

The Earl of Errol (Child 231A)

- 1 THERE was a jury sat at Perth,
 In the merry month of May,
Betwixt the noble Duke of Perth
 But and Sir Gilbert Hay.
- 2 My lord Kingside has two daughters,
 They are proper, straight and tall;
But my lord Carnegie he has two
 That far excells them all.
- 3 Then Errol he has dressd him,
 As very well he could;
I 'm sure there was not one cloth-yard
 But what was trimmed with gold.
- 4 'Ane asking, ane asking, my lord Carnegie,
 Ane asking I 've to thee;
I 'm come to court your daughter Jean,
 My wedded wife to be.'
- 5 'My daughter Jean was wed yestreen,
 To one of high degree,
But where Jean got one guinea of gold
 With Kate I 'll give thee three.
- 6 'Full fifteen hundred pounds
 Had Jean Carnegie,
But three fifteen hundred pounds
 With Kate I 'll gie to thee.'
- 7 Then Errol he has wed her,
 And fairly brought her hame;
There was nae peace between them twa
 Till they sundered oer again.
- 8 When bells were rung, and mess was sung,
 And a' man bound to bed,
The Earl of Errol and his countess
 In one chamber was laid.
- 9 Early in the morning
 My lord Carnegie rose,
The Earl of Errol and his countess,

And they 've put on their clothes.

- 10 Up spake my lord Carnegie;
 'Kate, is your toucher won?'
 'Ye may ask the Earl of Errol,
 If he be your good-son.
- 11 'What need I wash my petticoat
 And hing it on a pin?
For I am as leal a maid yet
 As yestreen when I lay down.
- 12 'What need I wash my apron
 And hing it on the door?
It 's baith side and wide enough,
 Hangs even down before.'
- 13 Up spake my lord Carnegie;
 'O Kate, what do ye think?
We 'll beguile the Earl of Errol
 As lang as he 's in drink.'
- 14 'O what will ye beguile him wi?
 Or what will ye do than?
I 'll swear before a justice-court
 That he 's no a sufficient man.'
- 15 Then Errol he cam down the stair,
 As bold as oney rae:
'Go saddle to me my Irish coach,
 To Edinbro I 'll go.'
- 16 When he came to Edinbro,
 He lighted on the green;
There were four-and-twenty maidens
 A' dancing in a ring.
- 17 There were four-and-twenty maidens
 A' dancing in a row;
The fatest and the fairest
 To bed wi him must go.
- 18 He 's taen his Peggy by the hand,
 And he led her thro the green,
And twenty times he kissd her there,
 Before his ain wife's een.

- 19 He 's taen his Peggy by the hand,
And he 's led her thro the hall,
And twenty times he 's kissd her there,
Before his nobles all.
- 20 'Look up, look up, my Peggy lass,
Look up, and think nae shame;
Ten hundred pounds I 'll gie to you
To bear to me a son.'
- 21 He 's keepit his Peggy in his room
Three quarter of a year,
And just at the nine months' end
She a son to him did bear.
- 22 'Now if ye be Kate Carnegie,
And I Sir Gilbert Hay,
I 'll make your father sell his lands
Your toucher for to pay.'
- 23 'To make my father sell his lands,
It wad be a great sin,
To toucher oney John Sheephead
That canna toucher win.'
- 24 'Now hold your tongue, ye whorish bitch,
Sae loud as I hear ye lie!
For yonder sits Lord Errol's son,
Upon his mother's knee;
For yonder sits Lord Errol's son,
Altho he 's no by thee.'
- 25 'You may take hame your daughter Kate,
And set her on the glen;
For Errol canna please her,
Nor nane o Errol's men;
For Errol canna please her,
Nor twenty of his men.'
- 26 The ranting and the roving,
The thing we a' do ken,
The lady lost her right that night,
The first night she lay down;
And the thing we ca the ranting o 't,
The lady lies her lane.