

CARPENTER'S BOY

© Alan Murray, 1992

F Am B^b

He was strong and stout-ly made, and he worked the join-er's trade mak-ing ta-bles for the

7 F Gm C F

rich, and mak - ing yokes all for the poor. and the times were of - ten hard, wor - king

12 Am B^b C F

in his fa - ther's yard, but he ne - ver thought of oth - er ways of liv - ing

17 C B^b F

He worked hard with his hands lear - ning from his fa - ther to cut and dress, to

23 C Dm B^b

joint and nail and plane and his hands were as strong as his

28 Gm C F C F

work - ing days were long. The hands of a car - pent - er's boy

He was strong and stoutly made,
and he worked the joiner's trade
making tables for the rich, making yokes all for the poor.
and the times were often hard, working in his father's yard,
but he never thought of other ways of living

*He worked hard with his hands - learning from his father
to cut and dress, to joint and nail and plane.
and his hands were as strong as his working days were long.
The hands of a carpenter's boy.*

He was skillful, he was clever.
But we knew that he would never
use his wits to make the rest of us look stupid or look poor.
He loved to sport and play, but we often heard him say
that his laughing days would soon become no more.

One day he moved away,
said he could no longer stay.
Said his work was just beginning and his carpentry was done.
And the rumour's going round that the carpenter has found
new employment making cures and telling fortunes.

They say the boy has died,
they say his best friend lied -
he said he didn't know the boy, he didn't know the Man.
and the nails he used to drive
were the nails that did deprive him
of his life and sent him on to join his father