

The Sheepstealers

(trad.)

I am a brisk lad whose fortune is bad
And I am misfortunate poor
But indeed I intend my fortune to mend
And to build a house down on the moor – me brave boys
And to build a house down on the moor

Me brother does keep fat oxen and sheep
In a neat little neck on the downs
And in the middle of the night when the moon does shine bright
There's a great deal of work to be done – me brave boys
There's a great deal of work to be done

I'll walk all around on another man's ground
And take a fat sheep for me own
And with the aid of my knife I will end up its life
And it's then I will carry it home- me brave boys
And it's then I will carry it home

Me children will hew the skin from the ewe
And I will be weathering on
And when the constables do come I will stand with my gun
And I'll swear all I have is me own – me brave boys
And I'll swear all I have is me own