

**"CUMMERLAND TALK;" BEING
SHORT TALES AND RHYMES IN THE
DIALECT OF THAT COUNTY:
TOGETHER WITH A
MISCELLANEOUS PIECES IN VERSE**

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"Cummerland Talk;" Being Short Tales and Rhymes in the Dialect of That County: Together with a Miscellaneous Pieces in Verse by John Richardson

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JOHN RICHARDSON

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“Cummerland Talk;”

BEING

SHORT TALES AND RHYMES IN THE
DIALECT OF THAT COUNTY:

TOGETHER WITH

A FEW MISCELLANEOUS PIECES IN VERSE.

By JOHN RICHARDSON,

OF SAINT JOHN'S.

iv
LONDON: JOHN RUSSELL SMITH.
CARLISLE: GEO. COWARD.

MDCCLXXI.

CUMMERLAND TALK.

Efter meisen an' thinken for ivver sa lang,

I thowt I wad mak a few Cumberland sangs ;

An' I sed to mesel, befwore writen a line,

My sangs s'all be true if t' words urrent sa fine.

It issent by t' dress iv a thing yan can judge,

For t' finest o' language is sometimes aw fudge ;

An' Cumberland talk, 'a's as rough as grit cot,

Hes sense, aye, an' treuth 'at some fine talk's without.

Yan oft sees a chap wi' a good-leaken feace,

Quite bonny eneaf to put in a glass kease ;

Bit if ye just quiz him about this an' that,

Ye'll finnd him as thin, barn, as t' lug iv a cat.

An' than theer some lasses sa 'ticeen indeed,

'At t' young chaps about them ga wrang i' their heids ;

Bit fine as they ur, when they're fleein about,

They're worth varra laal bit to leuk at, I doot.

A. Rowitchal, Ltd., Apr. 24, 1946

The'r fine refinet language I know laal about,
 The'r sooth country accent wi' t' "H's" left oot ;
 Fwok tell me 'at meanin' on't 's baddish to know,
 'At "white" oft means "black," an' "aye" sometimes means
 "no."

Bit Cumberland dialect issent that way,
 Fwok say what they mean, an' they mean what they say ;
 It's rayder auld-fashin't, an' broadish, an' aw,
 Bit plain as a pike-staff, an' easy to know.

Noo, sometimes when t' treuth's nut sa sweet an' sa good
 Fwok willent know t' meanin' when mebbly they mud ;
 They'll say it's daft bodder, it's this, an' it's that,
 Bit treuth 'ill be treuth, barn, na matter for that.

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