Oh, don't you remember sweet Besty from Pike?
Who crossed the wide prairie with her lover, Ike.
With two yoke of oxen, a big yaller dog,
A tall Shanghai rooster and one spotted hog.

Hoodle-dang, fol-de-di-do, hoodle-dang, fol-de-day.

One evening quite early they camped on Platte,
'Twas nearby the road on a green shady flat,
With wonder Ike gazed on that Pike county rose.

The Shanghai ran off, and their cattle all died,
That morning the last piece of bacon was fried,
Poor Ike was discouraged and Betsy got mad,
The dog drooped his tail and looked wondrously sad.

They soon reached the desert where Betsy gave out,
And down in the sand she lay rolling about,
While Ike, half distracted, looked up with surprise,
Saying, "Betsy, get up, you'll get sand in your eyes."

Sweet Betsy got up in a great deal of pain,
Declared she'd go back to Pike county again,
But Ike gave a sigh, and they fondly embraced,
And they traveled along with his arm 'round her waist.

The Injuns came down in a wild yelling horde,
And Betsy was skeered they would scalp her adored;
Behind the front wagon wheel Betsy did crawl,
And there she fought Injuns with musket and ball.