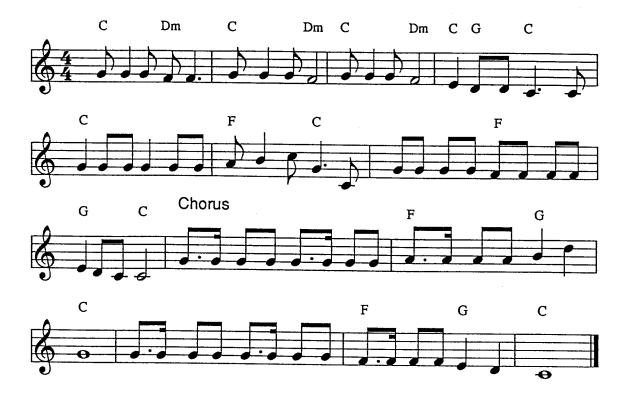
Contents

1.	Sayings Song	6
2.	Crossing the Bar	8
3.	Spring	10
4.	Wilderness Fox	12
5.	Carter's Mate	14
6.	Christmas Party	16
7.	Autumn	20
8.	Forsaken	22
9.	Three Drunken Maidens	24
10.	Home Harvest Evening	26
11.	Jolly Waggoner	28
12.	The Old Grey Hen	30
13.	March of the Wight Men	32

Sayings Song



Chorus:

When St. Catherine wears a cap
Then all the Island wears a hat. (repeat both lines)

One magpie sorrow, two magpies mirth, Three magpies joy, four magpies birth. A rainbow by night is the shepherd's delight, A rainbow in the morning is a shepherd's warning. Chorus.

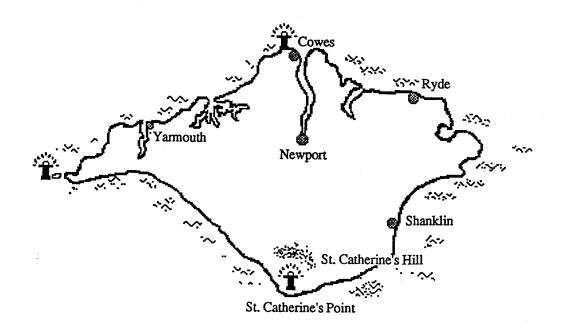
When the oak leaves come before the ash We shall only have a gentle splash. But when the ash is before the oak, Then England may expect a soak. *Chorus*.

Mares' tails and a mackerel sky Not four and twenty hours dry. A mackerel sky and mares' tails Make lofty ships carry low sails. Chorus.

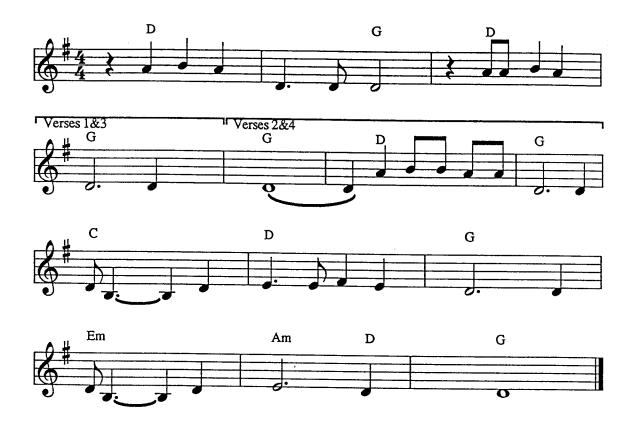
A Saturday moon's new, and a Sunday's full Never did no good, and never will. Evening red and morning grey Are sure signs of a fine day. Chorus.

When the wind is in the east
'Tis good for neither man nor beast.
But for the robin and the wren
A spider would overcome a man.
Chorus.

When the clay beats the sand Then 'tis merry England. When the sand beats the clay, Then, Old England, well a day. Chorus.



Crossing the Bar

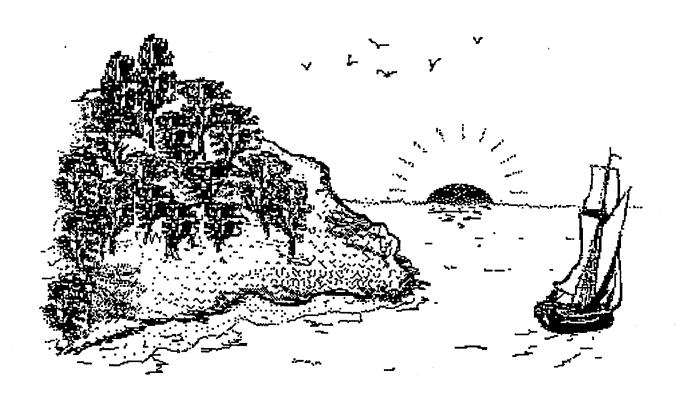


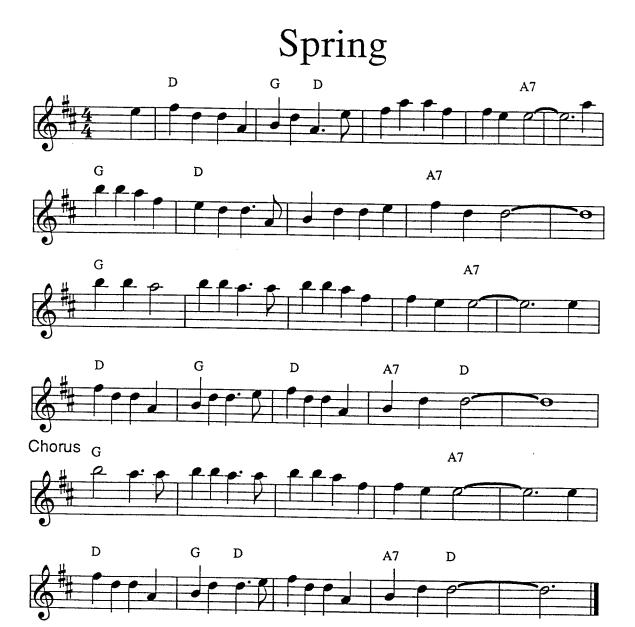
Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep, Too full for sound and foam, When that which drew from out the boundless deep Turns again for home. Twilight and evening bell, And after that the dark! And may there be no sadness of farewell, When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place The flood may bear me far, I hope to see my Pilot face to face When I have crost the bar.

Tennyson





I'm neither sick nor rich nor poor,
- A jolly carter's mate I be I whistle as I pass the door
Where waits my maid expectantly,
And crack my whip right lustily,
While hames bells ring with silver tongue.
'Wold winter's past, step cheerily Come up, my horses, step along.'



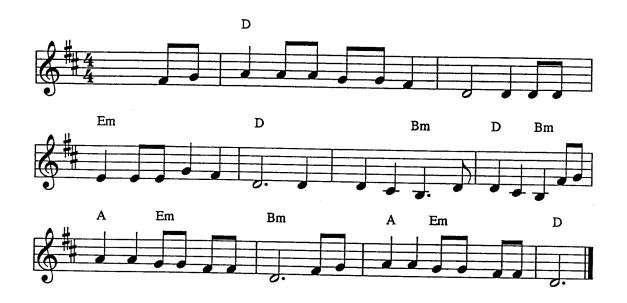
Chorus:

Spring! That's the time for me; When Nature's right and nothing's wrong; When the very air seems filled with glee -'Come up, my horses. Step along.'

Oh, Spring be here; there's signs for sure, -Green buds peep out in hedge and tree And through the meadow as of yore, The streamlet ripples merrily; While high above, a speck to see, A titty lark breaks into song: Would I could sing so sweet as he -'Come up, my horses. Step along.' Chorus.

Grass springs again in marsh and moor And sunlight's over land and sea, While on the ledges 'long the shore The nesting doves coo lovingly. For Spring has come to gladden we, And summer soon will follow on With flowers bright in lynch and lea - 'Come up, my horses. Step along.' Chorus.

Wilderness Fox



In the bank where the alder grows over He was born the beginning of May, As stout a cub as ever broke cover To the tune of Yo-oi! Gone away, To the tune of Yo-oi! Gone away.

As a one-year-old he was a wonder, Right sure, when hounds rattled him out, To lead them, and never a blunder, Straight away and no dodging about, Straight away and no dodging about.

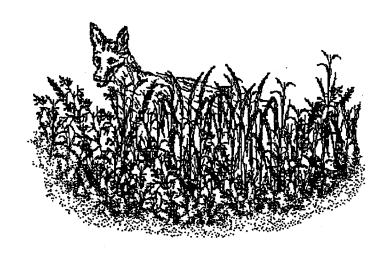
All danger and obstacles scorning,
No matter how far he may roam,
When you call on 'a fine hunting morning'
You are certain to find him at home,
You are certain to find him at home.

He's welcome to toll of the chickens - Who'll grudge him a pheasant or two? - For the sport he affords. 'Tis the dickens To live with him - even in view, To live with him - even in view.

I warrant for many a season
He's shown us all plenty of fun.
Ay! We love him, the rogue, for the reason
He always affords us a run,
He always affords us a run.

Good luck to the Wilderness cover And the fox to whom shelter it gives. Gad! Hunting will never 'give over' While one of his progeny lives, While one of his progeny lives.

A point - He can set you a stumper, Cridmoor to the Undercliff rocks. A toast - Here's to him in a bumper, 'Our pilot the Wilderness Fox,' Our pilot the Wilderness Fox.'



Carter's Mate



Tho' I'm no but a carter's mate, you mind, And draw but ten shillings a week, I can whistle and sing and enjoy my life - And better I do not seek.

I stride alongside of my team so proud As a peacock bird in June, With a crack of my whip and a 'get-up-there' As the hames bells ring in tune.

And I love a maid - the prettiest maid That ever in Wight was born -She's one of the dainty, tiddley sort, Could put her two fists in my one.

I was a bit of a bashful lad When first I saw my maid. She looked so sweet and so tired like, 'Do you want a ride?' I said.



Fuss and snigger? - she wasn't that sort -But 'I take it kind,' says she. I can see her perched on the overrods Like the Jenny Wren she be.

'Are you afraid of a little fly like me, You gurt big Dumbley Dore?' Then I caught her round the waist I did And kissed her lips for sure.

She snoodled against my side and said - A looking so sweet and shy - 'I knew you'd never have found a tongue To tell the news to I.'

We gather together at nammet time -Time maids do meet the men -But when I'd talk of banns, she'd smile, 'That might be - anywhen.'

'Tis somewhen, Jenny Wren, for sure, A cottage we shall have With a flower knot auver-right the door With pinks and pansies gay.'

So I whistle and sing as blithe as can be, -Though I reckon us two must wait Till a carter I be - for at present you see, I'm no but a carter's mate.

Christmas Party



'Morning, you! 'Tis fine today'
Sure wind has blown the rain away.
Oi we've done well this lambing time,
And hay be up and roots be prime I've come to ask all of ye
To take your vittles along with we.
There's rabbit pie and roasted teal,
And figgy pudding thick with peel,
And just about a breast of veal
In oven now a baking!
And missus' made a topping brew
- Sure I've a tub of whiskey too
Will last us most the winter through To cheer our merry making.'

We settled down. Old George said grace, And then we did pitch in a pace. I reckon we made proper play With all the spread that Christmas Day. Soon 'Missus' farmer Chick did cry 'Here's the bottom of your rabbit pie.' Then followed on the breast of veal, The ribs of beef, the roasted teal, The figgy pudding, thick with peel, All fairly round divided. We finished off with cheese and bread, White celery and beetroot red. Begob! It was a topping spread That Farmer Chick provided.

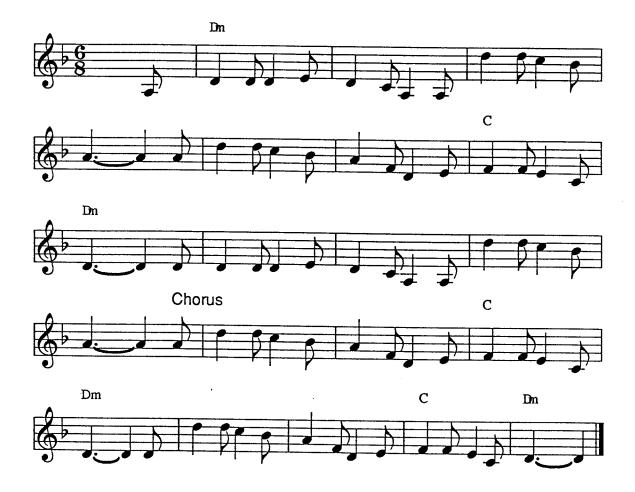
All done, we pushed the chairs away
And started in for fun and play.
Then Missus brought her famous brew
As Farmer said she was allowed to do,
And tongues got loose and eyes got bright,
As ought to be on Christmas night.
Grandfer caught old Missus Loe
And kissed her under mistletoe,
He did and wouldn't let her go.
Lord! Didn't it surprise her.
Then kiss within the ring began,
The boys did catch, the girls did run The smartest couple at the fun
Were Sam and Serle's Eliza.

Then the Christmas boys came tumbling in With dance and talk and merry din.
'Girt Head and Blunder,' starts the show And after him 'King George' you know; Next 'Father Christmas' and his wife, With broom and cudgel fair at strife.
Then 'Noble Captain,' 'Turkish Knight' That most do give the maids a fright When he with brave 'King George' does fight Each after the other coming'.
Next 'Valiant Soldier,' 'Poor and Mean,' Then 'Doctor with his physics seen, Lastly 'Johnny Jack' so starved and lean 'Twas proper Christmas mumming.

Then the farmer from his whiskey keg
Gave all of them a middling peg;
'Twill keep the dust down,' so he said,
And never hurts your legs nor head.
'Twas then the song and tale went round,
The best of both, you may be bound.
Last, Farmer set a dancing bout
'Twixt Nat and Jan, the dancers stout;
I reckon neither would give out,
But keep their legs a shaking.
Have done! We cried, the match be drawn,
Else you might dance away till dawn.
- Begob! I'll mind so long as I'm born

Chick's Christmas merry making.

Autumn



When days begin to shorten in, And leaves be turning brown, And gossamer with its fairy lace Does cover up the ground, And skies till now so clear and blue, With sullen rain clouds frown.

Chorus:

When apples fall, us knows for sure That autumn time be come.

When swallows have a-flitted south In search of warmth and sun, When hoar frost comes with early dawn And cubbing hay begun: Then all on farm right glad prepare For harvest work and fun. *Chorus*.

From edge of down the Harvest moon Arises big and bright
-Most like a golden grinding stone-And sheds a welcome light.
While vixen calls at edge of copse And breaks the hush of night.
Chorus.

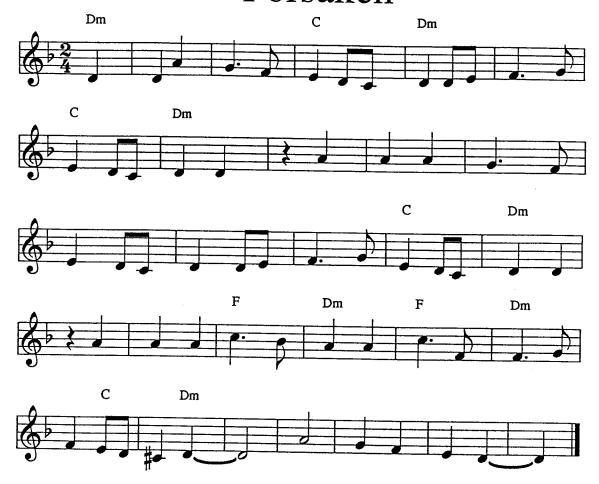
And then to Master's Harvest Home, To supper and to song.

-A middling dido us kicks up
When laughter's loud and longAnd clean forgot be weather bad
And smut and blight and wrong.

Chorus.

Oh, Spring and Summer might be fair
And Winter has its joys,
But 'tis for autumn's gathering
We sing with thankful voice,
When parson bids us come to church
And with the choir rejoice.
Chorus.

Forsaken



I sit and think the livelong day:
It haunts me waking, sleeping.
Can nothing drive this dread away
That's closer, closer creeping?
Lord, help a maid
By love betrayed
- The love that ends in weeping.
Forsaken.

I am no Nanny light-o'-love
- 'Tis Heaven's truth, I swear it This burden sore I cannot move,
With him not here to share it.
I'm all forlorn,
With babe unborn,
Have got alone to bear it.
Forsaken.

I fell before his lying tongue
- Woe's me! I loved him dearly God's pity! I was bresh and young;
I see it now most clearly.
A silly child
By love beguiled,
A passing fancy merely.
Forsaken.

And this that's fluttering in my breast,
- The fruit of love forsaken A 'wuzburd' called in cruel jest,
Has mother's shame up-raken.
Ah! Cruel woe!
'Twere better so
That both on us be taken.
Forsaken.

Abroad I creep when day is done,
So none can see my going.
Through lane and lynch I wander on
To where I met my ruin.
Here by the stile
I sit awhile
And watch the water flowing.
Forsaken.

The Voices.....Closer, closer, creep
The waters.....None can see me.
I come.....Kind river flowing deep,
From this dread burden free me.
With shame oppressed,
Here's final rest.
Ah - Mercy - God forgive me.
Forsaken, forsaken.

Drunken Maidens



There were three drunken maidens come from the Isle of Wight, They drank from Monday morning or supped till Saturday night. When Saturday night is come, me boys, they wouldn't then go out. Oh, these three drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about. Oh, these three drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about.

Then up comes rambling Sally, her cheeks as red as a bloom, Move up you jolly sisters and give young Sally some room; For I'll be your equal before that we go out. Oh, these four drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about, Oh, these four drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about,

There's woodcock and pheasant, there's partridge and hare, There's all sorts of dainties, no scarcity was there. There's forty quarts of beer, me boys, they fairly drank them out, Oh, these four drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about. Oh, these four drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about.

But up comes the landlord, he's asking for his pay,
There's a forty pound bill, me boys, these girls are forced to pay,
There's ten pounds a piece, me boys, but still they wouldn't go out.
Oh, these four drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about,
Oh, these four drunken maidens, they pushed the jug about.

Oh, where are your feathered hats, your mantles rich and fine, They've all been a-swallowed up in tankards of good wine, And where are your maiden heads, you maidens brisk and gay? We left them in the ale house, we drank the clean away, We left them in the ale house, we drank them clean away.



Home Harvest Evening



Here's a health unto our master,
The founder of the feast,
I hope with all my heart, boys,
His soul may be at rest,
That everything will prosper
That ever he takes in hand,
For we are all his servants,
And all at his command.

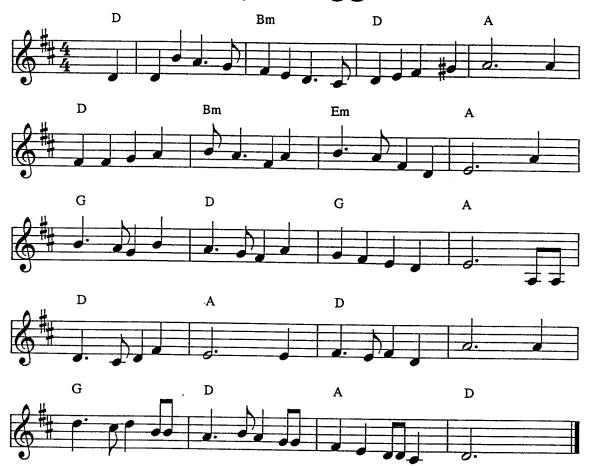
Chorus:

Then, drink, boys, drink, and see you do not spill, For if you do, you shall drink two, If it is our master's will; For if you do, you shall drink two, If it is our master's will.

Here's a health unto our Mistress,
Who brews for us good beer,
She is an honest woman,
And gives us all good cheer,
For she is a good provider,
Abroad as well as at home,
Fill it up to the brim, and toss it off clean,
For this is our Harvest Home.
Chorus.

Now harvest it is over, And summer it is past, We'll drink our Missus's health In a full and flowing glass; For she is a good woman, And gives us all good cheer, So come my brave boys, Let's all tip off our beer. Chorus.

Jolly Waggoner



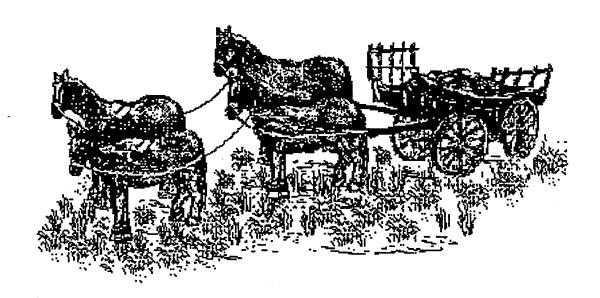
When first I went a waggoning, A waggoning did go, I filled my parents' hearts full, Of sorrow, grief, and woe; And many are the hardships That I have since gone through;

Chorus:

But sing woa, my lads - sing woa! Drive on my lads - I - o! There's none that lead such a merry life As the jolly waggoners do. Now the night is cold and dark, And I'm wet through to the skin, But I'll bear it with contentment Till I get to my inn; And then I'll get a drinking With the landlord and his friends; Chorus.

The summer it is coming - What pleasure we shall see; The small birds are a singing On every bush and tree; And the blackbirds and the thrushes Are a whistling in the groves; *Chorus*.

Now Michaelmas is coming -What pleasures we shall find; It will make the gold to fly, my boys, Like chaff before the wind; And every lad shall take his lass And set her on his knee; Chorus.





I sing about my old grey hen

- The best the Island through You wouldn't find her like, my boys,
Wherever you might go.
Oi, search you might through every farm,
From Lee to Totland Bay,
There's nothing to match with my grey hen
That never lays away, that never lays away.

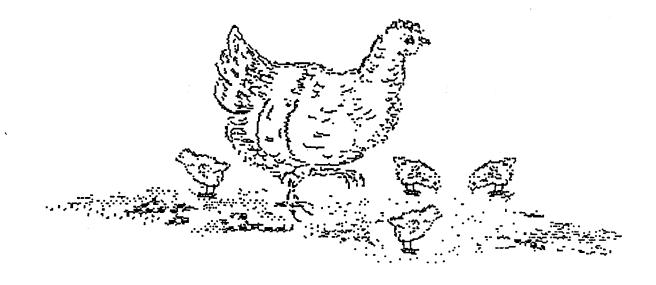
Her legs be clean; her feet be firm
Her steps so neat and spry;
Her feathers lie that thick and close,
Not one of them awry;
Her beak be yellow guinea gold;
Her comb be gay and red;
Her eye be bright; her breast be plump
As Grandma's feather bed, as Grandma's feather bed.

She's never broody long, but sits
As regular as the sun:
I've known her cover fourteen eggs
And hatch them - every one.
She regularly breshes in the dew
To help the peeping chicks.
And eggs her don't forget to turn Her's up to all the tricks, her's up to all the tricks.

She clucks so sweet and struts so proud
With all her chickens round.
Begob! She lifts her feet that high
They scarcely touch the ground.
And should a hawk or crow come nigh Show hackle! That her do.
And calls her brood within the coop
As fast as they can go, as fast as they can go.

When try you do to feel her eggs,
She seems to understand,
And sits as gentle as a dove
And never pecks your hand.
But clucks so soft, as if to say,
'I know what you're about.
Sure, don't be fussing round those eggs,
I'll hatch the bwoylen out, I'll hatch the bwoylen out.

Now that I've sung my little song
I'm sure you'll all agree
That this here old grey hen of mine's
The best you're like to see.
Oi, just the best man ever had
- What more can mortal say?
Here's to her then 'The old grey hen'
That never lays away, that never lays away.'



March of the Wight Men



Bright gleam the waters encircling our home, Sparkling with sunshine, crested with foam. Proud rise our cliffs in their towering height, Clothed like a maid in their mantle of white. True is our boast, as our annals can show, Never has Wight man been worsted by foe.

Chorus:

Men of Wight, march in your might, Men of Wight, march in your might, Hearts will beat high when you strike for the right. Snug lie our homesteads, unfearful of foes, Embowered in myrtle and fuchsia and rose. Sweet are our maidens and sturdy our sons, Fresh as the mead where the rivulet runs, Isle of our fathers, fertile and free, 'Unwinnable Isle' of the narrowing sea. *Chorus*.

Should foes ever threaten us, call ye to mind When the flag of the enemy was flung to the wind, How the Island men answered with weapon and shield And sternly refused at the battle to yield, But died in their harness - as Englishmen should - With face to the foe by that fatal dark wood. *Chorus*.

March in good order, men of the Wight, Sons of the fathers who kept honour bright, Shoulder to shoulder, brother and son, Yeoman and craftsman, every one, Raising the strain of the Islanders' song Lustily as you go marching along. Chorus.

