

Appendix 2.11 Maggie May
(See contents page for links to audio files of this song)

2.11 Maggie May

Sources

Archival (Manuscript / Sound)

Sabine Baring Gould, Killerton Note Book Mss, Wren Trust, Fiche 1 page 11, song 7

Bolitho Archive, Federation Of Old Cornwall Societies Sound Archive, Courtney Library, Royal Institution of Cornwall, Truro.

Publications (Book / Album)

- Charles W. Blamphin, (Chicago, Root & Cady, 1870), Sheet MusicLibrary of Congress URL:[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=mussm&fileName=sm/sm1870/03300/03380/mussm03380.db&recNum=4&itemLink=h?ammem/mussm:@field\(NUMBER+@band\(sm1870+03380\)\)&linkText=0](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=mussm&fileName=sm/sm1870/03300/03380/mussm03380.db&recNum=4&itemLink=h?ammem/mussm:@field(NUMBER+@band(sm1870+03380))&linkText=0) Accessed 25th November 2010.
- G W More and Charles Blamphin (Erie, Penna. E.D. Ziegler, circa 1870?) Sheet MusicThe Lester Levy Collection of Sheet Music, John Hopkins University, Call No.: Box: 175 Item: 074 URL <http://levysheetmusic.mse.jhu.edu/levy-cgi/condisp.cgi?id=175.074> Accessed 25th November 2010.
- Dunstan, R. *Cornish Dialect and Folk Songs*, (London, Ascherberg, Hopwood and crew Ltd 1932) , p.43.
- Brenda Wootton, with Robert Bartlett, *Pamplemousse*, Barclay (French label), 1973. Vinyl /LP format.
- Brenda Wootton, with Robert Bartlett, *Starry Gazey Pie*, Sentinel, SENS 1031, 1975, Vinyl /LP format.
- Tommy Morrissey and Charlie Pitman, *Pass Around the Grog*, (Veteran VT 122,1990), Audiocassette format.
- John Bolitho, *Bolitho Sings*, An Daras Project, 2011 (Cornish version) CD Format.

Notes

It is interesting that Dunstan's source dates it to 1870 which is about the time it was apparently composed in America. Its introduction to Cornwall is attributed to Charlie Bate by many folk singers who use the song but in fact, he sung Dunstan's version.

Appendix 2.11 Maggie May
(See contents page for links to audio files of this song)

Sabine Baring Gould, circa 1890- 1905

Killerton Notebook, (Wren Trust Fiche 1) page 11 song 7

Attributed to R Hand of South Brent no date or music but the words are close to Blamphin's song and the structure of three, eight line, stanzas each followed by a four line chorus is the same.

Ralph Dunstan, 1930

Cornish Dialect and Folk Songs, Ascherberg, Hopwood and crew Ltd 1932

Dunstan's "conjectural restoration" is structured as four, four line, stanzas each followed by a four line chorus. The first verse follows the original reasonably closely but as Dunstan points out the remaining verses are composed by him:

This pleasing little song was communicated by Capt T Collett, of Polglaze, Perrancoombe, who heard it at St Mabyn about 1870. I rather fancy it is of American origin but have never come across any other record of it. Verses 2,3,and 4 are a conjectural restoration. [Ralph Dunstan January 24 1930].
(p43)

John Bolitho, 1979

Bolitho Sings, An Daras Project, 2011 – CD

"Maggie May was a feature of John Bolitho's repertoire, he sung a version in Cornish for the 1979 Pan Celtic Competitions in Killarney." (CD Sleeve Notes)

Tommy Morrissey and Charlie Pitman 1980 / 1990 .

Pass Around the Grog, (Veteran VT 122), 1990

Tommy Morrissey and Charlie sing Dunstan's version with slight variation on the lyrics.

"*Little Maggie May* was written in America in 1869 by G.W. Moore with music by Charles W. Blamphin. It was published in 'Songs of the Sunny South' (1929) which included, folk songs, spirituals, minstrel and Stephen Foster songs. In more recent years this song has become popular in Padstow through the singing of Charlie Bate, to who Tommy credited the song." (Song notes - John Howson)

Appendix 2.11 Maggie May
(See contents page for links to audio files of this song)

Lyrics and music

Know Tavern – Pub Song Project 2007

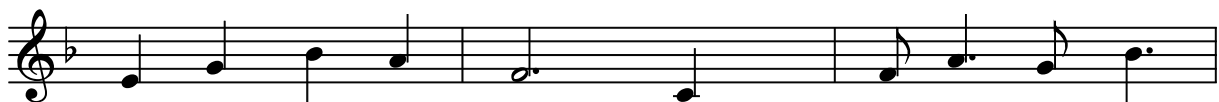
The English words are the same as those given by Dunstan and the tune is nearly identical.



The spring had come the flow - ers bloom, The birds say out their
Gwen - ton yth o Y hwrus-sa dos Mar las war woen ha



lay, Down by a li - ttle run - ning stream I
bre Og - as dhe'n go - ver down yn koes Y



first saw Magg - ie May My little witch - ing
hwel - is Mag - gie May Maggie May mar



Magg-ie Sing-ing all the day Oh, how I loved her
vu - nys Ogh kar-is re be Fa - tell y's kerys, Ny



none can tell My li - ttle Magg-ie May
woer den-vyth Ker - es-ik Mag-gie May

The spring had come
The flowers bloom
The birds say out their lay
Down by a little running stream
I first saw Maggie May

*My little witching Maggie
Singing all the day
Oh, how I loved her
None can tell
My little Maggie may*

Her hair was gold
Her eyes were blue
And shining like the day
Her heart was pure and ever true
My little Maggie May

And oh, her voice
was sweet and low
And like an Angels lay
I hear it now wher-e'er I go
The voice of Maggie May

The years have flown
My eyes are dim
My hair is scant and grey
Yet never shall I cease to love
My long lost Maggie may

Gwenton yth o
Y hwrussa dos
Mar las war woen ha bre
Ogas dhe'n gover down yn koes
Y hwelis Maggie May

Maggie May mar vunys
Ogh karis re be
Fatell y's kerys,
Ny woer denyth
Keresik Maggie May

Dewlagas glas
ha mel hy blew
Dre wyns oll yn deray
Lowen o hi nefra gans gew
Pan whelis Maggie May

Gans lev mar whek
y kanas hi
Yn lowen dres oll an dy'
hwath an son 'ma genev vy
Keryas Maggie May

An blydhynyow,
oll re fias
Mes kov ny wra lehe
Gyllys y hy lemmyn ellas
Ow hares Maggie May

Treylys – Merv Davey

Appendix 2.11 Maggie May
(See contents page for links to audio files of this song)

Charles Blamphin, (Erie, Penna. E.D. Ziegler, circa 1870?)

Verse 1.
Verse 2.

The spring had come, the flow'rs in bloom, The birds sung out their lay, Down
Though years roll'd on, yet still I lov'd With heart so light and gay, And
by a lit - - tle running brook, I first saw Maggie May; She
nev - er will this heart de - ceive My own dear Maggie May; When
had a rogu - ish jet black eye, Was singing all the day..... And
oth - ers thought that life was gone, And death would take a - way..... Still
how I lov'd her none can tell, My lit - tle Maggie May.....
by my side did lin - ger one, And that was Maggie May.....

CHORUS.

Chorus

pp
My lit - tle witching Maggie, Maggie singing all the day; Oh!
how I love her none can tell, My lit - tle Maggie May....

Verse 3.

May heav'n pro - tect me for her sake, I pray both night and
day, That I ere long may call her mine, My
own dear Maggie May, For she is all the
world to me Al - tho' I'm far a - way; I
oft - times think of the running brook, And my lit - tle Maggie May.