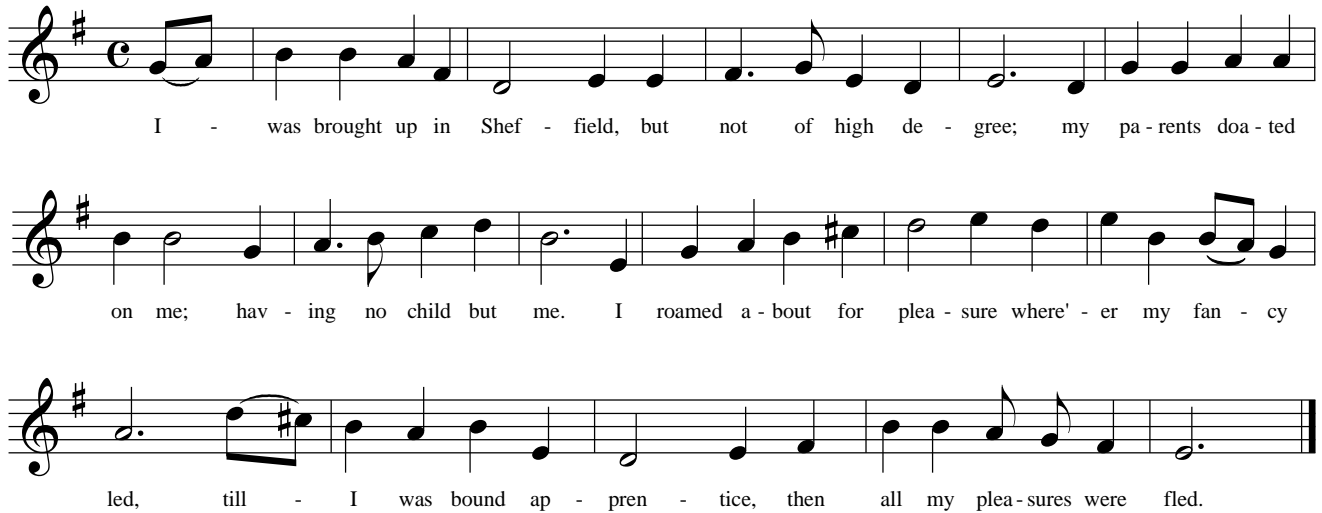


58a Sheffield Apprentice - Mr Anderson



I - was brought up in Shef - field, but not of high de - gree; my pa - rents doa - ted
on me; hav - ing no child but me. I roamed a - bout for plea - sure where' - er my fan - cy
led, till - I was bound ap - pren - tice, then all my plea - sures were fled.

1
I was brought up in Sheffield, but not of high degree;
my parents doated on me; having no child but me.
I roamed about for pleasure where'er my fancy led,
till I was bound apprentice, then all my pleasures were
fled.

2
I did not like my master, he did not use me well;
I made a resolution, not long with him to dwell.
Unknown to my parents I then did run away,
and steered my course for London, Oh cursèd be the
day.

3
And when I came to London, a lady met me there
and offered me great wages to serve her for a year.
Deluded by her promises with her I did agree
to go with her to Holland, which proved my destiny.

4
I had not been in Holland passing half a year
before my rich young mistress did love for me declare.
She said, My gold and silver, my houses and my land,
if you consent to marry me, shall be at your command'.

5
I said, 'My loving mistress, I cannot wed you now,
for I have lately promised and made a solemn vow
to wed with lovely Polly, your pretty chambermaid.
Excuse me, dearest mistress, she has my heart betrayed.'

6
Then, in an angry humour, from me she flew away,
resolved for my presumption to make me dearly pay.
She was so much perplexèd she could not be my bride,
she said she'd seek a project to take away my life.

7
As she was in the garden upon a summer's day
and viewing the flowers that were both fine and gay,
a gold ring from her finger took, as I was passing by,
she slipt into my pocket, and I for the same must die.

8
My Mistress swore I'd robbed her, and quickly I was brought
before a grave old justice to answer for the fault.
Long time I pleaded innocent, but every hope was vain;
she swore so false against me that I was sent to gaol.

9
Then at the next Sessions I was condemned and cast,
and presently the judge the awful sentence passed.
From thence to execution he brought me to a tree,
so God reward my mistress for she has wrongèd me.

10
All you that come to see me here before I die,
don't laugh at my downfall or smile at my destiny.
Believe I am quite innocent; to the world I bid adieu.
Farewell my dearest Polly, I die for love of you.'