



THE WOOING OF JENNY AND JOCK.

THIS very curious song dates not later than the regency of Moray, as it is inserted in the Bannatyne Manuscript, 1568. In the present copy, which was directly transcribed from the MS., the spelling is modernised, but no other changes are made. The vanity of the mother-in-law, which leads her to give a catalogue of her daughter's worldly goods and chattels, and draws from the wooer an equally minute inventory of his possessions, may be considered fortunate for us, as we are thus furnished with an exhaustive picture of the 'guids and gear' of a Scotch yeoman of the sixteenth century.

Ro - bin's Jock cam to woo our Jen - ny, On

our feast - even when we were fou; She brank - it fast and

made her bon - ny, And said, Jock, come ye for to woo?

Robin's Jock cam to woo our Jenny,
 On our feast-even when we were fou ;
 She brankit fast and made her bonny,
 And said, Jock, come ye for to woo ?
 She burneist her, baith breist and brow,
 And made her clear as ony clock ;
 Then spak her dame, and said, I trow,
 Ye come to woo our Jenny, Jock.

Jock said, Forsuith, I yearn full fain
 To loot¹ my heid, and sit down by you :
 Than spak her mother, and said again,
 My bairn has tocher-guid² to gie you.
 Te-hee, quoth Jenny, Keek, keek, I see you !
 Mother, yon man maks you a mock :
 I shrew thee, leear ! full leese me you,
 I come to woo your Jenny, quoth Jock.

My bairn, she says, has of her awin
 Ane guse, ane gryce,³ ane cock, ane hen,
 Ane calf, ane hog, ane foot-braid sawin,⁴
 Ane kirn, ane pin, that ye weel ken ;
 Ane pig,⁵ ane pot, ane raip there ben,
 Ane fork, ane flaik, ane reel, ane rock,
 Dishes and dublers nine or ten :
 Come ye to woo our Jenny, Jock ?

Ane blanket, and ane wecht also,
 Ane shool, ane sheet, and ane lang flail,
 Ane ark,⁶ ane amry,⁷ and ladles two,
 Ane milk-syth, with ane swine-tail,

¹ Stoop.² Portion.³ Young pig.⁴ Corn sufficient to sow a foot-breadth.⁵ Pipkin.⁶ Large chest for meal.⁷ Cupboard.

Ane rusty whittle to sheer the kail,
 Ane wheel, ane mell the beir to knock,
 Ane cog, ane card wanting ane nail ;
 Come ye to woo our Jenny, Jock ?

Ane furm, ane furlot, ane pot, ane peck,
 Ane tub, ane barrow, with ane wheelband,
 Ane turse, ane trouch, and ane meal-sack,
 Ane spurtle braid, and ane elwand.
 Jock took Jenny by the hand,
 And cried ane feast, and slew ane cock,
 And made a brydal up-o-land ;
 Now have I gotten Jenny, quoth Jock.

Now, dame, I have your bairn married,
 Suppose ye mak it never sae teuch ;
 I lat you wit she's nocht miscarried,
 It is weel kenned I have eneuch :
 Ane crookit gleyd¹ fell in ane heuch,
 Ane spade, ane spit, ane spur, ane sock ;
 Withouten oxen I have a pleuch,
 To gang together Jenny and Jock.

I have ane helter, ane eik, ane heck,
 Ane cord, ane creel, and als ane cradle,
 Five fiddler² of rags to stuff ane jack,
 Ane auld pannel of ane laid saddle,
 Ane pepper pock, made of a paidel,³
 Ane sponge, ane spindle wanting ane knock,
 Twa lusty lips to lick ane ladle,
 To gang together Jenny and Jock.

Ane bregham,⁴ and twa brooches fine,
 Weel buckled with a bridle reinyie,⁵
 Ane serk made of the Lincum twine,
 Ane gay green cloak that will not steinzie ;⁶

¹ An old horse.

² A certain amount by weight.

³ A leather bag for pedler's wares.

⁴ Horse-collar.

⁵ Rein.

⁶ Stain.

And yet, for mister, I will not feinyie,
Five hundred flaes now in a flock,
Call ye nocht that ane jolly menyie,
To gae together Jenny and Jock ?

Ane treen trencher, ane ramhorn spune,
Twa bits of barkit blasnit leather,
All graith that gaes to hobble shoon,¹
Ane thrawcrook to twine ane tether,
Ane bridle, ane girth, and ane swyne blether,
Ane masken-vat, ane fettered lock,
Ane sheep weel keepit frae ill weather,
To gang together Jenny and Jock.

Tak thae for my part of the feast,
It is weel known I am weel bodin ;²
Ye may not say my part is least.
The wife said, Speed ; the kail are sodden,
And als the laverock is fuft³ and lodden,
When ye have done tak hame the broche.
The roast was teuch, sae were they bodin ;⁴
Syne gaed together Jenny and Jock.