

Gentle Maiden

1. G D7 G C G D

7. C D G D7 G C

13. G D G G G

20. Em C G D C

26. D G D7 G C G

32. D G G

1. There's one that is a pure as an angel,
As fair as the flowers of May,
They call her the gentle maiden
Wherever she takes her way.
Her eyes have the glance of sunlight,
As it brightens the blue sea wave
And more than the deep sea treasure
The love of her heart I crave.
2. Though parted far from my darling,
I dream of her everywhere,
The sound of her voice is about me,
The spell of her presence there.
And whether my prayers be granted,
Or whether she pass me by,
The face of the gentle maiden
Will follow me till I die.

"Gentle Maiden", in Gaelic "*An Maigdean Ceannsa*" is an Irish air.

Edward Bunting collected it in 1839 from a Miss Murphy in Dublin. Bunting's transcription was in 6/8 time. Bunting gives two titles for the tune, one in Irish and one in English; O'Sullivan (1983) suggests the original words were in Irish from a note in Bunting's MS.

The lyrics set to the melody were recorded by John McCormick in 1940.

It was printed in Bunting's **Ancient Music of Ireland** (1840) and P.M. Haverty's **One Hundred Irish Airs** (1858).

I learned this from the playing of Gordon Bok. I don't sing the lyrics.

This is similar to and plays well with "Fannie Power" in the O'Carolan section.