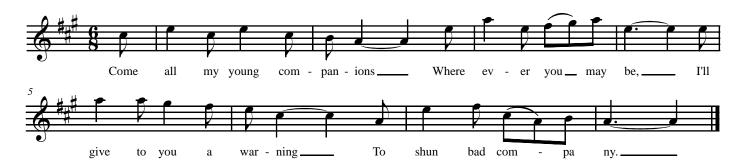
Chicago Gambler

As sung by Noble B Brown 11-17-1946 Millford, WI



Verse 1.

Come all my young companions Where ever you may be, I'll give to you a warning To shun bad company.

Verse 2.

My home 'twas in Pennslyvania Among those pleasant hills, The memory of my fireside Is in my memory still.

Verse 3.

I did not love my fireside, I did not love my home, My mind was bent on rambling I was inclined to roam.

Verse 4.

I had a loving sister, As loving as could be; Down on her knees before me She pleaded long with me.

Verse 5.

I had a loving mother, As loving as could be; Down on her knees before me, These words she spoke to me:

Verse 6.

"Fare thee well my loved one May God protect my boy, My blessing be with you forever Throughout your rambling joy."

Verse 7.

I bade adieu to loved ones, To friends I said farewell, I landed in Chicago In the very midst of hell.

Verse 8.

'Twas there I took to gambling I sinned both night and day, But always in my bosom A feeble voice would say:

Verse 9.

"Fare thee well my loved one May God protect my boy, My blessing be with you forever Throughout your rambling joy."

Verse 10.

I courted a fair maiden, Her name I will not tell; For why should I disgrace her When I am doomed for hell.

Verse 11.

T'was on a moonlit evening The stars were shining bright, I raised my ugly dagger And bade her spirit flight.

Verse 12.

But justice overtook me As you can plainly see, My soul is doomed forever Throughout eternity.

Verse 13.

I now stand on the scaffold, My moments are not long; You may forget the singer But don't forget the song. *************************************

Critical Commentary

Alternate titles/related songs: "Bad Company."

Sources:

Treasure Chest of Cowboy Songs. New York: Treasure Chest Publications, 1935. "Bad Company."

K.G.