

We Shepherds are the Best of Men

Arr M Norman

High
We Shepherds be the best of men that e'er trod Eng - lish ground, When

Mid
We Shepherds be the best of men that e'er trod Eng - lish ground, When

Low
We Shepherds be the best of men that e'er trod Eng - lish ground, When

6
we come to an ale house we val - ue not a crown. We spends our mon - ey

6
we come to an ale house we val - ue not a crown. We spends our mon - ey

6
we come to an ale house we val - ue not a crown. We spends our mon - ey

11
free - ly and pays be - fore - we go With no ale in the vale

11
free - ly and pays be - fore we go With no ale in the vale

11
free - ly and pays be - fore - we go With no ale in the vale

16
where the cold wintry winds do blow. We spends our mon - ey freely and pays be - fore - we

16
where the cold wintry winds do blow. We spends our mon - ey free - ly and

16
where the cold wintry winds do blow. We spends our mon - ey

21 go With no ale in the vale where the cold win - try winds do blow.

21 pays be-fore we go With no ale in the vale where the cold win-try winds do blow.

free - ly With no ale in the vale where the cold win - try winds do blow.

We Shep-herds be the best of men that e'er trod Eng-lish ground,
 When we come to an ale house we val-ue not a crown.
 We spends our mon-ey free-ly and pays be-fore-we go
 With no ale in the vale where the cold win-try winds do blow.

A man that is a shepherd doth need a valiant heart,
 He must not be faint-hearted but boldly do his part,
 He must not be faint-hearted be it rain or frost or snow,
 With no ale in the vale where the cold wintry winds do blow.

When I kept sheep on Tresham Hill it made me heart to ache
 To see the ewes hang out their tongues and hear the lambs to bleat,
 Then I set out with courage and o'er the hills did go
 And penned them there in the fold while the cold wintry winds do blow.

As soon as I had penned them there I turned me back in haste
 Unto some jovial company some liquor for to taste,
 For drink and jovial company they are me heart's delight
 While me sheep lie asleep all the forepart of the night.

Source: Richard Chidlaw, collected by Gwilym Davies October 1980.
 Notes: Each part can be taken by men and/or women.