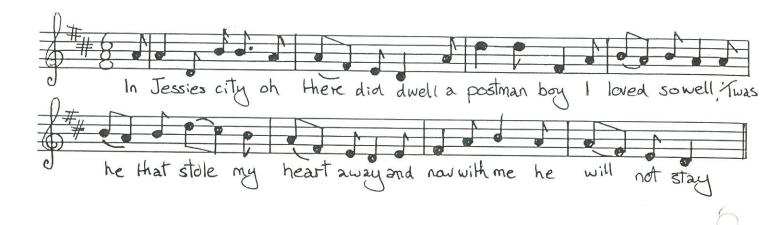
In Jessies City



IN JESSIES CITY

The words to this song were written by the same hand as the texts of Pottipher's songs. Vaughan Williams noted in his manuscript 'She learnt this at home (Chigwell) where they often used to have the neighbours come in and sing in the evenings. Her mother also knew a song called The Spotted Cow but she could not remember it.'

The text here is the same as that printed in the JFS. An interesting comparison of this song appears in Cox's Folk songs of the South under the title of The Butcher's Boy. This was communicated by Miss Sallie Evans, Elkins Randolph County 1917 and obtained from Miss Nellie Maddix who got it from her mother who learnt it from her parents. In this song the first line runs

In Jersey City where I did dwell the rest of the words being the same as the Essex variant.

In Jessies City oh there did dwell A post man boy I loved so well 'Twas he that stole my heart away And now with me he will not stay

There is an inn in this same town Which my love goes and sits himself down And takes a strange girl on his knee He tells her what he doesn't tell me

It's grief to me I'll tell you for why Because she has more gold than I But needed time her gold shall fly And she shall be as poor as I

I went upstairs to make my bed And nothing to my mother said O daughter O daughter what is the matter O daughter what is the matter with thee

O mother mother you do not know What grief and sorrow comes from joy Go get a chair and set me down And a pen and ink to write it down

Her father he came home at night Saying wherehas my daughter gone He went upstairs and the door he broke And found her hanging on a rope

He took his knife and cut her down Within her breast these lines were found O what a foolish maid was I To hang myself for a postman's boy

Go dig my grave both long wide and deep Place a marble stone at my head and feet And on my breast a turtle dove To show the world I died for love