

Sir Roger is Dead

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Sir Ro-bert[sic] is dead and he's laid in his grave, laid in his grave, laid in his grave." The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Ro - bert is dead and he's laid in his grave. Heigh - ho, laid in his grave." The notes are simple, consisting of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Sir Ro-bert[sic] is dead and he's laid in his grave, laid in his grave, laid in his grave.

Ro - bert is dead and he's laid in his grave. Heigh - ho, laid in his grave.

They planted an apple tree over his head
Over his head, over his head.
They planted an apple tree over his head
Heigh-ho, over his head.

The apples grew ripe and they all tumbled down, etc

There came an old woman a-picking them up, etc

Sir Roger jumped up and he gave her a knock,
Gave her a knock, gave her a knock.
Which made the old woman go hippity hop
Heigh-ho, hippity hop.

Singing game - Carpenter's description:

Children skip, singing in a circle, hands clasped, one in centre lying down at word
"planted an apple tree". Pantomime of planting a tree.

"All tumbled down" - hit legs with hands.

"Pick them up" - in pinafore.

"Sir Roger jumps up" - one [in] middle jumps up and runs [after] other[s] with a stick.

Source: Sung by Mrs C S Neal, Glebe Farm, Aston-sub-Edge. Collected by James Madison Carpenter between 1927 and 1935.