

Traditional

S:
^D
 The fox went out on a chilly night,
 He prayed for the moon to give him ^Alight,
 For he'd ^Dmany a mile to go that night,
^D ^A ^D ^A ^D
 Before he reached the town-o, (A:) town-o, town-o,
^G ^D
 He'd many a mile to go that night,
^A ^D
 Before he reached the town-o.

N:
^D
 He ran til he came to a great big bin,
 Where the ducks and the geese were put therein, ^A
^D ^G
 Said (S:) "A couple of you will grease my chin,
^D ^A ^D ^A ^D
 Before I leave this town-o, (A:) town-o, town-o,
^G ^D
 A couple of you will grease my chin,
^A ^D
 Before I leave this town-o."

G:
^D
 He grabbed the gray goose by the neck,
 Slung the ducks across his ^Aback,
^D ^G
 He didn't mind their (N:) quack, quack, quack,
^D ^A ^D ^A ^D
 G: And the legs all dangling down-o, (A:) down-o, down-o,
^G ^D
 ALL: He didn't mind their quack, quack, quack,
^A ^D
 ALL: And the legs all dangling down-o.

S:

Then old Mother Pitter-patter jumped out of bed,
 Out of the window she cocked her head,
 Crying, (N:) “John, John! The gray goose is gone,
 And the fox is on the town-o, (A:) town-o, town-o!”
 “John, John! The gray goose is gone,
 And the fox is on the town-o!”

G:

Then John, he went to the top of the hill,
 Blew his horn both loud and shrill,
 The fox he said, “I better flee with my kill,
 He’ll soon be on my trail-o, (A:) trail-o, trail-o!”
 The fox he said, “I better flee with my kill,
 He’ll soon be on my trail-o!”

S:

He ran till he came to his cozy den,
 There were the little ones, eight, nine, ten,
 They said, (N:) “Daddy, Daddy, better go back again,
 ’Cause it must be a mighty fine town-o, (A:) town-o, town-o!”
 They said, “Daddy, Daddy, better go back again,
 ’Cause it must be a mighty fine town-o!”

S: Then the fox and his wife without any strife,

N: Cut up the goose with a fork and knife,

G: They never had such a supper in their life,

ALL: And the little ones chewed on the bones-o, bones-o, bones-o,

ALL: They never had such a supper in their life,

ALL: And the little ones chewed on the bones-o.