

SIÚL A GHRÁ

Performed by: Ellen Emma Power

Editor's note: The Irish language largely disappeared from use in Newfoundland by the 20th Century. Ellen Emma Power's rendition of this song replicates the sounds of the Irish language to a significant extent, but meanings have been lost. This transcript reflects the sounds of her pronunciation. The Irish language words have been placed in brackets at the end of each line to allow for comparison.

Oh I'll go up in yonder hill,
It's there I'll sit and cry my fill,
And every tear would turn a mill,
Is go deen mo vourneen slantuh [*Is go dté tú mo mhúirnín slán*].

Shool, shool a clam [*Siúl, siúl, siúl a ghrá*],
Shool a saccir is shool ma traum [*Siúl go socair agus siúl go ciúin*];
Lasgo da neeger, sacka da rue [..., *socair a rúin*¹],
Is go deen mo vourneen slantah [*Is go dté tú mo mhúirnín slán*].

I'll sell my rock, I'll sell my ring,
My flax I've spun, I'll sell my wheel,
To buy for my love a sword and steel.
Is go deen mo vourneen slantuh [*Is go dté tú mo mhúirnín slán*].

Shool, shool a clam [*Siúl, siúl, siúl a ghrá*],
Shool a saccir is shool ma traum [*Siúl go socair agus siúl go ciúin*];
Lasgo da neeger, sacka da rue [*Siúl go doras agus éalaigh liom*],
Is go deen mo vourneen slantah [*Is go dté tú mo mhúirnín slán*].

Now my love is gone to France,
To seek his fortune to advance;
If he ever comes back, it's but a chance,
Is go deen mo vourneen slantuh [*Is go dté tú mo mhúirnín slán*].

Shool, shool a clam [*Siúl, siúl, siúl a ghrá*],
Shool a saccir is shool ma traum [*Siúl go socair agus siúl go ciúin*];
Lasgo da neeger, sacka da rue [*Siúl go doras agus éalaigh liom*],
Is go deen mo vourneen slantah [*Is go dté tú mo mhúirnín slán*].

¹ *Editor's note: The standard lyrics for this line are 'Siúl go doras agus éalaigh liom.'* Ellen Emma Power's words for this line either demonstrate the effects of language loss over a number of generations or a dialect and text that are no longer in common use.