

Tyneside Legends and History

Bluebird, Bluebird Through My Window
Rain Rain The Wind Doth Blow (see
Folkways Record); Lady Betty Will
You get up; The King's Keys; Nuts
In May; There Come Three Dukes;
Rattlesnake if I Wrote A Letter; On
this Carpet; London Bridge sung by
Children of Colored Home. Preston;
Talk about Perry in Sydney; Explorations
I Wont To Visit A Friend One Day;
Eskimo Story and Dream. Home for
colored Children

REEL 41A

72 43A

72 43B

72 44A

72 44B

72 45A

72 45B

FSG 30
23.61.2
MF289.123

149A, Tales of Newcastle.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

March 12, 1944.

At my home, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Informants. Two sailors of the Royal Navy; Leading Cook Peter Burns and Ordinary Telegraphist Vincent McGuckin, both of Tyneside, England.

These are stories of Newcastle, with questions asked by Mr. Burns, and stories told by Mr. Vincent McGuckin.

149B. Conversation on Tyneside dialect.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

March 21, 1944.

At my home, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Informants; Ord. Tel. Vincent McGuckin, R.N. Gateshead, Tyneside; and
Ldg.Ck. Peter Burns, Cullercoats, Tyneside, also in the Royal Navy.

The two sailors are interested in their dialect, and are proud of it. I had a book of Tyneside songs by C.E. Catcheside - Warrington with a vocabulary explaining the words. Using this as a guide they held the conversation heard on this record.

150 A. Singing Games.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

March 17, 1944.

At the Home for Colored Children, Preston, Nova Scotia.

1. Bluebird.
2. Rain Rain.
3. Lazy Bessie. Soloist Olive Russel, age 13.
4. The King's Keys.

The children are going to write the words out for me and I will send them on to you when they arrive. Most of their singing games are slightly different from the way I have heard them sung before, but there is no difference of opinion among the children about the way they should be sung. These children come from colored settlements all over the maritime provinces.

Singers; Fifteen children, inmates of the Home.

Mount A re-recording tape No. 10. Well sung and good tape. Also expect No. 4 is rare. These children are from all over province, but songs seem well known to all. In no. 3, the names used are two of the children in the chorus.

150B. Singing Games.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

March 17, 1944.

At the Home for Colored Children, Preston, Nova Scotia.

1. Here We Go Gathering Nuts in May.
2. Here Comes One Duke A-Riding.
3. Rattlesnake.
4. I Wrote A Letter To a Friend.

Here again there are changes in the words from the way I used to sing these songs as a child. For instance we used to sing for 2; Here Come Three Dukes A-Riding and the song was longer. For 4 we used to sing; I Wrote a Letter To My Love.

Singers; Fifteen children, inmates of the Home.

151A. Singing Gems, and story.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

March 17, 1944.

At the Home for Colored Children, Preston, Nova Scotia.

Singers; Fifteen children, inmates of the Home.

1. On this Carpet. Soloist Olive Russel.

2. London Bridge.

3. Story of Peary, told by the Assistant Matron, Mrs. Selena Jefferson, colored. After telling of Peary's visit to Sydney, N.S., she tells a legend of Watling's Island. She had no previous rehearsal, and seemed to enjoy thoroughly the novel experience of recording. Her story is continued on 151B.

1 is sung differently here from the way I knew it as a child, but it is a game that is not widely sung and it is only occasionally that children can be found who know it.

151B. Singing Game and Story.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

March 17, 1944.

At the Home for Colored Children, Preston, Nova Scotia.

Singers. 15 children, inmates of the Home.

1. I Went To Visit A Friend One Day.
2. Conclusion of story begun on 151A.

The children from this home put on radio programs every year when a whole Sunday afternoon is given to them. They sing for hours and in this way raise funds to keep the Home going. It is an interesting place to visit; scrupulously clean and with an unusually happy atmosphere.