

The Fox

The fox went out one moon-light night, called on the stars to give him light, 'cos he

'ad ma - ny miles to go that night be - - fore he reached the

town - - o, town - - o, town ____ o, be - fore he reached the town - - o

2. He seized the grey goose by his neck,
Threw its legs across his back
And all the little ducks went 'quack, quack, quack'
While his legs went a-danglin' down-o, down-o, down-o,
While his legs went a danglin' down-o.
3. Well, ol' mother Slipper-Slopper jumped out of bed.
Out of the window she poked 'er head,
Cried 'John, John, John, the grey goose is gone
And the fox is away to his den-o, den-o, den-o,
And the fox is away to his den-o'.
4. Well, John went up to the top of the 'ill,
Blew on his horn so loud and shrill
'Aha' said the fox, 'Pretty music, still,
I'd sooner be in my den-o, den-o, den-o,
I'd sooner be in my den-o'.
5. The fox then got up to 'is den,
Home to his little ones, eight, nine, ten
And he sat down to dinner with his hungry wife
And they never 'ad a better meal in all their life
And they managed very well without a fork and a knife
And the little ones scrambled for the bones-o, bones-o, bones-o,
And the little ones scrambled for the bones-o.

Source: Sung by Richard Chidlaw, Dursley. Learnt from Brian Hayward who got it from his grandparents in Bristol. Collected by Gwilym Davies, October 1980.

Notes: In Verse 5 the tune for 'And he sat down[...]' is sung 3 times to cover 'and they never 'ad[...]' and 'And they managed very well [...]