

## IT'S A ROSEBUD IN JUNE

Collected by CECIL J. SHARP



Em  
It's a rose - bud in June and vio - lets in full bloom,  
G B7 Em  
And the small birds sing - ing love - songs on each spray;  
B7 Em  
We'll pipe and we'll sing, Love, We'll dance in a ring, Love,  
When each lad takes his lass all on the green grass;  
B7 Em  
And it's all to plough Where the fat ox - en graze low,  
G Em  
And the lads and the lass - es to sheep - shear - ing go.

1 It's a rosebud in June and violets in full bloom,  
And the small birds singing love-songs on each spray;  
We'll pipe and we'll sing, Love,  
We'll dance in a ring, Love,  
When each lad takes his lass all on the green grass;  
And it's all to plough Where the fat oxen graze low,  
And the lads and the lasses to sheep-shearing go.

2 When we have a-shear'd all our jolly, jolly sheep,  
What joy can be greater than to talk of their increase?  
We'll pipe and we'll sing, Love,  
We'll dance in a ring, Love,  
When each lad takes his lass all on the green grass;  
And it's all to plough Where the fat oxen graze low,  
And the lads and the lasses to sheep-shearing go.

## NOTE

The Rev. John Broadwood noted a Sussex version of this song before 1840 (see 'Sussex Songs,' No. 11, Leonard & Company, Oxford Street). The words were also set to music by John Barrett, and were probably sung in "The Custom of the Manor" (1715). As the words of this version show traces of West Country dialect, and the tune, with its Dorian characteristics, is not altogether unlike that printed here, it is just possible that Barrett founded his tune upon the folk-air. The Sussex tune is quite different from our Dorian version, which was collected by me in Somerset. The words are printed exactly as they were sung to me.