

My Welsh Relation

As sung by
D. W. Wickham
08-19-1940 Dodgeville, WI

Verse



I was born not far from Corn-wall in a place called the Welsh Moun-tains when one



day-ay I and ma-ry went to ride up-on the don-key; as you nev-er did see yes you



nev-er did see yes you nev-er did see such a big time — be-fore.

Refrain

Verse 1.

I was born not far from Corwall
In a place called the Welsh Mountains
When one day I and Mary
Went to ride upon the donkey;

Refrain

As you never did see,
Yes you never did see,
Yes you never did see
Such a big time before.

Verse 2.

Then we went to the railway station
For to meet a welsh relation
Well young Jones a comma Henry
Come to see the open railway;
(refrain)

Verse 3.

There was John and Shawn and Mary
Drinking pie and eating sherry
Dancing away to tune of fiddle
Up the sides and down the middle;
(refrain)

Verse 4.

Then we went to see the engine
It was puffing and a blowing
It were made of wonderous power
It could go three mile an hour;
(refrain)

Verse 5.

It was puff and blow and whistle
Making noise just like old devil
And poor Mary was scared all over
Thought the old chap had come for her;

Verse 6.

She is have-a sister Bella
She is have-a umberella
She is think so much about it
She is never go without it;

Critical Commentary

Transcription by MB. HST transcribed lyrics only.

HST notes:

In the Professional Papers series:

Sung by Dr. Dan Wickham, age --, 1940.

The Welsh tune "Y Mochyn Du" was used by some local bard for his verses about "My Welsh Relation." The identity of the author is not certain. He may have been Tom Jones, "Baptist" who lived in the Garrison Grover district near Dodgeville. The song is quite generally known throughout Iowa county.

A heavy Welsh brogue, such as Dr. Wickham employs, is essential to the singing of this song.

Although Mr. Jones made this claim [of writing the song] there is some doubt in the mind of the singer as to its validity.

K.G.