

## THE FARMER'S BOY

Arr. ROBERT ELKIN

Moderato (*Sturdily*)

1. The sun had set be - hind the hills A-cross yon drear-y moor, When, poor and lame, a  
boy there came Up to a farm-er's door: "Can you tell me if here it be That I can find em-  
ploy, To plough and sow, and reap and mow, And be a farm-er's boy, And be a farm-er's boy?"

CHORUS

To plough and sow, and reap and mow, And be a farm-er's boy, And be a farm-er's boy.

2. "My father's dead and mother's left  
With children great and small;  
And, what is worse for mother still,  
I'm the oldest of them all.  
Though little I'll work as hard as a Turk  
If you'll give me employ,  
To plough and sow, and reap and mow,  
And be a farmer's boy."

3. And if you will not me employ,  
One favour I've to ask,  
Will you shelter me till break of day  
From this cold winter's blast?  
At break of day I'll trudge away  
Elsewhere to seek employ,  
To plough and sow, and reap and mow,  
And be a farmer's boy.

4. "Come, try the lad," the mistress said,  
"Let him no further seek;"  
"O, do, dear father!" the daughter cried  
While tears ran down her cheek;  
"He'd work if he could, so 'tis hard to want food,  
And wander for employ;  
Don't turn him away, but let him stay,  
And be a farmer's boy?"

5. And when the lad became a man,  
The good old farmer died,  
And left the lad the farm he had,  
And his daughter for his bride:  
The lad, that was, the farm now has,  
Oft smiles, and thinks with joy  
Of the lucky day he came that way  
To be a farmer's boy.