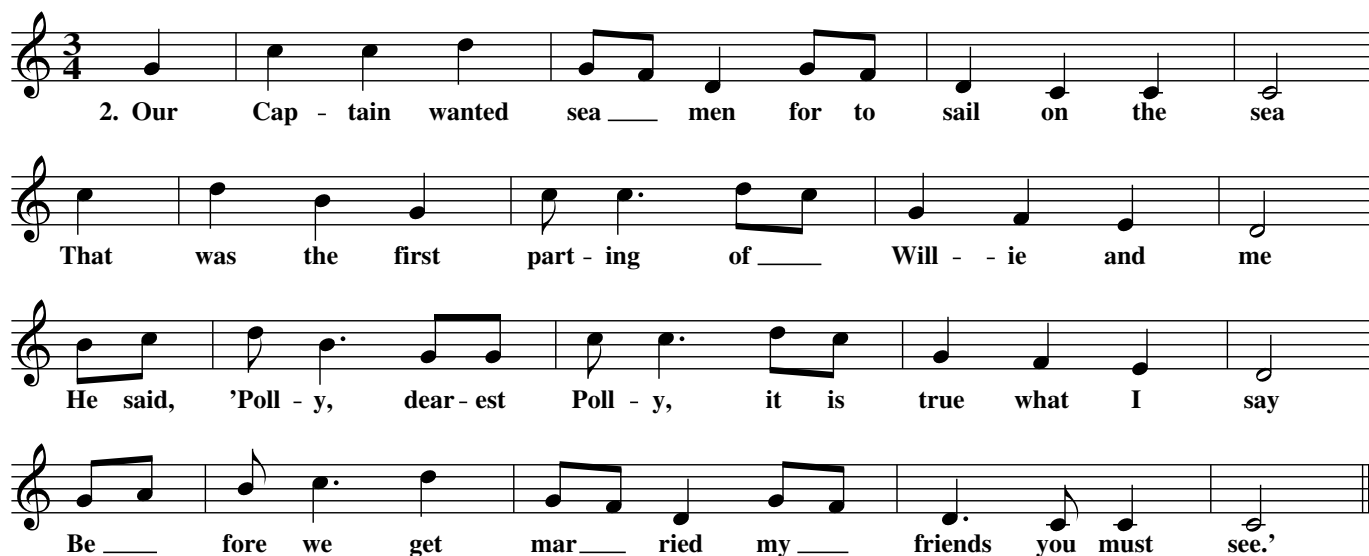


The Seamen song (The Cruel Ship's Carpenter)



2. Our Cap - tain wanted sea ___ men for to sail on the sea
That was the first part - ing of ___ Will - - ie and me
He said, 'Poll - y, dear - est Poll - y, it is true what I say
Be ___ fore we get mar ___ ried my ___ friends you must see.'

1. [In fair Worcester city in fair Worcestershire,
A handsome young damsel and she lives there;
A long time I courted her to be my dear,
I lived by the trade of a ship carpenter.]
3. He led her through woods and through valleys so deep
It caused pretty Polly for to sigh and to weep.
'Dearest Willie, dear Willie, you have led me astray
Just on purpose my innocent life to take away.'
4. 'It is true, dearest Polly, it is true what you say
I've been all the long night a-digging your grave.'
For the grave being open and the spade standing by
It caused pretty Polly for to sigh, weep and cry.
5. ['Oh pardon, oh pardon, oh pardon my life,
Oh Willie I won't covet you to be your wife;]
'I will travel all England for to set you quite free
If it's you will it's pardon my baby and me.'
6. 'Pardon dearest Polly, I have no time to spare,'
And out of his pocket a long knife he drew,
He pierced her body till the blood it did flow
And it's into the grave there their body he throw.
7. He covered it up was so safe and so sound
He was thinking the murder would never be found.
Until he sailed on board a ship for to sail the world round
He was thinking the murder would never be found.

8. It was early one morning by the dawn of the day
Our captain cried 'Order, all hands come this way.
There's a murderer on board our ship and it's lately been done
Our ship is in mourning and it will not sail on.'

9. Up stepped a young man 'No indeed it's not I!'
Up stepped another, and the same sir, said he.
For it's up stepped young Willie for to stamp curse and swear,
'No indeed it's not I sir, I will vow and declare!'

10. But as he was turning from the captain's command
He met pretty Polly all dressed up in white
She ripped him and stripped him and she torn him in three
Was because that he had murdered the baby and she.

Source: Danny Brazil at Staverton, collected 30th September 1977 by Gwilym Davies, then by Gwilym and Mike Yates in 1978, and again by Gwilym on 13th April 1995.

Notes: This is one of 2 tunes that Danny had for the song. Words in brackets collected by Peter Shephard from Danny.