

The Croppy Tailor

There was an old tai - - lor he lived in Fairmye,
And on this old dough - nut he did fix his eye
He swore he would have her or else he would die
While the keep - - er was out up - - on du - - ty.

2. He said 'Dearest woman your husband's on the deep,
Ten guineas I'll give you this night with you to sleep.'
They tossed and they tumbled till about one o'clock,
Up came the bold bo'sun the doors for to knock.
3. He woke the little tailor right out of his sleep
Saying 'Where shall I run to or where shall I creep?
For I hear the bold knock from the trooper.'
4. 'There is an old cupboard stands gang the old door
And it's in it you'll get, you'll be safe that's for sure
I will go down and I will let him in
With kisses and comfort like man and wife should.'
5. He said 'My dear wife I've had just enough of this
Will you light me a fire to my supper.'
6. She said 'Dearest husband, there is no fire stuff
If you jump in bed with me you'll be quite warm enough.'
He said 'There is an old cupboard stands behind the old door
And I'll burn it tonight,' says the trooper
7. 'Oh no dearest husband, it's don't you burn that
For it's in it I do keep a little gamecock
That I so much admire.'
8. He hauled the old cupboard from behind the old door
And he hauled the little tailor right out on the floor.
He said 'Is this your gamecock?' said the trooper.
9. He asked for the scissors and then for the shears
And he clipped off the tips of the poor tailor's ears,
He gave him a kick and a bash and a blow,
And away run the poor croppy tailor.

10. Said the old tailor 'You've done it all right
I've had your old wife for the most of the night.'
And away run the poor croppy tailor.

Source: Danny Brazil at Staverton. Collected by Gwilym Davies 5th March 1978.

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