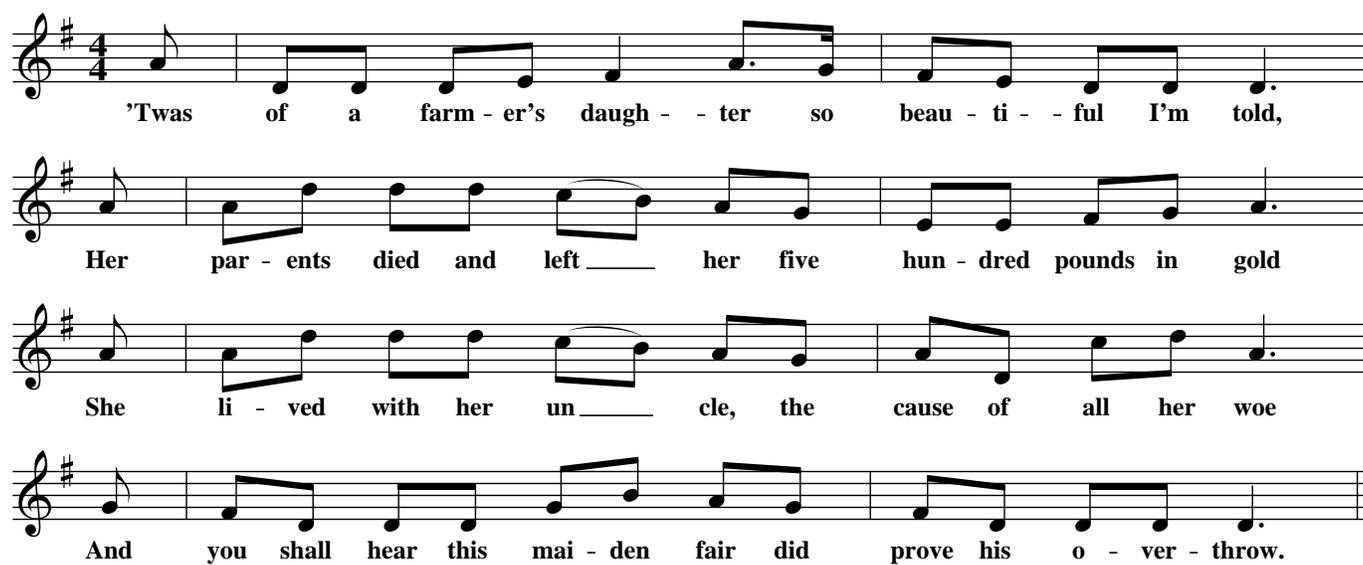


The Banks of the Sweet Dundee



'Twas of a farm - er's daugh - - ter so beau - ti - - ful I'm told,
Her par - ents died and left _____ her five hun - dred pounds in gold
She li - ved with her un _____ cle, the cause of all her woe
And you shall hear this mai - den fair did prove his o - ver - throw.

2. Her uncle had a ploughboy, and Mary loved full well
And in her uncle's garden the tales of love would tell
There was a wealthy squire who oft came her to see
But still she loved her ploughboy on the banks of the sweet Dundee.
3. It was one summer's morning that her uncle went straightway
And knock-ed at her bedroom door and thus to her did say:
'Come rise up, pretty maiden, for a lady you may be
For the squire is waiting for you on the banks of the sweet Dundee'
4. 'A fig for all your squires, your lords and dukes likewise
Young William's hand appears to me like diamonds in my eyes'
'Begone, unruly female, for you ne'er shall happy be
For I mean to banish William from the banks of the sweet Dundee'
5. Her uncle and the squire rode out one summer's day
'Young William is in favour' her uncle he did say
'Indeed 'tis my intention to tie him to a tree
Or else to bribe the pressgang on the banks of the sweet Dundee.'
6. The pressgang came to William when he was all alone
He boldly fought for liberty but there was three to one
The blood did flow in torrents 'Come kill me now' said he
'For I would rather die for Mary on the banks of the sweet Dundee'
7. Her uncle overheard the noise and hastened to the grove
'Since you have killed the squire, I will give you your death-wound'
'Stand back then' said young Mary 'for undaunted I will be'
And the trigger she drew and her uncle slew on the Banks of the sweet Dundee.

Source: William Ballinger, aged 80, Gloucester, 1957, collected by Brian Ballinger