MERRY BROOM GREENFIELDS

Mr Joseph Kemp aged 77 lived next door to James Punt in the cottages by The Dog East Horndon.

It's of a noble squire that lived in the north He courted a nice lady gay And as he was walking one find summer's morn O a wager with her he did lay

A wager a wager his lady did cry And pray sir what might your wage be That if ever I love you better I never would deny That I love one merry and free

So the wage was laid and the money down paid
That was all paid down in her father's hall
And straight way he goes across the merry green broom field
Where his joy and delight was to call

The weather being pleasant so pleasant and warm He lay him self down for to sleep Not thinking for long before he awoke

And as he lay sleeping his true love came by And great notice of him did take

Nine times she did walk the sole of his feet And ten times the crown of his head Nine times she kissed his red cherry cheek As he lay sleeping on the green mossy banks

She gathered him a nose gay as sweet as a rose in June And laid it all underneath his hair So when he was woke right out of his sleep He was sure his love had been there

He called out for his little night hawk That mounts in the air so high Why didn't you wake right out of my sleep While my joy and delight came by

I shruk loud three times master
And I hovered by night aloft
She is here she is here but she soon will be gone
So surly my wager will be earned

Where was you my little pointer
With your neck all surrounded with gold
Why didn't you wake me right out of my sleep
My joy and delight to behold

I barked loud three times master And my golden collar round my neck did shake She's here she's here but soon will be gone But no notice of me you did take

Where was you my footman John Dressed up in apparel so fine Why didn't you wake me right out of my sleep For the wager that might of been mine

You did sleep a little longer into the night master And not quite so long as today If a fair young damsel came to meet you in the merry green broom fields

For a wager she never went away

