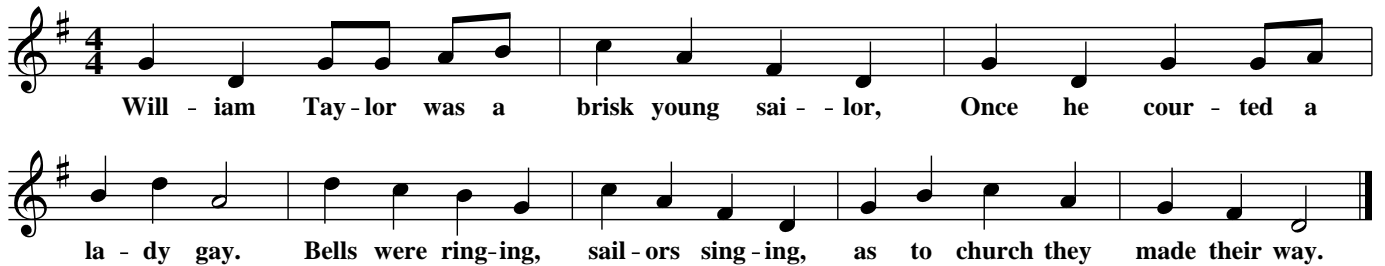


## William Taylor



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Will - iam Tay - lor was a brisk young sai - - lor, Once he cour - ted a  
la - dy gay. Bells were ring - ing, sail - ors sing - ing, as to church they made their way.

Thirty couples at the wedding, all dressed in their [finery]  
William Taylor, [ 'stead of] married, he was dressed and sent to sea.

Thirty years she waited for him, waited for him to return  
[line missed]

She dressed herself in man's apparel, boldly bore to a man of war  
And with her lily-white hands and fingers, dabbling with the pitch and tar.

Then the captain stepped up to her, asked what wind had brought her here  
"I have come for to seek my true love, whom I lately loved so dear."

"If you've come for to seek your true love, tell me what his name might be  
Oh his name is William Taylor, from the Irish ranks came he."

"You rise early tomorrow morning, you rise early at break of day  
And you'll see your true love William, walking with a lady gay."

She rose early the very next morning, she rose at the break of day,  
There she saw her true love William, walking with a lady gay.

Sword and pistol then she ordered to be brought at her command  
Then she shot her true love William and his bride at his right hand.

[And then the captain stepped up to her, was well pleased at what she'd done.  
He took her and made her a bold commander over a ship and all his men.]

If young folks in Wells or Bristol, will serve you the same as she served you,  
Then young girls would all be undone, very scarce young men would be.

Source: Sung by Alf Cobb, Sapperton. Learnt from his Cornish mother.  
Collected by John Baldwin 1969.