

# The Scarborough Settler's Lament

*Sandy Glendenning*



1. Away wi' Canada's muddy creeks  
And Canada's fields of pine  
Your land of wheat is a goodly land,  
But oh, it is not mine  
The heathy hill, the grassy dale.  
The daisy spangled lea,  
the purling burn and craggy linn, auld  
Scotland's glens give me.
2. Oh, I would like to hear again  
The lark on Tinny's hill  
And see the wee bit gowany  
That blooms beside the rill.  
Like banished Swiss who views afar  
His Alps with longing e'e.  
I gaze upon the morning star  
That shines on my country.
3. No more I'll win by Eskdale glen  
Or Pentland's craggy comb.  
The days can ne'er come back again  
Of thirty years that's gone,  
But fancy oft at midnight hour  
Will steal across the sea.  
And yestereve, in a pleasant dream,  
I saw the old country.
4. Each well-known scene that met my view  
Brought childhood's joys to mind.  
The blackbird sang on Tushey Linn  
The song he sang, 'lang syne.'  
But like a dream time flies away,  
Again, the morning came.  
And I awoke in Canada,  
Three thousand miles frae hame.

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The Highland Clearances were as great a tragedy for the Highlands as Culloden. Thousands of crofters were forcibly removed from their land by the Highland chieftains. Many settled in Canada. The **Penguin Book of Canadian Folk Songs** attributes the lyrics to Sandy Glendenning circa 1840 and the tune is William Marshall's "Miss Admiral Gordon's Strathspey" (1781).