

Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection

Both Sides the Tweed (Dick Gaughan)

1 What's the spring-breathing jasmine and rose ?
 What's the summer with all its gay train?
 Or the splendour of autumn to those
 Who've bartered their freedom for gain?

Ch Let the love of our land's sacred rights To the love of our people succeed,
 Let friendship and honour unite And flourish on both sides the Tweed.

2 No sweetness the senses can cheer, Which corruption and bribery bind;
 No brightness that gloom can e'er clear, For honour's the sum of the mind.

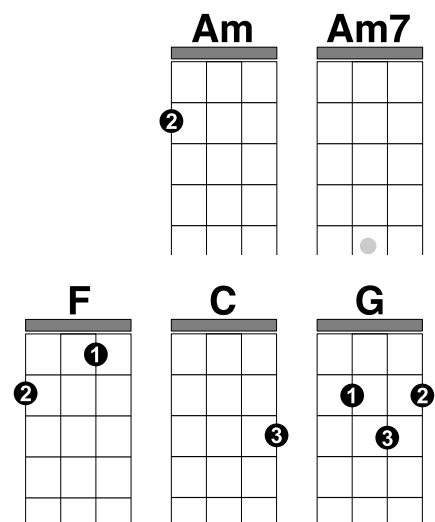
[Chorus]

3 Let virtue distinguish the brave, Place riches in lowest degree;
 Think them poorest who can be a slave, Them richest who dare to be free.

[Chorus]



Edinburgh folksinger Dick Gaughan took an old song critical of the combining of the parliaments of Scotland and England in 1707, and made some "minor amendments to give it contemporary relevance." He put the words to a tune he composed himself, although many people still think it's a traditional song.



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