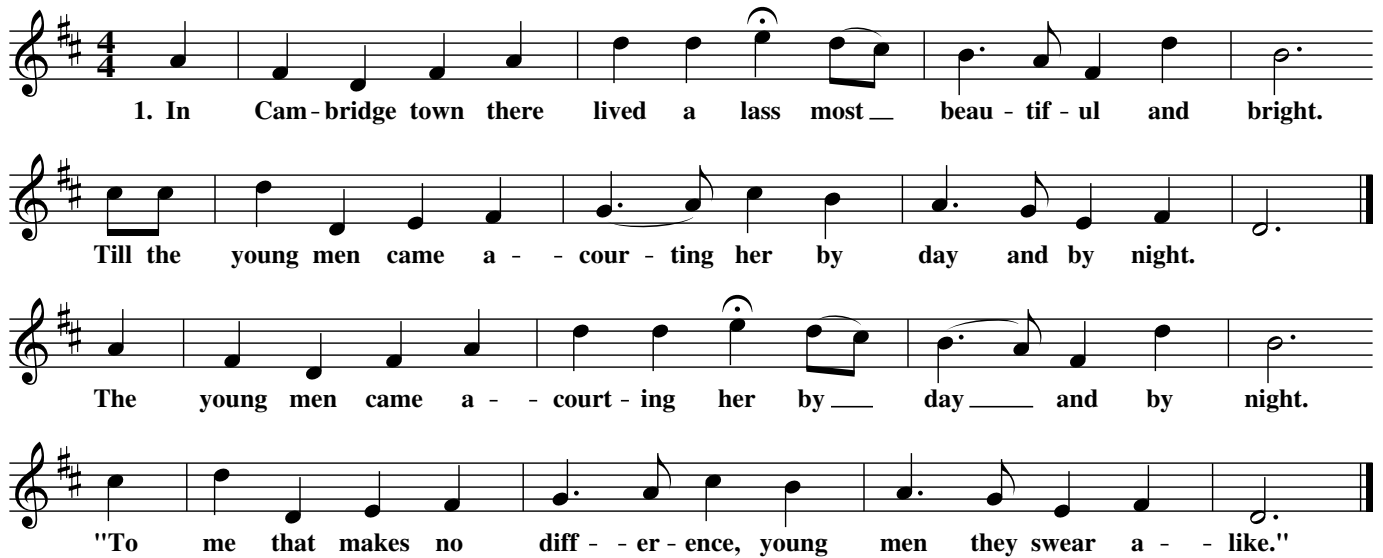


Floating Down the Tide



1. In Cam-bridge town there lived a lass most beau - tif - ul and bright.
Till the young men came a - - cour - ting her by day and by night.
The young men came a - - court - ing her by day and by night.
"To me that makes no diff - - er - ence, young men they swear a - - like."

2. "It's six long months and better, I've been in child by thee
Go quick and show me ratified, young man, will you marry me?"
"Oh no, oh no, dear Mary, that's more than I can do.
The words that you have spoken will cause you for to rue."

"Go home to your parents and do the best you can
Tell them your lover's left you, and proved a false young man."
She would not go and tell her parents, the family all to disgrace
She would rather go down and drown herself all in some lonesome place.

One day as Johnny was walking down by the water side,
He saw his maid come floating come floating down the tide.
In pulling off his fine clothes as after her he swam
Caught hold of his lovely Mary all by her lily-white hand.

When he found his lovely Mary and she was dead and gone
"May the Lord have mercy on my soul, for I proved a false young man
Let none of my friends or relatives come here tomorrow for me,
All this long night on this cold bank, I'll lie with my Mary."

Source: William Bayliss (63) at Buckland. Collected by Cecil Sharp 7th April 1909.

Notes: Sharp only noted the tune and a few lines. The remainder has been completed from a Sussex version.
This song was misidentified by Sharp as "Binorie"