

Caffmery (Macaffery)

Sung very freely

8 1. When I was scarce-lye eigh-teen years of age aw-ay to the ar - my I did en-gage,
8 To join the force was my in - tent, to serve seven yea - rs in my reg - i - ment.

2. 'Til I was put up on guard one night, three mothers' children they come playing by.
My officer he told me to take their names, and I took one's name in the stead of three.

sung to second half of tune
3. My officer took a dislike to me, from trials and troubles I was never free.
4. With a loaded rifle I then repair, to meet my captain on the barrack square,
With a loaded rifle I made a deadly aim, I shot my Colonel, was against my will.
5. I done the deed and I shed his blood, at Liverpool 'sizes [assizes] there my trial I stood.
My own first cousin he led me by trade [betrayed], and for one bare guinea, he swore my life away.
6. I had no father to take my part, netter [neither] mother for to break her heart,
I had a friend and a girl was she, she'd lay her life down for young Caffmery.

Source: Sung by Danny Brazil, Staverton. Collected by Gwilym Davies March 1978.