

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection

Annie Laurie (Lady John Scott 1810-1900)

song air

## Annie Laurie

Maxwelton's braes are bonnie, where early fa's the dew,  
 Twas there that Annie Laurie gi'ed me her promise true.  
 Gi'ed me her promise true - which ne'er forgot will be,  
 And for bonnie Annie Laurie l'd lay me down and dee.

Her brow is like the snaw-drift, her neck is like the swan,  
 Her face it is the fairest, that 'er the sun shone on.  
 That 'er the sun shone on - and dark blue is her e'e,  
 And for bonnie Annie Laurie l'd lay me down and dee.

Like dew on gowans lying, is the fa' o' her fairy feet,  
 And like winds, in simmer sighing, her voice is low and sweet.  
 Her voice is low and sweet - and she's a' the world to me;  
 And for bonnie Annie Laurie l'd lay me down and dee.

*The original song was said to have been written by William Douglas (1682-1748), a soldier who courted Anna "Annie" Laurie, but her father disapproved of his Jacobite leanings, so forbade a wedding. Although there are some doubts about Douglas's authorship, the song was rewritten by Lady John Scott, who gave the lyrics a tune, and it is her version that is known today.*



Annie Laurie