

The Farmer's Boy

Arranged in three parts by Veronica Lowe, March 2016

High
1. The sun went down be - - hind yon hill, a -

Mid
1. The sun went down be - - hind yon hill, a -

Lower
1. The sun went down be - - hind yon hill, a -

cross the drea - ry moor, Wea - - ry and lame, a boy ___ there ___ came up

cross the drea - ry moor, Wea - - ry and lame, a boy there ___ came up

cross the drea - ry moor, Wea - - ry and lame, a boy there came up

to a ___ far - mer's door. "Can ___ you tell me if a - ny there ___ be who ___

to a ___ far - mer's door. "Can you tell me if a - ny there ___ be who

to a far - mer's door. "Can you tell me if a - ny there ___ be who

will give me em - ploy _____ For to plough ___ and ___ sow and to reap and mow and to

will give me em - ploy For to plough and sow and to reap and mow and to

will give me em - ploy _____ For to plough and sow and reap and mow and to

be a far-mer's boy _____ and to be a far-mer's boy.

be a far-mer's boy and be a far-mer's boy.

be a far-mer's boy and be a far-mer's boy.

2. "My father's dead and mother's left with five children small
And what is worse for mother still, I'm the eldest of them all
Though little I be, I fear no work, if you will me employ
For to plough.. etc
3. "And if you will not me employ, one favour I've to ask.
O shelter me till the break of day from the cold winter's blast
At break of day I'll trudge away, elsewhere to seek employ
For to plough... etc
4. The farmer's wife cried "Try the lad. Let him no longer seek."
"Yes, father, do", the daughter cried while the tears ran down her cheeks.
" For those who'd work 'tis hard to want and wander for employ
For to plough..., etc.
5. The farmer's boy grew up a man and the good old couple died
They left the lad the farm they had and the daughter for his bride.
And the lad that was, the farmer is, and he smiles and thinks with joy
Of the lucky day he came that way to be farmer's boy etc.

Source: William Newman at The Bank, Stanton, Glos.
Collected by Percy Grainger 17 Nov 1907 (tune only).

Notes: Grainger only collected the tune,
so words have been supplied from other versions.