

Mirie It Is (Merry it is).

Mirie it is while sumer y-last
With fugheles son
Oc nu neheth windes blast
And weder strong.
Ei, ei! What this nicht is long
And ich with wel michel wrong
Soregh and murne and fast.

Earliest surviving English secular song. Written in Middle English in the mid 1200's.

Mirie - merry
y-last - lasts
fugheles - birds
son - sound, song
Oc - but
nu - now
neheth - neareth, draws closer
weder strong - fierce weather
What... long - Oh but how long
ich - I
wel michel - "well mickle," very much
Soregh - sorrow, grieve
murne - mourn