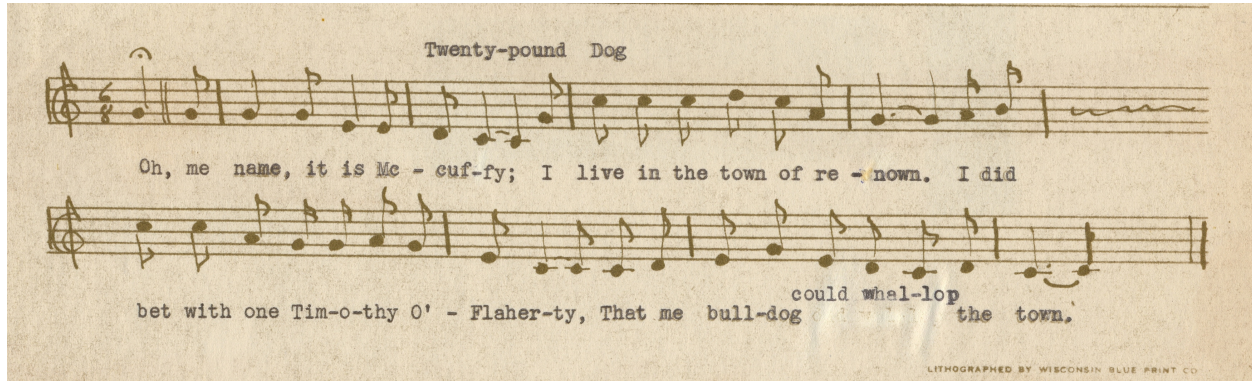


Twenty-Pound Dog

As sung by
Robert Walker
1941 Crandon, WI



Verse 1.

Oh, me name it is McCuffy,
I live in the town of renown.
I did bet with one Timothy O'Flaherty,
That me bulldog could whallop the town.

Verse 2.

He said he knew of one Pat Murphy,
Who had lived way down below on the bog,
That had a big black and tan terrier,
That could whallop me twenty-pound dog.

Verse 3.

I fetched out me bold twenty pounder,
He acted as proud as a king,
As he eye'd Murphy's black and tan terrier,
The both sacheted around in a ring.

Verse 4.

They fought for one hour and a quarter,
Away below down on the bog,
Til' the terrier walked way with the laurels,
And a corpse lay me twenty-pound dog.

Verse 5.

I swore I would have satisfaction.
I pulls off me coat and me hat,
And I made at that whole Murphy's faction,
From big Terrence right down to small Pat.

Verse 6.

I then took a swipe at the terrier,
And I knock 'im out on the bog,
And it's all the way home I swore vengeance,
Sweet vengeance for me twenty-pound dog.

Transcription and lyrics from the Helene Stratman-Thomas Collection.

Critical Commentary

Transcriptions by Peters, p. 252, and HST

HST notes:

In the Professional Papers series:

Sung by Robert Walker, age 58, Crandon, 1941.

Mr. Walker sang this song in the lumber camps of northern Wisconsin.

Sources:

Dawney, Michael. *The Iron Man: English Occupational Songs*. In association with the Leeds University Institute of Dialect and Folk-life Studies and the English Folk Dance and Song Society. London: Stainer and Bell LTD, 1974.

Peters, Harry B., ed. *Folk Songs out of Wisconsin: An Illustrated Compendium of Words and Music*. Madison, WI: The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1977.

K.G.