There is a lovely mountain called the "Mountain of Green," all
things on this mountain are fair to be seen. At the top of this
mountain the ivy doth grow, at the foot of this mountain a river doth flow.

Verse 1.
There is a lovely mountain called the "Mountain of Green,"
All things on this mountain are fair to be seen.
At the top of this mountain the ivy doth grow,
At the foot of this mountain a river doth flow.

Verse 2.
On the top of this mountain a castle doth stand,
All decked in green ivy from the top to the strand.
Fine arches, fine porches of the limestone so white,
'Tis a warning to sailors on a dark stormy night.

Verse 3.
At the foot of this mountain where the tides ebb and flow,
Ships from the East Indies to Madeira doth go.
With red flags a-flying and the beating of drums,
Sweet instruments of music on the firing of guns.

Verse 4.
Come all ye little small streams that murmer and flow,
Come carry me now to the true love I know.
For her eyes are so enticing though her tongue it says no,
Some good angel direct me to where shall I go.

The Green Mountain
As sung by
Winifred Bundy
Originally in f minor
04-29-1941 Madison, WI

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Critical Commentary

Transcriptions by MB and Peters, p. 120.

HST notes:
In the Professional Papers series:
Sung by Winifred Bundy, age 57, Madison, 1941.

Miss Bundy believed this song to be of English origin as it was one of the favorites of her grandfather, James D. Morgan. She related proudly that he was born in the barracks in Manchester, England, in the same year that Queen Victoria was born and received a pension granted by the king to every child born in the barracks that year. The song came with Mr. Morgan from England to Canada, and to the United States when Mr. Morgan came to enlist in the army of the North during the Civil War.

[The song] Green Mountain has been located by Kittredge in several of the American songsters: The Songster's Museum, Northampton, Massachusetts, 1803; Forget Me Not Songster, New York, 1840; Boston Broadside, 1830. English versions are included in Broadwood and Fuller Maitland, English Country Songs.

Alternate titles/related songs: "The Shipwreck."

Sources:


Journal of American Folklore 30 (1917).

K.G.