

## 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 kisssd 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.