**A Noble Riddle**

There was a Lady of the North-Country

lay the bent to the bonny broom,

And she had lovely Daughters three,

Fa la la la,fa la la la ra re.

There was a Knight of Noble worth,.

Which also liv-ed in the North,

The Knight of Courage stout and brave,

A wife he did desire to have.

He knock-ed at the Ladies Gate, ,

One Evening when it was late,

The youngest sister let him in,

And pin 'd the door with a Silver pin,.

The second Sister she made his bed,

And laid soft Pillows under his head,.

The youngest [daughterJ that same night,

She went to bed to this young Knight,

And in the morning wheniiwas day,

these words unto him she did say:

'Now you have had your will ' (quoth she],

'I pray sir Knight will you Marry me, '

The young brave Knight to her reply 'd,

'Thy suit fair Maid shall not be deny 'd, '

'If thou canst answer me questions three,

'this very day I will marry thee: '

'Kind sir, in Love,' 0 then quoth she,

'Tell me what your three questions be,’.

'O what is longer then the way?'

'Or what is deeper then the Sea, '.

'O what is louder then the Horn?',

'Or what is sharper then a thorn?'

'Or what is greener then the Grass?

'Or what is worse then a woman was: '

**'Here followeth the Damsels Answer to the Knights three questions'.**

'O Love is longer then the way, '

'And Hell is deeper then the Sea, '

'And thunder 's louder then the horn, '

'And Hunger 's sharper then a thorn, '

'And Payson's greener then the grass, '

lay the bent to the bonny broom was, '

When she these questions answered had,

The Knight became exceeding glad

And having truly try' d her wit,

He much commended her for it,

And after, as 'tis verifi 'd,

He made of her his lovely Bride:

So now fair Maidens all adieu,

This Song I dedicate to you,

I wish that you may constant prove,

Unto the man that you do love,