

**The Begging Song**  
**Martin Carthy**

If you want to play along to the track on the Life and Limb Album then you need a Capo on 5th.

I m not convinced by the D in the chorus but I can t find anything better to fit.

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Martin Carthy - The Begging Song  
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**Am**                                **C**                **G**                                **Am**  
Of all the trades in England the beggin is the best  
**Am**                                **G**                                **C**                                **G**  
For when a beggar s tired he can lay him down and rest

Chorus (after each verse):

**D**  
And a-beggin I will go  
          **Am**                **G**                **Am**  
And a-beggin I will go

**Am**                                **C**                **G**                                **Am**  
I got on the train in Carlisle they kicked me out at Crewe  
**Am**                                **G**                                **C**                                **G**  
I slept on every paving-stone from there to Waterloo

**Am**                                **C**                                **G**                                **Am**  
I got breakfast off the Embankment I got my lunch and tea  
**Am**                                **G**                                **C**                                **G**  
And only the finest cardboard made a home that was fit for me

**Am**                                **C**                                **G**                                **Am**  
We sit on the stair at Leicester Square from seven o clock till ten  
**Am**                                **G**                                **C**                                **G**  
Then round the back of the Connaught House for dinner from out of a bin

**Am**                                **C**                                **G**                                **Am**  
I can rest when I am tired and I heed no master s bell  
**Am**                                **G**                                **C**                                **G**  
A man d be daft to be a king when beggars live so well

**Am**                                **C**                                **G**                                **Am**  
The law came down to see us they came down three together  
**Am**                                **G**                                **C**                                **G**  
They put out the fire they left us there Oh Lord how we did shiver

**Am**                                **C**                                **G**                                **Am**  
I am a Victorian value I m enterprise poverty

Am G C G  
Completely invisible to the state and a joy to Mrs T

Am C G Am  
Of all the trades in England the beggin is the best

Am G C G  
For when a beggar s tired he can lay him down and rest