

Claudy Banks (Cloddy Banks)

1. 'Twas on one sum - mer's eve _____ ning all in the _____ month of
May, Down _ by a flow - er - y gard - den, so care - less _ ly I
strayed I _____ ov - er - heard a dam _____ sel in sor - row to _____ com
plain All for her ab - sent lov - i - - er who'd gone to plough the main

2. I boldly stepped up to her which put she in surprise
She really did not know me, I being in disguise.
I said 'My charming creature, my joy and heart's delight
How far have you to wander this dark and dreary night?'
3. 'It's all the way to Cloddy Banks, if you will please to show
Pity a poor maid distracted, not knowing where to go
I am in search of my true love and Johnny is his name
All on the banks of Cloddy I am told he do remain.'
4. 'Oh, it's six long weeks or better since your Johnny's left this shore
He's crossing the wide ocean where thundering billows roar
He's crossing the wide ocean for honour and for gain
Till I were told the ship got wrecked all on the coast of Spain.'
5. On hearing this dreadful news, it put she in despair
Wringing her hands and crying and tearing of her hair
'Now Johnny's gone and left me, no other will I take
Once more to woods and valleys I'll wander for his sake.'
6. On hearing of this pretty maid, he could no longer stand
For he fell into her arms crying 'Betsy I'm the man,
I am your false young man which you thought was slain
But since we met on Cloddy Banks, we'll never part again.'

Source: Sung by George "Daddy" Lane, Winchcombe. Collected by Percy Grainger on 8 April 1908.