

May Day Carol

DAD

Traditional English 1908

I've been a ram - bling all through the night and the

0			0			0			0		
0			0			0			0	0	0
2	2	1	0	0	1	2	2	1	0		

best part of the day; And

0	0	0		0		1					
0	6	5	5	0		0					
0	5	4		0		1				1	

now I am re - turn - ing back a - - gain I

0			2			0			2		
0			3			0			1		
2	2	3	4	4	3	2	1	2	0		1

bring you a branch of May

0			1			0					
0			0			0					
2	4	2	1	2	1	0					

2. A branch of May, my dear, I say,
 Before your door I stand,
 It's nothing but a sprout, but it's well budded
 out,
 By the work of our Lord's hand.

3. Go down in your dairy and fetch me a cup,
 A cup of your sweet cream, I
 And, if I should live to tarry in the town,
 I will call on you next year.

4. The hedges and the fields they are so green,
 As green as any leaf,
 Our Heavenly Father waters them
 With His Heavenly dew so sweet.

5. When I am dead and in my grave,
 And covered with cold clay,
 The nightingale will sit and sing,
 And pass the time away.

6. Take a Bible in your hand,
 And read a chapter through,
 And, when the day of Judgment
 comes,
 The Lord will think on you.

7. I have a bag on my right arm,
 Draws up with a silken string,
 Nothing does it want but a little
 silver
 To line it well within.

8. And now my song is almost done,
 I can no longer stay,
 God bless you all both great and small,
 I wish you a joyful May.

Dulcimer Arr. S. Stevens '16