The Holly and the Ivy

The holly and the ivy
When they are both full grown
Of all trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown

O, the rising of the sun And the running of the deer The playing of the merry organ Sweet singing in the choir

The holly bears a blossom
As white as lily flow'r
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our dear Savior

The holly bears a berry
As red as any blood
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good

The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn

The holly bears a bark
As bitter as the gall
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to redeem us all

The holly and the ivy
When they are both full grown
Of all trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown