

## Who Knocks There?

Cecil Sharp wrote, "This was often done at harvest homes. One man knocked at the door with his stick, whereupon this dialogue took place. The last four lines were sung to a major version of "The Miller of Dee." Then they all said 'Boom' (to represent a bell), then took a deep pull at their glasses. This repeated three times."

Who knocks there?  
Poor Peg  
What's poor Peg want?  
A shroud to wrap poor Tom in.  
What's poor Tom dead?  
Yes.  
When did 'er die?  
Yesterday in the morning gray  
Parted poor Tom and I.  
I heard a bird singing in the wood  
Poor Tom was like to die.  
Now what shall us do  
For poor Tom's sake  
For he was a right honest man

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the lyrics: "We'll take this cup and drink him up and so shall every one." The second staff contains the melody for the lyrics: "Ring a right and do no wrong. Poor Tom is dead and gone." Both staves use a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

We'll take this cup and drink him up and so shall every one.

Ring a right and do no wrong. Poor Tom is dead and gone.

Boom (drink). Boom (drink). Boom (drink)

Source: William Shepherd, Winchcombe. Collected by Cecil Sharp on 8 April 1909.