

North Country Folk Tunes VIII

## Bobby Shaftor

arranged W.G. Whittaker Bobby Shaftoe's gone to sea, Silver buckles on his knee, He'll come back and marry me Bonny Bobby Shaftoe.

Bobby Shaftoe's bright and fair, Combing down his yellow hair, He's my ain for evermair Bonny Bobby Shaftoe.

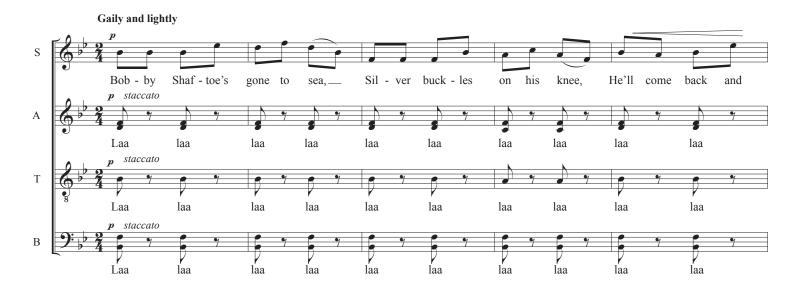
Bobby Shaftoe's gone to sea, Silver buckles on his knee, He'll come back and marry me Hurrah for Bobby Shaftoe!

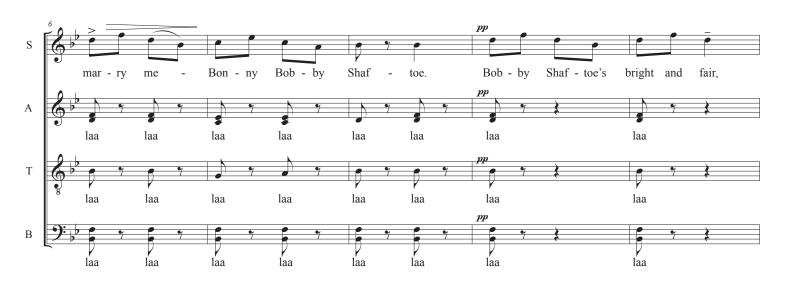
Note by Whittaker in original publication:

The Shaftoes were a well-known family in the North, and the song is the outcome of a tale of the love of a lady for one of the family went to sea to escape her attentions. The tune and the verse are perhaps the best known and most popular of all North Country songs, with the single exception of "The Keel Row." Under the title of "Brave Wully Forster" the air appears in a manuscript book dated 1694, now in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

## Bobby Shaftor

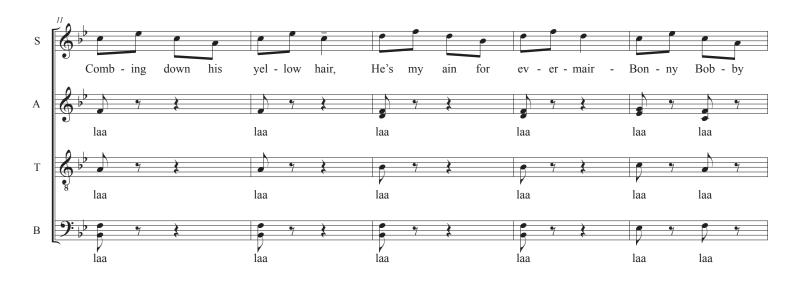
arr. W. G. Whittaker

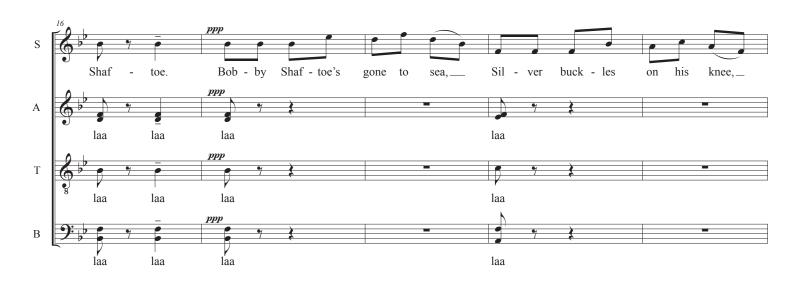


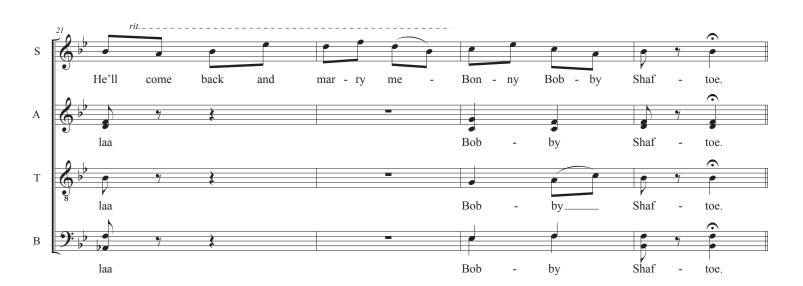


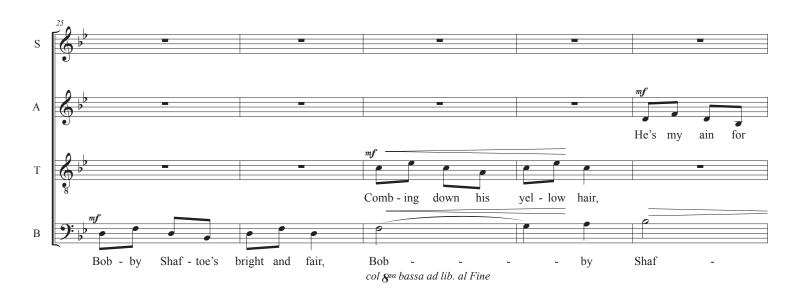


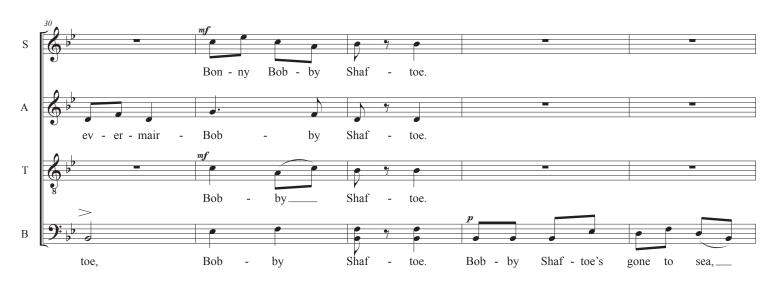
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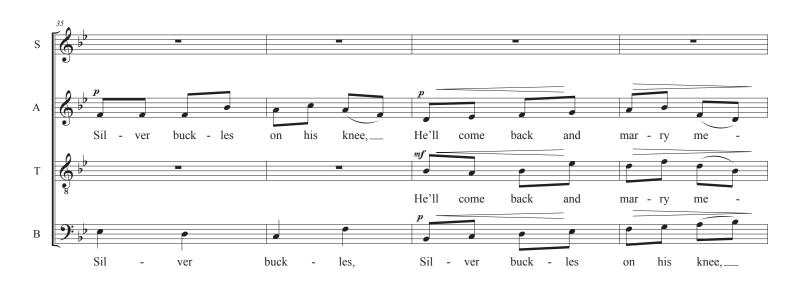


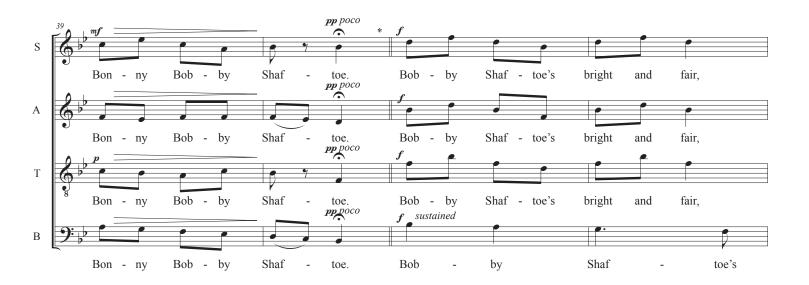


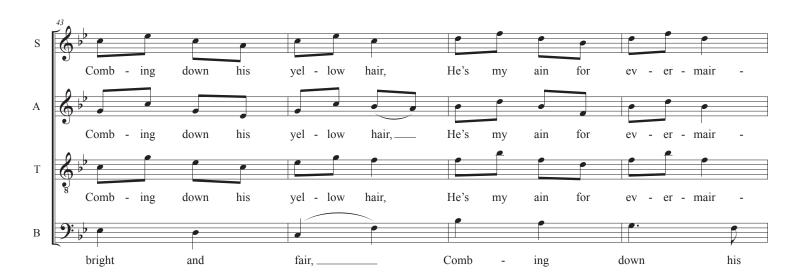


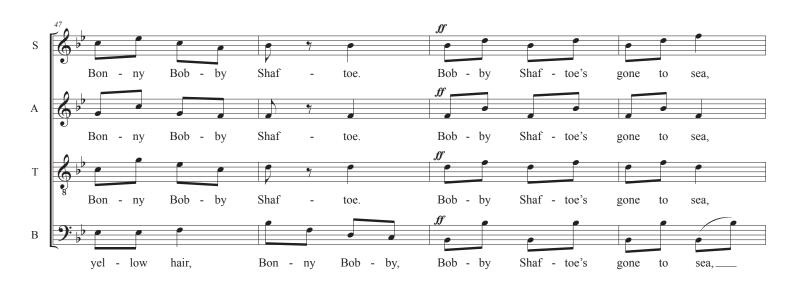






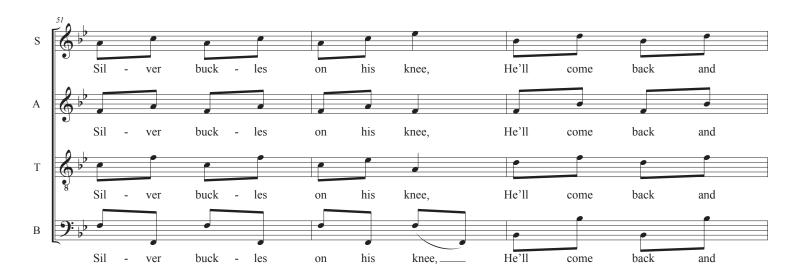


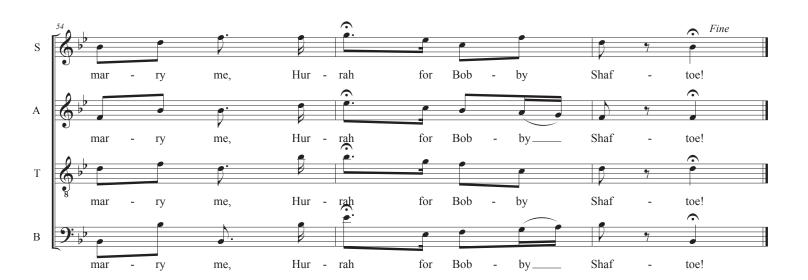




<sup>\*</sup> The variation of the tune used from this point is also traditional, but is usually sung instead of the first eight bars of this version adapted for the rest of this setting.

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Stainer & Bell (1914)

William Gillies Whittaker (1876-1944) was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, England. He studied science at Armstrong College, University of Durham, and received training in organ and singing. He became a member of its faculty in 1898. Whittaker was Professor of Music at the University of Glasgow (1929-1938) and principal of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music in Glasgow (1929-1941). He was active as a choral conductor earning an excellent reputation as director of choirs at Armstrong College, the Newcastle and Gateshead Choral Union and the Newcastle Bach Choir. Whittaker was well known as a scholar of Bach and conductor Bach's works. He was editor of the series of Bach's cantatas with English texts by C. Sanford Terry, published by Oxford University Press. He also edited various instrumental works of the 17th and 18th centuries. He composed a number of larger choral works, piano pieces, songs, and choral arrangements. He is particularly known for his collections *North Countrie Folk Songs* and *North Countrie Ballads, Songs & Pipe-tunes*, along with his

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