

The Bold Fisherman

From the repertoire of the Copper Family, Sussex.

As I walked out one May morning, down by a riverside
There I beheld a bold fisherman come rowing with the tide.
Come rowing with the tide,
There I beheld a bold fisherman come rowing with the tide.

Good morn to you, bold fisherman, what brings you fishing here?
I am come a-fishing for your sweet sake all on this river clear.

He drew his boat into the bank and to this maid he went,
He took her by the lily-white hand which was his full intent.

Then he took off his morning gown and gently laid it down.
There she beheld three chains of gold hang dangling three times
round.

She fell down on her bended knees and loud for mercy called
For calling you a bold fisherman when I fear you are some lord.

Rise up rise up you pretty fair maid, from off your bended knee,
There is not one word that you have said has the least offended
me.

I'll take you to my father's house and married we shall be
And you shall have a bold fisherman to row you on the sea.