Collier Lads

Choral Arrangement

Traditional

Arranged by Bryony Griffith
The Full English Extra

The Full English Extra was an initiative to preserve and promote the folk arts, building on the success of EFDSS’ flagship project The Full English, which created the world’s largest digital archive of folk songs, dances, tunes and customs, and a nationwide learning programme that reached more than 16,000 people. The project was led by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Full English Extra saw the collections of Mary Neal, suffragette, radical arts practitioner and founder of the Esperance Girls Club, and folk dance educator Daisy Caroline Daking added to the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library online archive (www.vwml.org), alongside its collection of 19th century broadside ballads and songsters.

The Full English learning programme worked with three national museums – the Museum of English Rural Life at the University of Reading, the National Coal Mining Museum for England near Wakefield in Yorkshire and the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, London – combining folk arts and museum education to provide powerful new learning experiences for schools and music hubs.

Supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Produced by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), June 2016

Written by Bryony Griffith

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Collier Lads
Trad/Arr.Bryony Griffith

Collected from an unknown singer on the South/West Yorkshire border by Nigel Hudleston, three verses of this song and the tune appear in 'Songs of the Ridings - The Yorkshire Music Museum - collected by Nigel & Mary Hudleston'. One verse from that version has been made into the chorus and verses 3 & 4 have been added from the singing of Lancashire singer Harry Boardman. Slight alterations have been made to the lyrics to change 'drunkard' to 'Collier' in some places!

The song suggests that although colliers were often better paid than factory workers or weavers due to the dangerous nature of their work, they were not held in high regard due to their often loutish behaviour!

The song is arranged for SATB with both the tenor and bass parts written at pitch in bass clef. The arrangement was created for Wakefield Youth Choir but has also been performed by Shepley Singers.

Some simple body percussion can also be used to keep the 4 beats going throughout or just as an introduction.

Eg. clap chest clap click, clap chest clap click, etc.

You can have fun making some of your own up!
Collier Lads

1. My mother sent me for some water, for some water for our tea.
   My foot slipped and down I tumbled, a collier lad came a-whistling me.
   Collier lads bring gold and silver, Factory lads bring nowt but brass,
   Who’d be bothered wi’ a two-loom weaver, when there’s plenty o’collier lads.

2. My Mother says if I wed a collier, it’ll break ’her tender ’eart,
   I don’t care what mi Mother tells me, I’ll ’ave a collier for my sweet ’eart.
   Collier lads bring gold and silver, Factory lads bring nowt but brass,
   Who’d be bothered wi’ a two-loom weaver, when there’s plenty o’collier lads.

3. If you leave your collier sweetheart, I’ll buy you a guinea gold ring,
   You shall have a silver cradle, For to rock your baby in
   Collier lads bring gold and silver, Factory lads bring nowt but brass,
   Who’d be bothered wi’ a two-loom weaver, when there’s plenty o’collier lads.

4. I don’t want your silks and satins, I don’t want your guinea gold ring
   I don’t want your silver cradle, For to rock my baby in
   Collier lads bring gold and silver, Factory lads bring nowt but brass,
   Who’d be bothered wi’ a two-loom weaver, when there’s plenty o’collier lads.
Biography: Bryony Griffith

Bryony Griffith is a musician and singer with over 20 years of experience researching folk material, and devising innovative ways of presenting it for use in performance and education work with children, young people and adults. Bryony’s skills and enthusiasm encompass solo performance, duo and band work, and also extensive experience of playing for folk dancing. Her solo album, Nightshade, was released in 2014.

Bryony is an experienced folk educator in school settings, including education work linked with the National Coal Mining Museum. Bryony is in much demand by festival organisers to lead music and singing workshops, including the Folkworks Summer Schools, Shepley and Whitby folk festivals.

As a performer, Bryony works as a solo artist, and also in a duo with melodeon player and dancer Will Hampson. Over the last 15 years, they have both been key members of the award-winning Demon Barbers. Their partnership started in the acclaimed ceilidh band Bedlam in their early teens which took them all over the UK festivals and gave rise to the formation of the young Cotswold side, Dogrose. They later joined the celebrated Newcastle Kingsmen. Bryony was also a member of the a cappella group The Witches of Elswick.

www.bryonygriffith.com
Verse 1

1. My Mother sent me for some water

2. my foot slipped and down I tumbled,

3. co lli-er lad came a-whis tl-ing me

4. and down I tumbled, a co lli-er lad came a-whis tl-ing me

5. Co-lli-er lad bring gold and sil-ver,

6. Co-lli-er lad bring nowt but brass,

7. Who'd be bothered wi' a two-loom weaver,
when there's plen-ty'o co-lle-er lads. 2. My Mo-ther says if I wed a co-lle-er, it'll break'herten-der 'eart, when there's plen-ty'o co-lle-er lads.

co-lle-er Dum dum da da Dum dum da da
col-lie er lads

I don't care what mi Mo-ther tells me, I'll'ave a co-lle-er for my sweet'eart Co-lle-er lads bring gold and sil-ver,

Dum dum da da Dum dum da Co-lle-er lads

what mi Mo-ther tells me, I'll'ave a co-lle-er for my sweet'eart Co-lle-er_ lads_ bring

Fac-to-ry lads bring nowt but brass, Who'd be bo-thered wi' a two-loom wea-ver,

Fac-to-ry lads_ wea-ver lads_

fac-to-ry lads two loom wea-ver

fac-to-ry lads bring two_ loom_ wea-ver
when there's plen-ty'o col-li-er lads. Dum mp Dum Dum Dum Dum
co - lli - er lads_ Dum mp Dum Dum Dum Dum
co - lli - er 3.If you leave your co-lli-er sweet'-cart, I'll buy you a gui-nea gold ring, mf
co - lli - er_ lads 3.If you leave your co-lli-er sweet'-cart, I'll buy you a gui-nea gold ring, mf

You shall have a sil-ver cra-dle, for to rock your ba-by in. Co - lli - er lads
You shall have a sil-ver cra-dle, for to rock your ba-by in. Co-lli-er_ lads_ bring f

Fac - to-ry lads bring now but brass, Who'd be bo-thered wi'a two-loom wea-ver, when there's plen ty'o co-lli-er lads.
Fac-to-ry lads_ wea-ver lads_ co-lli-er lads_
fac - to - ry-ladstwo loom wea - ver co - lli - er
fac-to-ry_ lads_ bring two loom wea - ver co-lli-er_ lads
4. I don't want your silks and satins, I don't want your guinea gold ring, I don't want your silver cradle,

Dum Dum Dum Dum Dum Dum Dum

for to rock mi baby in.

Co-lier lads bring gold and silver, Fac-tory lads bring nowt but brass,

Who'd be bothered w' a two-loom wea-ver when there's plen-ty' o' co-li'er lads. Co-li'er lads

Dum Dum Dum Dum Dum Dum Dum

very slow
Fact-lads bring nowt but brass, Who'd be bothered wi' a two-loom weaver when there's plen-ty' o co-llier lads.

Co-llier lads bring gold and sil-ver, Fac-tory lads bring nowt but brass Who'd be bothered wi' a two-loom weaver,

When there's plen-ty' o co-llier lads. Co-llier lads bring gold and sil-ver, Fac-tory lads bring nowt but brass,

mf repeat x 3 getting louder and faster

mf repeat x 3 getting louder and faster

mf repeat x 3 getting louder and faster

mf repeat x 3 getting louder and faster
Who'd be bothered wi' a two-loom weaver when there's plenty of collier lads. Collier lads bring gold and silver,