

She mounted on her milk-white steed, and led the dapple grey;
She rode till she came to her own father's hall, three hours before it was day.

The parrot being in the window so high, hearing the lady, did say,
'I'm afraid that some ruffian has led you astray, that you've tarried so long away.'

'Don't prittle or prattle, my pretty parrot, nor tell no tales of me;
Thy cage shall be made of the glittering gold, although now it is made of a tree.'

The king being in the chamber so high, and hearing the parrot, did say,
'What ails you, what ails you, my pretty parrot, that you prattle so long before day?'

'It's no laughing matter,' the parrot did say, 'but so loudly I call unto thee;
For the cats have got into the window so high, and I'm afraid that they will have me.'

'Well turned, well turned, my pretty parrot, well turned, well turned for me;
Thy cage shall be made of the glittering gold, and the door of the best ivory.'

Treasures from Our Archives

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 24.1 (June 1990). The first issue under the aegis of editor Lynn Whidden was a theme issue, appropriately enough given Lynn's expertise in the area of First Nations and Métis music. Lynn contributed "A Note on Métis Music" and "Native and Métis Songs from the SMEA Project"; and Anne Lederman did not stray from the field, authoring "'The Drops of Brandy': Several Versions of a Métis Fiddle Tune". The news column consisted of a collection of mini-articles on the Brandon Festival, NAFA, Tamarack, Nicole Beaudry's fieldwork, and a tribute to the late D.K. Wilgus by Edith Fowke.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 29.1 (March 1995). The feature of this issue was a major memoir by Vera Johnson (who has since been made an Honorary Life Member of CSTM), "Genesis of a Folksinger/Songwriter"; a prodigious memory, copious notes and a penchant for getting into interesting places and situations gave us a very informative overview of Vera's life as a performer. Several of her songs, "The Bald Eagle", "The Fountain" and "Our 25th Birthday", accompanied the article. Several other songs made their appearance: "The Free Slave" from Edith Fowke's collection; Hilda Thomas's "The Condom Song", and "The Northwest Logger" by Hilda along with her husband, Phil; and "We're in the Same Boat Now" by no less a personage than former Ontario premier Bob Rae (he missed his calling...), accompanying "Rae-Day in Jaffa" by Judith Cohen. On a sadder note was an

obituary of CSTM director Hugh Hendry by Bill Sarjeant. Karen Bennett contributed an EthnoFolk Letter; the Centrefold column dealt with several magazines. Craig Mishler's book *The Crooked Stovepipe* was reviewed, as were recordings *Danses d'ici* (Jean-Pierre Joyal), *The Brule Boys in Paris* (Tickle Harbour), *One Evening as I Rambled* (Moirá Cameron), *Yellowknife Evening* (Ceilidh Friends), *Look to the Sea* (The Irish Descendants) and *Ain't Life Sweet* (Penny Lang).

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 34.1/2 (March/June 2000). This was a double issue; I'll write about it next time.

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See the Mail Order Service catalogue or the website (www.yorku.ca/cstm and follow the links), or contact john.leeder@nucleus.com, for pricing.

John Leeder

Two Songs

On the following pages you will find two songs that we recently discovered and admire very much: "The Old Songs' Home" by Shelley Posen, which is self-explanatory, and "Still the Song Lives On" by Clary Croft, which is about Helen Creighton. We thank Shelley and Clary for permission to print them.