

THE MOLE AND THE BAT

by Mary Maxwell Campbell (1876)
adapted by Frances M Lynch (2020)

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The original words to this song are not compatible with 21st century attitudes – however I've kept the countries (*note: spelling is from the original*) the same and as many of the words as possible so that it's light hearted feel remains.

It is now a journey of discovery, meeting women in science worldwide and giving a little snippet of what they did. If you click on their names you will find information about their lives and work. You can of course just make up your own verse – choose a country/town/village and a woman scientist and add your verse.

Scores are available on request – they do not contain the silly asides – you can add your own!

SONG WORDS

SILLY ASIDES

VERSE 1

My friend is a Mole and I am a bat
Two Travellers are we
And we have gone o'er the wide, wide world
To see what we could see.

CHORUS

But the Mole and I came back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no place in all the world
So good as our own countrie.

We love it here, we do!

VERSE 2

And first we went to merry France,
To dine with [Émilie du Châtelet](#)
The Mole ate frogs as a special treat
But I preferred the casoulet .

CHORUS

But the Mole and I came back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no meat in all the world
So good as our own countrie's

That haggis is good, isn't it

VERSE 3

And next we went to Holland,
So flat that cycling was fun
And [Dr Aletta Jacobs'](#) work
Made sure that women's rights were won!

CHORUS

Then the Mole and I cycled back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no place in all the world
So hilly as our own countrie.

Whose idea was it to cycle anyway?

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VERSE 4

We then set off to Germany
Where they made us understand
That [Emmy Noether](#) was a mathematical genius
Einstein said so out of hand.

CHORUS

Then the Mole and I came back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no maths in all the world
As good as in our own country.

We've got [Mary Somerville](#) after all!

VERSE 5

Oh then we rode to Italy
To attend a very fashionable *Serata*
The [Agnesi Sisters](#) holding forth
With algebra, geometry and a very bold sonata.

CHORUS

Then the Mole and I rode back again,
And both of us agree
There's no better sound in all the world
As the music of our own country.

That'll be the bagpipes then!

VERSE 6

Then we went off to Austria
Where much to our surprise
We saw [Hedy Lamarr](#) as a scientist
Very heavily disguised

CHORUS

But the Mole and I came back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no science in all the world
As handsome as our own country's.

You can be bonny and still be a scientist

VERSE 7

And next we got to Russia
For drinks with [Sofya Kovalevskaya](#)
She baffled us with partial differential equations
Personally I blame the effects of the vodka

CHORUS

But the Mole and I rolled back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no dram in all the world
So good as in our own country.

Oh gosh – I much prefer Whisky

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VERSE 8

We started off to America
And were almost half way there
When [Katherine Johnson](#) sent us to the moon
And we floated weightless in the air
WHEEEEE!!!

CHORUS

Eventually Mole and I came down again,
And both of us agree
That there's no moon in all the world
So good as in our own countrie.

Specially when it's a full moon

VERSE 9

We travelled off to Africa
To see the trees of [Wangari Maathai](#)
But 30 million was a lot to see
So we pledged to return by and by

CHORUS

So the Mole and I came back again,
And both of us agree
That there are no trees in all the world
So fine as in our own countrie.

We've been planting 20 million a year apparently

VERSE 10

Then last we went to England
To take tea with [Mary Anning](#)
She looked askance at Mole's old bones
Whatever is she planning?

CHORUS

So the Mole and I ran back again,
And both of us agree
That there's no bones in all the world
So good as in our own countrie.
No there's no place in all the world
As good as our own countrie (Repeat to fade)

*Though the world's pretty amazing
All these women scientists
Doing amazing things
Against the odds
Saving the planet
but we have amazing scientists in Scotland too
[Mary Somerville](#), [Williamina Fleming](#), [Doris Mackinnon](#)
And loads more
as good as any other....
I think we'll stay here now
Not sure we can learn anything with all this travel
Best to stay home....*