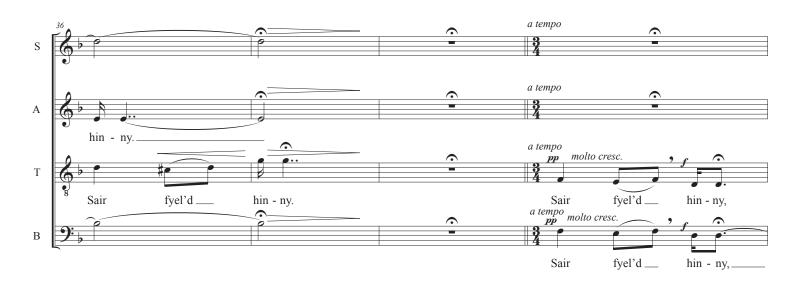


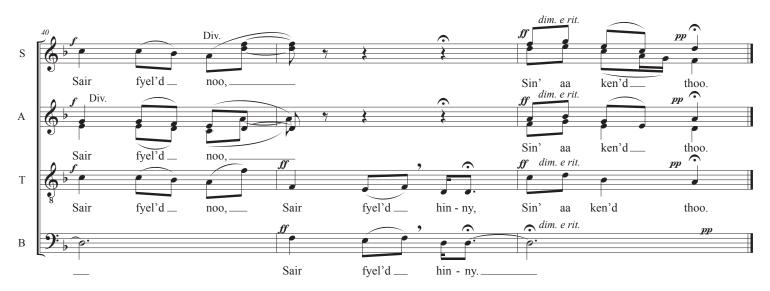












Stainer & Bell (1914)

William Gillies Whittaker (1876-1944) was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, England. He studied science at Armstrong College, University of Durham, and received training in organ and singing. He became a member of its faculty in 1898. Whittaker was Professor of Music at the University of Glasgow (1929-1938) and principal of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music in Glasgow (1929-1941). He was active as a choral conductor earning an excellent reputation as director of choirs at Armstrong College, the Newcastle and Gateshead Choral Union and the Newcastle Bach Choir. Whittaker was well known as a scholar of Bach and conductor Bach's works. He was editor of the series of Bach's cantatas with English texts by C. Sanford Terry, published by Oxford University Press. He also edited various instrumental works of the 17th and 18th centuries. He composed a number of larger choral works, piano pieces, songs, and choral arrangements. He is particularly known for his collections North Countrie Folk Songs and North Countrie Ballads, Songs & Pipe-tunes, along with his many choral arrangements of some of the songs.

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