

GB/6b/4 The Banks of Green Willow Version 1 of 4

First Version

Noted by George Butterworth

Sung by Mr. and Mrs. Cranstone, Billingshurst, June 1907

Oh it's of a young sea - cap - tain Lived by the sea - side o, and he
5 court - ed a far - mer's daugh - ter, And he made her his bride o. (a) var.

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1. Oh it's of a young sea-captain
Lived by the seaside-o
And he courted a farmer's daughter
And he made her his bride-o.
2. "Go and fetch some of your father's gold,
"Likewise your mother's money,
"And you shall sail along with me
"And I'll make you my honey."
3. She fetched him some of her father's gold,
Likewise her mother's money,
And she did sail along with him
To the Banks of Green Willow.
4. They had not been aboard ship
Six months or so many
Before she wanted woman's help
And she couldn't get any.
5. "Pray what is your woman's help?
"Cannot I do it for thee?"
"No, you can't do it for me
"For love not for money."
6. "Come bind a napkin round my head,
"Come bind it so softly,
"And then throw me overboard,
"Both me and my baby."
7. So he bound a napkin round her head,
He bound it so softly,
And then he threw her overboard,
Both she and her baby.
8. "O look, you boys, o look you there,
"O see how she quivers."
She swam till she came
To the Banks of Green Willow.
9. "O my love shall have a coffin made
"Lined with gold and bright silver,
"And she shall be buried
"On the Banks of Green Willow."
10. "Come you toll the bell, come toll the bell,
"Come you toll it so softly,
"For it's my true love that is dead and gone
"Whom I once loved so dearly."