

Skye Boat Song

DAD tuning

D Bm A F#m D Bm A

D Bm A F#m D Bm A

Bm Em Bm G Bm

Bm Em Bm G Bm A

Lyrics Sir Harold Boulton

Music Collected from an air in the 1870's by Ann Campbelle MacLeod

The air was an old Gaelic rowing song Cuachag nan Craobh ("The Cuckoo in the Grove").

First published in 1884 in Songs of the North by Boulton and MacLeod


Skye Boat Song

D Bm A F#m D Bm A




Speed bon-nie boat like a bird on the wing. On-ward the sail-ors cry.

D Bm A F#m D Bm A




Car-ry the lad that's born to be king o-ver the sea to Skye.

Bm Em Bm G Bm



Loud the winds howl loud the waves roar thun-der-claps rend the air.
Thru' the waves leap soft shall ye sleep o-cean's a roy-al bed.
Man-y's the lad fought on that day well the clay-more could wield.

Bm Em Bm G Bm A



Baf-fled our foes stand by the shore fol-low they will not dare.
Rocked in the deep Flor-a will keep watch by your wear-y head.
When the night came si-lent-ly lay dead on Cul-lo-den's field.

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