

# The Poacher (’Tis My Delight)

1. When I was bound a - - ppren\_\_ tice, I was bound in Glou - cester - shire. I  
served \_\_ with my mas \_\_ ter for more than se - ven years, till  
I be - came a poa \_\_ cher, as you shall quick - ly hear, for it's  
my de - light of a moon - light night, in the sea - son of the year.

2. As me and my bold partner were setting of a snare  
The gamekeeper stood watching us, for him we did not care  
Now it's I can fight, or I can jump, run over anywhere.

Chorus

3. For when you set a snare, me boys, you're sure to get a hare  
And pop him into the bag, me boys, without any doubt or fear  
Pop him in the bag, me boys and through the woods do steer

Chorus

4. And it's though the woods do steer, my boys, till you come to a market town  
And shake him out of the bag, me boys, and sell him for a crown  
You sell him for a crown, my boys, but I dare not tell you where.

Chorus

5. Good luck to every gentleman that will buy a hare  
Bad luck to every gamekeeper that do duty on deer  
Good luck to every poacher who comes from far and near

Chorus

Source: Sung by Harry Brazil, Gloucester. Collected by Gwilym Davies 27/11/77. .

Notes: Harry's version was very fragmentary, so the above is a reconstruction,  
using words from a broadside.