

Title:

Longtown, Cumberland

Shelfmark:

C908/42

Description:

Rebecca recounts an incident in the 1920s when a mother and baby died in childbirth. Burnfoot and Artheret are areas of Longtown

Lexis:

bairn = child; *aye* = yes; *fetch* = to bring; *mind* = to remember; *lass*, *lassie* = girl; *ald* = old; *twae* = two; *planting* = plantation, coppice; *mysell* = myself; *ken* = to know; *gan* = to go; *afore* = before

Phonology:

/r/ → [r]; note also trilled rhoticity

MOUTH [u:]; FACE [e:]; START [a:]; PRICE [aI ~ EI]; NURSE [aʔ:]

<-any-> → [QnI]; <-ever-> → [Iv@]; <-ook> → [u:k]; <-ong> → [aN]; <-al> + C → [a:l]

note also *who* [wi:], *last one* [last@n], *have* [hEv] and *had* [hEd] and *having* [hEvIn], *with* [wI], *Burnfoot* [bUrnft], *dead* [di:d], *twenty-one* [twEntIwUn], *twenty-first* [twEntIfUst], *Artheret* [E:T@rIt], *would* [wad ~ wUd]; *four* [fOU@ʔ]

Grammar:

use of *thee* and *thou* (*I cannae tell thee; I could nae tell thee; thou knows; I would have come at every fit for thee*)

negative particle → *nae* (*I cannae tell thee; I could nae tell thee; she was nae twae*); negative particle → *no* (*she's no had her bairn*)

zero for + time phrase (*her mother's been dead _ forty year*)

zero plural marker on noun (*forty year*)

preterite *telled* (*mind, she telled [tElt] him*)

verbal inflection with *I* (*I says*)

first person singular *is* (*I's dying*)

note also use and phonetic quality of utterance final discourse marker *thou knows* [Da nOz] and *you know* [j@ na: ~ j@ nO]. Note also the construction *if you would sent for me* = if you had sent for me.

