



Duke William and a young Nobleman's Ramble into the West Country:

*Where they were Pressed, carry'd on board a Tender,
and brought to the Gangway to be flogg'd.*

DUKE William and a nobleman, heroes of England's nation
One morning nigh to two o'clock did take their recreatio
Into the country they did go, in sailors dress from top to toe.
Said duke William now let know what you say for bold sailer
All in the jolly sailors trim they straitway hasted to an inn.
The landlady view'd, they did begin by good words to prevail her
She said, Come in, be not afraid. Have you a private room, they said
Walk in, my lads, be not afraid, I love the jolly sailers.

Into a chamber straitway they both did enter.
The Duke did say, Landlord see bring wine both white & red, fir.
Before the wine it was drank out, a pressgang that was bold & stout
In the lower rooms did search about for warlike jolly sailers.

*The landlady said, Go up stairs, if sailors you are seeking;
But one's so fat, I dare to say, that you will hardly ship him.
Ne'er mind, the pressgang they did say, then up stairs weni straitway
What ship, brothers, come tell us pray, we all are jolly sailers.
We do belong to George, said Will. They said, Where's your protection?
We have none at all, they did reply, don't cast on us reflections.
The lieutenant he then did say, Come brothers, go without delay
Of us you shall not make a prey. My warrant is for sailers.*

*They haul'd them to the tender then, the captain he did meet them
The duke did say, Kind gentlemen, take care of all your sheep, fir
With that the captain he did swear, I am your shepherd I declar
We'll make you know you saucy are, get down among the sailers
The nobleman he did go down, but the duke he refused.
Whith that the officers did frown, and sadly him abused
Where must I lie, his highness said, must I not have a featherbed?
You're fat enough, they all reply'd, pig in among the sailers.*

*Then down below the duke did go, unto his comrade, fir.
How he did stare to see the fare of many a brisk young blade, fir,
Below he tore his trowsers ju'e, and calling for some tailors,*

*The captain said, thou saucy blade, there's none here but bold sailers
For your bold airs, the captain said, you shall surely get your flogs, fir,
To the gangway him quick convey, and whip him like a dog, fir,
Come strip, they cry'd. The Duke reply'd, I do not like your law, fir
I ne'er will strip for to be whipt, so strip me if you dare, fir.*

*Then instantly the boatswain's mate began for to undress him;
But presently he did espy the star upon his breast, fir.
Then on their knees they strait did fall, and for mercy soon did call
The Duke reply'd, Base villains all, for using thus poor sailers.*

*No wonder that my father he can't soon man his shipping,
It's by using them so barbarously, and always them a whipping.
But for the future, sailers they shall have good usage great and fina.
To hear that news together all cry'd out, God blefs Duke William,*

*He order'd all new officers that stood in need of wealth, fir.
And left the jolly crew some gold, that they might drink his health, fir
And when that they did go away, the sailers all with one buzzal,
Cry'd Blessed be that happy day whereon was born duke William*