

Instituted 1921



Federated 1921

This is an extract from Burns' poem written over the winter of 1785-86

SCOTCH DRINK

Let other poets raise a fracas
"Bout vines, an' wines, an' drucken Bacchus, An' crabbit names an' stories
wrack us, An' grate our lug:
I sing the juice Scotch bear can mak us, In glass or jug.

O thou, my muse! guid auld Scotch drink!
Whether thro' wimplin worms thou jink,
Or, richly brown, ream owre the brink,
In glorious faem,
Inspire me, till I lisp an' wink,
To sing thy name!

Let husky wheat the haughs adorn,
An' aits set up their awnie horn,
An' pease and beans, at e'en or morn,
Perfume the plain:
Leeze me on thee, John Barleycorn,
Thou king o' grain!

On thee aft Scotland chows her cood,
In souple scones, the wale o'food!
Or tumblin in the boiling flood
Wi' kail an' beef;
But when thou pours thy strong heart's blood, There thou shines chief.

Food fills the wame, an' keeps us leevin
Tho' life's a gift no worth receivin,
When heavy-dragg'd wi' pine an' grieving
But, oil'd by thee, The wheels o' life gae down-hill, scievin, Wi' rattlin glee.

Glossary: Bear – barley
 Faem – foam
 Haughs – hollows
 Leeze me on thee - blessings on thee
 Wale – choice
 Wame – belly
 Scievin - careering.