

ANNIE LAURIE.

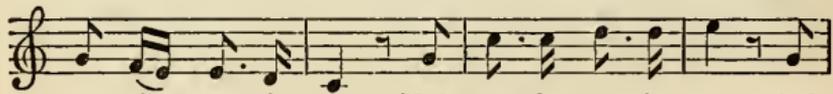
There is a song long popular in the south of Scotland, though only recently introduced into print, of which the following is an authentic copy :



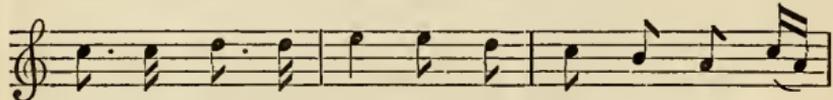
Max-wel-ton banks are bon-nie, Where ear-ly fa's the



dew; Where me and An-nie Lau-rie Made



up the pro-mise true; Made up the pro-mise true, And



ne'er for-get will I; And for bon-nie An-nie



Lau-rie I'll lay me down and die.

Maxwelton banks are bonnie,
 Where early fa's the dew ;
 Where me and Annie Laurie
 Made up the promise true ;
 Made up the promise true,
 And ne'er forget will I ;
 And for bonnie Annie Laurie
 I'll lay me down and die.

She's backit like the peacock ;
She's breistit like the swan ;
She's jimp about the middle ;
Her waist ye weel nicht span :
Her waist ye weel nicht span,
And she has a rolling eye ;
And for bonnie Annie Laurie
I'll lay me doun and die.

Maxwelton is the mansion of a family of rank, beautifully situated on the side of the valley of the Cairn, in Dumfriesshire. It is believed that these verses were composed by a Mr Douglas of Fingland upon Anne, one of the four daughters of Sir Robert Laurie, first baronet of Maxwelton—so created in 1685. The lady, it appears, was not destined to be won by her poetical lover, but became the wife of Mr Fergusson of Craigdarroch.¹

A living lady of rank has produced a song on the basis of this original one, and which has attained a wide popularity.²