

A Sailor Courted A Farmer's Daughter

1. A sai - lor court - ed a far - mer's daugh - ter who liv - ed near to the
 High - land land Its good many peo - - ples that fol - lowed af - - ter whose
 fri - ends and pa - - rents could not af - ford. As soon as his mo - - ther heard
 of the sto - - ry a - - cross the o - - cean she did run If you
 don't for - sake this your bride not mo - ther I will dis - own you to be my son

Variants:

(a) (b)

1. A sailor courted a farmer's daughter
 Who liv-ed near to the Highland land
 It's good many peoples that followed after
 Whose friends and parents could not afford.
 [Long time been courting, and still discoursing
 All things concerning the ocean wide -
 "I've one more voyage to cross the ocean.
 You know my darling, I cannot 'bide."]

2. As soon as his mother heard of the story
 [Before he stepped one foot on board,
 That he'd been courting a farmer's daughter,
 Whom her parents could not afford.
 When he pushed down into the ocean,]
 Like one distracted his mother ran
 Crying in a passion "If you don't forsake her]
 I will disown you to be my son.

3. ["Oh, mother, mother, I'm very sorry,
I'm sorry you have spoke too late.
Don't you remember the first beginning,
When my father married you, a servant maid?
Oh, don't despise her, I mean to rise her,
As my own father by you has done;
I mean to take her, and my bride I'll make her,
If you will disown me to be your son."]

Source: Mrs Wixey at Buckland. Collected by Cecil Sharp on 6 April 1909.

Notes: Mrs Wixey's text was incomplete and so it has been supplemented by that collected from John Pillinger of Lechlade by Alfred Williams. The added words are given in brackets.

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