

## Peter Patter Ower the Watter

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1.

Peter Patter ower the watter,  
In an egg-shell.

The egg-shell brook,  
And Peter got a dook,

And a the men o Scotland  
Cudna hale im oot.

2.

Peter patter, owre the watter,  
Barnfare, dinna yatter;  
Puddin' wives in Paisley,  
Gentlemen in Glesca.  
Glesca and Partick Mills,  
Carneaverock and Carneaverock hills;  
The smiddy and the smiddy hills,  
The cankert buddy o' Clover hills;  
King kid, king kell,  
Auchendruach in the fell,  
The Goolie and the Gawkie.

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(1) SC (1948), 172 (no. 323), from the North-East.  
MacLennan SNR (1909), 16, has "In the watter", and 5-6  
"An' cried to his Mammy, to come an' help him oot."  
Rodger Lang Strang (1948), 15 [ower; rest as MacLennan].  
[Cf. the phrase "Pitter patter, Haly watter" in  
Chambers, from an old Catholic charm: 1847, 223; 1870,  
73; the tale of "Whuppity Stoorie".]  
(2) Rymour Club Misc. II (1912-19), 95, from Greenock,  
learned in the 1850s from a Houston lady.

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