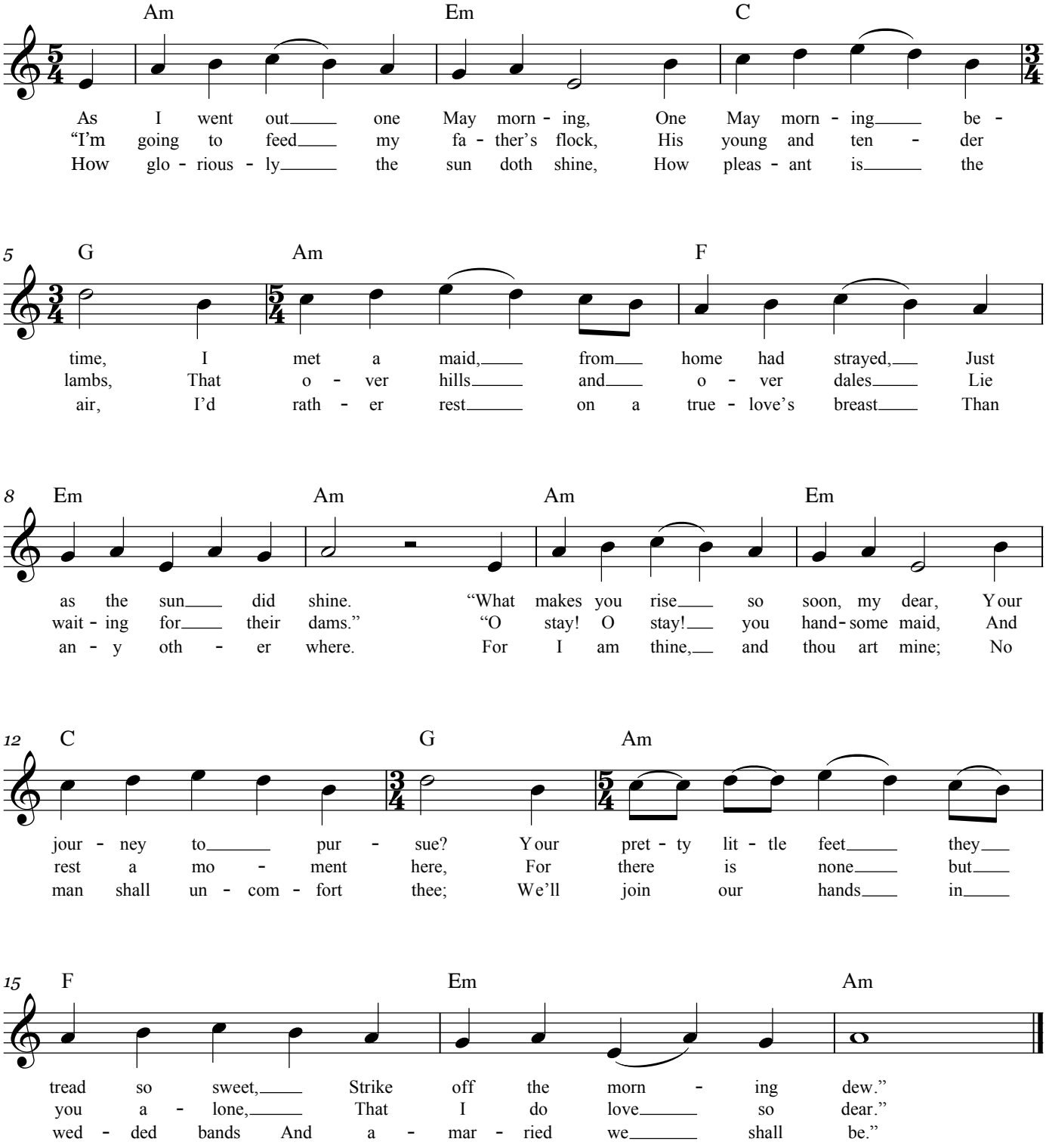
Searching for Lambs

traditional English, from Somerset
collected by Cecil Sharp, published 1916



One might think that a tune in 5/4 time would be complex enough, without a solitary 3/4 measure appearing in the middle of each verse. (In at least one well-known harp book, for example, two more beats are added so these "odd" measures simply disappear.) When Cecil Sharp first published the song in 1916, however, the 3/4 measures are carefully included. Since he is still regarded as the leading authority on English folk music a hundred years later, we are left with the inevitable conclusion that this is how he first heard it in Somerset, so the song appears here in its original version.

From Harper Tasche * printed with permission * Puget Sound Folk Harp Society * www.reigningharps.com * Ft. Worden 2011