

The Crafty Maid's Policy

England

Source: Digital Tradition (printed 1860)

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1. Come list - en a while and I'll sing you a song of
three mer - ry gent - le - men rid - ing a - long. They
met a fair maid and to her did say, "I
fear this cold morn - ing will do you some harm."

2. "Oh no, kind sir," said the maid, "you're mistaken
To think this cold morning will do me some harm.
There's one thing I crave, it lies twixt your legs,
if you give me that, it will keep me warm."
3. "Since you crave it, my dear, you shall have it,
if you'll come with me to yonder green tree.
Then since you do crave it, my dear, you shall have it,
I'll make these two gentlemen witness to be."
4. So the gentleman lighted and straightway she mounted
and looking the gentleman hard in the face.
Saying, "You knew not my meaning, you wrong understood me",
and away she went galloping down the long lane.
5. "Oh, gentlemen, lend me one of your horses
that I might ride after her down the long lane.
If I overtake her, I'll warrant I'll make her
return unto me my horse back again."
6. But soon as this fair maiden she saw him coming,
she instantly then took her pistol in hand,
saying, "Doubt not my skill, it's you I would kill,
I'd have you stand back or you are a dead man."
7. "Oh, why do you spend your time here in talking,
why do you spend your time here in vain?
Come give her a guinea, it's what she deserves,
I'll warrant she'll give you your horse back again."
8. "Oh no, kind sir, you're vastly mistaken,
if it is his loss, well, it is my gain.
And you are a witness that he give it to me",
and away she went galloping over the plain.