

The Basket Of Eggs

England

earliest date: before 1825 (Ballad Index)


adaption, arrangement and typesetting by Klaus Stezenbach ©2006 www.kstez.de

Gm Dm Gm Dm B \flat C Dm Gm



1. Down in Sand-bank fields two sail-ors they were walk-ing, their pock-ets were__ both__ lined with__ gold. And

Gm Dm Gm Dm B \flat C Dm Gm



as to-geth - er they__ were__ talk - ing a fair maid there__ they__ did be__ - hold.

Cm E \flat Gm B \flat E \flat F C D



With a lit - tle bas - ket__ stand - ing__ by her, as she sat down to take her__ ease. To

Gm Dm Gm Dm B \flat C Dm Gm



car-ry it for her one of them__ off - ered, the an - swer was:__ "Sir,__ if you__ please".

2. One of these sailors took the basket, "There's eggs in the basket, please, take care!
And if by chance you should outwalk me at the half-way house, please, leave them there."
Behold these sailors they did outwalk her, the half-way house they did pass by.
This pretty damsel she laughed at their fancy, and on the sailors she kept her eye.
3. When these two sailors came unto an ale-house, there they did call for a pint of wine.
Saying: "Landlord, landlord, what fools in this nation! This young maid from her eggs we've twined.
Oh landlord, landlord, bring us some bacon, we've got these eggs and we'll have some dressed."
Behold, these sailors were much mistaken, as you shall say when you hear the rest.
4. 'Twas then the landlord he went to the basket expecting of some eggs to find.
He said: "Young man, you're much mistaken, instead of eggs I've found a child."
Then one of them sat down to weeping, the other said: "It's not worth while.
Here's fifty guineas I'll give to the baby if any woman will take the child."
5. This pretty young damsel she sat by the fire, and she had a shawl drawn over her face.
She said: "I'll take it and kindly use it when first I see the money paid."
One of the sailors threw down the money, great favor to the babe was shown.
"Since it is so, then let's be friendly, for you know this child it is your own."
6. "Don't you remember a-dancing with Nancy, as long ago as last Easter day?"
"Oh yes, and I do and she pleased my fancy, so now the fiddler I have paid."
One of the sailors went up to the basket, and he kicked the basket o'er and o'er.
"Since it is so, may we all be contented, but I'm hanged if I'll like eggs any more!"