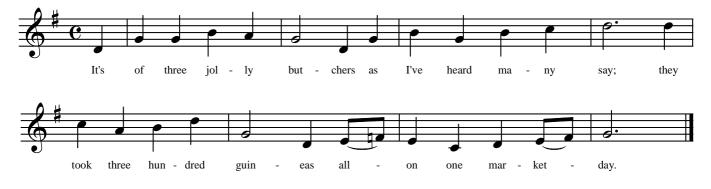
# 66b Three Jolly Butchers - Elizabeth



1

It's of three jolly butchers as I've heard many say; they took three hundred guineas all on one market day.

# 2

Now as they was a-riding along the green wood side, 'Stop your horse,' cries Johnson, 'as I hear some woman cry.'

### 3

'I will not stop,' says Gipson, 'I will not stop,' says he. 'I will not stop,' says Ryde, 'for murdered we shall be.'

#### 4

Now Johnson being a valiant man, he bore a valiant mind; he tied his horse up to the gate and tried the woman to find.

#### 5

He searched the woods, he searched the groves, he searched them all around till he found a lovely woman with her hair pinned to the ground. 6 'How come you here?' said Johnson. 'How come you here fast bound?'

'How come you here stark naked with your hair pinned to the ground?'

### 7

'They robbèd me, they strippèd me, they left me here fast bound.'

'They left me here stark naked with my hair pinned to the ground.'

#### 8

Now Johnson being a valiant man; he bore a valiant mind, he wrapped her up in his big coat and sat her on behind.

### 9

As he was a-riding along the road as fast as he could ride, she clapped her fingers to her ears and gave three bitter cries.

#### 10

Then up come three bold swaggering blades with their swords all in their hands.

They called to young Johnson and bid him for to stand.

#### 11

'I'll stop, I'll stop,' said Johnson, 'I'll stop, I'll stay,' said he, 'for I never was in all my life afraid of any three.'

# 12

Now Johnson, two of them he slew, the other he did not mind; when he was after the other one she ribbed him all behind.

## 13

'I fall, I fall,' said Johnson, 'I must fall to the ground, for since this cruel woman have gave me my death wound.'

#### 14

'Oh cruel, cruel woman, behaved to me unkind, for I have saved your own sweet life and you have taken mine.'

15

She shall be hanged in chains of gold for the murder she has done.

She's killed the finest butcher that ever the sun shone on.