

Johnny Sangster

Compare lyrics: <http://ingeb.org/songs/oathesea.html>

Omitted verse "A wee bit cooey in the byre"

According to Gavin Greig, this fine song was the work of William Scott who was born in Fetterangus in Old Deer, Aberdeenshire, in 1785.

1+5. O' aw the seasons o' the year
When we maun work the sairest,
The harvest is the only time,
An' yet it is the rarest.
We rise unseen at yokin' time,
Nae buddies could be blyther;
We buckle on oor finger-steels,
And follow oot the scyther.

*For you, Johnnie, you Johnnie,
You, Johnnie Sangster,
I'll trim the gavel o' my sheaf,
For ye're the gallant bandster.*

2. A mornin' piece tae line oor cheeks,
Afore that we gae further,
Wi' clouds o' blue tobacco reek
We aw set oot in order.
The sheaves are risin' thick and fast,
And Johnnie he maun bind them;
The canny group, for fear they slip,
Can scarcely look behind them. ...

3. Ah'll gie ye bands that winna slip,
Ah'll pleat them weel and thraw them;
Ah swear they winna tyne the grip,
Nae maitter weel ye draw them.
Ah'll lay ma leg oot owre the sheaf,
An' pu' the band sae handy,
Wi' ilka strae's as straucht's a rash,
And that'll be the dandy. ...

4. An' if it e'er should be ma lot
That ah should get a bandster,
Ah'll gar him wear a yella coat,
An' hae the name o' Sangster.
But Johnnie, he can please himsel',
Ah widnae see him blinkit;
As soon as he has brewed his ale,
He can sit doon and drink it. ...

Instrumental

The image shows the musical notation for the instrumental part of the song. It is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a time signature of 12/8. The notation is arranged in three systems, each with two staves. The first system has two measures. The second system has two measures. The third system has two measures, with a '3' above the first measure indicating a triplet. The notation includes various note values, rests, and accidentals.

Start: fanfare (violin) c# - a

After fanfare - (vio) riff 1 bars 1-4

After chorus 1 - (vio) riff 1 bars 1-4

After chorus 2 + 3 - (vio) riff 1 bars 1-2 + riff 2 bars 3-4

After chorus 4 - (vio) riff 2 bars 1-4 + instrumental melody + mando/gui riffs 1.1+1.2

After chorus 1/5 - (vio) riff 2 bars 3-4