

The Unnatural Murder

#28

All you who have children dear,
Now hear this tale of woe,
The history of this tragedy,
I now to you will show.

A happy couple at Penryn,
Had a son who went to sea,
And after fifteen years returned...
His parents for to see (parents for to see)

He to their cot disguised did go,
Asked shelter from the cold,
And ere he laid him down to sleep,
Showed all his wealth and gold.

The mother to the father went,
In anxious breathless haste,
And told of treasure she had seen...
Around the stranger's waist. (round the stranger's waist)

The father then, by Satan led,
Did take the killer's part,
He stole the cursed gold away,
And stabbed his own boy's heart.

And scarce before the parents yet,
Had seen the morrow's light,
Their daughter came with joy to ask...
Of the sailor there last night. (sailor there last night)

She said 'It is my brother James,
Who long at sea has roved,
He's come back home to share his wealth,
With those he dearly loved'.

Oh when they found the murdered youth,
Was their own darling boy,
Most frightful horrors seized their minds...
And bitterly they cried. (bitterly they cried)

The guilty pair then slew themselves,
Their sin they could not hide,
And the broken-hearted daughter...
Sank to the ground and died. (to the ground and died)