

# The Nottinghamshire Poacher

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: In Thorn - ey woods in Not - ting - ham - shire, Right fol lol de li de O! Three keep - ers' hous - es stood three square, Fol de rol lol de ri da! Three keep - - - ers' hous - - - es stood three square, A - bout a mile from each oth - er they were — In or - der to look af - ter the deer, Fol de rol lol de rol li - do!

In Thorney woods in Nottinghamshire,  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
Three keepers' houses stood three square,  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
Three keepers' houses stood three square,  
About a mile from each other they were  
In order to look after the deer,  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

I and my dogs went out one night,  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
The moon and the stars they shone so bright,  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
O'er hedges, ditches, gates and stiles  
With my two dogs close at by heels,  
To look for a buck in Parkmoor fields,  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

The very first night I had bad luck  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
For my very best dog om the breast got stuck  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
He came to me so limping lame  
He was not able to follow the game  
How sorry was I to see the same!  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

I searched his woulds, and found them slight.  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
'Twas done by a keeper out of spite,  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
I took my pikestaff in my hand  
And ranged the woods to find the man  
To see whether I his hide could tan,  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

When I had rang-ed all that night  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
Until the next morning it was daylight  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
When I had rang-ed all that night  
Until the next morning it was daylight  
I thought it high time to take my flight,  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

Then I went home and I went to bed  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
And limping Jack sent in my stead  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
In Parkmoor fields, oh there he found  
A brave fat buck running over the ground  
And my two dogs soon pulled him down  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

I listened a while to hear their note  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
Jack drew a quivy and cut his throat  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
How you'd have laughed to see limping Jack  
Come hopping along with a buck on his back  
And hide it under the miller's haystack,  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

We sent for the butcher to dress up our game  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
And likewise another to sell the same  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
A very fine haunch we offered for sale  
'Twas to an old woman who sold bad ale  
And hang her! she brought us all to jail,  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!

Now sessions are over, assizes are near,  
Right fol lol de li de O!  
Now Jack and I we must appear  
Fol de rol lol de ri da!  
Your bucks and your does may range so free  
But hares and rabbits they are for me;  
A poacher's life is the life for me!  
Fol de rol lol de rol li do!