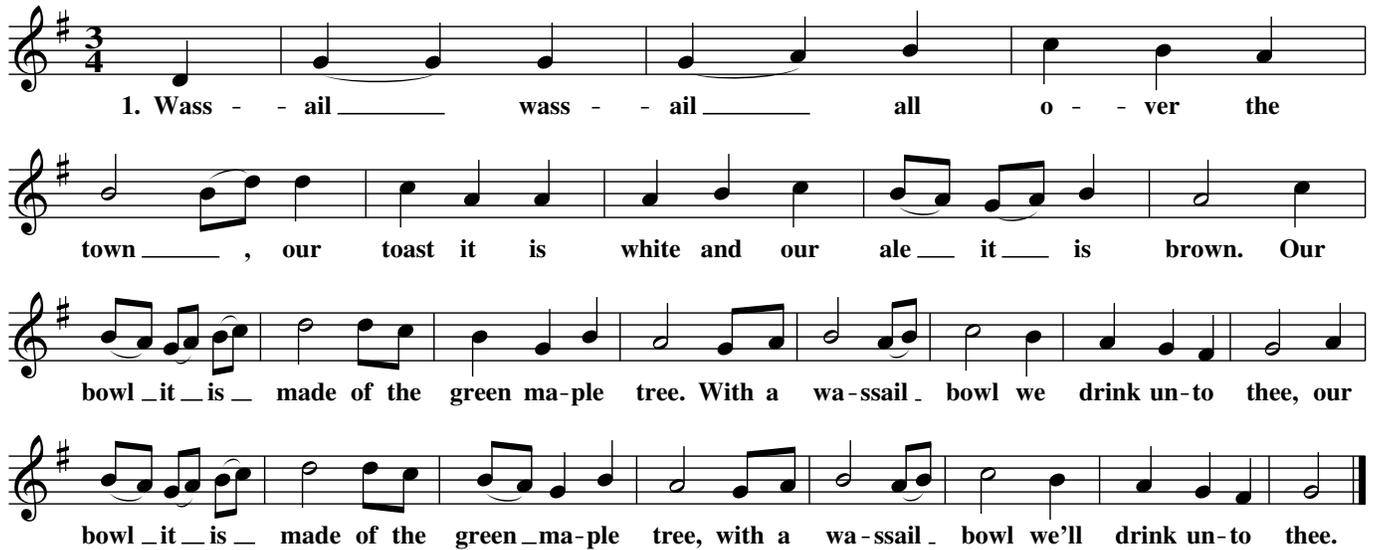


Gloucestershire Wassail (Coll. Vaughan Williams)



1. Wass - - ail _____ wass - - ail _____ all o - - ver the
town _____, our toast it is white and our ale ___ it ___ is brown. Our
bowl _it_ is _ made of the green ma-ple tree. With a wa-ssail _ bowl we drink un-to thee, our
bowl _it_ is _ made of the green _ma-ple tree, with a wa-ssail _ bowl we'll drink un-to thee.

2. Here's to the ox and to his right eye,
Pray God send our master a good Christmas pie,
A good Christmas pie, now we may all see
With a wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.
(repeat 2 lines)

3. Now here's to the ox and to his long tail
Pray God send our master a good cask of ale
A good cask of ale that we may all see
With a wassailing bowl we'll drink unto thee.
(repeat 2 lines)

4. Then here's to the maid in the lily white smock,
Who tripped to the door and slipped back the lock,
Who tripped to the door and pulled back the pin,
All for to let us jolly wassailers in.
(repeat 2 lines)

5. Come butler come fill us a bowl of the best
And pray that your soul in heaven may rest,
But if you should fill us a bowl of the small,
To the Devil butler, bowl and all.
(repeat 2 lines)

Source: Collected by Ralph Vaughan-Williams at the Swan Inn at Pembridge, Herefords (no date).

Notes: This wassail from an unknown singer in Herefordshire is included in this Gloucestershire songs project as it is the Gloucestershire wassail tune which Vaughan Williams published in 1913 as one of "Five English Folk Songs".