

# The merry, merry milkmaids

## The Milke-maid's Life

from the English Dancing Master, 1651

Thomas Lambert

G G G G C

You ru - rall god - dess es that woods and fields pos sesse, As -  
The brav - est las - ses gay live not so merry as they; In  
Their hearts are free from care, they ne - ver will des paire, What

C D G D G

sist me with your skill, That may di - rect my quill more jo - cund - ly to ex - presse  
ho - nest ci - vill sort They make each o - ther sport, as they trudge on their way:  
ev - er them be - fall; They brave - ly beare out all, & For - tune's frownes out dare.

*repeat for dance only*

G G G C D G

The mirth and de-light, Both morn-ing and night, on moun-taine or in dale, Of  
 Come faire or foule wea-ther, They're feare- full of nei-ther; their cou-rages ne-ver quaille: In  
 They plea-sant-ly sing, To wel-come the spring; 'gainst heaven they ne-ver rayle. If

G Am G D

them who chuse This trade to use, And through cold dewes Doe never re-fuse And  
 wet and dry, Though winds be hye, And darke's the sky, They nere de-ny, And  
 grasse wel grow, Their thanks they show, And, frost or snow, They mer-rily goe, And,

Em D G D G

through cold dewes Doe never re-fuse to car-ry the milk-ing payle.  
 darke's the sky, They nere de-ny to car-ry the milk-ing paile.  
 frost or snow, They mer-rily goe a-long with the milk-ing paile.

*repeat for dance only*