

My Lady's Gown there's Gairs upon it

Strathspey



My Lady's Gown there's Gairs upon it: This appears in Glen's *Highland Bagpipe Music* and in Logan, and demonstrates the relentless thoroughness of the great Glen collection. The word "gair" is ambiguous: it could indicate a sartorial frippery, but also grassy stains--and hence sexual impropriety. The term itself is of little guide to the age of the tune, since it was in use for upwards of five hundred years.

My Tocher's the Jewel

March

My Tocher's the Jewel: I found this when I was researching 18th century Scottish song and thought it would go well on the pipes; Burns used it for a song in the *Scots Musical Museum*, one of the great 18th century collections of music as well as song: "O meikle thinks my Luve o' my beauty, / And meikle thinks my Luve o' my kin; / But little thinks my Luve, I ken brawlie / My tocher [i.e. dowry]'s the jewel has charms for him."