

15b Crafty Ploughboy - Mr Anderson



Oh come all you good peo - ple I'd have you to hear con - cer - ning a far - mer who



lived in York-shire. In York - shire the far - mer he had for his man for



do - ing of his bus' - ness a boy named John. *To me fol de rol de*



rol de do a door a day, and fol, de rol de do a door a day.

2
Then he called him aside on a fine sunny day
these words in private to him he did say,
'O come my pretty boy take this cow to the Fair,
she is in good order and her I can spare.'

3
Then this boy took the cow and his whip in his hand
he went to the Fair as you may understand.
He'd not been there long before he met with three men
and he sold the old cow for six pound ten.

4
Then this boy took these men and treat them with some
drink,
and the money they paid him was six pound ten in chink.
But unto the landlady this he did say,
'Mum, what shall I do with my money I pray?'

5
'Oh, sew it in the lining of your coat she did say,
but throw it on the road if robbed you should be.'
A highwayman stood a-drinking of wine,
he thought to himself that this money shall be mine.

6
Now as John he was a-walking home,
the highwayman he followed after him quite soon.
He soon overtook him upon the highway,
'Well overtaken, young man,' he did say.

7
'Oh how far are you going?' the highwayman he cried,
'Four miles further,' the poor boy replied.
'Four miles further, the odds I don't know,'
so it's 'Jump up behind!' and away they did go.

8
They rode 'til they came to a green shaded lane;
'Oh now my little boy I must tell you it plain,

deliver up your money without any strife,
or else this very minute I'll make an end to your life.

9
When he found he hadn't time to dispute
he quickly alighted without fear or doubt.
From the lining of his coat he tore the money out,
and amongst the long grass he scattered it about.

10
The highwayman he jumped from his horse,
and little he thought that was to his loss;
for while he was gathering the money from the grass
to make him amends he rode off with his horse.

11
He hallowed and he shouted; bid the boy for to stand;
the boy never heard him but still galloped on,
and to his old master the boy he did bring
horse, saddle and bridle; a very fine thing.

12
Now as John was a-riding on home
the servant was standing all in the front room.
She runs to her master, says, 'Here is a loss,'
says she, 'The old cow is turned into a hoss!'

13
Oh when John to his master did tell these fine tales;
that he had been robbed by a highwayman so brave;
that while he was gathering the money from the grass,
to make up amends he rode off with his horse.

14
When the saddlebag was opened within it was a hole;
they took out sixty guineas in silver and in gold.
He says, 'My little boy, you have served him just right.
You've learned him and give to him a real Yorkshire Bite!'