

THE CHRISTMAS GOOSE

Words traditional - From the singing of William Noble and others.

It was at an inn in Manchester, The Cornstalks was the sign
A famous public where commercials used to sleep and dine
One Christmas time a traveller, so long had been his use
Called to spend his holidays and choose his Christmas goose.

*All around the green woods so early in the morn
The merry merry huntsman blows his silver buglehorn.*

He drank his pint of sherry wine, he smoked a mild cigar
He chatted with the customers and people in the bar
But not a thought of wickedness here entered in his head
Until the chambermaid appeared to light him up to bed.

Chorus

But then he grew so amorous he squeezed her on the stairs
He kissed her at the chamber door before he said his prayers
He gave to her a guinea to prevent her being vexed
And then he blew the candle out and you can guess the rest.

Chorus

Next morning this Lothario discharged his little bill
He tipped the "Boots" and tossed the landlord for a parting gill
But where he went to afterwards it's not for me to say
Suffice he came to choose his goose the very next Christmas Day.

Chorus

Next Christmas time came round again which filled his heart with glee
He'd wandered round from town to town and strange sights did he see
'Til he ended up in Manchester and put up for the night
At the Cornstalks which 12 months before had filled him with delight

Chorus

He went into the Coffee Room as jaunty as could be
Where many a rooster like himself was waiting for his tea
He ordered of the very best the landlord could produce
And called the waiter back to say "Now don't forget the goose".

Chorus

Right speedily a tray was brought with eatables galore
And by that selfsame chambermaid he'd kissed 12 months before
But nothing loth he raised the cloth where on a heap was piled
Instead of eatables thereon was a big fat bumping child.

Chorus

Enraged at seeing others laugh "What is this here?" said he
"Come sit you down beside me and I'll tell you Sir" said she
"Last Christmas you so generous were, pray do not look so strange
You gave to me a guinea and I've brought you back your change."

Chorus