efdss
english folk dance and song society

Pricklie Bush

Oh! hangman stay your hand, and stay it for while,
I think I see my own dear *father* coming over yon stile.

Oh! have you brought me gold?; Oh have you brought me fee?
Or have you come to see me hang all on the gallows tree?

'I have not brought thee gold; I have not brought thee fee;
But I have come to see thee hang all on the gallows tree.

Oh! the bush, the prickly bush, which pricks my heart full sore,
If I could get out of that prickly bush,
I'd never get in him any more.

REPEAT ABOVE SUBSTITUTING *father* FOR

- *mother*
- *brother*
- *sister*

Oh! hangman stay your hand, and stay it for a while,
I think I see my own true love coming over yonder stile.

Oh! have you brought me gold? Oh! have you brought me fee?
Or have you come to see me hang all on the gallows tree?

'I have brought thee gold and I have brought thee fee,
I am not come to see thee hang all on the gallows tree!'

Oh! the bush, the prickly bush, which pricks my heart full sore,
Now that I'm out of that prickly bush,
I'll never get in him any more!

Additional Online Resources

- Audio recording

www.efdss.org/resourcebank