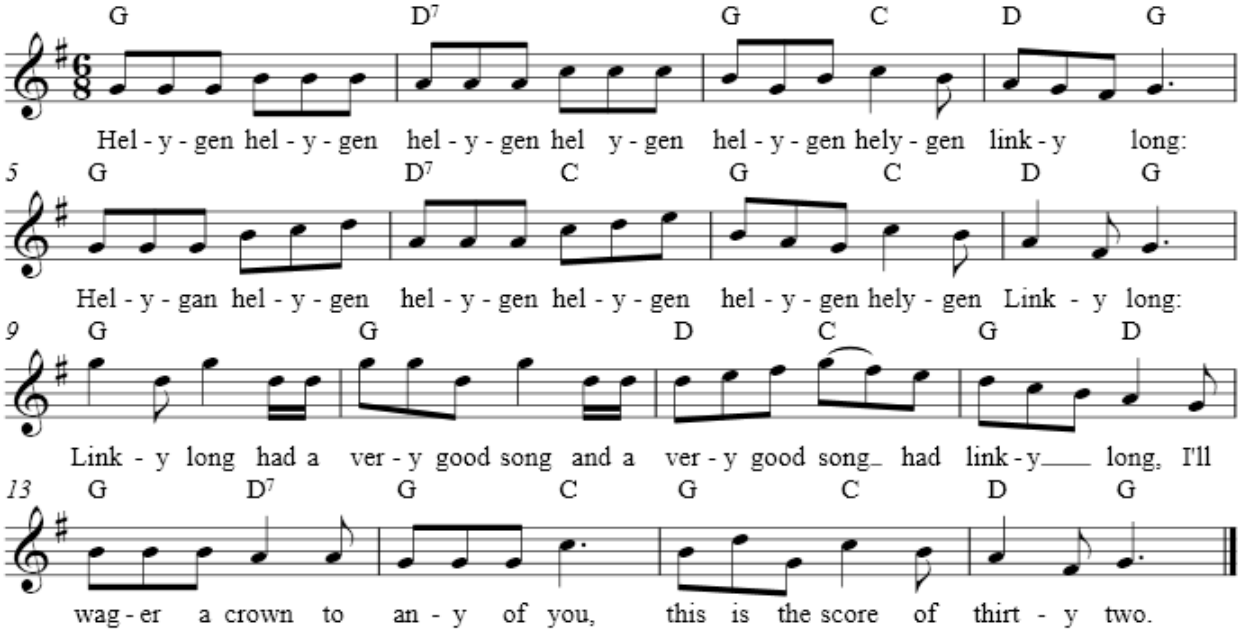
Helygen / Willow Tree



This is a apparently a children's nonsense rhyme and a number of variants are provided in the 'Old Cornwall Journals, *("Lankyloo" Old Cornwall, Vol. 1, no 4, p.29, 1926; Vol.1, no,5, p.33, 1927; Vol.1, no,6, p.43, St Ives, Federation of Old Cornwall Societies,)* Not much information is given except a suggestion that the song had been taken to the Isle of Man by a Cornish Fisherman. In the form of *'Arrane y Vluggan'* or the *' winding song'* it was collected by Mona Douglas from a Mr Faragher in the 1920s. He learned it from a Cornish Miner working in Laxey. *Helygen* is the Cornish for a Willow tree.