Wa Willie

Wa Willie

1.
A, wa, Willie! yer wamie rins oot,
A, wa, Willie! yer wamie rins oot,
Gie's a needle and threid, and a wee bittie cloot,
To sew up the holie yer wamie rins oot.

2.
Hey bonnie lassie, yer watter rins oot,
Hey bonnie lassie yer watter rins oot;
Gang get me a needle, a threid and a cloot,
And I'll shew up the hole where yer watter rins oot.

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(1) Rymour Club Misc. I (1906), 222, from Kirriemuir.
(2) Coll. M.S. Kelowna, B.C., 1962; informant (aged about 72) learned it in Lanarkshire c. 1900. Tune, The Laird o' Cockpen, i.e. When she cam ben, she bobbit.
Cf. a song in the Cunningham MS. (deriving from Burns' bawdy collection), as printed in Legman, The Horn Book (1964), 136:

O wanton Willie yir wame rins out
O wanton Willie &c.
But ye'll get a needle an' I'll get a clout
To clap on the hole that yir wame rins out.

O wanton Willie yir wame rins out
O wanton Willie &c.
I'll haud up my pitcher to kep the spout
That naething be tint when yir wame rins out.

O wanton Willie yir wame rins out
O wanton Willie &c.
Just gie me a hotch an' I'll turn about
An' cannily kep whan yir wame rins out.

Indicated tune, Bonny Muir Hen, q.v., a version of The Tailor Fell Through the Bed, or Beware of the Ripples, the modern set of which goes to the song "Logie o' Buchan"; it is actually not unlike "The Laird o' Cockpen".

MS