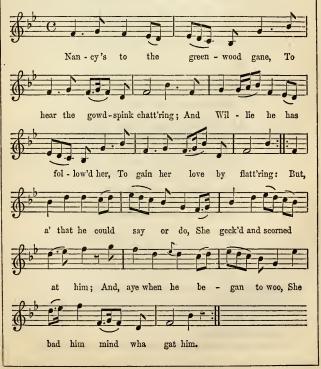
SCORNFUL NANCY.

This is one of the songs of unknown age and authorship which appeared in the *Tea-table Miscellany* and *Orpheus Caledonius*. Its *naif* dialogue has secured it a place in every subsequent collection.



Nancy's to the greenwood gane,
To hear the gowdspink chatt'ring;
And Willie he has follow'd her,
To gain her love by flatt'ring:
But, a' that he could say or do,
She geck'd and scorned at him;
And, aye when he began to woo,
She bad him mind wha gat him.

What ails ye at my dad, quoth he,
My minnie or my auntie?
Wi' crowdy-mowdy¹ they fed me,
Lang-kale and ranty-tanty:²
Wi' bannocks o' guid barley-meal,
Of thae there was richt plenty,
Wi' chappit stocks fu' butter'd weel,
And was not that richt dainty?

Although my father was nae laird,
'Tis daffin to be vaunty,
He keepit aye a guid kale-yard,
A ha' house, and a pantry:
A guid blue bonnet on his head,
An owerlay 'bout his craigie;
And aye, until the day he dee'd,
He rade on guid shanks-naigie.

Now wae and wonder on your snout,
Wad ye hae bonnie Nancy?
Wad ye compare yoursel to me—
A docken till a tanzie?

1 A mess composed of milk and meal boiled together.

² The broad-leafed sorrel, so called, used to be gathered by our frugal ancestresses in spring, and added to the cabbage or kail in the dinner broth.

³ A cravat about his neck.

⁴ A jocular way of stating that he used his limbs in moving about.

I hae a wooer o' my ain,
They ca' him Souple Sandy;
And weel I wat his bonnie mou'
Is sweet like sugar-candy.

Now, Nancy, what need a' this din?
Do I no ken this Sandy?
I'm sure the chief o' a' his kin
Was Rab, the beggar-randy:
His minnie Meg, upon her back,
Bare baith him and his billy;
Will ye compare a nasty pack
To me, your winsome Willie?

My gutcher ² left a guid braidsword:
Though it be auld and rusty,
Yet ye may tak it on my word,
It is baith stout and trusty;
And if I can but get it drawn,
Which will be richt uneasy,
I shall lay baith my lugs in pawn,
That he shall get a heezy.

Then Nancy turn'd her round about,
And said, Did Sandy hear ye,
Ye wadna miss to get a clout;
I ken he disna fear ye:
Sae haud your tongue, and say nae mair,
Set somewhere else your fancy;
For as lang's Sandy's to the fore,
Ye never shall get Nancy.

¹ Brother.

² Goodsire or grandfather.