

Three Men Went a-Travelling (Three Jolly Huntsmen)

[Chorus]



For, 'twas twelve o'clock in the morning in the middle of the night-, the ducks be - gan to
whis - tle and the cocks be-gan to fight - , and all the neigh-bours, they came out to
see that all was right - , at twelve o'clock in the morning in the mi - ddle of the night.

(Same tune)

1. Now, three men went a-travellin' to see what they could find
At first, they got to a cow pat, and that they left behind
The Englishman said it was a cow pat, the Irishman said 'Nay'
Paddy said 'It's a pancake with the crust all blown away'
2. Now, three men went a-travellin' to see what they could find
At first, they got to a haystack, and that they left behind
The Englishman said it was a haystack, the Irishman said 'Nay'
Paddy said 'It's an old thatched barn with the windows blown away'
3. Now, three men went a-travellin' to see what they could find
At first, they got to a hedgehog, and that they left behind
The Englishman said it was a hedgehog, the Irishman said 'Nay'
Paddy said 'It's pincushion with the pins turned 'tother way'
4. Now, three men went a-travellin' to see what they could find
At first, they got to a donkey, and that they left behind
The Englishman said it was a donkey, the Irishman said 'Nay'
Paddy said 'It's me grandfather with his hair all turning grey.'

Source: Sung by Ray Hartland, Eldersfield. Collected by Gwilym Davies, 9 November 1978

Notes: First verse and chorus from Mr Hartland. Remainder from a Hampshire version.