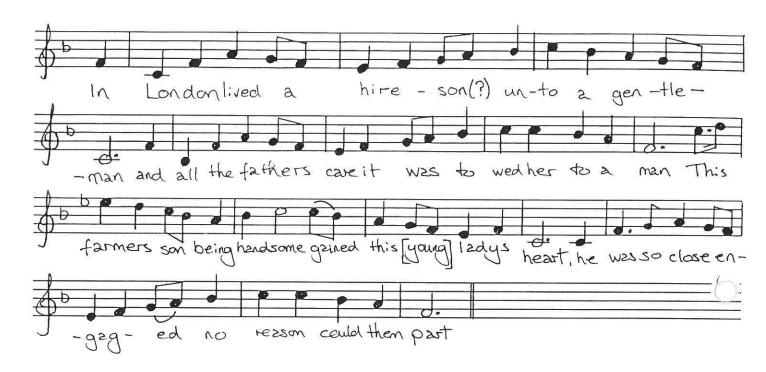
Never sail no more



NEVER SAIL NO MORE

In London lived a handsome ? (person) unto a gentleman
And all the fathers care it was to wed her to a man
This farmer's son being handsome gained this young
lady's heart
He was so close engaged no reason could them part

And when her father came to know his daughter's
foolish mind
He says unto his daughter be other ways inclined
The springtime is coming and the press gangs coming
And all the father's care it was to press the farmer's
son

And when his daughter came to know her father's cruelty
She says unto her own dear self I'll soon and follow thee
I'll dress myself in man's attire soon after him I'll go
I'll boldly plough the ocean where the stormy winds
do blow

'Twas on the first of August the battle then begun
In the front rank of battle they placed the farmer's son
Where he received a dreadful wound in the hollow of the
thigh

In the ----- was wounded dreadfully

Soon as the sargent (he did) see they had this lad conveyed

There was (?) no one to the weight of him but the sargent's arm and mine

She dressed his wounds so tenderly so bitterly they did smart

Says he one like she was once the mistress of my heart

Are you that very young man called feman will along (??)
Here's fifty guineas in bright gold for you and your
discharge

She went before the captain and fell upon her knees She brought her love safe back again over the radiant seas

When she got to her father's gate she kneeled there awhile Her father says unto himself I can see my own dear child My child as I've been waiting for these seven long years and more

Yes the lad I've been in charge for is the lad that you sent o'er

Now that I have found him he's on this fateful shore We'll live at home in peace and never sail no more

There are a number of question marks and odd-sounding lines in this song. I think this may have been due to either bad memory on Mr Bloomfield's part or misapprehension on Vaughan Williams' part. The first line has a missing word that could possibly be heiress.

See Folksongs in the forth East Gavin Greig