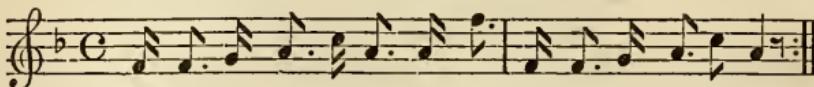


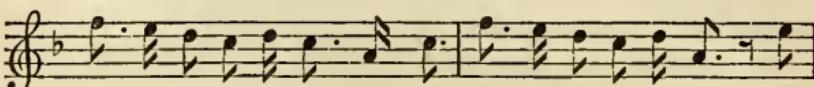
SAW YE JOHNIE COMING ?

This is one of the old rustic productions of the Scottish muse, for which there is no trace of authorship. Burns considered the song unrivalled in humour, and the air in ‘lively originality,’ and yet to most minds the pathetic earnestness of the girl will be as striking as any drollery involved in the dialogue ; while no one has more heartily admitted the capability of the air, when played slow, for conveying mournful ideas than Burns himself. He had the advantage of hearing it played with the most

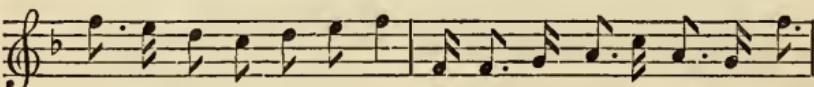
touching effect by Mr Thomas Fraser, an oboist connected with the Dumfries theatre, and was thus induced to compose to it his pathetic song, *Thou hast Left me ever, Jamie.*



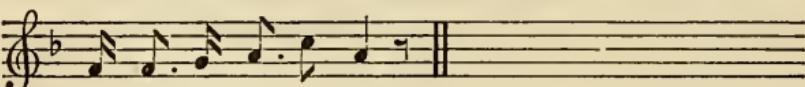
Saw ye Johnie comin'? quo' she, Saw ye Johnie comin'?



Saw ye Johnie comin'? quo' she, Saw ye Johnie comin'? Wi'



his blue bon - net on his head, And his dog - gie rinnin'? quo' she,



And his dog - gie rin - nin'?

Saw ye Johnie comin'? quo' she,

Saw ye Johnie comin'?

Saw ye Johnie comin'? quo' she,

Saw ye Johnie comin'?

Saw ye Johnie comin'? quo' she,

Saw ye Johnie comin',

Wi' his blue bonnet on his head,

And his doggie rinnin'? quo' she,

And his doggie rinnin'.

Fee him, father, fee him, quo' she,

Fee him, father, fee him ;

Fee him, father, fee him, quo' she,

Fee him, father, fee him ;

For he is a gallant lad,
And a weel-doin' ;
And a' the wark about the toun
Gangs wi' me when I see him, quo' she,
Gangs wi' me when I see him.

O what will I do wi' him ? quo' he,
What will I do wi' him ?
He has ne'er a coat upon his back,
And I hae nane to gie him.

I hae twa coats into my kist,
And ane o' them I'll gie him ;
And for a merk o' mair fee
Dinna stand ¹ wi' him, quo' she,
Dinna stand wi' him :

For weel do I lo'e him, quo' she,
Weel do I lo'e him ;
For weel do I lo'e him, quo' she,
Weel do I lo'e him.
O, fee him, father, fee him, quo' she,
Fee him, father, fee him ;
He'll haud the pleuch, thrash in the barn,
And crack wi' me at e'en, quo' she,
And crack wi' me at e'en.²