

Three Milkmaids

(a)

1. Three maids _____ to milk - - ing they went. Three maids _____ to
milk - - ing they went. But the wind it did blow high, and the
wind it did blow low, _____ And it blowed their milk - pails to and fro

Variant (a)

2. Now the first that they met was a man,
A man that she knew very well,
For she boldly asked him if he's got any skill
To catch her a small bird or two.
3. Yes I have some very fine skill (x2)
If you gang along with me,
Down to yonder shady tree
Then I'll catch you a small bird or two.
4. Now this fair maid she gave her consent
And down in the meadow we went.
And we beat about the bush till the bird it did fly in
Just a little above her white nest.
5. Now here's a health to that bird in that bush
Let it be a blackbird or thrush
For birds of a feather they will all flock together
Let the people say little or much.
6. Here's a health to our king on his throne (x2)
For we'll drink down the sun,
And we'll tarry till the morn
And we'll drink to our neighbours and friends.

Source: Henry Barrett (61) at Randwick. Collected by Cecil Sharp 9th April 1908.