

Author: Anonymous Text type: Verse, ballad Date of print: 1620 Editions: Unknown

**Source text:** 

Anon. 1620. A Merry Ballad of a Rich Maid that Had 18, Seuerall Suitor of Seuerall Countries: Otherwise Called the Scorneful Maid London: [...] Imprinted for H.Gosson. <a href="http://eebo.chadwyck.com/">http://eebo.chadwyck.com/</a>>.

e-text:

Access and transcription: February 2006

Number of words: 818

Dialect represented: Northern/Scots Produced by Javier Ruano-García

Copyright © 2011- DING, The Salamanca Corpus, Universidad de Salamanca

## Anonymous

A Merry Ballad of a Rich Maid that Had 18, Seuerall Suitors of Seuerall Countries: Otherwise Called the Scorneful Maid (1620)

To the Tune of, hoop do me no harme good man.

I am a young lasse, and my time doth to passe, That of late I did long for to marry, I haue for my [?] five hundred of a yeare, And yet for all that I will tarry.

I had with a Scot, mickle mony I wot, He strouted with Rapier and Poniard: He is laid with fine lase, but I like not his face, His feare he has lost his Whiniard.



Then came one from France who brauely could dance, Hee is proper in euery ioynt: Yet in his Country, he scapt well the Pee, So well he did cut the crosse poynt,

A Signiour Spaniore, is late come ore, And he thinkes that he hath no fellow, He is [?]ot in the Reyne, and hath got a straine, By dancing in a Bandello.

Then came a Dutch-man can touse well the can, Till his head be as light as a feather: The Spaniard had's Punck, & the Dutch-man was drunk, And so they went both together.

An Italian came post, and full well he can host, But I like not such fond fellowes:

If I were his wife he should lead an ill life,
For I doe like none so iealous.

From Rome one came to me, who daly did wo me He fasted three dayes in the m[?]ke, But when prayer is done, if he spie a faire Nun, His stomacke is wonder full quick.

A troublesome Turke, did make hasty worke, But his suite it was quickly ended:
I scornd his beliefe, and so to be briefe, He did returne home offended.

The next a braue Dane, came marching amaine, But I answered him as the rest, That he could not prevaile, so he hoyst up his saile, For his nose could abide no iest.

From Ireland I had a lusty braue lad, Each Limbe was proportioned mighty: Truth was he was poore, yet I gaue him o're, Cause his breath stunke of Aquauity.

From Swethland resorted, a man well reported And he made a proffer to woe me: His neck was so bigge, and so small was his legge, That since he would neuer come to me.



From Rushia likewise, in antick disguise, One came which did thinke to obtaine me: But his hayre & his hood, against my minde [?] Therefore he shall neuer gaine me.

The Second Part of the scornefull Maide. To the same tune.

A Grecian one day, my loue did assay, (Who standeth at euery Church dooret) I neuer respected though he me affected, I had rather turne fidlers whore.

An Almaine Rut spide me, and presently tride me, Who thought I would yeeld at the first:
But I could not abide he should lye by my side,
For some say they are diuelish and [?]urst.

From Pol did come hither in Summers hot weather, He strutted and stalk't with a grace:
So soone as I spide him I could not abide him, His nose was frozen of on his face.

He had a great minde, and was willing inclind, No Nation so wide as those, He swore and protested I gibed and leasted, And had him goe get a new nose.

A Barbarian, a bigge bellied man, Did profer to win me for's wife: For I told him this, he should surely misse, For I likt not his course of life.

From Amsterdame a vile Atheist came, He was neither true Dutchman nor Pole: But I doe reject all that are of that sect, For I doubt me that hell hath his soule.

This base minded Creature doth thinke that by nature, Both heauen and earth is made:
He thinkes there's no hell, where Atheist must
But my minde he shall not perswade.

A Gentleman of Wales did tell her fine tales,



That her had a house built on a hill, Had Pig and had Goat, and greene leek in the pot, And could eat good Couse bobby her fill.

He would keepe me so braue, if I would him haue, He would buy me a hood and a hat: He would buy me fine hose with gar[?]ers and rose, And sweet heart how like you [?]

An English man came, but I know not his name, And he brauely could quaffe it an quarrell: Hee'le drinke till he dye, some sayes, but not I, And sell all his lands for apparrell.

If I would be his wife, he swore by his life, Ere long he would make me a Lady:
He would sell his [?]ald manners to buy him new [?], And thats but the trick of a baby.

Now which should I haue, your counsels I [?] If you can but finde one will fit me: The best I will take, and amends Ile you make, If *Cupid* ere then doe not hit me.