

# Songs, Carols, and other miscellaneous poems, from the Balliol ms. 354, Richard Hills common-place-book

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100 BALLADS AND THE ILLITERATE  
doings of the common people; such as we have, for example, from genuinely "communal" ranch or lumberman or cowboy or fisherman or negro songs today. And the same composers who made heroic and historical narratives for their masculine hearers might well have made romantic and other pieces, on familiar or novel themes, for the delectation of their nobly-born women hearers, or of mixed audiences. Such songs were short, or fairly short, of a type suited for oral recital or for singing or memorizing. The English and Scottish ballads seem to have affiliations with classical narratives, medieval romances, scriptural matter, and lives of saints. There are also many plots which, as Professor Ker points out,<sup>22</sup> could have existed only as ballad plots; it is as ballads that they seem to have been created, and it is as ballads that they are memorable. Some of them might have been utilized occasionally as dance songs; but if so, this was not typical, and it was not an essential of their composition.  
The lowly, as ever against the aristocrats, hardly play any part in the English and Scottish ballads; and the ballads which do show non-aristocratic characters are those which would be least missed, if eliminated. One mentions a hostler. Thomas Potts is a serving-man, in the seventeenth century ballad of that name, but he weds a lord's daughter, and is himself ennobled. The Kitchie Boy, who is the hero of another, also weds a lady of noble birth, in a ballad which is a late adaptation of *King Horn*. Lamkin in the ballad of that name is a mason. Add *Richie Story*, who marries a footman, although herself an aristocrat, and the list is about exhausted. All are late pieces. The

<sup>22</sup> On the History of the Ballade: 1100-1500, *Proceedings of the British Academy*, vol. IV.

Description: -

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Theology -- Dictionaries -- German.  
Protestantism -- Dictionaries -- German.  
Carols  
English poetry -- Early modern, 1500-1700  
English poetry -- Middle English, 1100-1500  
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## Edgar Allan Poe Society of Baltimore

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## Middle English Verse Proverbs: The Problem of Classification, V Edden, C Thompson

Opera Seria: In un Atto, Musica del Maestro Rossibelli-Donimosarti. New York: Oak Publications, 1972. The Is Below Table of Contents Carol Page Verse First Line Burden First Line I 1 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell! Henry is recorded as a son aged 1 born Blackburn LAN 2.

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