The Farmer and the Shanty Boy

As sung by Lily deLorme

Moderately $q. = 76$

1. As I rode out one evening, just as the sun went down,
   Quite curiously I roved along 'til I came to Trenton town.

2. The one that loved the farmer's son, these words I heard her say:
   "The reason why I like him, at home with me he'll stay.

3. "It's for to plow and sow the fields," the other girl did say,
   "And if his crops do not do well, his debts he cannot pay.

4. "As for the bailiff selling out, it does not me alarm.
   quite cheerfully I'll greet him when he comes home in the spring.

5. "Oh, how I like my shantyboy that goes away in the fall.
   He is most stout and hearty and able to stand each squall.
   Quite cheerfully I'll greet him when he comes home in the spring,
   His money will be free and he'll share it with me while your farmer's sons have none.

6. "Oh, how you praise your shantyboy that in the woods doth go.
   He's ordered up before daybreak to work through storms and snow.
   While happy and contented my farmer's son can lie,
   And he'll whisper tales of love to me 'til the storm goes raging by.

7. "I cannot bear the soft talk," your farmer's son would say,
   "For some of them they are so green that a cow might eat for hay.
   How easy you can tell them whenever they come to town,
   For the little boys after them will run saying, "Nick, why are you down?"

8. "Now what I've said of your shantyboys, I hope to be excused.
   If from those ignorant farmers' sons I ever do get free,
   If ever I do get a chance with a shantyboy I'll go,
   And leave him brokenhearted, his lands to plow and sow.

9. Oh, it's how you slighted your farmer's son that plows and sows the field.
   You will believe the statement as how the crops do yield.
   With your shantyboy oftentimes you'll play with money in both hands,
   And without a sigh with him I'll go, and while he works his land.