

## The Mossy Green Banks of the Lea

Sure I am an old 'mer-ic-an stran-ger \_\_\_ From Kill - ross-it it's caused me to roam \_\_\_

For it's Eur-ope I'm bound for to ram\_ ble \_\_\_ For I left Phil-a - del-phia my home \_\_\_

So quick I sailed o-ver to old Eng-er-land \_\_\_ Where the great forms of beau-ty did shine \_\_\_

And it's there I be-hold a fair dam\_sel \_\_\_ Sure I wished in my heart she was mine \_\_\_

2. Sure I stepped up and wished her 'Good morning'  
Her pale cheeks they did blush like a rose  
Sure your fields and your meadows they look charming  
My regard you may have if you choose  
'Young man, I don't want none of your guarderie[flattery]  
I am sure you're a stranger to me  
Now it's yonder's my father now coming  
On the mossy green banks of the Lea.'
3. I waited till up came her father  
And I plucked up my spirit once more.  
'Old man is this your only daughter?  
It's a lovely girl I adore.'  
As she rose by the lake of the water  
Sure I wished in my heart she was mine.
4. Ten thousand a year is my fortune  
And a lady your daughter may be  
She may ride in her carriage and horses  
On the mossy green banks of the Lea
5. For they welcomed me home to their cottage  
And soon after the wedlock did join  
And it's there I behold a fine castle  
Not a splendor one could you find  
For to see the sun rise every morning  
In the place where the castle did stand  
It would dazmore [dazzle] the eyes of a stranger  
On the mossy green banks of the Lea

6. Come all you young girls that is handsome  
Never mind it's how poor you may be  
Let your flatter let no man to receive you  
To never know what your fortune may be  
To see how gently he dazzled Maritilder [Matilda]  
On the mossy green banks of the Lea.

Source: Danny Brazil at Staverton, 30th September 1977, collected by Gwilym Davies

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