

# The Broom of the Cowdenknowes

words & music: trad



How blythe was I each morn tae see



My lass come o'er the hill



She skip - ped the burn and ran tae me



I met her wi good will



CHORUS: Oh the broom, the bon - ny bon - ny broom



The broom of the Cow - den knowes



Fain would I be in the north coun - try



Herd - ing her faith - er's yowes.

# The Broom of the Cowdenknowes

How blithe was I each morn tae see  
My lass come o'er the hill  
She skipped the burn and ran tae me  
I met her wi' good will.

**Chorus:**

O the broom, the bonnie, bonnie broom  
The broom o' Cowdenknowes!  
Fain would I be in the north country  
Herding her faither's yowes.

We neither herded yowes nor lambs  
While the flock near us lay  
She gaithered in the sheep at night  
And cheered me a' the day.

*(Chorus)*

Hard fate that I should banished be,  
Gone way o'er hill and moor  
Because I loved the fairest lass  
That ever yet was born.

*(Chorus)*

Adieu, ye Cowdenknowes, adieu  
Farewell all pleasures there  
To wander by her side again  
Is all I crave or care.

*(Chorus)*

*There are several versions of this lovely traditional ballad, first published in William Thomson's 'Orpheus Caledonius' (1733). Cowdenknowes is near Melrose.*