

William and Mary

1. As Wil - liam and Ma - - ry strayed by the sea - - side, Their
last _____ fare - - well for to take. "If you ne - ver re - - turn" lit - tle
Ma - ry she cried, "My poor heart will sure - - - ly break."
Variant Bar 3

2. "Be not thus dismayed," young William he said
As he pressed the dear maid by his side,
My absence don't mourn, for when I return,
I'll make little Mary my bride."
3. Three years passed away without news, when at last,
As she sat by her own cottage door,
An old beggar came by with a patch on his eye,
Quite lame and did pity implore.
4. "If your charity you'll bestow", said he,
"I'll tell you your fortune beside.
The lad that you mourn will never return,
And make little Mary his bride."
5. Mary started in trembling, "and tell me," she cried,
"All the money I've got will I give,
If what that I ask you tell to me true,
Only say does my William live.
6. "In poverty he lives," said he,
"And shipwrecked has been beside,
But return he will no more, because he is poor,
To make litte Mary his bride."
7. "That he lives Heaven knows the great joy that I feel,
Yet still his misfortunes I mourn.
He'd be welcome to me, though in poverty,
In his blue jacket ragged and torn."

8. "I love him so dear, so true and sincere
That none other I swear beside.
If in riches he rolledd and was clothed in gold,
He would make little Mary his bride."
9. Then the patch from his eyes the old beggar he threw,
His old coat and crutches beside.
With cheeks like a rose and jacket so blue,
Young William stood by Mary's side.
10. "Forgive me dear maid," young William he said,
"It's only your love that I tried.
So to church let's away, for ere the sun set,
I'll make little Mary my bride."

Source: Sung by John Fry, Thormarton (Possibly meaning 'Tormarton') first verse only.
Collector Cecil Sharp on 03 April 1907.
Verses 2-9 from John Ball at Blandford, Dorset, Aug 1905, coll. HED Hammond

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