

Mert Vire Brigade

Notes: David Gibbs

This piece of 'poetry' has been around for a good many years, but who wrote it? Three names have been mentioned: Mr Slade (a local historian who lived at Meriottsford), Freddy Masters (headmaster of the village school in 1930/40s), and Mrs Chant (who lived in Lower Street, a stalwart of the Methodist Church. It's unlikely we shall ever know for certain the identity of the poet, but it was Mrs Chant who handed out this copy in 1944, for the purpose of a children's concert in the Methodist chapel schoolroom and it's more than likely it was her work. As someone recently pointed out, *'her used to talk broad'*.

