

# The Bashful Wooer

Words by  
HUGH S. ROBERTON

Traditional tune (originally Sutherland)  
noted from JOHN M. BANNERMAN  
and arranged by  
HUGH S. ROBERTON

With spirit and humour

Piano

The piano introduction is in 6/8 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The treble clef part has a melody of eighth notes with accents, while the bass clef part provides a simple accompaniment of eighth notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

§ (CHORUS)

The first system of the chorus begins with a treble clef staff containing the vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "Come, I'll tell to you the way it all be-gan!". The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass clef and chords in the treble clef.

The second system of the chorus continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "How came Rod-die Bain to wed Mai-ri Bhan\*". The piano part maintains the eighth-note accompaniment and chordal support.

The third system of the chorus repeats the first line of the chorus. The lyrics are "Come, I'll tell to you the way it all be-gan!". The piano part includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in the final measure.

\* Pronounced— Marry Vann (meaning "fair Mary")

With characteristic pawkiness

1. Rod - die, he was ve - ry shy; He could not wink with ei - ther eye, But  
 2. Came the cour - age, came the day, He start - ed out to have his say, With  
 3. There was Mai - ri at the gate; Oh, how his heart did pal - pi - tate; He  
 4. Em - i - ly was out, she said, Wi' Dun - can Ross frae Gair - loch head; She  
 5. Mai - ri was the witch - in' one, And she and he were all a - lone; And  
*with slyness*

court - in' he was fain to try, For deep in love was he.  
 Mai - ri's sis - ter Em - i - ly, *slyly* His bride, he hoped she'd be.  
 nev - er felt in such a state, She ask'd him in to tea.  
 thocht it like - ly they would wed; He sigh'd and so did she.  
 she so coy and full of fun, And sit - ting on his knee! (*rall.*)

*D.S.*

*After last verse*  
***ff*** broader and very swaggeringly

That's how Rod - die Bain got wed to Mai - ri Bhan. —

**NOTE:** This song is supposed to be sung by a Blackfoot, a bold type of individual often employed by a bashful wooer to accompany him, lest his, the wooer's, courage should fail at the crucial moment.