

POACHER'S SONG

It is rather strange that Vaughan Williams did not get the singer's names at The Bell as he seems quite particular in this detail with other songs (perhaps the singer wanted his night time interests protected and was a little wary of this London gentleman's interest in his songs).

When I was forced to leave my home
O wasn't it provoking
I kept two dogs and a ferret too
I kept them for my sporting

I hadn't got a half a field
A half a field no further
Before up jumps another one
My dogs, and hare, screams murder

I picks her up and cracks her old neck
And into my pocket puts her
Thinks I to myself I'd better be going
Before I meets the looker

I went into a neighbour's house
And I asked him what he'd give me
He said he'd give me a crown a brace
If I would bring him fifty

I went into a public house
And there I gets quite mellow
I spent a crown another one throw down
Wasn't I a good hearted fellow

Poachers Song

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