

Goyn Up Camburn Ill

Collected from Skinner's Bottom Glee Singers in 1956 by Peter Kennedy.
Canow Kernow p53

Goyn up Cam - burn Ill co - men down. Goyn
up Cam - burn Ill co - men down. Tha oss - es stud
still, tha wheels a - rown,
Goyn up Cam - burn Ill co - men down.

*Goyn up Camburn Ill comen down (down, down).
Goyn up Camburn Ill comen down (down, down).
Tha osses stud still, tha wheels arown,
Goyn up Camburn Ill comen down (down, down).*

Wite stockens, wite stockens she wore (she wore).
Wite stockens, wite stockens she wore (she wore).
Wite stockens she wore, tha saem as before,
Goyn up Camburn Ill comen down.

I nod er ol faether ol man (ol man),
I nod er ol faether ol man (ol man),
I nod er ol man, ee plod in tha ban,
Goyn up Camburn Ill comen down.

We eaved oan moor coal ta maak steem.
We eaved oan moor coal ta maak steem.
We eaved in more coal, tha dirty gaet ole,
Goyn up Camburn Ill comen down.

This song refers to the ascent of Camborne Hill by Richard Trevithick's steam engine in 1801. Thus the first motor car and, later when it was put on rails, the first train made their appearance in Cornwall, some 28 years before Stephenson's Rocket! The reference to white stockings has been argued to be white flannel wrapped around the engineer's legs to prevent steam burns. Others think the white stockings were worn by Lady Bassett. But the song celebrates Cornwall's foremost engineering genius.

It is reproduced here in Dialect as now sung in Cornwall and Cornish communities overseas.

