

Snollygaster

By David Lindsay

I am not a snollygaster
I'm a snollygaster's son
And I'm only gasting snollies
'til the snollygaster comes

You could call me a curmudgeon
I'm a scrimping-saving mite
Accuse me of being "watchful"
and I'll cheer in sheer delight

But I'll not go cheese a-paring
- that could never be my fate
If you find me paring cheeses
you've arrived a bit too late

Never tell me that I'm chary
I'm a thrifty circumspect
I am only being wary
'til I build up some respect

No, don't say I'm too reluctant
if I don't spread the cash
I would rather that I'm prudent
than a bore and hasty rash

And don't call me a poor miser
I'm a canny wary runt
and I'll be a smidgeon wiser
when I dare to be more blunt

At a push, yes call me frugal
Don't find stronger words to bleep
As I think myself "unwasteful"
than a git who's simply cheap

I am not a penny-pincher
I'm a penny-pincher's son
and I'm only pinching pennies
til my dad, he has begun

And no, I'm not a skin-flint
for skin-flinters, I do find
are forever flint a-skinning
and bring nothing else to mind

I deny being way too stingy
I ain't niggardly or tight
and I have to ditch the notion
that I'd sparingly take flight

And if I'm avaricious
then don't tell me that I'm mean
I'm not being parsimonious
I'm just being "Yorkshire Keen"

I shall dare to be tight-fisted
'til a Scotsman tells me not
If that point, I'm found guilty
then I know my bolt's been shot

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I'm a snollygaster's son
And I'm only gasting snollies
'til the snollygaster comes

Prompted by the word "snollygaster" - <https://www.merriam-webster.com/words-at-play/whats-a-snollygaster>