

# Till It Is Clear Day

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 2/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are triplets marked with a '3' above the notes. The word 'Chorus' is written above the start of the third staff. The lyrics are: 'It was down in Cu - pids gar - den, Where my love and I we \_\_\_ chanced to meet. I \_\_\_ put my arms a - round \_\_\_ her \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ gave to her some kis - ses sweet. For it's not the time \_\_\_ to go, boys, for to go, boys, for to go a - way For it's not the time for to go, \_\_\_ boys, \_\_\_ We will drink a - way till it is clear day.'

I bought a bottle of good brandy  
To drink in my love's company,  
But she was so proud and haughty  
That the de'il a drop would she drink with me.

(Chorus)

Now my love is proud and haughty  
And the de'il a drop will she drink with me,  
But I can do without her;  
If I could not, it would be bad for me.

(Chorus)

Come, landlady, my darling,  
Come, fill us up a glass with speed.  
We will drink it as a cordial  
A cordial in the time of need.

(Chorus)

For now is the time to go, boys,  
For to go boys, for to go away  
For now is the time to go, boys,  
We will drink no more, for it is clear day.

Note: Many years ago – in 1811, I believe – my grandmother Long’s father, William Hutchinson, was given a grant of land between the villages of Windsor and Chester in Nova Scotia with the provision that he build a public house half way between the two villages for the accommodation of all travelers. As there was a fine harbor at Chester, what is more likely than that this song was sung at the public house by sailors waiting for sailing orders? I am indebted to my cousin, John Long, for part of the words.