

MUSIC

Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity

Ged A Sheòl Mi Air M'Aineol

Sèist

Ged a sheòl mi air m'aineol
Cha d'laigh smalan air m'inntinn.
Ged a sheòl mi air m'aineol.

1. 'S ann à Boston a sheòl sinn,
Dol air bhòidse dha na h-Innsean.
2. Trì latha 'n dèidh dhuinn seòladh
Thàinig òirnne droch shìde.
3. Trì latha dhen a' gheamhradh
Bha mi 'n geall air mo rìbhinn.
4. Chaill mi craiceann mo làmhan,
Bha mo ghàirdeanan sgith dheth.
5. Mi ri dìreadh anns an "rigging"
'N àm bu mhiosa dhen an t-sìde.
6. Dh'fhalbh an "rigging" bhon "bhowsprit"
Leis an tonn a bha dìreadh.
7. Dh'fhalbh an "topsail" 's an "royal";
Ò cha spòrs a bhith ga innse.
8. Dol a sheòladh a Shasainn,
Tilleadh dhachaidh fo mhìghean.
9. Ach nam bithinn aig mo mhàthair,
Gheibhinn plàdaichean mìne.
10. (Lyrics unknown)

11. Aon latha dhen a' gheamhradh
Bha mi 'n geall air mo rìbhinn.
12. Mun an sgoil an làithean m'òige
Tha mi tòiseachadh ri ìnnse.
13. Cha robh ròpa 's an robh òirleach
Nuair a reòth e nach robh trì ann.
14. (Lyrics unknown)

Translation:

Although I Sailed as a Stranger

Chorus

Although I sailed as a stranger
Sadness did not dwell on my mind.
Although I sailed as a stranger.

1. It was from Boston that we sailed
On a voyage to the Indies.
2. Three days after we sailed
Bad weather descended upon us.
3. Three days of winter
I was pledged to my sweetheart.
4. I lost the skin of my hands;
My arms were tired of the struggle.
5. I was climbing the rigging
When the weather was at its worst.
6. The rigging was separated from the bowsprit
By the rising wave.
7. The topsail and the royal blew away;
Oh, it wasn't funny to talk about it.
8. About to sail to England,
Returning home dejectedly.
9. But if I were at my mother's
I would get soft blankets.

10. (Lyrics unknown)

11. One day of the winter
I was pledged to my sweetheart.

12. School when I was young,
I'm about to tell about it.

13. There wasn't an inch-thick rope
That didn't extend to three inches when it froze.

14. (Lyrics unknown)

Recording:

[Ged A Sheòl Mi Air M'Aineol](#). The North Shore Gaelic Singers. T-3203. Beaton Institute, Cape Breton University.