

## The Golden Vanity

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) marked with a '3' above them. The lyrics are: 'There was a ship in the north coun - ter - y She sail - ed by the name of the Gold - en Van - i - ty She was so a - fraid that she would be des - troyed as she sail - ed in the low - - lands low.'

Then up there came a little cabin boy,  
And he said to the skipper, 'What will you give me,  
If I swim alongside of the Turkish enemy,  
And sink her in the Lowland, Lowland,  
And sink her in the Lowland sea?

'Oh I will give you silver, O I will give you gold,  
And my only daughter your bride to be,  
If you'll swim alongside of the Turkish enemy,  
And sink her in the Lowland, Lowland,  
And sink her in the Lowland sea.'

Then the boy made him ready and overboard sprang he,  
And he swam alongside of the Turkish enemy,  
And with his auger sharp in her side he bored holes three,  
And he sank her in the Lowland, Lowlands,  
And he sank her in the Lowland, sea.

Then the boy turned round and back again swam he,  
And he cried to the skipper of the Golden Vanity,  
But the skipper did not heed, for his promise he would need,  
And he left him in the Lowland, Lowlands,  
And he left him in the Lowlands sea.

Then the boy swam around and came to the port side,  
And he looked up at his messmates and bitterly he cried,  
'O messmates, take me up, for I'm drifting with the tide,  
And I'm sinking in the Lowland, Lowlands,  
And I'm sinking in the Lowlands sea.'

Then his messmates took him up, but on the deck he died,  
And they sewed him in his hammock that was so large and wide,  
And they lowered him overboard, but he drifted with the tide,  
And he sank beneath the Lowlands, Lowlands,  
And he sank beneath the Lowlands sea.

Source: William Hedges (76), Chipping Campden. Collected by Cecil Sharp, 14 August 1909.

Notes: Sharp only noted the first verse from Mr Hedges. Remainder from David Sawyer of Ogbourne St Andrew, Wiltshire.

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