



Music Notes

Dargason

The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Music defines the Dargason as: “An English folk-tune, used from the 16th century onwards for a country dance or as a ballad tune. Also used for the folksong *It Was a Maid of My Country*. The tune is an 8-bar ‘circular’ melody lending itself easily to combination with others. Gustav Holst, in his *Second Suite in F for Military Band* (1911), combines the Dargason with *Greensleeves* in the finale, later transposing the movement for strings in his *St Paul's Suite* (1912-13). The name possibly derives from the Anglo-Saxon word for dwarf or fairy. Also known as Sedany, meaning a woman dressed in silks.”