

OHIO

RIVER



SING OH! THE CITY OH!

FOLKWAYS FA 5258



*Songs about*  
*Early Pittsburgh* by Robert **SCHMERTZ** with

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FA 5258

*Vivien Richman*  
*Gretchen Schmertz Jacob*  
*Eero Davidson*  
*John Schmertz*

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Descriptive Notes are inside pocket.

*Sing oh! the city oh!*





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Songs about  
Early Pittsburgh  
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ROBERT SCHMERTZ

*with*

VIV RICHMAN  
EERO DAVIDSON  
GRETCHEN JACOB  
JO DAVIDSON  
JACK SCHMERTZ



From left to right: Bob Schmertz, Gretchen Schmertz Jacob, Vivien Richman, Jo Davidson (seated), Jack Schmertz (standing), and Eero Davidson.

*Mildred Schmertz*



This is a collection of songs written by Robert Schmertz during the last year or two, some of them serious, some of them whimsical and all of them delightful. They are being presented now, during Pittsburgh's Bicentennial celebration, as a 200th birthday gift to Pittsburghers and to all the people who love their city as much as Bob Schmertz does.

Through his songs, you will hear a fascinating and many-faceted story...of the Indians, who were here first, of the missionaries and the trappers ... of the French, Scottish and English soldiers who struggled for possession of this beautiful valley, watered by the river which the French called La Belle Riviere.

The Forks of the Ohio, formed by the joining of the Monongahela and the Allegheny Rivers, are today's boundaries of Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle. First a trading outpost, then a French-held fort (Fort Duquesne), this strategic point was the key to the western frontier. On November 27, 1758, General John Forbes captured the fort and named the city Pittsburgh.

Such courageous and fascinating people as Celoron, Washington, Gist, Father Baron, Queen Allaquippe, Braddock, Forbes and Bouquet made the history of which we now sing.

The colorful dress of the Indians, the trappers, the French, Scottish, English and colonial soldiers sparked against the sombre background of the primitive forest. Braddock's redcoated Grenadier Guards, fresh from the formalities of London parades, and Forbes and Bouquet's killed Highlanders with their skirling bagpipes surely must have startled the Indians and the timid beasts who watched them crashing through their densely wooded domain.

Some of the people you will meet in this album (the French cook at Fort Duquesne, the Lonely Grenadier at Fort Pitt and Flintlock Finnegan) were born in Mr. Schmertz's imagination, but all of the songs are based on actual history.

Vivien Richman

#### SIDE I, Band 1: SING O THE CITY O!

Pittsburgh was given its name by the dying but victorious General John Forbes in honor of William Pitt, England's great statesman who later became the Earl of Chatham. In a letter to Pitt, he said "Sir, I do myself the Honour of acquainting you that it has pleased God to crown His Majesty's Arms with Success over all his Enemies upon the Ohio...I have used the freedom of giving your name to Fort Duquesne, as I hope it was in some measure the being actuated by your spirits that now makes us Masters of the place."

It has grown from a primitive village to its present proud and important position through the work of many minds, hearts and hands.

Sing Oh! the City Oh! the City in the Valley Oh!  
Two hundred years ago, they named it Pittsburgh town --

Sing Oh! the village Oh! that rose from flame and pillage Oh!

When Frenchmen gave up Fort Duquesne, and tried to burn it down.

Sing Oh! the Redmen Oh! the English, French and Scotsmen Oh!

Who bled for the land we so peacefully share

Sing Oh! the trappers Oh! the settlers and the builders Oh!

Whose axes rang clear on the sweet scented air!

Sing Oh! the City Oh! our fathers thought it pretty Oh!  
Here where three rivers flow, they chose to settle down  
Sing Oh! their labor Oh! when they lay down the saber Oh!  
To forge a mighty city from a struggling frontier town.  
Sing Oh! the people Oh! and every church and steeple Oh!  
Sing the sweet land we so peacefully share --  
Sing Oh! the lovers Oh! the do-ers and the givers Oh!  
Sing proudly sing! let our song fill the air!

#### SIDE I, Band 2: CELORON

In June of 1749, Captain Celoron de Blainville, on orders of the Comte de la Galissoniere, set out to protect French trading interests west of the Alleghenies against the inroads which were being made by the British-sponsored Ohio Company.

With a company of about two hundred and fifty Frenchmen, and fifty Indians, Captain Celoron embarked at Lachine (above what is now Montreal) on the St. Lawrence River. Their canoes took them up the St. Lawrence to Lake Ontario, then to the mouth of the Niagara River. They portaged around Niagara Falls to Lake Erie, across Lake Chataqua and to the upper Allegheny River.

On their way down the Allegheny River, they laid several lead plates which bore inscriptions claiming the land for Louis, King of France.

#### CHORUS:

Did you know about Celoron? No! No!  
Did you know about Celoron? No! No!  
Did you know about Celoron? No! No!  
Did you know about Celoron? No! No!  
A Frenchman brave and a Frenchman bold  
A captain come from the northland cold  
For to lay French claim to the O - hi - O!  
Did you know about Celoron? No! No!

In seventeen forty-nine, oh, Captain Celoron  
Gave his men a sign, oh, on a June day dawn  
Two hundred fifty Frenchmen and fifty braves also --  
Embarked on the St. Lawrence for Lake Ontario!

They paddled to Niagra and portaged round the falls  
And skimmed along Lake Erie, a-singing madrigals --  
Across to Lake Chataqua they portaged once again --  
A thrilling sight to see Sir, the Captain and his men!

#### (CHORUS)

The upper Allegheny they called the O - hi - O --  
And down the river valley canoe-ing they did go --  
Said Celoron "La Belle Riviere! Allons! let's  
on our way!  
For France and good King Louis we have a claim to lay!"

Along the river valley they laid their plates of lead  
Which bore a French inscription which very boldly read  
"I, Celoron de Blainville, do claim by this advance  
The land of the Ohio for Louis, King of France!"

#### (CHORUS) (What a fellow was Celoron, Oh ho! --

Down past Monongahela the voyageurs did roam,  
And up Miami River they paddled back for home  
But soon the men of Britain came on the plates  
of lead --  
It won't bear repetition just what the British  
said!

If t'weren't for Merry England, it might well  
have been so  
That we would all be Frenchmen along the O - hi - O --  
And as for Captain Celoron, we'd loudly sing his  
praise  
And raise the French tri-color and sing the  
Marseillaise!



SIDE I, Band 3: THE OHIO COMPANY

The formation of the Ohio Company, an "association of Gentlemen" seems to have come from the suggestion of the Honorable Thomas Lee, a member of His Majesty's Council in Virginia.

In July 1749, the King granted the company 200,000 acres in "such parts of the West as should 'be adjudged most proper'" with the condition that the company must settle 100 families in the area within seven years. The grant further allowed that when a fort would be built there to protect the settlers, they would be given an additional 300,000 acres.

One of the purposes of the Ohio Company was to encourage permanent settlement of the west, but perhaps the major reason lay in the vast fortunes to be made by Virginia speculators in fur trading.

Young man if you would westward go  
And make yourself a fee  
There's money in the trapper's trade  
And opportunity

And you will be well found my lad  
A cherished employee  
Of the glorious, virtorious  
Ohio Company!

CHORUS  
It's ten percent for you my lad  
And twenty percent for me  
And the rest is for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

Lord Dinwiddie has put his seal  
Upon our company  
And for the King he governs our  
Virginia Colony

And so we're fully certified  
By the British sovereignty  
And we'll sell our furs and peltries to  
The petty bourgeoisie!

CHORUS  
It's twenty percent for you my lad  
And thirty percent for me  
And the rest is for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

Young man if fighting you enjoy  
A brawl or jamboree  
There's men from Philadelph-i-ay  
With whom you'll not agree

You'll have some lovely fighting  
As the cherished employee  
Of the glorious, uproarious  
Ohio Company!

CHORUS  
It's thirty percent for you my lad  
And forty percent for me  
And the rest is for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

Across the endless mountains  
With a pack horse you will go  
You'll come upon three rivers  
In a valley wide and low

You'll barter with the Indians  
Exercise cupidity  
For the profit of our glorious  
Ohio Company

CHORUS  
It's forty percent for you my lad  
And fifty percent for me  
And the rest is for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

The Indians have a famous queen  
And she is royalty  
She governs all six nations  
In the Indian territorree

Her name is Allaquippa  
And she will exact a fee  
In muskets, rum and wampum  
From our glorious company!

CHORUS  
It's fifty percent for you my lad  
And sixty percent for me  
And the rest is for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

There's Iriquois and Seneca  
And Mingo and Shawnee  
You'll buy their mink and otter skins  
To send across the sea

And as they skin the beaver  
Skin the redskins lad, for me  
And the glorious, notorious  
Ohio Company!

CHORUS  
It's sixty percent for you my lad  
And eighty percent for me  
And the rest for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

When you come back to Virginia  
A rich man you'll surely be  
You can pick and choose your doxies  
For to bounce upon your knee

You may be a director and  
A life long legatee  
Of the glorious, notorious  
Ohio Company!

CHORUS  
It's eighty percent for you my lad  
And ninety percent for me  
And the rest is for the glorious  
Ohio Company!

SIDE I, Band 4: FORKS OF THE OHIO

Robert Dinwiddie, the Governor of Virginia dispatched young George Washington, then about 21 years old, to St. Pierre at Fort Le Boeuf where he was to deliver a letter to the commander of the French forces, requesting him to withdraw from the area.

The fact that the trading interests of the Ohio Company were being seriously threatened by the French traders in the west moved Dinwiddie to action. In 1750 and 1751, the Ohio Company sent Christopher Gist out to make a clandestine survey of the country, as far as the falls of the Ohio river. This was followed by Washington's mission to Lake Erie with Dinwiddie's letter which complained of French encroachment in British territory, expressing surprise that the French should build forts and make settlements on the Ohio river.

Washington visited with Queen Allaquippa, ruler of the six Indian nations, in an effort to ease troubled relations between them. Of this visit, Washington wrote, "I made her a Present of a Matchcoat and a Bottle of Rum which latter was thought much the best Present of the Two."

With Christopher Gist, young George travelled to Fort LeBoeuf but the French stood their ground and the mission was unsuccessful. Bob Schmertz's song, filled with unexpected internal rymes, retells this colorful story.



In seventeen fifty-three, George Washington came  
to the O-hi-O --  
A year past twenty and he had plenty of old get  
up and go --  
He didn't seem to mind the Indians or the ice and  
snow --  
But he just came a-lookin' and a-ridin' and  
a-walkin'  
To the Forks of the O-hi-O!

Lord Dinwiddie the royal Governor of Vir-gin-i-ay,  
Said, "George, you better go west a month or so,  
see what the Frenchmen say --  
Just tell 'em that the King don't want 'em and  
they had better go!"  
So George came a-lookin' and a-ridin' and a  
walkin'  
To the Forks of the O-hi-O!

Queen Aliquippa was the Indian skipper of a tribe  
down Logstown way,  
And George thought he'd better win this lady  
Indian and without delay --  
So he took her a coat, a jug of whiskey and he  
stayed a day or so --  
And he came back a-lookin' and a-ridin' and a-walkin'  
To the Forks of the O-hi-O!

He met a trapper whose name was Christopher Gist,  
the hist-ries say --  
Who looked mighty dapper in a coon skin capper and  
a buckskin negligee --  
George said, "Christopher let's get travelling --  
Erie's where we'll go!"  
So they both went a-lookin' and a-ridin' and a-walkin'  
From the Forks of the O-hi-O!

George and Christopher kept on travelling clear to  
Fort Le Boeuf,  
(And) said, "We'll state 'em an ultimatum!" but the  
Frenchmen called their bluff --  
When George said, "Gentlemen, vite tout suite!" Le  
commandant said, "No!"  
So they came back a-lookin' and a-ridin' and a-walkin'  
From the Forks of the O-hi-O!

They came back down to the wide Allegheny and they  
built themselves a raft --  
Christopher he didn't quite get the gist of her for  
he thought fore was aft --  
And George fell smack into the water while the wintry  
winds did blow --  
And George came a-swimmin' and a-sneezin' and a-coughin'  
Through the Forks of the O-hi-O!

Now if you go a-ridin' or a-walkin' on a Sunday  
afternoon --  
A stroll by the river is good for the liver and you  
might try this tune --  
On the very spot where George came travelling many  
years ago --  
As George came a-lookin' and a-ridin' and a-walkin'  
To the Forks of the O-hi-O!

#### SIDE I, Band 5: LA VIERGE DE LA BELLE RIVIERE

During the time that Fort Duquesne at the Forks of the  
Ohio was in French hands, we find recorded that Father  
Denys Baron was probably the first Catholic priest in  
Western Pennsylvania. The first mass was said in 1754.

According to Leland Baldwin's "Pittsburgh, the story  
of a City", the "Recollect priest, Father Denys  
Baron, was busy with the affairs of his parish,  
baptizing the children of the French families housed  
around the Fort, saying mass in the little chapel  
of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary at the Beautiful  
River, listening to the confessions of homesick  
soldiers..."

At the age of 19 months, Mary Jane Vermet was the first  
white child to be baptized in the chapel in 1755.

The site of the original chapel is unknown, but the  
chapel is commemorated by a plaque on St. Mary's  
Church at Stanwix Street and the Boulevard of the  
Allies in downtown Pittsburgh. The inscription  
reads:

"This tablet commemorates the first Holy Mass at  
Fort Duquesne, celebrated April 16th, 1754, by Rev.  
Denys Baron, Chaplain to the French Forces in  
occupancy. This Church of St. Mary derives from  
the chapel of that period called "La Chapelle de  
L'assomption de la Ste. Vierge a la Belle Riviere".  
- Erected by Fort Pitt General Assembly 4th Degree  
Knights of Columbus, Anno Domini 1929."

Father Barron at Fort Duquesne  
Strove for the Lord each day  
A small log chapel he fashioned there  
And chinked it with twigs and clay --  
(While) Over the altar he lifted there  
He lifted our Lady Beyond Compare  
And she was "La Vierge de la Belle Riviere--"  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere, Riviere --  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere.

Father Barron spoke ancient words  
To Indians and Frenchmen too  
And as they knelt in Our Lord's own house  
They prayed as all men should do.  
(And) over the altar they saw her there  
Our wonderful Lady Beyond Compare  
And she was "La Vierge de la Belle Riviere --"  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere, Riviere --  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere.

Father Barron at Fort Duquesne  
Christened the first born child  
And as he named her with Mary's name  
I know that Our Lady smiled --  
(And) over the altar stood smiling there  
Our wonderful Lady Beyond Compare  
And she was "La Vierge de la Belle Riviere --"  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere, Riviere --  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere.

A certain church on a certain street  
Isn't so very far  
From the small log chapel where Frenchmen prayed  
Under a western star  
And over the altar you'll find her there  
Our wonderful Lady Beyond Compare  
And she is "La Vierge de la Belle Riviere --"  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere, Riviere --  
La Vierge de la Belle Riviere!

Descant: Ave Maria, Regina Coeli.

#### SIDE I, Band 6: MON PETIT LAPIN

Surely there must have been fine French chefs at  
Fort Duquesne...and this fellow, one of Bob  
Schmertz's "people", skillfully coaxed a little  
rabbit into a gourmet's rabbit stew for his  
commander.

When Frenchmen lived at Fort Duquesne,  
They lived as Frenchmen are inclined,  
And in this valley trans-montaigne,  
They sang, and they wine and they dined.

So here's a peu petite chanson  
Of the Cuisiniere Militaire,  
How he cooked at Fort Duquesne  
In this valley trans-montaigne,  
Un Grand Artiste Culinaire!

He will now prepare pour vous,  
Un tres bon pot-a-feu, rabbit stew!

Mon Petit Lapin!  
Dans la grande cuisine, entrez, voulez-vous!  
Mon Petit Lapin!  
I have merveilleux plans for you!



Pour mon Capitaine,  
Je l'arrange un melange entre nous!  
Il exclame, Je t'adore!  
Quelle affaire, quel amour!"  
Mon petit, petit, joli lapin!

La-la-la -- pomme de terre!  
La-la-la -- Haricot vert!  
Celerie, les radis,  
Garni just like in old Paris!

La-la-la -- beaucoup de vin!  
"Fortunaire" jeune lapin!  
Just a touch of garlic!  
Un grand triomphe gastronomique!

Pour mon Capitaine,  
Je l'arrange un melange entre nous!  
Il exclame, "Je t'adore!  
Quelle affaire, quel amour!"  
Mon Petit, Petit, Joli Lapin!

#### SIDE II, Band 1: BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT

In July, 1755, General James Braddock, with a company of red-coated, elegant British Grenadier Guards, some colonial soldiers and Indians, marched from Virginia towards Fort Duquesne intent on capturing the Fort and claiming the Western frontier for the King. General Braddock, though a brave man, was not well-liked by the men. He was contemptuous of the colonial soldiers and the Indians, and he knew nothing of Indian war tactics in the American wilderness.

Guided by Christopher Gist (who is mentioned in the song "Forks of the Ohio") and accompanied by young Major George Washington, Braddock and his 1200 men were attacked about 10 miles from Fort Duquesne, near where the Edgar Thomson steel plant now stands, near Rankin, Swissvale and Braddock. Captain de Beaujeu, the French Commander of Fort Duquesne attended Mass that morning at the chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin of the Beautiful River and received communion from Father Baron (who is mentioned in the song "La Vierge de la Belle Riviere").

Unaccustomed to the tactics of the French and Indians, more than half of Braddock's men were killed and Braddock was mortally wounded. While the defeat was disastrous, it did establish the fact, for the colonials, that the British army was by no means invincible, as was later proven at Lexington some 20 years later.

Back in seventeen-fifty five  
General Braddock did arrive  
On a sunny July day  
In Western Pennsylvan-i-aye.

Oh his way to Fort Duquesne  
With Grenadiers and wagon train --  
As they slowly moved along  
He could count twelve hundred strong.

On Monongahela's bank  
The Grenadiers came rank on rank  
And young Major Washington  
Watched their banners in the sun.

At Turtle Creek they crossed the ford  
When suddenly their cannon roared  
Six hundred braves from Fort Duquesne  
Assaulted Braddock and his train.

The Indians fired from every tree  
The Grenadiers fought gallantly  
But nearly half were slaughtered there  
As deadly arrows filled the air.

Said Washington, "We must deploy!"  
Braddock said, "Be quiet, boy!"  
And lashed about him with his sword  
And cursed and swore before the Lord.

General Braddock, horse astride  
Tried to stem the dreadful tide  
His horses five were each shot dead  
And Braddock from his death-wound bled.

The Grenadiers in full retreat  
Took Braddock by his head and feet  
And made his final bed of pain  
In a wagon of his train.

Up near where Uniontown now stands  
They laid him down with gentle hands  
His ebbing life they couldn't save  
And they laid him in his lonely grave  
And the Grenadiers marched on his lonely grave --  
And the wagon wheels rolled on his lonely grave.

#### SIDE II, Band 2: GENERAL JOHN FORBES

An ailing man, a dour man and a strong and brave man was the "Head of Iron", General John Forbes who led some 6,000 soldiers into Fort Duquesne. Here at the Forks of the Ohio, the city of Pittsburgh was born, named by Forbes on November 27, 1758.

Accompanied by Washington and Henry Bouquet, Forbes commanded a motley band of soldiers, Scottish Highlanders and provincials whom he described to William Pitt as "an extremely bad collection of broken innkeepers, horse jockeys and Indian traders".

Young Major Grant (after whom Grant Street in Pittsburgh is named) was sent out to reconnoitre in September. He disobeyed orders and moved in to attack Fort Duquesne. His company was routed and he was captured.

Two months later, General Forbes, by then so ill that he had to be carried by litter, entered the ruins of Fort Duquesne which the French had abandoned and had tried to burn to the ground.

In his letter to William Pitt, in which he explained that he had taken the liberty of naming the place Pittsburgh, General Forbes said, somewhat prophetically, "I hope the name Fathers will take (it) under their Protection, in which case these dreary deserts will soon be the richest and most fertile of any possessed by the British in North America".

In seventeen hundred fifty and eight  
A truly most significant date  
John Forbes the general at Carlisle  
Assembled his motley rank and file!

Backwoodsmen, farriers, waggoners, scouts  
And Forbes of some had serious doubts  
But his kilted Highlanders Scottish all  
Delighted the crusty general!

A crusty Scot was General John  
He roused his men at crack-o-the-dawn --  
Six thousand soldiers he firmly led --  
They christened him proudly "Iron Head!"

"We'll build a road!" the general said,  
"We'll build a road!" the general said,  
And his soldiers grumbled into their bread  
"We heard you the first time, Iron Head!"

An ailing man was General John  
A jouncing litter carried him on  
(But) He wouldn't take to his painful bed  
"Our Laddie is brave" the soldiers said.

George Washington and Henry Bouquet  
From Raystown gap came all of the way  
To Loyal Hanna they hacked a road  
And Jupiter Pluvius rained and snowed.

The endless mountains shadowed them drear  
The heavens mourned the dying old year  
And through the muddy and rough terrain  
They laboured their way to Fort Duquesne.



Young Major Grant was sent on ahead  
"Just Reconnoiter" the general said  
But he came a cropper at Fort Duquesne  
And many a Hiland man was slain.

Our General John, he wasn't dismayed --  
His drummers drummed, his bagpipers played --  
"March on, my laddies!" he stoutly said,  
They shouted, "Hurrah for Iron Head!"

The French and Indians faded away  
Before John Forbes' gallant array  
By swift canoe and by great batteau  
They paddled away down O-hi-o!

The woodsmen, farriers, waggoners, scouts  
Advanced upon the burning redoubts  
They passed the bodies of Hiland slain  
And entered abandoned Fort Duquesne.

(Now) We should all remember the date  
November seventeen fifty and eight  
When Forbes to Pitt sent a billet-doux  
I've called the place Pittsburgh, Sir, for you!

#### SIDE II, Band 3: THE LONELY GRENADIER

The lives of these hardy people who fought and  
labored in the early days of Pittsburgh and Fort  
Pitt were certainly not untouched by poetry,  
loneliness and romance. Again, Bob Schmertz,  
touching his hand to the new Fort Pitt which was  
built on the ruins of Fort Duquesne by General  
Forbes in 1759, gives us a strangely haunting love  
song. The five bastions of the Fort, the  
Grenadier, Ohio, Monongahela, Flag and Music  
bastion give structure to his ballad; his delicate  
melody and poetry lend a truly enchanted quality  
to this moment from our past.

The Fort has bastions five, the Grenadier is one  
It towers above the drawbridge moat  
Toward the morning sun  
Upon the rampart high, a sentry stands alone  
Looks toward the England he'll not see  
Before his life is done.

#### REFRAIN:

Oh, lonely Grenadier, oh come and walk with me,  
And see the tender burgeoning of each young  
leafy tree  
New planted in the garden of the King's Artillery.

Ohio bastion's two, Monongahela's three  
They guard the merging rivers flowing  
Swiftly to the sea --  
There is no gallant ship a-sail for London Town  
So walk with me at sunset gun  
And watch the flag go down.

#### REFRAIN:

Oh, lonely Grenadier, oh come and walk with me  
Where columbine and marigold invite the vagrant  
bee  
Philand'ring in the garden of the King's Artillery.

The Flag is bastion four, the one called Music's  
five  
Each Battlement trumpet sound  
Come echoing alive  
The lonely sentry stands touched red by evening  
sun

And I would hold him in my arms  
Before his life is done.

#### REFRAIN:

Oh, lonely Grenadier, oh come and walk with me  
For we have yet a little time to gather, like  
the bee,  
Sweet honey in the garden of the King's Artillery.

#### SIDE II, Band 4: FLINTLOCK FINNEGAN

From May 28, 1763 until they were liberated by  
Col. Henry Bouquet on August 1, the soldiers and  
their families at Fort Pitt were besieged by the  
Indian leader, Pontiac. Relationships between  
the English and the Indians had been steadily  
worsening, partly because of lawless traders,  
speculators and "squatters who invaded the lands  
of the border tribes, crowding them from their  
homes".

The Fort was completely surrounded by Indians,  
communication was cut off and smallpox began to  
break out among the men, women and children in  
the Fort. During these terrible days, in which  
the future of the western frontier hung in the  
balance, there must surely have been such a fear-  
less hero as Bob Schmertz's good friend,  
"Flintlock Finnegan", a lusty, cheerful, whoop-  
ing, hollering braggart, in the bold tradition  
of Davy Crockett.

Eagle-Eye Finnegan swaggers and bellows through  
the Fort, keeping spirits high inside the Fort  
and keeping the Indians low outside. Here is a  
most worthy addition to our gallery of folk  
heroes of history.

When hist'ry tells of famous men  
It's bound to miss one now and then  
And that is why you never did hear  
Of Flintlock Finnegan volunteer.

A ramrod nimrod six feet tall  
A handy feller with a musket ball  
A rag-tag bob-tail buckskin-eer  
Got his shirt and britches from a near by deer.

When the Redskins led by Pontiac  
On old Fort Pitt made bold attack  
The commandant did commandeer  
Flintlock Finnegan volunteer.

#### REFRAIN:

Flintlock Finnegan, Dead Shot Finnegan  
Eagle Eye Finnegan volunteer!

The frontier folk at Pittsburgh Town  
In old Fort Pitt did huddle down  
With their pigs and their cattle and their children  
dear  
And Flintlock Finnegan volunteer.

The Redskins whooped and howled outside  
The women wept and the children cried  
Said Flintlock Finnegan, "Don't you fear --  
Into them savages I'll throw a skeer!"

He prowled the firestep night and day  
And glared through the gun ports every which way  
And the Redskins paled at the devilish leer  
Of Flintlock Finnegan volunteer.

#### REFRAIN:

Flintlock Finnegan, Dead Shot Finnegan  
Eagle Eye Finnegan volunteer!

Whenever an Indian showed his snoot  
He shot the tassles off his Indian suit  
And he'd whoop and he'd holler and he'd loudly jeer  
"If a bullet catches you, I don't much keer!"

At night he snuk outside the Fort  
(And) lay and listened for an Indian snort  
And snatched his feathers for the children dear  
A Flintlock Finnegan souvenir!

He shot big holes in their kegs of rum  
The rum leaked out, made the Redskins glum  
They could hear him bellowing in accents clear  
"There's too much drinkin' goin' on round here!"



REFRAIN:

Said Flintlock Finnegan, Dead Shot Finnegan  
There's too much drinkin' goin' on round here!

Said the British Regulars at the Fort  
"That chap Finnegan's a right good sort!"  
The commandant said, "Cheers! Hear, Hear!  
Run for Finnegan volunteer!"

On a little tin fife he played by ear  
He sang good songs and he brought good cheer  
And the frontier folk and the children dear  
Said, "Love that Finnegan, volunteer!"

When Colonel Bouquet came marching down  
To save all the people at Pittsburgh Town  
On the ramparts crowing like a chanticleer  
Stood Flintlock Finnegan, Dead Shot Finnegan,  
Eagle Eye Finnegan, volunteer!

SIDE II, Band 5: THE BATTLE OF BUSHY RUN

Bushy Run, near where the city of Irwin now stands,  
was the site of one of the "best contested actions  
ever fought between Indians and white men."  
According to George Thornton Fleming, Pittsburgh  
historian, the battle of Bushy Run on August 1,  
1763 both for its military conduct and its political  
results deserves a place among the memorable battles  
in America. It not only saved the besieged Fort  
Pitt from sure disaster, but it turned the tide of  
Indian feeling so that the tribes came to terms  
with Bouquet.

In 1764, when the village of Pittsburgh was being  
rebuilt, Colonel Bouquet erected a five-sided  
blockhouse which still stands today as the only  
surviving part of Fort Pitt.

Just as in our modern Western thrillers, Colonel  
Bouquet and his kilted Highlanders arrived in the  
"nick of time" to save the people at Pittsburgh  
and we owe much to him for his courage and daring.

I'll sing you the Battle of Bushy Run,  
A smart little battle that truly won  
All the Western Pennsylvania territree,  
For the likes of you (and) for the likes of me.

REFRAIN:

Oh, Hi-o, ka-did-dle-um-dee,  
For the likes of you and for the likes of me.

It happened in seventeen sixty three  
When Colonel Bouquet and his company  
Came all the way across the deep blue sea  
For to teach a lesson to the Indianry.

(REFRAIN)

Oh, Colonel Bouquet's brave company  
Were kilted Scots from the Old Countree  
And their bagpipes blew with such ferocious glee  
That they scared the feathers off the Indianry.

Now Colonel Bouquet's brave company  
Were far outnumbered by the Indianry  
"If its Injun fightin' we must do" said he  
"We will use a little Injunuity!"

(REFRAIN)

So Colonel Bouquet in the dark of night  
Sent flanks to the left and flanks to the right  
And so clever was his strategy  
That caught in the middle were the Indianry.

Those Highland Scots from the Old Countree  
They hiked their kilts with a one, two, three,  
And aimed their muskets, very carefully  
And shot the feathers off the Indianry.

(REFRAIN)

Now what was left of the Indianry  
Ran like the devil had set them free --  
Left the Western Pennsylvania territree  
For the likes of you and for the likes of me.

So Colonel Bouquet came marching down  
For to save all the people at Pittsburgh town  
And the likes of you and all the likes of me  
Should thank the Colonel and his company!

(REFRAIN)

SIDE II, Band 6: PRETTIEST GIRL IN PITTSBURGH TOWN

With his lilting square-dance tune, Bob Schmertz  
gives us a glimpse of the "people of Pittsburgh  
town" as we eavesdrop on the dreams of sweet  
Sally Brown and her pioneer husband as they build  
a home, clear the land, plant and harvest, and  
raise a family ... a family which includes all of  
us who now call Pittsburgh "home".

Sweet Sally came across the sea  
A long, long way from the Old Countree --  
Promised that my bride she'd be  
Come for to love and comfort me!

There's never a man should live alone  
In a cold stone house with a heart of stone  
I've made a house from the white pine tree  
For the one who will love and comfort me!

Change partners, circle round - circle round the  
one I found  
Circle round sweet Sally Brown - prettiest gal  
in Pittsburgh Town!

A fine wide hearth and a high chimney  
A shiny kettle for the China tea  
And a silken gown for the sweet lay-dee  
Come for to love and comfort me!

A bachelor I no more will be  
We will soon have children three  
They'll look just like the sweet lay-dee  
Come for to love and comfort me!

Change partners, circle round - circle round the  
one I found  
Circle round sweet Sally Brown - prettiest gal  
in Pittsburgh Town!

Oh! We will soon have children six  
Then we'll build a house of bricks  
Bricks and straw for the sweet lay-dee  
Come for to love and comfort me!

And when I'm sure (that) she is mine  
We will soon have children nine  
An even dozen there may be  
If she stays for to love and comfort me!

Change partners, circle round - circle round the  
one I found  
Circle round sweet Sally Brown - prettiest gal  
in Pittsburgh Town!

Sheep in the valley and pigs in the corn  
A cow in the meadow and a horse in the barn  
And a pear and an apple and a cherry tree  
For the one who will love and comfort me!

And if the Lord lets us grow old  
We'll have no fear of the wind and cold  
I'll sit close by my sweet lay-dee  
Come for to love and comfort me!

Change partners, circle round - circle round  
the one I found  
Circle round sweet Sally Brown - prettiest gal  
in Pittsburgh Town!



**ROBERT SCHMERTZ:** The composer-singer-banjo-player is an Associate Professor of Architecture at Carnegie Institute of Technology and a partner in the architectural firm of Schmertz and Erwin. This is his third album. He is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and some of his songs have been recorded by other artists...Burl Ives, Gary Crosby, Tennessee Ernie Ford.

**GRETCHEN SCHMERTZ JACOB:** Bob's daughter is an accomplished singer who has appeared throughout the tristate area in folk music programs. She is a painter and a teacher of art and has worked for some time with WQED, Pittsburgh's educational TV station.

**JACK SCHMERTZ:** Bob's son, formerly a flautist and piccoloist with the Harvard Band (later with the U.S. Army Band) provides the delightful wind obbligatos in the album. He is now an engineer in Boston.

**VIVIEN RICHMAN:** A professional folk singer, her own album of folk songs and ballads of Western Pennsylvania also appears under the Folkways label. She has performed in concerts throughout the Midwest, at National Folk Festivals, was twice recorded for the "Voice of America", and has made countless radio and TV appearances.

**EERO DAVIDSON:** For many years, a teacher of instrumental music, this 'cellist-singer-square dance caller arranged all the songs in this album. A past-chairman of the Folk Arts Leadership Committee and the founder of the Callers' Association of Western Pennsylvania, he is now working in the field of educational administration.

**JO DAVIDSON:** Perhaps the most versatile musician in the group, Jo, who is Eero's son, plays guitar, banjo, bagpipes, and sings too. He has performed at National Folk Festivals, at the YM-WHA in Pittsburgh and at National Folk Camp. (Heard here only in "Forks of the Ohio").

Recorded by George Heid Productions, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
George Heid, Production Supervisor.

Cover by: Robert Lepper, Professor in Industrial Design, College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Institute of Technology.

The authentic map in the background was obtained through the kind offices of Charles M. Stotz, a foremost authority on early Pittsburgh and its forts and co-author of "Drums in the Forest".

Songs arranged by: Eero W. Davidson