

THE

No 106

SCOTTISH PROVERBS

OR, THE

Wise Sayings

OF THE

OLD PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND.

By ALLAN RAMSAY.

VOX POPULI VOX DEI.

That maun be true that a' Men say.



STIRLING:
PRINTED BY W. MACNIE

1827.

Scottish Proverbs.

A

- A begun turn is half ended.
 A blate cat makes a proud mouse.
 A black hen lays a white egg.
 A blyth heart makes a blooming look.
 5 Abundance of law breaks nae law.
 A braed house never skailed.
 A cock's aye crouse on his ain midden.
 A dog winna yowl if ye fell him wi' a bane.
 A dog's life, meikle ease meikle hunger.
 10 A drink is shorter than a tale.
 A dry summer never made a dear peck.
 A dumb man wins nae law.
 Ae bird in the hand is worth ten fleeing.
 Ae good turn deserves anither.
 15 Ae half of the world kennas how the ither half livs.
 Ae hand winna wash the other for nought.
 Ae hour's cauld will suck out seven years heat.
 Ae swallow makes nae summer.
 Ae scabbit sheep will smit the hale hirdsell.
 20 A fool may gie a wise man a counsel.
 A friend in need is a friend indeed.
 Aft counting keeps friends lang together.
 Aft times the cautioner pays the debt.
 A fou purse never lacks friends.
 25 A gi'en horse shoul'd na be look'd in the me.
 A good coo may hae an ill calf.
 A good word is as soon said as an ill.
 A good tale is no the waur to be twice told.
 A good name is soener tint than win.
 30 A good fellow is a costly name.
 A handfou of trade is worth a goupen of good.
 A hungry man smells meat far.
 A hungry louse bits sair.
 A hungry man's ay angry.
 35 A lass that has mony woocers aft walks the v.

- A liar should have a good memory.
 A light purse makes a heavy heart.
 A' the corn's no shorn by kempers.
 40 A's no tint that's in hazard.
 A' Stuarts are so sib to the king.
 A's well that ends well.
 A' things are good untried.
 A man canna bear a' his kin on his back.
 45 A man at five may be a fool at fifteen.
 A may be kind and gie little o' his gear.
 A man is well or wae as he thinks himsel sae.
 A man has nae mair goods than he gets good of.
 A misty morning may be a clear day.
 50 A mouthfu' of meat may be a townfu' of shame.
 A muffled cat was ne'er a good hunter.
 An auld mason makes a good barrow-man.
 An auld sack craves mickle ctouting.
 An auld pock is ay scailing.
 55 An auld dog bites sicker.
 An ill shearer never got a good hook:
 An ill cow may have a good calf.
 An ill plea should be well pled.
 An ill turn is soon done.
 60 An ill servant never proved a good master.
 Ane never tines by doing good.
 Anes paid never craved.
 Anes a whore and ay a whore.
 Ane may bind a sack before it be fu'.
 65 Ane is no sae soon healed as hurt.
 Ane gets sma' thanks for tining his ain.
 Ane will gar a hundred lie.
 A new besom sweeps clean.
 A nod of an honest man is enough.
 70 A pound of care winna pay an ounce of debt.
 A ragged colt may prove a good gelding.
 A rowing stane gathers nae fog.
 As broken a ship has come to land,
 As brisk as bottled ale.
 75 As lang lives the merry man as the sad.

- As fair fight wrens as cranes.
 As tired as a tyke is of lang kail.
 As the sow fills the draff sours.
- 80 As the auld cock craws the young oock learns.
 As the fool thinks the bell clinks.
 As ye mak your bed sae ye maun ly down.
 A sillerless man gangs fast thro' the market.
 A sorrowful heart's ay dry.
- 85 At open doors dogs gae ben.
 A tarrowing bairn was never fat.
 A taking hand will never want.
 A tale never tines in the telling.
 A tocherless dame sits lang at lame.
- 90 A toom purse maks a tratling merchant.
 A toom pantry maks a thriftless goodwife.
 A turn well done is soon done.
 A twapenny cat may look at a king.
 A wee bush is better than nae bield.
- 95 A wee mouse can creep under a great eorn stack:
 A wee house has a wide mouth.
 A wee thing fleys cowards.
 A wilfu' man should be unco wise.
 Auld men are tice bairns.
- 100 Auld sparrows are ill to tame.
 Auld springs gie nae price.
 A yeld sow was never good to grises.

B

- Bare gentry braggan beggars.
 Be a friend to yoursel and others wile.
- 105 Be lang sick that ye may be soon hale.
 Bear wealth well, poortish will bear itself.
 Begness, as the blind man felt the dog.
 Beggars should na be choosers.
 Better a bit in the morning than fast a' day.
- 110 Better a de'il than a daw.
 Better a dog fawn on you than bark at you.
 Better a finger aff than ay wagging.
 Better an auld maid than a young whore.
 Better a toom house than an ill tenant.

- Better be envied than pitied.
 Better be alane than in ill company.
 Better be idle than ill employed.
 Better belly burst than good meat spill.
 120 Better buy than borrow.
 Better find iron than tine siller.
 Better hand by a hair than draw with a tether.
 Better hand loose than in an ill tethering.
 125 Better kiss a knave than cast out with him.
 Better keep well than make well.
 Better lang something than soon naething.
 Better leave to my foes than beg frae my friends.
 Better rue sit than rue flit.
 130 Better sit idle than work for nought.
 Better skaith saved than mends made.
 Better sma fish than nae fish.
 Better the ill kened than the good unkend.
 Better to haud than draw.
 135 Better wait on the cook than the doctor.
 Better wear shoon than sheets.
 Birds of a feather flock together.
 Birth's good, but breeding's better.
 Blind men should na judge of colours.
 140 Blood's thicker than water.
 Burnt bairns the fire dreads.

C

- Cadgers have ay mind of lade saddles.
 Cast a bane in the de'il's teeth.
 Charity begins at hame.
 145 Come uncalled sits unserved.
 Come to my hand like the bowel of a pint stoup.
 Come with the wind, and gae with the water.
 Confess debt and crave day.
 Corn him well, he will work the better.
 150 Count again is not forbidden.
 Count siller after all your kin.
 Count like Jews and gree like brethren.
 Counsel is nae command.

- 155 Credit is better than ill-won gear.
 Crooked carlin, quoth the cripple to his wife.
 Cut your coat according to your claiith.

D

- Damming and laving is a good sure fishing.
 Daughters and dead fish are nae keeping ware.
- 160 Dauted bairns do bear little.
 Day-light will peep through a sma hole.
 Death and marriage make term day.
 Death defies the doctors.
 Delays are dangerous.
- 165 Do well and dread no shame.
 Do what ye ought, and come what will.
 Do the likenest and hope the best.
 Do as the lasses do, say no, tho' ye think na so.
 Double drinks are good for drouth.
- 170 Double charges rive cannons.
 Draff's good enough for swine.
 Drink little that ye may drink lang.
 Dree out the inch when ye have thol'd the span.

E

- Eagles catch nae flies.
- 175 Eat well's drink well's brother.
 Eating and drinkin g want but a beginning.
 Either live or die with honour.
 Evening oats are good morning fother.
 Enough's as good as a feast.
- 180 Every ane creeshes the fat sow's arse.
 Every ane kens best where his ain shoe nips him.
 Every crow thinks its ain bird whitest.
 Every dog has his day.
 Every man wears his belt his ain gait,
- 185 Every man's tale is good till anither's be fauld.
 Every man has his ain draff pock.
 Every thing has an end, and a pudding has twa.
 Experience teaches fools.

F

Faint heart never won a fair lady.

- 190 Fancy kills and fancy cures.
 Far-away fowls have fair feathers.
 Far behind that may na follow.
 Feckless fowk are ay fond of ane anither.
- 195 Fiddlers, dogs and flesh flies come to feast unca'd,
 Fine feathers makes fine birds.
 Fire and water are good servants but ill masters.
 Fleas and a girning wife are weariful bedfellows.
 Fleying a bird is no the way to grip it.
- 200 Fools should na ha'e chapping sticks.
 Fools should na see wark that's half done.
 Fools make feasts, and wise fowk eat them.
 For fashion's sake, as dogs gang to the market.
 Forbid a fool a thing and that he will do.
- 205 Fore-warned half armed,
 Foul water stockens fire.
 Friendship canna stand ay on ae side.
 Fresh fish and poor friends grow soon ill far'd.
 Frost and falsehood have baith a dirty wa-gang.

G

- 210 Gear is easier gained than guided.
 Gentle paddocks have lang taes
 Giff gaff make good friends.
 Give a dog an ill name and he'll soon be hang'd.
 Give a man luck and throw him into the sea.
- 215 Give over while the plays good.
 Give them tow enough and they'll hang themsels.
 Give you an inch you'll take an ell.
 Glasses and lasses are brockle ware.
 Good ale needs nae wisp.
- 220 Good bairns have ay broken brows.
 Good fowks are scarce, take care of ane.
 Good fishing in drumly waters.
 Good ware makes a quick market.
 Gowd may be dear coft.
- 225 Great barkers are nae biters.
 Greedy fowk have lang arms.

- Hand a hank in your ain hand.
 Hae gars a deaf man hear.
 230 Hair and hair make the carl's beard bare.
 Hame is hame if it were ever sae hamely.
 Hand in use is father of lair.
 Hazzle the pudding while it is het.
 Hang hunger and drown drouth.
 235 Hap and a halfpenny is gear enough.
 Have ye gear have ye nane, tin heart and a's gane
 He brings a staff to break his ain head.
 He comes aftner with the rake than the shool.
 He complains early that complains of his weil.
 240 He cares nae whose bairn greets if his laugh.
 He can say so and think it no.
 He can hide his meat and seek mair.
 He can see an inch before his nose.
 He does na ay ride when he saddles his horse.
 245 He sells twa dogs with ae stane.
 He gat his kail in a riven dish.
 He has gotten the boot and the better beast.
 He has mickle prayer but little devotion.
 He has come to good by misguiding.
 250 He has an eye in his neck.
 He has a bee in his bonnet lug.
 He has gotten a bite of his ain bridle.
 He has the best end of the string.
 He has it of kind, he coft it not.
 255 He has feather'd his nest he may flee when he likes
 He has coup'd the meikle dish into the little.
 He has gotten the whip hand of him.
 He has licket the butter aff my bread.
 He has a crap for a' corn.
 260 He kens na a B by a bull's foot.
 He kens whilk side his cake is butter'd on.
 He'll no let grass grow at his heels.
 He'll gie you the whistle of your groat.
 He'll tell it to nae mair than he meets.
 265 He'll mak an ill-runner that canna gang.

He'll soon be a beggar that canna say nae.
 He may well swim that has his head held up.
 He maun be soon up that cheats the tod.

270 He made a moon-light flitting.

He may find fault that canna mend.

He may laugh that wins.

He never lies but when the holin's green.

He rides sicker that never fell.

275 He's a fool that forgets himsel.

He's gane to the dog-drave.

His horn-deaf on that side of the head.

He's auld and cauld, and ill to lie beside.

He's wise that's timely wary.

280 He's no sae daft as he lets on.

He's sairest dung that's paid wi' his ain wand.

He's a proud fox that winna scrape his ain hole.

He's a silly chiel that can neither do nor say.

He's well wordy of sorrow that buys it.

285 He's like a singed cat, better than he's likely.

He sleeps as dogs do when wives sift meal.

He that blaws best let him bear the horn.

He that cheats me ance, shame fa' him; if he
 cheats me twice, shame fa' me.

He that clatters to himsel tawks to a fool.

290 He that canna mak sport should mar nane.

He that does you an ill turn will ne'er forgie you.

He that deals in dirt has ay foul fingers.

He that gets forgets, but he that wants thinks on

He that has a good crop may thole some thistles

295 He that has meikle wad ay hae mair

He that has but ae eye maun tent that weel

He that has a meikle nose thinksilk aite speakso't

He that's ill to himsel will be good to nae body

He that lends his pot may seeth his kail in his loof

300 He that laughs at his ain joke spills the sport o't

He that lippens to bodden ploughs his land lies lee

He that lives upon hope has a slim diet

He that looks to frats, frets follow him

He that shaws his purse bribes the thief

- He that sits on a stane is twice fain.
 He that seeks mots gets mots.
 He that teaches himsel has a fool for his master.
 He that winna when he may shanna when he wad.
 310 He that wad eat the kernel maun crack the nut.
 He that winna thole maun flit mony a hole.
 He was the bee that made the honey.
 He wad gang a mile to flit a sow.
 He winna send you away with a sair heart.
 315 He watsna whilk end of him is utmost.
 He woo's for cake and pudding.
 He wad fain be forward if he wist how.
 He wad gar you trew that the moon's made of
 green cheese.
 Hens are ay free of horse corn.
 320 His auld brass will buy a new pan.
 His bark is waur nor his bite.
 His heart is in his hose.
 His room is better than his company.
 His tongue is nae slander.
 325 His tongue is no in his pouch.
 Hooly and fair gangs lang in a day.
 Hunger is good kitchen.
 Hungry dogs are blyth of hursten puddings.
 Hungry stewards wear mony shoon.

I

- 330 I can scarce believe you, you speer sae fair.
 I canna afford ye baith tale and lugs.
 I have gi'n a stick to break my ain head.
 I have another tow on my rock.
 I have mair ado than a dish to wash.
 335 I have tane the sheaf frae the mare.
 I have seen mair than I have eaten.
 I ken by my cogue wha milks my cow.
 I'll gi'e you a meeting as Mungo gae his mither?
 I'll gar his ain gartens tie up his ain hose.
 340 I'll gar him draw his belt to his ribs.
 I'll never dirty the bonnet I'm going to put on.
 I use not to make a toil of a pleasure.

- I'm o'er auld cat to draw a strae before.
- 345 I'm no every man's dog that whistles on me.
I'm no obliged to summer and winter it to you.
I might bring a better speaker frae hame than you
I may come to break an egg in your pouch.
I never liked a dry bargain.
- 350 I never loo'd meat that craw'd in my crapie.
I think mair of your kindness than it is a' worth.
I wadna fether you for your muck.
I wadna ca' the king my cousin.
- 355 I wad rather see't than hear tell o't.
I winna make fish of ane and flesh of anither.
I wish you readier meat than a running hare.
I wish you as meikle good o't as dogs get of grass.
If any spier at ye, ye may say I watna.
- 360 *If and and* spills mony a good charter.
If e'er I see his cart tumbling I'se gied a put.
If he make a good pudding I'se eat the prick.
If I canna keep geese I'se keep gaislings.
If I canna do't by might I'se do by slight.
- 365 If I live anither year I'll ca this year fern year.
If it can be nae better its well its nae warse.
If it serve me to wear, it may gain you to look.
If it winna sell it winna sour.
If straks be good to gie they'll be good to get.
- 370 If ye brew well ye'll drink the better.
If ye do wrang make amends.
If ye serve the tod ye maun bear up his tail.
Ill bairns are best heard at hame.
Ill beef never made good broo.
- 375 Ill comes upon war's back.
Ill counsel will gar a man stick his ain mare.
Ill doers are ay ill dreaders.
Ill getting het water beneath cauld ice.
Ill hearing makes wrong rehearsing.
- 380 Ill laying up makes mony thieves.
Ill news are aft o'er true.
Ill payers are good cravers.

- Ill workers are ay good to putters
 Ill will never spake well
 385 Joke at leisure you kenna wha may joke yoursel
 Joke and let the ja gae o'er
 It came with the wind, let it gang with the water
 It gangs in at the ae lug and out at the other
 It is a good goose that draps ay
 390 It is a good game that fills the wame
 It is a good tongue that says nae ill
 It is an ill wind that blaws nae body good
 It is an ill cause that the lawyers think shame of
 It is a mean mouse that has but ae hole
 395 It is a nasty bird that files its ain nest [in it
 It is a poor kin that has neither whore nor thief
 It is a sign of a hale heart to rift at the rumple
 It is a sair battle where all is slain
 It is a silly flock where the ewe bears the bell
 400 It is a silly hen that canna scrape for ae bird
 It is a tight tree that has neither knap nor gaw
 It's a tint that's done to auld folk and bairns
 Its but kindly that the pock sair of the herring
 It is better to sup with a cutty than want a spoon
 405 It is by the head that the cow gie's milk
 Its come to meikle, but its no come to that
 It is good mawt that comes of will
 It is good gear that pleases the merchant
 It is good baking beside meal
 410 It is good sleeping in a hale skin
 It is good to be out of harm's gate
 It is good to be sib to siller
 It is good to be good in your time, ye kenna
 how lang it may last [Pope
 It is hard to sit in Rome and strive with the
 415 It is hard to please a' parties
 It is hard baith to have and want
 It is ill getting breeks aff a bare arse
 It is ill bringing but what's no benn
 It is kittle shooting at corbies and clergy
 420 It is kittle to waken sleeping dogs

- It is not tint that a friend gets
 It is not what is she, but what has she
 It is past jouking when the head's aff
 425. It is well wared that wasters want
 Its well that our fauts are not written on our face
 It is the best spoke in your wheel
 It keeps his nose at the grind-stane
 It will be a feather out of your wing
 450 It was never for naething that the glad whistled

K

- Keep something for a sair foot
 Keep your ain fish-guts to your ain aba-maws
 Keep your tongue within your teeth
 Keep the feast to the feast day
 Keep the staff in your ain hand
 435 Keep your breath to cool your crowdie
 Keep your mouth close and your een open
 Kend fowk's nae company
 Kings and bears aft worry their keepers
 Kiss a sclate-stane, and that winna slaver you
 440 Kyth in your ain colours, that fowk may ken you

L

- Laith to bed, and laith to rise
 Lang fasting hains nae meat
 Long looked for comes at last
 445 Lang fasting gathers wind
 Lang straes are nae motes
 Lang or ye saddle a foal
 Law's costly, tak a pint and gree
 Law-makers should na be law-breakers
 450 Laugh at leisure, ye may greet e'er night
 Lay the head of the sow to the tail of the grice
 Leave welcome behind ye
 Leave aff as lang's the play's good
 Learn you to an use and ye'll ca't custom
 455 Letna the plough stand to slay a mouse
 Let beli'd weathers break the sna
 Let him take a spring on his ain fiddle
 Let him cool in the skin he het in

- 460 Let never sorrow come sae near your heart.
 Let the horns gang with the hide.
 Let the morn come and the meat with it.
 Let the kirk stand in the kirk-yard.
 Let them laugh that win.
- 465 Let them care that come behind.
 Lie for him and he'll swear for you.
 Eight burdens break nae banes.
 Like Scotsman, ay wise behind the hand.
 Like the cur in the crib, he'll neither don or let do.
- 470 Like's an ill mark.
 Like a sow playing on a trump.
 Like the wife that never cries for the laddle till
 the pot rins o'er.
 Lippen to me but look to yoursel.
 Little ken'd the less cared for.
- 475 Little odds between a feast and a fou wame.
 Loud on the loan was ne'er a good milk cow.
 Love's as warm amang cotters as courtiers.
 Love your friend and look to yoursel.
- M
- Maidens' bairns are ay well bred.
- 480 Mair by luck than good guiding.
 Mair haste the war speed, quoth the tailor to
 the lang thread.
 Mair hamely than welcome.
 Make ae wrang step and down ye gae.
 Make a kirk and a mill o't.
- 485 Make the best of an ill bargain.
 Make your hay when the sun shines.
 Malice is mindfou.
 May bees flee not at this time of the year.
 Meat feeds and claith cleads, but manners make
 the man.
- 490 Meat and mass hinder nae man.
 Men are not to be met by inches.
 Mickle wad ay hae mair.
 Mickle may fa between the cap and the liv.
- 495 Money makes a man free every where.

Mony hands make light work.

Mony masters, quoth the paddock to the harrow.

Mony hounds may soon worry ae hare.

Mony excuses pishes the bed.

00 Mony ane works to a thankless master.

Mony wiþe their wife for their ain thriftless life.

Mony dogs die or ye fa heir.

Mony ane's gear has hastened their hinderend.

Mony aunts mony eems, mony kin and few

05 Mony good nights is laith away. (friends.

Mony ways to kill a dog tho' ye diuna hang him.

Mony cocks never made good broth.

Mony ane spier the gait they ken fu' well.

Must is a king's word.

10 My tongue is no beneath your belt.

My son's my son till he get a wife my daughter's my daughter all the days of her life.

My market's made, ye may lick a whip shaft.

N

Nae fool to an auld fool.

Nae friend like a friend in need.

15 Nae great loss but there's some sma' advantage.

Nae man has a tack of his life.

Nae man can thrive unless his wife let him.

Nae pence nae pater noster.

Nae sooner up than her head's in the ambry.

20 Nae wonder to see wasters want.

Naething freer than a gift. (down.

Naething to do but draw in your stool and sit

Nane but fools and knaves lay wagers.

25 Nane sae well but he hopes to be better.

Nane can play the fool sae well as a wise man.

Narrow gathered widely spent.

Neck or naething, the king lo'es na cripples.

30 Necessity has nae law.

Neither fish nor flesh nor good red herring.

New lords have new laws.

Never jaw water en a drowned mouse.

- Never let on you, but laugh in your ain sleeve
 535 Never put a sword in a daft man's hand
 Never put the plough before the owsen
 Never quat certainty for hope
 Never scad your lips in other fowks kail
 540 Never seek a wife till ye ken what to do wi'
 Nineteen naysays of a maiden are half a gran
 Now s now, and Yule's in winter

O

- O'er mickle of'ae thing is good for naething
 O'er mickle loose leather about your chafts
 545 O'er siccer o'er loose
 Of a' sorrow a fou' sorrow's best
 Of a' meat in the warld drink gaes best dow
 Of twa ills chuse the least
 Out of debt out of danger
 550 Oppresseion will make a wise man mad

P

- Pay him in his ain coin
 Pith's good in a play
 Play's good while it is play
 Penny wise and pound foal
 555 Poor folk's friends soon misken them
 Possession is eleven points of the law
 Pride and grace dwell never in ae place
 Provision in season makes a bien brouse
 Put the saddle on the right horse
 560 Put on your spurs and be at your speed

Q

- Quality without quantity is little thought of
 Quey calfs are dear veal
 Quick for you'll never be cleanly
 Quick at meat quick at wark
 Quick returns make rich merchants

R

- Rather spill your joke than tine your friend
 Raw dawds make fat lads
 Raw leather raxes

- 70 Ride fair and jape nane.
 Right wrangs nae man.
 Rome was not bigget in ae day.
 Roose the fair day at e'en.
 Robin that herds on the héight, can be as
 blyth as Sir Robert the Knight.
- 5 Rob Peter to pay Paul.
 Rot him away with butter and eggs.
 Royet la's make sober men.
 Rne and time grow bait in ae garden.
 Rule youth well, for eild will rule itsel.
- S
- 0 Sair cravers are ay ill payers.
 Say well and do well end in ae letter.
 Say well is good, but do well is better.
 Say still no, and ye'll never be married.
 Scant of cheeks make a lang nose.
- 5 Scart the cogue wad sup mair.
 Seeing's believing all the world over.
 See the stanes in butter the broc will be good.
 Send you to the sea ye'll no get saut water.
 Serve yoursel till your bairns come to age.
- 0 Set that down on the back side of your count-
 Set a knave to grip a knave. (book.
 Set a stout heart to a stay brae.
 Sharp stomachs make short graces.
 Shawl water make maist din.
- 5 She is a wise wife that wats her ain wierd.
 She looks as if butter wad not melt in her mou.
 She hauds her head like a hen drinking water.
 She's not to be made a song of.
 She's better than she's bonny.
- 0 Slaw at meat slaw at wark.
 Smooth waters run deep.
 Sma fish are better than nae fish.
 Sorow and ill weather come unsent for.
 Some hae a hantle fauts, ye're a ne'er dowell.
- 5 Speak good of pipers, your father was a fiddler.
 Spilt ale is waur than water. -

Strike the iron as long as it is hot.
 Stuffing hands out storms.

- 610 Sudden friendship sure repentance.
 Suped out wort was never good ale.
 Sweer by your burnt shins.
 Sweer to bed and sweer up in the morning.

T

- Take it a' and pay the merchant.
 615 Take the bit and the buffet wi't.
 Take a pint and 'gree, the law's costly.
 Take your venture, as mony a good ship has
 Take you thanks to feed your cat. (done
 620 Take part of the pelf when the pack's dealing
 Take a man by his word and a cow by the horn
 Take a hair of the dog that bit you.
 Take me not up before I fa'.
 Tell nae tales out of the school.
 625 That's a tale of twa drinks.
 That's but ae doctor's opinion.
 That's for the father but no for the son.
 That's for that, as butter's for fish.
 That's my tale, where's your's.
 630 That's the piece a step bairn never gat.
 The auld ever may die waiting for new grass.
 The back and the belly hauds every ane busy
 The better day the better deed.
 The book of Maybees is very braid.
 635 The banes of a great estate is worth the piking
 The cause is good, and the word's fa' on.
 The cure may be warse than the disease.
 The death of the first wife made sick a hole
 his heart that a' the lave slipt easily through
 640 The first sup of a fat haggis is the baldest.
 The farther in the deeper.
 The feethers bear away the flesh.
 The grey mare may be the best horse.
 The greatest clerks are not the wisest men.
 645 The happy man canna be hurried.

- The higher up the greater fa'. (gate.
 The king's errand may come in the cadger's
 The langer we live we see the mair fairlies.
 The lazy man is the beggar's brother.
 50 The lucky penny-worth sells soonest.
 The langest day will have an end.
 The laird may be laird and need his hind's help
 The mair ye greet ye'll pish the less. (cheer.
 The mair the merrier, the fewer the better
 55 The mair cost the mair honour.
 The mawt is aboon the meal with him.
 The mair noble the mair humble.
 The master's eye makes the horse fat.
 The mair mischief the better sport.
 60 The pains o'ergangs the profit.
 The poor man's ay put to the warst.
 The poor man pays for a'.
 The poor man's shilling is but a penny.
 The strongest horse lousps the dike.
 65 The scholar may war the master.
 The still sow eats up a the draff.
 The smith has ay a spark in his hawse.
 The simple man's the Beggar's brother.
 The thing that's done is no to do.
 70 The tod keeps ay his ain hole clean.
 The tod's whelps are ill to tame.
 The world is bound to man.
 The unlucky fish gets ay the unlucky bait.
 75 There is mony true tale told in a jest.
 There is a measure in a' things.
 There is none so blind as them that will not see.
 There is naething ill said that's no ill tane.
 There was never a fair word in flyting.
 80 There was a wife that kept her supper for her
 breakfast, and she was dead or day.
 There is skill in gruel making.
 There is a time to gley and a time to look even.
 There is a great differ amang market-days.

- 685 There's ay, life for a living man.
 There is an act in the laird of Grant's court,
 that no aboon eleven speak at ance.
 There are mae ways to the wood than ane.
 There are mae married than good house-hadders.
 There never came ill after good advisement.
- 690 There grows nae grass at the cross.
 There's life in a mussel as lang as she cheeps.
 There is little for the rake after the shool.
 There is little to sew when tailors are true.
 They are ay good that are far away.]
- 695 They are no a' saints that get holy water.
 They complain early that complain of their kail.
 They love me for little that hate me for nought.
 They that give you hinder you to buy.
 They that burn you for a witch lose their coals.
- 700 They that drink langest live langest. (ger
 They that ly down for love should rise for hun
 They were scant of bairns that brought you up
 Thole well is good for burning.
 Tell ither tinklers, ill may ye gree.
- 705 Time tint is ne'er to be found.
 Three can keep a secret if twa be away.
 Time and tide will tarry for nae man.
 Tine heart and a's gane.
 Touch a gaw'd horse on the back and he'll fling.
- 710 True blue will never stain.
 Try your friend or you need him.
 Twa hungry meals make the third a glutton.
 Twa fools in a house are a couple o'er mony.
 Twa words maun gang to that bargain.
- 715 Twa wits are better than ane.

W

- Well, quoth Willy, when his wife dang him.
 Weans maun creep ere they gang. (gae dry.)
 We'll ne'er ken the worth of water till the well
 We are ay to lear as lang as we live.
- 720 We'll bark oursels ere we buy dogs so dear.
 We canna baith sup and blaw.

- Wha invited you to the roast.
 Wha can haud what will away.
 25 Wha dare bell the cat.
 Wha can help misluck.
 Wha comes aftner and brings less.
 What ye win at that ye may lick af a het girdle.
 What winna do by might do by slight.
 30 What's my case the day may be yours the morn.
 What's waur than ill luck.
 What need a rich man be a thief.
 What canna be cured must be endured.
 When ae door steeks another opens.
 35 When a' men speaks nae man hears.
 When drink's in wit's out.
 When friends meet hearts warm.
 When my head's down my house is theekod.
 When the tod preaches take care of the lambs.
 740 When the wame's su' the banes wad be at rest.
 When poverty comes in at the door, friendship
 flies out of the window.
 When a' frets fail, fire's good for the fearcy.
 When a ewe's drown'd she'e dead.
 When you are serv'd a' the geese are water'd.
 745 When ys're gawn and coming the gates no toom.
 When ye are well haud yoursel sae.
 When the well'e fou it will rin o'er.
 When the stead's stown steek the stable door.
 Where the buck's bound there he maun beat.
 750 Where the pig's broken let the sherds ly.
 Where drums beat laws are dumb.
 Wee things fley cowards.
 Wafu waste makes wafu want.
 Wiles help weak fowk.
 755 Will a fool's feather in my cap gar my pot play.
 Will and wit strive with ye.
 Winter thunder bodes summer hunger.
 Wink at wee faults, your ain are mickle.
 Wise man may be whilyed with wiles.
 760 Wit bought makes fowk wise.

Under water dertth, under snaw bread.
 Work for enough makes fowk dead sweer.
 Woo-sellers ken ay woo-buyers.

765 Wrang has nae warrant.

Wrang count is nae payment.

Y

Ye are like the cow's tail, ye grow backward.

Ye are like the foul weather, come unsent for.

770 Ye are like the chapman, ye're ay to hansel.

Ye are like few of the laird's tenants, o'er het.

Ye are like good mawt, lang o' coming.

Ye crack crously wi' your bounet on.

Ye cut before the point.

775 Ye come a day after the fair.

Ye cut a lang whang out of other fowks leather.

Ye come aftener wi' the rake than the shool.

Ye canna make a silk purse of a sow's lug.

Ye canna see the wood for trees.

780 Ye can never fair well but ye cry roast meat.

Ye came in clipping time.

Ye canna preach out of your ain poupit.

Ye come to the gait's house to thig woo.

Ye canna do but ye o'erdo.

785 Ye drive the plough before the owsen.

Ye dinna ken where a blessing may light.

Yedrew nae well when my mare was in the mire.

Ye fand it where the Highlandman fand the
 tangs.

790 Ye glowr like a wild eat out of a whin-bush.

Ye gae far about seeking the nearest.

Ye have run lang on little ground.

Ye have a ready mouth for a ripe cherry.

Ye have o'er sool feet to come sae far ben.

795 Ye have gotten a revell'd hesp o't.

Ye have a crap for a' corn.

Ye have ta'en the mesture of his foot.

Ye have tint your ain stomach and found a tike's.

800 Ye have put a toom spoon in my mouth.

- Ye have fasted lang and worried on a midge.
 Ye have naething to do but suck and wag your
 Ye have tint the tongue of the trump. [tail.
 Ye have staid lang and brought little wi' ye.
 805 Ye have tane't upon you as the wife did the
 Ye have the wrang sow by the lug. [dancing.
 Ye ken what drinkers dree.
 Ye kenna wha may cool your kail yet.
 Ye live at the lug of the law.
 810 Ye'll neither dance nor hold the candle.
 Ye'll get nae mair of the cat but the skin.
 Ye'll no sell your hen in a rainy day.
 Ye'll ne'er cast saut on his tail.
 Ye'll no herry yoursel with your ain hand.
 815 Ye look liker a thief than a bishop.
 Ye'll let little gae by you unless it be the swal-
 Ye may gang farther and far warse. [low.
 Ye may get waur bodes or Beltan.
 Ye may be heard where ye're no seen.
 820 Ye may dight your neeb and fly up.
 Ye maun take the will for the deed.
 Ye mete my pease by your ain peck.
 Ye'll never die on your ain assize.
 Ye'll drink before me.
 825 Ye'll find him where ye left him.
 Ye may take the head for the washing.
 Ye'll get the cat with the twa tails.
 Ye'll beguile nane but them that lippens to you.
 Ye'll mend when ye grow better.
 830 Ye'll never be sae auld with sae meikle honesty.
 Ye never saw green cheese but your een ree'd.
 Ye never cost the cat's saut yet.
 Ye're as daft as ye're days auld.
 Ye're a good seeker but an ill-finder.
 835 Ye're nae chicken for a your cheering.
 Ye're like Macky's mare, ye brake fairly aff.
 Ye're good enough, but ye're no bra now.
 Ye're no sae poor as ye' peep.
 Ye're well awa' if you bide, and we're well quat.

- Ye're nōwer pleased fou nor fasting.
 Ye're unco good and ye'll grow fair.
 Ye're sair fashed hadding naething together.
 Ye're no fed with deaf nuts.
 845 Ye're busy seeking the thing that's no tint.
 Ye're like the hens ye rin ay to the heap.
 Ye're feared for the day ye never saw.
 Ye're best when ye're sleeping.
 Ye're a sweet nut if you were well cracked.
 850 Ye're no light where ye lean a'.
 Ye're Davy do a' thing and good at naething.
 Ye're come aff the house of Harletil'im.
 Ye're het yet and your belt's hale.
 Ye soon weary of well-doing. [pot.
 855 Ye'se get your brose out of the lee side of the
 Ye're ay right till mother tell his tale.
 Ye're no sure of that yet.
 Ye're 3y wise behind time.
 Ye're siek but no sair handled.
 860 Ye shape shoorn by your ain shackled feet.
 Your tongue's nae slander
 Your tongue runs ay before your wit.
 Ye wad make mickle of me if I were yours.
 Ye was never born at that time of the year.
 865 Young fowk may die, but auld fowk maun die.
 Young ducks may be auld geese.
 Your meal's a' deagh
 Your geese rre a' syvans.
 Your head will never fill your father's bonnet.
 870 Your tariff's as good as the profit of a yeld hen.
 Your wame thinks your wyson's curted.
 Your purse was steeked when that was paid for.
 Your gear will ne'er o'er gang you.
 Your minnie's milk's no out of your nose yet.
 875 Your teeth's langer than your beard.
 You may bark, but you darna bite.