

Manx Notes 182 (2014)

“SALLY’S LOVE FOR A YOUNG HUSBAND”

A SONG FROM THE SOPHIA MORRISON COLLECTION *

This song, untitled, though widely known as “Sally’s Love for a Young Husband” (Roud 2897), was found amongst Sophia Morrison’s personal papers in the MNHL. It is not in her hand and does not match any handwriting known from her circle of helpers and collectors. The transcript has an annotation made by Morrison: “Sung at Mheillea’s [*sic*] 80 years ago”.

STEPHEN MILLER
VIENNA, 2014

*

“SALLY’S LOVE FOR A YOUNG HUSBAND”

1. 1 It was my cruel parents which first didst me trepan
The married me to a old man for the sake of money & land
If the had married me to a young man without a penny at all
He would take me in his arms and roll me from the wall

2. 5 I have often heard of a old man but now I am pinned at last
I wish another had him before the knott was fast
So that I could get a young man without a penny at all
He would take me in his arms and roll me from the wall

3. 9 Oh hold thy tongue now Sallie till I will go to town
I will buy thee a beaver bonet likewise a muslin gown
Their is not a lady in the land to thee will I compare
Like wise Ill buy the a lap dog to follow thy gaunting car

4. 13 The De [*ie*, Devil] take thee and the lap dog thy gaunting car likewise
I would rather marry a young man with black and swinkling eyes
I would rather marry a young man without a penny at all
He would take me in his arms and roll me from the wall

* Originally published as Stephen Miller, “Sally’s Love for a Young Husband’: A Song from the Sophia Morrison Collection,” *Kiaull Manninagh Jiu* December (2013), [15]. Reproduced with sources.

5. 17 When I go to town or market my fate I think upon
 My heart is always sorrowing when I see my poor old man
 My heart is always sorrowing the reason Ill tell you why
 For his eyes is always running and his nose is never dry
6. 21 Some of my neighbours give me advise to grind him on a mill
 Some others give me advise to drown him in a well
 But I will take my own advise I will tie him to a stick
 Let him be a witch or a fairy the De [*ie*, Devil] run away with him quick

Source: MNHL, MS 09495, Sophia Morrison Papers, Box 6.

