Gathering Peascods

Collected and arranged by Cecil James Sharp (1859-1924)

Cecil J. Sharp was a prolific collector of folk songs and dances. This tune was first published by John Playford in his 'English Dancing Master' of 1651. The title may refer to the old custom of 'peascod wooing'. A woman shelling peas might find a pod containing nine peas; she might then leave the pod by the door. The first man to visit would be her future husband.

Men would also pick pea pods, guessing that they might contain the auspicious number nine, and present the pod to the one they wish to court.

For more traditional folk tunes, see the extensive collection at The Sheet Music Stack.



Version: Piano with added chord symbols.
Arrangement: Cecil James Sharp
Edited by: The Sheet Music Stack, 2015

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