

Hielant Donalie

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1.

The broon coo's broken the fa'
An' aiten a' the corn;
I winna bide or Saiterday,
For I'll awa' the morn,
An' follo' Hielan' Donal,
An' carry's pooder-horn.

It's ow'r Urie, ow'r Gadie,
Ow'r Bogie wi' him,
Up the braes o' Garrochie,
An' on to Sheelagreen.
An' I winna bide or Saiterday,
For I'll awa' the morn,
An' follo' Hielan' Donal,
An' carry's pooder-horn.

2.

The broon coo's broken the fauld,
An' aiten a' the corn;
I winna bide ere Saiterday,
But I'll awa' the morn,
An' follow Hielan' Donal',
An' cairry's pooder horn.

3.

The blue coo's luppin' the dyke
And in amon' the corn,
And oor gudeman's hitten me
And I'm awa' the morn,
To follow Hielant Donalie
And carry his pouter horn.

(1) SNQ III.s (Apr. 1890), 173: "an Aberdeenshire ballad . . . which, fifty odd years ago [i.e., c. 1840, or before], I often heard old Saunders Smith chant, in the old House of Hilton. I have never seen the ballad in print, and all that I remember of the old man's song is [the above]." The correspondent speculates about its origin--back to the time of Donald of the Isles? Sheelagreen: "Is it the farm of that name, near to the

Glens of Fodland, and Pitmachie?" -- i.e. all the places point to Harlaw. There is some connection with the old song of "O'er Bogie", of which but fragments remain; it was touched up by Ramsay (1720), and Stenhouse (Illus., 162) gives

I will awa wi' my love,

I will awa wi' her;

Tho' a my kin had sworn and said,

I'll o'er Bogie wi' her.

I'll o'er Bogie, o'er Scrogie,

O'er Bogie wi' her;

In spite o' a' my kin has said,

I will awa wi' her.

To the air SMM also prints (II.176) another song by Ramsay, "Well, I agree, ye're sure of me". The tune appears first in Orpheus Caledonius, 1725 (1733, I.104); Stewart's Musick, 1725; and after in places like Mitchell's Highland Fair (1731), 3 (no. I).
(2) Greig FSNE cxiii.3, from New Deer.
(3) Rymour Club Misc. I (1906-11), 188, from Angus, 1860 [whence Montgomerie SC (1948), 47 (no. 43); Cheape & Sprott (1980), 56].

The cow's high jinks appear also in a rhyme from Mintlaw, Aberdeenshire (Rymour Club Misc. II [1912-19], 53):
"What will my grannie say When she comes hame the morn?/
The broon coo's broken oot, And aeten a' the corn!"

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