

Once I Loved a maiden fair



Once I loved a maid-en fair; But she did de - ceive me;



She with Ve - nus might com-pare, If you will be - lieve me.



She was young, And a - mong All our maids the sweet - est,



Now I say, Ah! well a day! Bright-est hopes are fleet - est.

Once I loved a maiden fair;
But she did deceive me;
She with Venus might compare,
If you will believe me.
She was young,
And among
All our maids the sweetest,
Now I say,
Ah! well a day!
Brightest hopes are fleetest.

I the wedding ring had got,
Wedding clothes provided,
Sure the church would bind a knot,
Ne'er to be divided,
Married we
Straight must be
She her vows had plighted,
Vows alas,
As frail as glass!
All my hopes are blighted.

Maidens wav'ring and untrue,
Many a heart have broken;
Sweetest lips the world e'er knew
Falsest words have spoken.
Fare thee well,
Faithless girl,
I'll not sorrow for thee;
Once I held thee dear as pearl
Now I do abhor thee.