

## *Green George (continued)*

*Chorus:*

*Bind willow leaves about him,  
singing,  
Garlanded Green George,  
All your goodly gifts a-bringing,  
Garlanded Green George,  
Bow down to him and call him  
king,  
Go to the river, fling him in,  
And let the rites of spring begin  
With garlanded Green George.*

*1. Dance about the willow tree,  
A leaf for you, a leaf for me,  
And all that's left of leaves shall be  
For garlanded Green George.  
Lass with child, spread on the  
ground  
Your mother's garments, all  
around,  
"If they catch leaves, your child is  
sound,"  
Says garlanded Green George.*

*Chorus*

*2. Old and infirm, spit on the root;  
Good health to you when grows the  
shoot,  
And let the revellers play the flute  
For garlanded Green George.  
Bedecked with leaves from toe to  
top,  
Green George blesses beast and  
crop,  
Goes to the tree and nought can  
stop  
Good garlanded Green George.*

*Chorus*

*3. Then he takes iron nails three,  
And knocks them fast into the tree,  
Then pulls them out, for all to see,  
Does garlanded Green George.  
And as he pulls them out again,  
He calls on the river and the rain  
To grow the hay and feed the  
grain,  
Our garlanded Green George.*

*Chorus*

*4. And by the river he alights;  
He drops them in for the water  
sprites,  
And every grown man grasps and  
fights  
For garlanded Green George.  
They grab Green George, the  
willow-lad,  
Willow-bound and willow-clad,  
The greenest George they ever had,  
Good garlanded Green George.*

*Chorus*

*5. They throw him in the waters  
wide  
Where willows bend on either side,  
And cow gives calf and man takes  
bride  
From garlanded Green George.*

*Chorus*